

**Japan To Patch Ties With Poland, Czechs**

Tokyo — U.P. — Japan will take steps this month to restore diplomatic relations with Poland and Czechoslovakia in a follow-up to the resumption of relations with Soviet Russia last month, Kyodo New Agency said today.

The agency quoted "foreign office sources" as saying talks would start first with Poland and Czechoslovakia among the Eastern European nations "in view of the more stabilized political conditions" in these countries.

**Premier of Iraq Assassination Target**

Damascus — U.P. — An assassination attempt was made against Iraq's pro-Western Premier Nouri El-Said last Monday, the Syrian newspaper Alyyam said Sunday.

The independent paper quoted "a reliable source" who arrived in Amman from Baghdad as saying one of the premier's servants died of poisoning immediately after tasting food prepared for the premier.

**Variety of Events Mark Past Year For State Foresters**

Salem—An unusual fire season, improved protection practices, major progress in forest land rehabilitation, continuation of the insect survey and increasing forest planting on privately owned lands, marked the activities of the state forestry department and its cooperating protection associations during 1956.

A first season which saw 578 lightning fires out of a total of 987 and the necessity of closing the fire season in late November after it had been formally opened a month earlier, were the unusual happenings in protection during the year.

**Favorable Year**  
The acreage burned during the regular fire season was 4831 acres, placing it in the list of one of the most favorable in recent years. Then, during the latter part of November and early December, continuous gale-like winds came down the Columbia river gorge, contributing to an extremely high fire hazard in the northwest part of the state.

Numerous fires broke out and the governor issued a proclamation closing the season in northwestern Oregon. It was the first time that such action had been taken in the 46-year history of the state forestry department.

In Clatsop county, two fires broke out east of the city of Astoria and burned some 6000 acres before being brought under control. Another fire got away from slash burning in the Cronin creek watershed and spotted over several thousands acres of land, most of it belonging to the state. Smallest fires occurred on the Trask river in Tillamook county and in Clackamas and in Linn counties.

**Protection Emphasized**  
Improved protection was emphasized during 1956 through special training of protection groups. This included setting up seven 10-man overhead crews made up of selected individuals qualified through experience and fitness to take over large project fires during periods of emergencies.

Another new departure was the training of selected individuals from industrial organizations in order to fit them as bosses on the fire lines. Three such training sessions were held, with a total of approximately 100 men taking the courses. Another step in this work was advance training and basic instruction for the seasonal fire crews.

**Seedlings Planted**  
During the year, a total of 3,135,000 forest tree seedlings

**Control of Congress Uncertain Because of Possibility of Death**

By A. ROBERT SMITH  
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Washington — Senators gathered in the capital last week for a session that is uncertain by the fact that a death here or there among the 96 members of the upper chamber could completely change party control.

Because the Democrats control the Senate at the outset by the slenderest of possible margins, they are most vulnerable to the possible effect of a death among the ranks of their 49 senators.

The issue is critical politically in the case of those senators who come from states that have elected governors of the opposition party. When a senator dies in office, the governor gets to appoint his successor until the next regular election when a successor can be elected by the people. And the governor is free to select an appointee without regard to the party of the senator who died.

There are 11 Democratic senators from states having a GOP governor, and some of them have reached advanced age. There are 20 Republican senators from states with Democratic governors, but their average age is less than that of the Democrats who

find themselves in this same situation.

Democrats breathed a big sigh of relief last week when the Rhode Island Supreme Court ruled that the new governor of that state is Democratic Dennis Roberts, rather than Republican Christopher Del Sesto. The reason for anxiety was that the oldest member of the Senate is a Democrat, 89-year-old Theodore Francis Green, who is already the oldest man ever to sit in the Senate.

Spry as he is, Sen. Green can't last forever, and Democrats were worried that a Republican governor might get the chance to appoint his successor and thereby give the GOP control of the Senate. One less Democrat and one more Republican would divide the Senate equally, 48-48, and permit the president of the Senate, Vice President Nixon, to cast the tie-breaking vote in favor of the GOP.

Next in line, by reason of age, is 82-year-old Sen. Mathew M.

Neely, whose state of West Virginia now has a Republican governor. Neely has been in and out of the hospital in recent months. Then comes Montana's 80-year-old Sen. James E. Murray, who heads the Senate Interior Committee as long as Democrats hang onto control. Next is 72-year-old Sen. Joseph C. O'Mahoney of Wyoming, and then 68-year-old Sen. Dennis Chavez of New Mexico.

**Ambassador Passion**  
Chavez was the subject of one

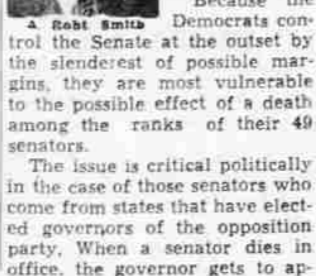
of those colorful stories that goes around sometimes which bears on this issue. Chavez, so the yarn goes, has always had a passion to be ambassador to Spain. And since his state now has a Republican governor, he has reportedly let it be known to GOP insiders that he would be willing to resign his seat in return for the appointment to Madrid.

The only Republican senators in this upper age register are 77-year-old Edward Martin of

Pennsylvania and 76-year-old H. Alexander Smith of New Jersey.

The legislative significance of party control lies in the committees, for the majority party always gets to name more senators to each committee than the minority party. Also, most staff workers attached to committees are named by the majority party — a fact which frequently determines whether the bills taken up are agreeable to the president or not.

So this year, when senators greet each other with "How are you feeling today, Senator?" they won't be just passing the time of day.



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**LUX**

TOILET SOAP

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amazing new laxative discovery is so effective that it relieves even chronic constipation overnight, yet is so smooth, so gentle it has been proved safe even for women in the most critical stages of pregnancy.

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**IT'S A PHYSIOLOGICAL FACT:** Exercise tones your body! And COLONALD exercises your colon to tone it against constipation, overnight! Whether occasional, frequent or chronic, whatever your degree of constipation, get COLONALD, in easy-to-take tablet form at any drug counter, today! The price, only 98c for the economical 60 tablet package, brings you positive relief at less than 2c per tablet.

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