Vatnik Soup @vatniksoup

Nov 28, 2026 · 15 tweets · vatniksoup/status/2126571797411762574

Today, on Holodomor Remembrance Day, we publish our first Historical Memory Dossier, dedicated to the millions of Ukrainians who died in 1932–33 and to those who survived to bear witness.

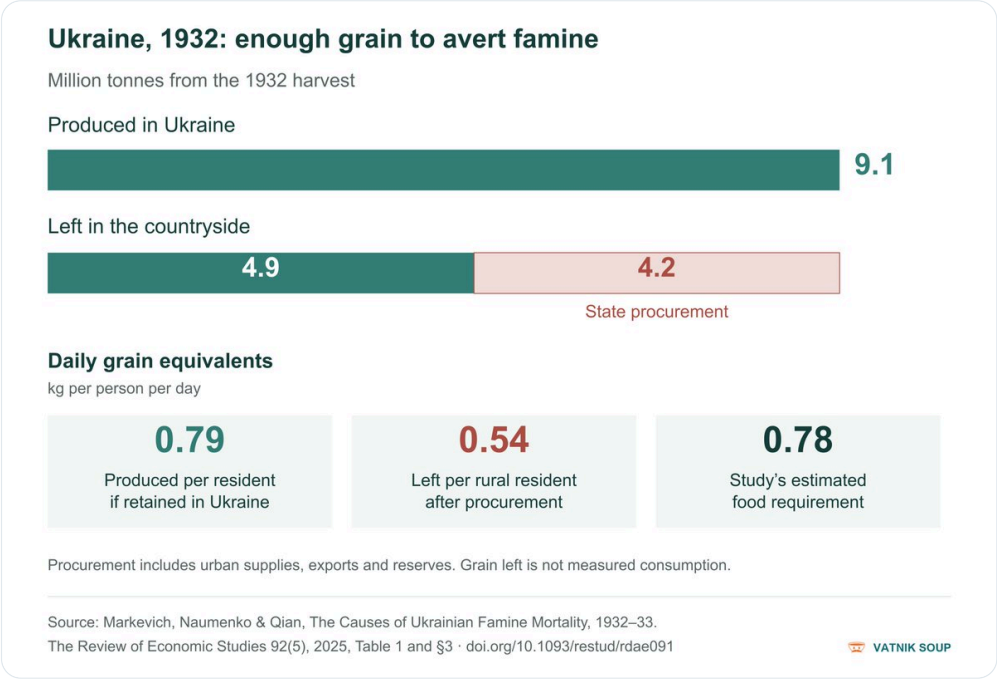
1/15



Millions died of hunger in a land known for its fertile soil. The Holodomor devastated communities across Soviet Ukraine and left a history that the authorities would spend decades trying to conceal.

2/15





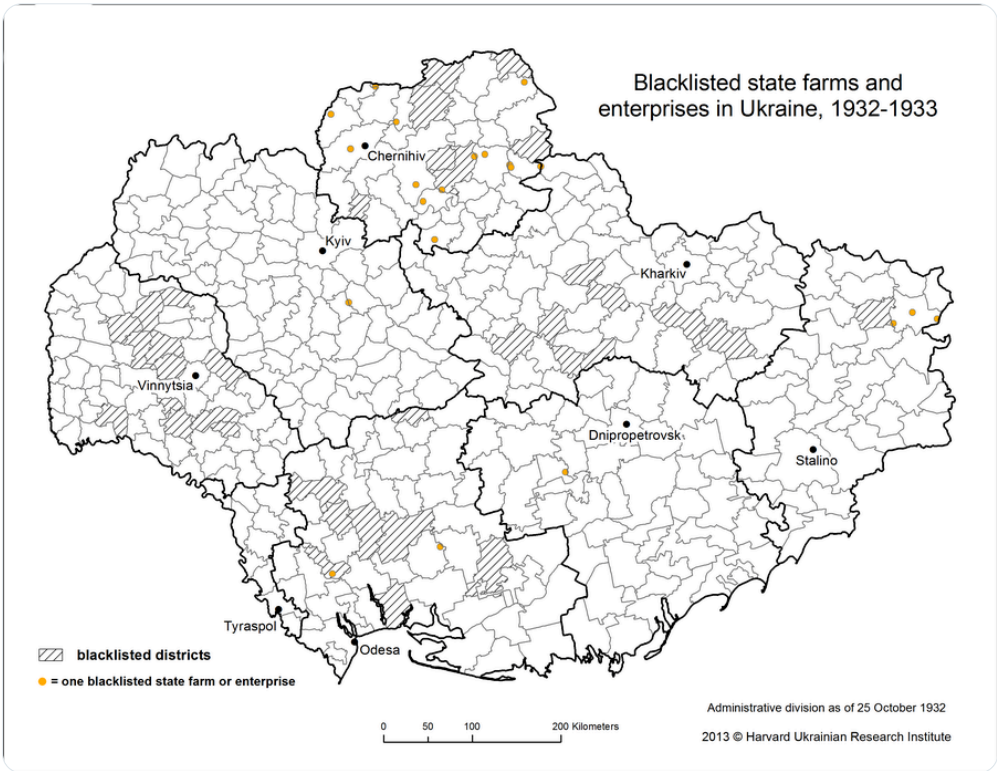
Under Stalin, forced collectivisation stripped peasants of their farms, livestock and control over their harvests. Grain requisitions and confiscations of other food left households without the means to survive.

