

Khrushchev's Rise to Power Told

Editor's note: The following article, by United Press International, gives the background of Nikita Khrushchev, Soviet premier.

Press International
A long, long road from the little thatched roof village of Kalinovka, near Kursk in the Ukraine, to the throne room of the Kremlin and the center of the world stage.

But Nikita Khrushchev, boss of all the Russians and the satellites beyond, regards the eminence and power he has achieved—the one-time bare-foot boy who tended the few pigs, goats and cows of his coal miner father—he shows no signs of fatigue.

Once again, the world waits upon his word and wonders:

Peace or war?
Thousands of words have been written about this chunky, short (five foot five) physically strong man who walked the tricky, murderous road to the top in Soviet Russia. Much of what has been written has been contradictory—as contradictory as the man himself.

When first he came to power in gradual stages after the death of Stalin in 1953, many astute observers of the Rus-

sian scene regarded him as a buffoon, a talky, boastful, tactless and mediocre figure who was not long for the helm.

A Tough Individual

What the world overlooked at first was the Khrushchev toughness, the ability to profit from error so he rarely made the same mistake twice, and the fierce competitive shrewdness that had carried him successfully through the jungle of Russian Communist politics while other, seemingly stronger men, fell.

Biographers of Khrushchev credit much of his staying power to the natural peasant endurance that came to him by birth. At 64—he was born in April, 1894—he gives off an aura of strength and sureness that some interviewers have described as frightening, particularly when he is angry. He can also, as many Kremlin party goers have learned, be disarmingly charming.

What sort of man is Khrushchev really? The answers still are not clear. Most studies of the man dwell on his outward contradictions, then go into his past to explain him.

As a world figure, Khrushchev's history is relatively

short. Until the early 1950s his name was associated vaguely in the world outside Russia with an administrative mistake in Russia's agricultural program, and efforts to put down unrest in the Ukraine.

Relentless Climb

When Stalin died in March, 1953, Western attention centered on the names of Premier Georgi Malenkov, Vyacheslav M. Molotov, Lavrenti Beria. They seemed the ruling triumvirate. But nine days after Stalin's death Malenkov stepped down from his top post in the Communist party and Khrushchev stepped up as first secretary of the all-powerful Central Committee.

It was not until the following September that the world learned of the power shift, but from that time Khrushchev's emergence has been unmistakable as he climbed to, or took, ever greater power, and the once fearsome names dropped off one by one—Beria executed, Malenkov unseated and downgraded, Molotov exiled.

Khrushchev, though little known elsewhere, actually rose to high post under Stalin earlier than Malenkov and former Premier Nikolai Bul-

ganin, though he was a junior in the hierarchy to Molotov. He was 23 at the time of the Bolshevik revolution but it was not until 1918, a year later, that he joined the Bolsheviks and fought in the civil war. Even then, he appears not to have made up his mind to remain active in the party, for he returned to the Ukraine, went back to coal mining and started at night school, in technical subjects. He started taking party posts, finally getting to Moscow as a student at the Stalin Industrial Academy.

Handled Ukraine Purge

In the capital, the vigorous young peasant attracted political attention and in the early 1930s rose to party boss in the Moscow province. He was in Moscow during the bloody Stalin purges, but on the right list. In 1938 he made it to the Politburo, as a non-voting member. That same year Khrushchev's career got its biggest boost when he was sent to the Ukraine and given a post that made him, in effect, Stalin's top deputy.

It's been said Stalin personally picked Khrushchev for the job of erasing Ukrainian resistance to regimentation, and he did the job thoroughly. Some 3,000 party officials, it has been recorded, were eliminated in the Khrushchev cleanup—sent to slave labor camps, or worse.

After the war Khrushchev helped restore the Ukraine to "order" a job he did well enough to be summoned back to Moscow in 1949 and placed on the Central Committee secretariat. Two years later he advocated a tough, new farm policy involving resettlement and reconstitution of the collectives. The program was not considered a success and more recently the Khrushchev tack on agriculture has been a softer one, granting the farmers a greater slice of their earnings, and more voice in their activities.

Then, in the post-Stalin era, came the maneuverings that landed Khrushchev in the seat of the mighty—the famous 20th Party Conference and denunciation of Stalin, the packing of the Central committee with his supporters, and the gradual elimination of Molotov and other major rivals.

Engineers, AGC Continue Meetings

Portland —(UPI)—Another meeting between striking Operating Engineers and Associated General Contractors was set for today as efforts continued to halt the Oregon-southwest Washington construction strike.

