

# Western Authors Believe Pressure Put On Winner

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Three Western Nobel Prize-winning authors agreed today that Boris Pasternak turned down his 1958 award because of pressure from the Soviet government, not because he agreed with the Kremlin's condemnation of his work.

The 68-year-old Russian writer was awarded the \$4,420 prize a week ago for his poetry and his novel, "Doctor Zhivago," which describes the loss of freedom in Soviet society. The novel is a best-seller in the West but has been suppressed in the Soviet Union.

Wednesday, after a government campaign of vilification in which the Nobel committee was accused of playing cold war politics, Pasternak cabled the Swedish Royal Academy of Letters that he was refusing the prize "because of the meaning attributed to this award in the society I live in."

"Do not take my voluntary refusal with any ill will," he added. Previously he had messaged that he was "immensely thankful to be chosen, proud, astonished, abashed" by the honor.

France's Albert Camus, winner of the 1957 Nobel Prize for Literature, commented, "I don't believe Pasternak refused the Nobel Prize of his own free will."

and there was consternation at his rejection of the award.

In Moscow, the author was the target of the severest attack yet. Before a crowd of thousands in the Lenin Sports Palace, Secretary V. E. Semichastny of the Young Communist League pictured him as a slanderer who should leave his country. He said he was sure the Soviet government would place no obstacle in Pasternak's way if he wanted to go "to his capitalist paradise."

Pasternak was still living at his home in a writers' colony outside Moscow but asked Western reporters not to visit him there any more. He told them he acted on his own in rejecting the prize. "I speak for myself," he said.

In a telegram to the union president in Moscow, the British writers termed Pasternak "one of the world's great poets and writers" and said: "We appeal to you in the name of the great Russian literary tradition for which you stand not to dishonor it by victimizing a writer reversed throughout the entire civilized world."

The signers included novelist Graham Greene, Aldous and Julian Huxley, E. M. Forster, Somerset Maugham, J. B. Priestley and Rebecca West.

Pearl Buck, American author of "The Good Earth" and the 1938 winner, said she was "deeply saddened" that Pasternak was not permitted to accept the prize.

"The rejection, which no doubt was made under pressure, does not alter his world stature as a writer," she added. "It does reflect, most unfortunately, upon his government and his compatriots."

In Communist Poland, leading writers said they were sure only government threats had forced Pasternak's action. The Polish Writers Union, a hotbed of independent sentiment in the Red-ruled country, already had congratulated Pasternak on his honor.

Earl Bertrand Russell, 86-year-old British philosopher who won the 1950 prize, said he was "disgusted with the Russians' attitude to this from the start. Knowing the Russian way of life as we do, we may well think that Pasternak had no alternative but to reject this prize."

He joined another Nobel winner, poet T. S. Eliot, and several other leading British writers in a plea to the Soviet Writers Union not to victimize Pasternak. The union, a prime organ of government control of Soviet writers, already

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**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS** are making big plans for the annual dessert public card party to be given on Friday, November 7, in the Sacred Heart gymnasium. Play will start at 8 p.m. The card party is a prelude to the annual bazaar planned for a later date. This foursome is busy with different details. Left to right they are Mrs. John Kennedy, reservations; Mrs. W. H. McCroskey, general chairman; Mrs. Neil Hurley, refreshments, and Mrs. Martha Perea, kitchen.

## Death Claims Demo Hopeful

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — J. R. Kelly, 70, Democratic candidate for Nebraska state auditor, died suddenly Wednesday night.

His death means his party goes to the polls next Tuesday without a formal candidate on the ballot.

The ballot was certified 14 days ago and printed with Kelly's name on it.

But Democratic party leaders can name another candidate and urge party members to write in his name or voters may write in any name they desire.

Kelly would have opposed Ray Johnson, Republican who has held the office since 1938.

## GUEST OF HONOR

ALTURAS—Ralph Homes, Adin, delegate to the United Nations Pilgrimage last summer, was guest of honor at a banquet served by Northern Rebekah Lodge No. 208 Saturday night. Ralph illustrated his talk with pictures he took on the three week all-expense paid tour of the United States and Canada. Odd Fellow and Rebekah lodges of the United States and Canada sponsor these trips for youths each summer.

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