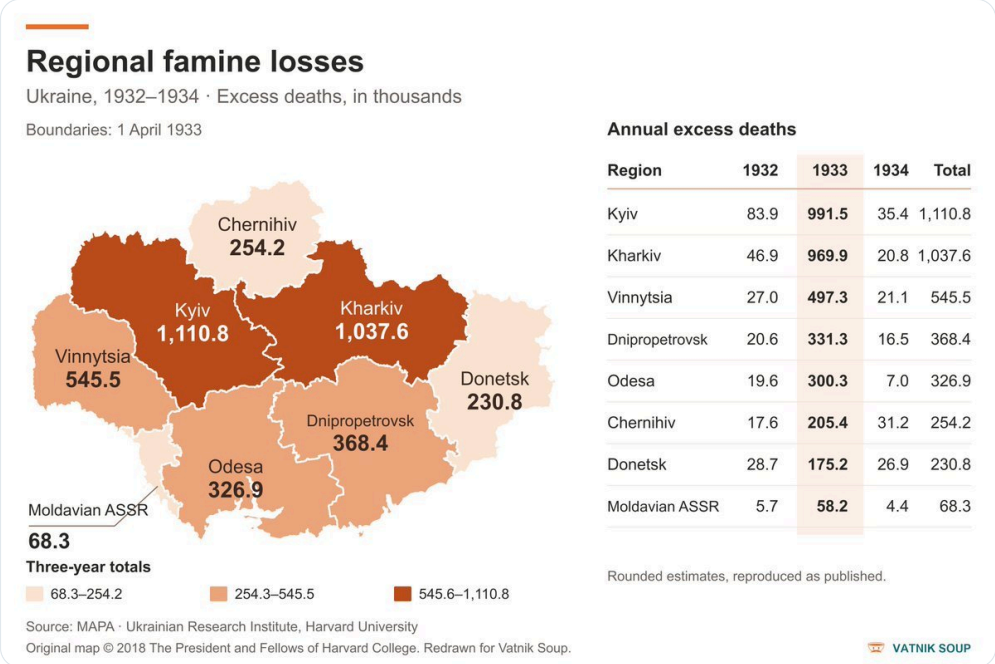
3/15





Villages were blacklisted. Trade was banned, supplies removed and food seized. Collective punishment deprived people of what they needed to live, as officials enforced procurement demands through coercion.





In January 1933, Stalin and Molotov ordered measures to stop peasants leaving Ukraine and the North Caucasus in search of food. People trying to escape starvation were intercepted and sent back.



The famine unfolded alongside attacks on Ukrainian writers, teachers, religious leaders and cultural institutions. Starvation and repression together devastated the communities sustaining Ukrainian national life.

