

Soviets Abolish Politburo In Historic Party Conference

By THOMAS P. WHITNEY

MOSCOW (U.S.)—The proposed new statutes of the Communist party of the Soviet Union announced today provide for the abolition of the Politburo.

This startling reorganization of the Soviet governing structure was revealed today in an announcement that Russia's ruling Communist party would hold its first congress in 13 years on Oct. 5.

The announcement said the congress also would take up plans for a fifth five-year plan to increase Soviet industrial output 70 per cent by the end of 1955.

The Politburo, deriving its power theoretically from the Central Committee of the Communist party, is in fact the ruling body of the Soviet Union, and thus of world communism. It is made up of Prime Minister Joseph Stalin, party secretary-general, and 10 others, plus a number of alternate members, and has wielded unquestioned authority under Stalin.

Under the new statutes the Politburo and Organization Bureau are replaced by a "Praesidium" which has the function of "guiding the work of the Central Committee between sessions."

The party secretariat, however, remains under the new statutes.

The new statutes also provide for changing the two-decade-old name of the party—from the All-Union Communist party (Bolsheviks) to the "Communist Party of the Soviet Union."

Western observers here considered the meeting, announced for Oct. 5, would be the most important held in the Soviet Union since the end of World War II.

(In Western capitals officials

and observers also saw the scheduling of the party congress as a major event, though they were reluctant to immediately speculate exactly what it might mean. For some time Westerners have considered that the failure of the Soviet Communists to call a party convention in a decade possible weaknesses in the party structure at home. Today's announcement could mean that Russia's Communist rulers now feel they are strongly enough entrenched to face the party members.)

The Communist congress was announced in a decree of the party's Central Committee, published today in all Moscow newspapers over the name of Prime Minister Joseph Stalin, the committee's secretary-general.

The announcement included directives the congress will be asked to approve for the new, fifth five-year economic plan. This, the party decree said, would cover the years 1951 through 1955.

The directives, which are expected to be the basis of the new economic goals the Soviet government will set, call for total Soviet industrial production to increase 12 per cent annually. By the end of 1955, total output would be 60 per cent greater than in 1950.

(As with previous Soviet economic announcements, today's pronouncement dealt only with percentages. The proposed directive gave no tonnages or other production quantities.)

Prime Minister Stalin presumably will attend the party congress and it was considered possible he might make one of his rare public addresses to the meeting. Stalin was the main speaker when the party congress met last in 1929.

A five-item agenda was listed for the forthcoming congress:

1. Report of the party's Central Committee, to be given by Committee Secretary Georgi M. Malenkov.
2. Report of the Central Inspection Committee of the party.
3. Consideration of directives on the fifth five-year plan.
4. Changes in the statute of the Communist party of the Soviet Union.
5. Election of central organs of the party. This election of such important bodies as the Central Committee—which names the Politburo—is likely to rank with the five-year-plan directives in importance and interest.

Today's party decree said the congress would consist of two delegates for each 5,000 members of the party—one with a vote and one with an "advisory voice."

The proposed economic directives set forth a number of increases for individual industries to make by 1955 over their 1950 output. These included:

Steel, 62 per cent; coal, 43 per cent; oil and petroleum, 55 per cent; grain, 40 to 50 per cent.

The directives also call for the volume of retail trade in the state and co-operative stores to increase 70 per cent by 1955 over the 1950 total, with meat sales to the population to go up 90 per cent and butter sales to rise 100 per cent.

The plan also provides that the Soviet national income should, in 1955, be 60 per cent more than it was in 1950.



"TOM," Hereford being primed by Joe Hoefler of the Bonanza Beef Club, is to be entered in Pacific International Exposition in Portland this October. The beef club, a 4-H group, is under the direction of John Hayden.



"JERRY," a Hereford steer being readied by 15-year-old Joe Hoefler for the 17th Annual Rotary Junior Livestock Show which starts Sunday, looks to be in pretty fair shape. That's Joe's brother Paul at right.

APPLICATION

WASHINGTON (U.S.)—The Southern Oregon Broadcasting Co., Grants Pass, Ore., filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission Tuesday for a television station at Medford, Ore.

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Group Studies Rail Problem

PRINEVILLE (U.S.)—A committee was named here Tuesday to investigate the possibility of extending railroad facilities in Central Oregon.

Representatives from the John Day Chamber of Commerce met at a luncheon with members of the Prineville-Grook County Chamber of Commerce to discuss extension of the city-owned railroad from Prineville east into Wheeler and Grant Counties.

The John Day group met in Boise recently with representatives of the Union Pacific and C&NW railroads to discuss rehabilitation of the Sumpter Valley logging railroad, which runs west into the John Day country from Baker. This led to Tuesday's meeting.

The Prineville group named a

committee of six, and the John Day group will name a similar committee later.

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