

Bulganin Election Indicates Power Being Spread Out, Authorities Claim

Move Would Be Less Dangerous To World Peace

Washington — (U.P.) — American authorities said today the surprise elevation of Marshal Nikolai Bulganin to the Soviet premiership indicates that the real power in Russia is being "spread out" among several top men in the Kremlin.

That, they said, could be "less dangerous" to the West and to world peace than concentration of supreme authority in one Stalin-like dictator.

When word of Georgi Malenkov's resignation first reached this capital, the initial reaction of diplomatic experts and congressional leaders was to interpret it as an ominous sign that Russia would adopt a tougher policy in world affairs. This appraisal was based on the almost universal expectation here that Nikita Khrushchev, secretary of the Communist party, would succeed Malenkov.

Political Background

The subsequent announcement of Bulganin's election brought expressions of marked relief from authorities who are intimately concerned with Soviet affairs. They said Bulganin, despite his army background has not been regarded as a particularly "strong man" or militaristic type. Rather he has been the "political commissar" type of general whose role in the Kremlin has been to maintain Communist party control over the army.

One expert said it is possible that Bulganin is primarily a "front man" for a ruling junta and that "the real leader or leaders are standing in the background."

Khrushchev, who nominated Bulganin for premier and Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov doubtless will remain "highly important" in the Kremlin hierarchy, he said.

Division of Authority

In any event, authorities said, it appears that with Bulganin as premier there will be a spreading out of power, with the army and the Communist party both represented at the top, rather than a clear cut emergence of one all-powerful ruler like Stalin.

U. S. leaders feel that this kind of multiple leadership is less likely to take radical actions that might plunge the world into war than would be a single unchallenged dictator.

Congressional leaders were guarded in their appraisal of the sudden shift of Soviet leadership.

Chairman Walter F. George (D-Ga.), of the Senate Foreign Relations committee, said it is "very difficult to tell" just what the change will mean in terms of Soviet policy.

"In any upheaval of this kind there is always the possibility that something better (from the Western view point) may result," he said. "But I would think it more likely indicates a tougher policy if anything."

Sen. John J. Sparkman (D-Ala.), a member of the Foreign



Less War Danger Seen by Former Russian Leader

New York — (U.P.) — Alexander Kerensky, who headed Russia's first brief revolutionary government in 1917, said today the Soviet change of leadership makes him "more optimistic that there will not be a war."

Kerensky said he believed the Soviet would be less inclined to plan aggression because of the internal problems attendant upon the change of government.

Reliant on Deputies — Kerensky said new Premier Nikolai Bulganin was less a military man than a politician reliant on his top professional deputies, Marshals Georgi A. Zhukov and Alexander M. Vasilevsky, for military advice.

Kerensky said he did not believe resigned Premier Georgi Malenkov would be purged or liquidated.

He said he believed the decision to replace Malenkov was made last month and that the reference to his inexperience as a national leader, rather than to agricultural problems, was the true reason for his resignation.

Mendes-France Offered Job as Milk Salesman

Portland — (U.P.) — Pierre Mendes-France, the milk drinking Frenchman who lost his job as premier, had an offer of a new job today.

Tony Larsen, manager of a local dairy, cabled Mendes-France offering him a year-round job selling milk.

So far Larsen has received no reply.

Labor Council Balks At State Surtax Plan

Portland — (U.P.) — Opposition to a surtax on the present state income tax was expressed by the Portland Central Labor Council last night.

The council proposed elimination of the federal income tax exemption rather than a surtax to help the state solve its financial problems.

A proposed increase in the beer tax was attacked. Teamster union members told the council that five breweries have gone out of business in Oregon because of high taxes on beer and that an increase might drive the last brewery from the state.

Soviet Experts in London See Tougher Policy Toward West

London — (U.P.) — The resignation of Premier Georgi Malenkov of Russia means a return to the policies of Josef Stalin and a probable "get tougher" line with the West, Soviet experts said today.

Experts predicted an all-out Soviet drive for heavy industry and arms production, a tougher line towards the West in the Kremlin's foreign policy and probably closer alignment with Red China.

But above all, the experts believed the struggle for ultimate power in the Soviet Union was behind the unprecedented resignation of the Soviet premier.

Signs had multiplied in recent weeks that a behind-the-scenes struggle for power was progressing with Malenkov losing ground fast to vigorous and leader Nikita Khrushchev.

Government quarters were taken completely by surprise in London. They learned the sensational news from Moscow Press dispatches.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Foreign Secre-

tary Anthony Eden interrupted their commonwealth prime ministers consultations to study the stunning news.

Fires Probed as Link In Safe Burglary

Portland — (U.P.) — Authorities today investigated two small fires here to see if they may have been set to mask burglary of a wall safe at a furniture store.

Firemen early yesterday were called to a truck blaze at 7710 SE 82nd avenue. Shortly afterwards a blaze broke out at the Marcus Whitman school in a pile of building materials. The state arson squad roved off the area and began an investigation.

The burglary at Holman's Furniture store was discovered shortly after 8 a.m. About \$2700 was taken from the firm's wall safe.

The fires and burglary occurred in southeast Portland.

TO QUIT OFFICE

Portland — (U.P.) — R. L. Clark, president of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, said today he is resigning as president of Pacific Wool Growers. Clark cited a heavy load of civic activities as the reason. He has been head of the regional wool marketing cooperative since 1941.

DURANTE RELEASED

Hollywood — (U.P.) — Comedian Jimmy Durante has been released from St. John's Hospital in nearby Santa Monica after being treated for a minor stomach ailment. Durante, admitted to the hospital Saturday night after suffering cramps, was under observation until yesterday, when he was released.

OUT — A glum Pierre Mendes-France talks to reporters in Paris after submitting his resignation as premier of France. He was ousted from office after 7½ months when he lost a vote of confidence on his North African policies. His defeat plunges France into political crisis that threatens West European unity.

Memorial Rites Set For Hoover's Brother

Stanford, Calif. — (U.P.) — A memorial service will be held at Stanford Memorial Chapel today for Theodore Jesse Hoover, 84, brother of former President Hoover and dean emeritus of Stanford University School of Engineering.

Hoover's body was buried yesterday in a private ceremony at his Cas Del Osa ranch where he died last Friday. Eight members of the immediate family made the 1000-foot climb up a single-path trail to the grave where Hoover was buried beside his wife who died in 1940.

The former President did not attend the burial service, but was expected to attend the memorial service today.

TO RAISE SALARIES

Portland — (U.P.) — The Portland school board voted last night to raise the salary of Supt. J. W. Edwards from \$17,000 to \$18,000 a year and salaries of his four assistants from \$10,000 to \$11,000 annually.

Relations committee, said "we can't afford to assume that any change will be favorable to us."

The smoothness and lack of violence with which Malenkov was eased out of office confirmed the belief of Russian experts here that he had never held the reins of power very tightly in his own hands but had ruled since Stalin's death on March 5, 1953, as a front man for a triumvirate in which Khrushchev and Molotov were of comparable rank.

It is that same kind of multiple leadership that the experts now expect to continue under Bulganin.

One theory expressed here was that Khrushchev and Molotov may have given the premier-ship to Bulganin as a "reward" for his part in securing the downfall and later execution of former Soviet Policy Chief Lavrenti P. Beria in 1953.

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