6/15



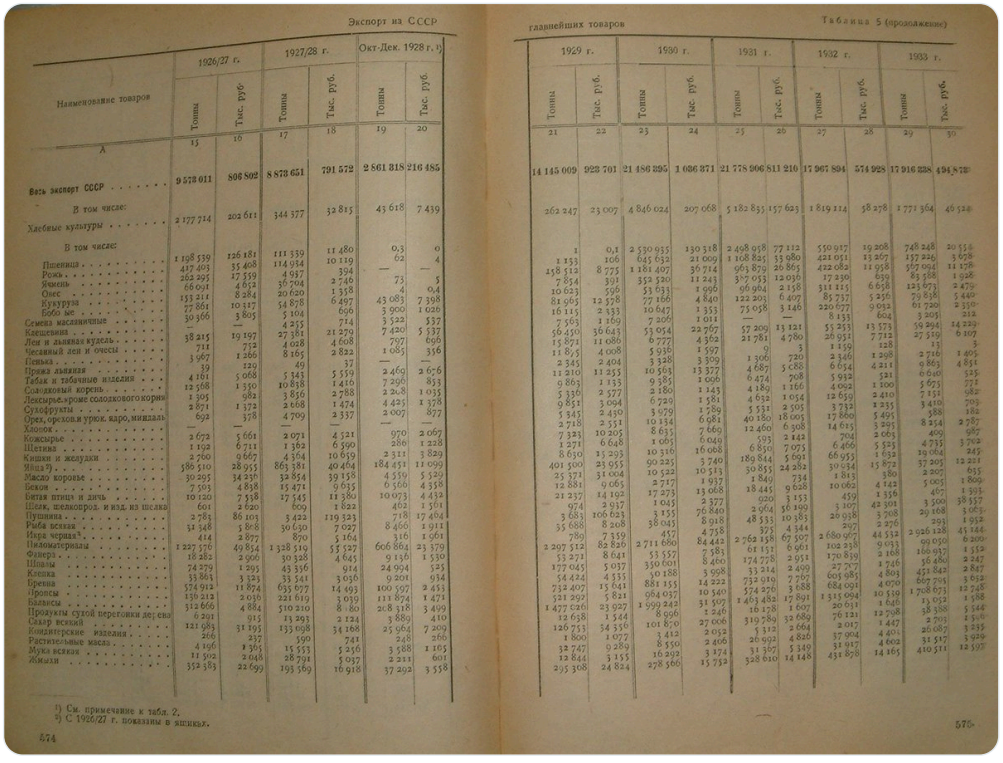
The Holodomor was genocide. Deliberate deprivation became an instrument in the assault on Ukrainian nationhood. Understanding that crime requires examining what the leadership knew, the decisions it took and the people it targeted.

7/15



We examine forced collectivisation and central planning alongside authoritarianism and imperialism. Economic failure offers no alibi for the regime's decisions to seize food, block escape and silence warnings while people starved.

8/15



Экспорт из СССР

Наименование товаров	1926/27 г.		1927/28 г.		Окт.-Дек. 1928 г. [1]	
	Тонны	Тыс. руб.	Тонны	Тыс. руб.	Тонны	Тыс. руб.
А	15	16	17	18	19	20
Весь экспорт СССР	9 578 011	896 802	8 872 651	791 572	2 861 818	216 485
В том числе:						
Хлебные культуры	2 177 714	202 611	344 377	32 815	43 618	7 439
В том числе:						
Пшеница	1 198 539	126 181	111 339	11 480	0,3	0
Рожь	417 403	35 468	114 954	10 119	62	4
Ячмень	262 295	17 559	4 937	394	—	—
Овес	68 091	4 652	36 704	2 746	73	3
Кукуруза	153 211	8 284	20 620	1 358	4	04
Бобовые	77 861	10 117	54 878	6 497	43 083	7 398
Семена масличные	30 366	3 805	5 104	696	3 900	1 026
Кешью	38 215	19 597	4 255	714	3 522	537
Лен и льняная кудель	711	772	27 381	21 279	7 420	5 137
Чесаный лен и очесы	3 967	1 266	4 028	4 608	797	696
Пенька	19	129	8 165	2 822	1 085	356
Пряжа льняная	4 161	5 068	49	37	—	—
Табак и табачные изделия	12 568	1 330	5 345	5 559	2 469	2 676
Солодковый корень	1 305	982	10 838	1 416	7 296	853
Лесарь-корне солодкового корня	2 871	1 372	3 856	2 788	2 208	1 033
Сухофрукты	692	578	2 668	1 474	4 495	1 378
Орех, орехов. урюк, кара, миндаль	—	—	4 709	2 337	2 007	877
Хлопок	2 672	5 661	2 071	4 321	970	2 067
Кожсырье	1 102	6 711	1 362	6 590	286	1 228
Кишки и желудки	2 760	9 667	4 364	10 639	2 311	3 829
Яйца [2]	586 510	28 955	861 381	40 464	184 451	11 099
Масло коровье	30 295	34 235	32 854	39 158	4 559	5 529
Бекон	7 593	4 898	15 471	9 615	6 160	4 558
Битая птица и дичь	10 120	7 538	17 545	11 380	10 073	4 432
Шелк, шелкопрод. и изд. из шелка	601	2 620	609	1 822	402	1 501
Пушнина	2 783	86 103	5 422	119 323	718	17 404
Рыба всякая	31 348	5 868	30 630	7 097	8 466	1 911
Икра черная [3]	414	2 877	870	5 164	316	1 961
Пиломатериалы	1 227 576	49 854	1 328 519	53 527	606 864	23 379
Фанера	16 382	2 906	30 388	4 643	9 136	1 530
Шпалы	74 279	1 295	43 356	914	24 994	525
Клепка	33 861	3 325	35 541	3 036	9 201	934
Бревна	374 912	11 874	655 077	14 493	100 597	2 455
Тросы	136 212	2 036	221 619	3 039	111 874	1 471
Вальцы	312 666	4 884	510 210	8 180	208 318	3 499
Продукты сухой перегонки дер. сма	6 201	915	13 293	2 124	3 889	410
Сахар песок	121 983	31 195	135 098	34 168	25 564	7 209
Кондитерские изделия	266	237	590	741	246	266
Растительные масла	4 196	3 365	15 553	5 256	3 588	1 105
Мука всякая	11 502	2 048	28 791	5 037	2 211	601
Жмыхи	352 383	22 699	193 169	16 918	37 292	3 538