The two sides met together with Federal Mediator LeRoy Smith Wednesday for the fifth time. The Teamsters union also is on strike against AGC.



CARRYING submachine gun to office, Gen. Abdel Kassem, premier of new Iraq revolutionary government, is ready for trouble.



Do you know what Frankenstein said to his teenage son, "Frankie" (he always calls him Frankie)? No you can't go to The Craterian to see "THE FLY"! It's too scary even for you—it might scare the bolt out of your head!

Coos Bay Group Endorses Highway

Coos Bay—The Coos Bay Port commission has announced it will endorse improvement of Highway 42 as a first class highway from Myrtle Point to near Winston on Highway 99.

The action presents a "united front" in Coos county on an east-west highway for the first time. The highway commission previously announced it could not do anything about Highway 42 because the residents of Coos county were not united in their efforts.

Earlier the county Chamber

of Commerce endorsed Highway 42 improvements as the priority road need of Coos county. The Chamber of Commerce said Highway 42 was the only logical terminus for the "Winnemucca to the Sea" highway.

The "Winnemucca to the Sea" highway would extend from the Oregon coast eastward to connect with Highway 40 at Winnemucca, Nev., with a probable route through Josephine and Jackson counties in southern Oregon.

State Police Raid

Eastern Oregon Games

Ontario —(UPI)—State police, armed with 20 warrants, raided nine business establishments in Vale, Nyssa and Ontario Wednesday night and confiscated a number of pin-ball machines and broke up three card games.

Sgt. Russell Haynes said evidence had been gathered for the raid through undercover work during the early part of the month.

The United Kingdom has 22 universities, 16 in England, four in Scotland, and the University of Wales and the University of Belfast.

ICEBREAKER PLANNED

Washington—(UPI)—The Senate Commerce Committee approved a bill Wednesday to authorize construction of a nuclear-powered icebreaker to patrol the Arctic. The ship is expected to cost between \$30 and \$60 million.

Attempted Assault Charges Dismissed

Portland —(UPI)—Circuit Judge Virgil T. Langtry Wednesday threw out of court charges of attempted assault against five teen-age boys who were picked up last week after a man complained they planned to beat him.

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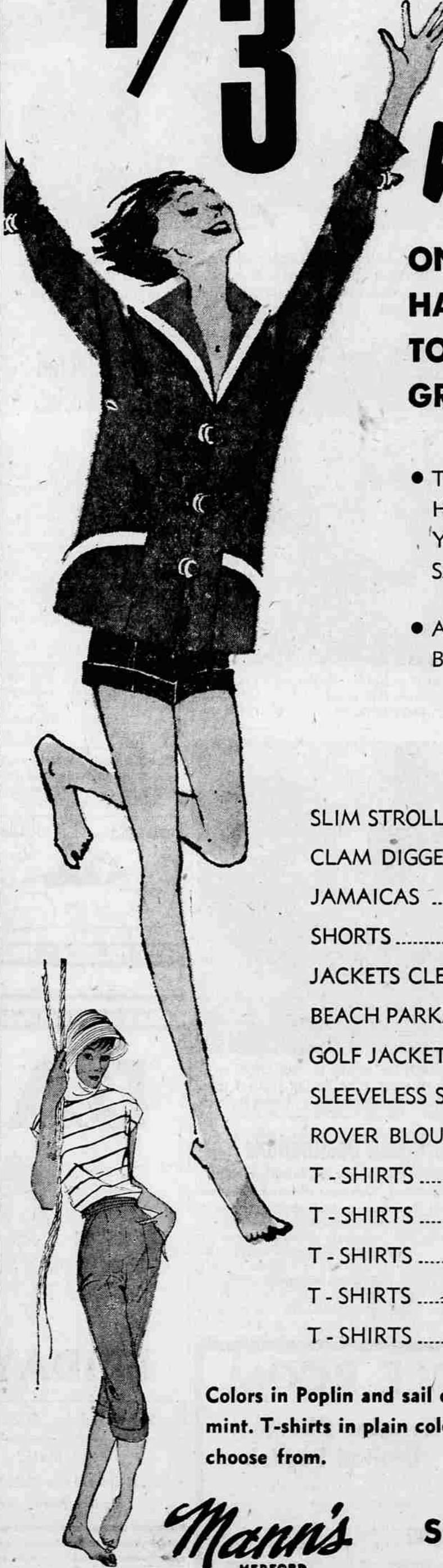
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