[1] См. примечание к табл. 2.
[2] С 1926/27 г. показаны в ящиках.

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главнейших товаров

Таблица 5 (продолжение)

1929 г.		1930 г.		1931 г.		1932 г.		1933 г.	
Тонны	Тыс. руб.	Тонны	Тыс. руб.	Тонны	Тыс. руб.	Тонны	Тыс. руб.	Тонны	Тыс. руб.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
14 145 009	923 701	21 486 395	1 086 871	21 778 906	811 216	17 967 894	574 928	17 916 328	494 878
262 247	23 007	4 846 024	207 068	5 182 853	157 623	1 819 114	58 278	1 771 364	46 528
1	0,1	2 530 915	130 318	2 498 958	77 112	550 917	19 208	748 248	20 556
1 533	106	645 632	21 009	1 108 825	33 980	421 051	13 267	157 226	3 678
218 512	8 775	1 181 407	36 714	963 879	26 865	422 082	11 958	567 004	11 178
7 854	393	352 520	11 243	307 033	12 036	17 230	635	85 568	1 928
10 623	598	58 633	1 996	96 984	2 158	311 115	6 658	121 673	2 479
81 965	12 578	77 166	4 840	122 203	6 407	85 757	5 256	79 858	5 449
16 115	2 133	10 647	1 353	75 058	3 146	220 677	9 032	61 720	2 550
7 563	1 169	7 266	1 011	—	—	8 133	604	5 205	212
56 450	56 643	51 954	3 388	57 209	13 121	55 253	13 573	59 294	14 229
15 871	11 086	6 777	4 362	21 781	4 780	26 951	7 712	27 519	8 107
11 845	4 008	5 936	1 597	9	3	1 159	128	13	3
2 545	2 404	3 388	3 809	1 306	720	2 346	1 298	2 716	1 405
11 210	11 855	10 563	13 377	4 687	5 688	6 654	4 211	9 863	4 851
9 863	1 133	9 585	1 096	6 474	708	3 932	521	6 646	595
5 336	2 577	2 180	1 143	4 189	1 166	4 092	1 100	5 675	778
9 851	3 094	6 720	1 581	4 652	1 054	12 659	2 410	7 151	982
5 345	2 430	3 679	1 789	5 531	2 505	3 732	1 255	3 410	709
2 718	2 551	10 134	6 681	40 180	18 005	17 860	5 495	388	182
7 321	10 205	8 635	7 669	12 460	6 508	14 615	5 295	8 354	2 787
1 271	6 648	1 005	6 049	593	2 142	704	2 063	409	967
8 630	15 293	10 316	16 068	6 850	7 073	6 466	5 553	4 735	3 702
401 500	23 955	90 225	5 749	189 844	5 691	66 953	1 632	19 064	245
25 571	31 004	10 522	10 513	30 855	24 282	39 034	15 872	37 205	12 221
12 881	9 065	2 717	1 937	1 849	734	1 813	380	2 205	655
21 237	14 192	17 273	13 068	18 445	9 628	10 062	4 142	5 005	1 809
974	2 937	1 045	2 377	920	3 153	459	1 336	402	1 393
3 681	106 623	3 155	76 840	2 564	50 109	3 307	42 301	3 509	38 857
55 688	8 208	38 045	8 918	48 333	10 383	20 938	3 708	29 168	5 063
789	7 359	457	4 758	375	4 344	297	2 276	293	1 952
2 207 512	82 826	2 711 680	78 442	2 762 138	67 507	2 680 967	44 532	2 926 128	45 146
53 271	8 041	53 557	7 583	61 151	6 961	102 238	9 033	99 050	8 205
177 045	5 037	350 001	8 460	174 778	2 951	170 859	2 168	166 917	1 559
54 424	4 535	30 188	3 958	30 855	2 499	27 727	1 746	56 460	2 247
738 407	15 641	881 155	14 222	732 010	7 767	605 985	4 803	451 840	2 847
521 297	5 821	984 037	10 540	574 276	5 688	684 091	4 050	667 705	3 052
1 477 026	23 927	1 999 242	31 507	1 463 482	17 891	1 315 094	10 539	1 708 073	12 748
12 658	1 544	8 996	1 246	16 178	1 607	20 031	1 646	13 052	1 388
126 753	54 356	101 850	27 006	319 789	33 689	76 121	12 798	58 388	5 544
1 800	1 077	3 412	2 012	5 312	2 664	2 017	1 447	2 703	1 546
32 747	9 289	8 550	2 466	20 992	4 826	37 904	4 401	26 687	3 939
13 844	3 155	16 293	3 374	31 367	5 349	31 917	4 602	31 517	3 959
295 308	24 824	278 566	15 752	328 610	14 148	451 858	14 465	410 511	12 597

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The Soviet authorities denied the famine. Gareth Jones and other witnesses challenged the official account. Walter Duranty, a proto-vatnik at The New York Times, minimised the catastrophe and excused the regime.

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Vatnik Soup
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In today's Vatnik Soup, we introduce Walter Duranty, a British-born journalist. He's best known for winning a Pulitzer Prize for his Soviet reporting, and for denying the Holodomor while millions of Ukrainians starved.

1/10



1:16 PM · Nov 6, 2026

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RUSSIANS HUNGRY, BUT NOT STARVING

Deaths From Diseases Due to Malnutrition High, Yet the Soviet Is Entrenched.

LARGER CITIES HAVE FOOD

Ukraine, North Caucasus and Lower Volga Regions Suffer From Shortages.

KREMLIN'S 'DOOM' DENIED

Russians and Foreign Observers In Country See No Ground for Predictions of Disaster.

By WALTER DURANTY.
Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

MOSCOW, March 30.—In the middle of the diplomatic duel between Great Britain and the Soviet Union over the accused British engineers there appears from a British source a big scare story in the American press about famine in the Soviet Union, with "thousands already dead and millions menaced by death from starvation."

Its author is Gareth Jones, who a former secretary to David Lloyd George and who recently spent three weeks in the Soviet Union and reached the conclusion that the country was "on the verge of a terrific smash," as he told the writer.

Mr. Jones is a man of a keen and active mind, and he has taken the trouble to learn Russian, which he speaks with considerable fluency, but the writer thought Mr. Jones's judgment was somewhat hasty and asked him on what it was based. It appeared that he had made a forty-mile walk through villages in the neighborhood of Kharkov and had found conditions sad.

I suggested that that was a rather inadequate cross-section of a big country, but nothing could shake his conviction of impending doom.

Predictions of Doom Frequent.

The number of times foreigners, especially Britons, have shaken rueful heads as they composed the Soviet Union's epitaph can scarcely be computed, and in point of fact it has done the Soviet Union incalculable harm since the day when William C. Bullitt's able and honest account of the situation was shelved and negatived during the Versailles Peace Conference by reports that Admiral Kolchak, White Russian leader, had taken Kazan—which he never did—and that the Soviet power was "on the verge of an abyss."

Admiral Kolchak faded. Then General Denikin took Orel and the Soviet Government was on the verge of an abyss again, and General Yudenich "took" Petrograd. But where are Generals Denikin and Yudenich now?

A couple of years ago another British "eyewitness" reported a mutiny in the Moscow garrison and "rows of corpses neatly piled in Theatre Square," and only this week a British news agency revealed a revolt of the Soviet Fifty-fifth Regiment at Dauria, on the Manchurian border. All bunk, of course.

This is not to mention a more regrettable incident of three years ago when an American correspondent discovered half the Ukraine flaming with rebellion and "proved" it by authentic documents eagerly proffered by Rumanians, which documents on examination appeared to relate to events of eight or ten years earlier.

Saw No One Dying.

But to return to Mr. Jones. He told me there was virtually no bread in the villages he had visited and that the adults were haggard, gaunt and discouraged, but that he had seen no dead or dying animals or human beings.

I believed him because I knew it to be correct not only of some parts of the Ukraine but of sections of the North Caucasus and lower Volga regions and, for that matter, Kazakstan, where the attempt to change the stock-raising nomads of the type and the period of Abraham and Isaac into 1933 collective grain farmers has produced the most deplorable results.

It is all too true that the novelty and mismanagement of collective farming, plus the quite efficient conspiracy of Feodor M. Konar and his associates in agricultural commissariats, have made a mess of Soviet food production. [Konar was executed for sabotage.]

But—to put it brutally—you can't make an omelette without breaking eggs, and the Bolshevist leaders are just as indifferent to the casualties that may be involved in their drive toward socialization as any General during the World War who ordered a costly attack in order to show his superiors that he and his division possessed the proper soldierly spirit. In fact, the Bolsheviki are more indifferent because they are animated by fanatical conviction.

Since I talked with Mr. Jones I have made exhaustive inquiries about this alleged famine situation. I have inquired in Soviet commissariats and in foreign embassies with their network of consuls, and I have tabulated information from Britons working as specialists and from my personal connections, Russian and foreign.

Disease Mortality Is High.

All of this seems to me to be more trustworthy information than I could get by a brief trip through any one area. The Soviet Union is too big to permit a hasty study, and it is the foreign correspondent's job to present a whole picture, not a part of it. And here are the facts:

There is a serious food shortage throughout the country, with occasional cases of well-managed State or collective farms. The big cities and the army are adequately supplied with food. There is no actual starvation or deaths from starvation, but there is widespread mortality from diseases due to malnutrition.

In short, conditions are definitely bad in certain sections—the Ukraine, North Caucasus and Lower Volga. The rest of the country is on short rations but nothing worse. These conditions are bad, but there is no famine.

The critical months in this country are February and March, after which a supply of eggs, milk and vegetables comes to supplement the shortage of bread—if, as now, there is a shortage of bread. In every Russian village food conditions will improve henceforth, but that will not answer one really vital question—What about the coming grain crop?

Upon that depends not the future of the Soviet power, which cannot and will not be smashed, but the future policy of the Kremlin. If through climatic conditions, as in 1921, the crop fails, then, indeed, Russia will be menaced by famine. If not, the present difficulties will be speedily forgotten.

Series on "Tammany's Poor Relations" Continues Today on Pa

NIGHT EDITION ★★★★★ Wall Street Closing Prices Fair today and Thursday. (See P. 23)

New York Evening Post

NIGHT EDITI ★★★ Wall Street Closing

THREE 3 CENTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1933

THREE

FAMINE GRIPS RUSSIA, MILLIONS DYING, IDLE ON RISE, SAYS BRITON

Gareth Jones, Lloyd George Aid, Reports Devastation

TOURS FARM AREAS, FINDS FOOD GONE

Asserts Reds Arrest Britons to Check Public Wrath—Peasants "Wait for Death"

By H. R. KNICKERBOCKER

Evening Post Foreign Service

Reich Jews Ask End of Protests

Real Reprisal Order Puts Victims in Perils — Pupils Barred From Schools

Today's developments in Hitler Germany and Austria follow:

Nazis Jews Germany into peace by final capitol action, are end of Foreign "atrocity" protests.

Another Nazis move "world boycott" of Germany will not recognize any agreements signed by Chancellor Hitler.

By H. R. KNICKERBOCKER

Evening Post Foreign Service

BERLIN, March 29.—Germany's Jewish population was thrown into a state of extreme fear today as the final declaration of economic reprisals against them in Germany for the anti-Nazis atrocity campaign was put into effect.

The final action of handing the Jews over to hostile treatment as the result of their attempt to arouse foreign countries against Germany was taken by the Nazi Government when it announced a decree providing that all Jewish civil servants are to be dismissed from their posts by April 30.

Further measures directed against the Jews are to be taken, it is announced, by the Ministry of Interior, which has ordered the immediate dismissal of all Jewish officials in the Prussian police service.

Jewish pupils in the public schools have been barred from the classrooms, and Jewish lawyers have been forbidden to practice in the courts of Bavaria.

Lehman Plea on Beer Bill Stirs Storm

Both Parties in Both Houses Launch Bitter Attack

GOVERNOR BLAMES LOBBYISTS' "SWARM"

In Appeal to Legislature Says Selfish Interests Menace Repeal

By JEROME L. SMITH

Chief Correspondent of Evening Post

ALBANY, March 29.—Governor Lehman suffered today the support of his last bid in a personal address to a joint session of the Legislature, charging "mercenary and selfish" interests have sought to gain control of legislation of the new beverage. His appeal was to save a scrutinizing check upon any bill to manufacture and distribute.

The Democratic executive in the meeting, today Thursday and Monday legislature, let his attack.

Party officials declared a caucus may that Democrats can effectively block the Republican attempt to override the Senate or Governor's bill, on which five-sixths vote and pre-Democratic organization, including the State Tax Association, headed by Public Service Commissioner Maltbie, have declared the Governor's bill is the best measure possible under the circumstances.

Governor Lehman's Appeal

Appearing at 10:30 A.M. before the Senate and Assembly Finance Committees, which had previously held a public hearing on the Governor's bill, Governor Lehman said:

"I am appearing before you at a special request of Senator Wilson T. Lynn to whom I have spoken in regard to the bill. I have also had the pleasure of discussing the matter with Assemblyman Joseph D. Carlino, Majority Leader, and with Assemblyman Irving Ives, Minority Leader.

"I have also had the pleasure of discussing the matter with Senator Thomas C. Desmond, Majority Leader, and with Senator Seabury C. Mastick, Minority Leader.

"I have also had the pleasure of discussing the matter with Senator Joseph A. McGinnies, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and with Assemblyman Irwin Steingut, Chairman of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee



Friday, March 31, 1933 THE EVENING

FAMINE RULES RUSSIA

The 5-year Plan Has Killed the Bread Supply

By GARETH JONES

Mr. Jones is one of Mr. Lloyd George's private secretaries. He has just returned from an extensive tour on foot in Soviet Russia. He speaks Russian fluently—and here is the terrible story the peasants told him.

A FEW days ago I stood in a worker's cottage outside Moscow. A father and a son, the father a Russian skilled worker in a Moscow factory, and the son a member of the Young Communist League, stood glaring at one another.

The father, trembling with excitement, lost control of himself and shouted at his Communist son: "It's terrible now. We workers are starving. Look at Chelyabinsk, where I once worked. Disease there is carrying away numbers of us workers and the little food there is is uneatable. That is what you have done to our Mother Russia."

The son cried back: "But look at the giants of industry which we have built. Look at the new tractor works. Look at the Dniepostroy. That construction has been worth suffering for."

"Construction indeed!" was the father's reply. "What's the use of construction when you have destroyed all that's best in Russia?"

MR. GARETH JONES.

"*The cattle have nearly all died. How can we feed the cattle when we have only fodder to eat ourselves?*"

"And your horses?" was the question I asked in every village I visited. The horse is now a question of life and death, for without a horse how can one plough? And if one cannot plough, how can one sow for the next harvest? And if one cannot sow for the next harvest, then death is the only prospect in the future.

The reply spelled doom for most of the villages. The peasants said: "Most of our horses have died and we have so little fodder that the remaining ones are scraggy and ill."

If it is grave now and if millions are dying in the villages, as they are, for I did not visit a single village where many had not died, what will it be like in a month's time? The potatoes left are being counted one by one, but in so many homes the potatoes have long run out. The beet, once used as cattle fodder, may run out in many huts before the new food comes in June, July and August, and many have not even beet.

The situation is graver than in 1921, as all peasants stated emphatically. In that year there was famine in several great regions, but in most parts the peasants could live. It was a localised famine, which had many millions of victims, especially along the Volga. But to-day the famine is everywhere, in the formerly rich Ukraine, in West Russia, in Central Asia, in North Caucasia—everywhere.

CHILD BEGGARS IN MOSCOW

What of the towns? Moscow as yet does not look so stricken, and no one staying in Moscow would have an inkling of wh

For decades, public discussion of the Holodomor was suppressed in the Soviet Union. Survivors, families and diaspora communities preserved its memory. Their accounts helped later generations recover a history the state had concealed.


НЕ ЗАБУДЕМО НАРОДОВБИВЧИЙ ГОЛОД УКРАЇНІ 1932-1933
НЕ ЗАБУДЕМО НАРОДОВБИВЧИЙ ГОЛОД УКРАЇНІ 1932-1933
WE SHALL NEVER FORGET THE 7,000,000 UKRAINIANS SLAUGHTERED BY MOSCOW
RUSSIA



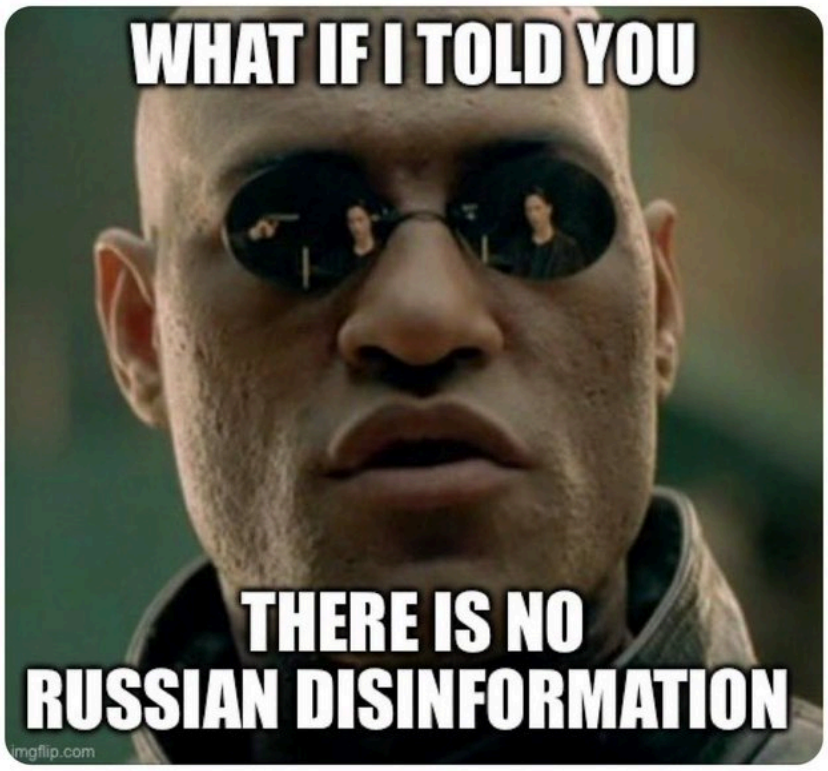
Russia still denies that the Holodomor was genocide while glorifying Stalin. In March 2026, its Foreign Ministry circulated a claim that the Holodomor was “fabricated”. A relief honouring Stalin returned to Moscow’s metro in 2025.

11/15





David Sacks ALL IN
@DavidSacks



Readers added context

Russian disinformation has a long and rich history.

It includes intentional lying about:
- Holodomor
- Katyń Massacre
- current war in Ukraine

cepa.org/article/kremli...
hi-storylessons.eu/disinformation...
bbc.com/news/world-eur...
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_d...

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Ukraine marks this day while defending itself against Russia’s invasion. Remembrance honours the dead and affirms the right of Ukrainians to preserve their history, language and national life.

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The dossier explores the Holodomor through history, economics and political thought, drawing connections with Russia’s war against Ukraine and the continuing struggle over Ukrainian identity and memory.

13/15



Read the full dossier:

The Holodomor Genocide: Starvation and the Erasure of a Nation.

14/15

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