

CC Plenum to Meet

The Tenth Plenum of the CC, PUWP, will start on Monday, April 16, Radio Warsaw reported April 10. The subject of the discussion will be the fulfillment of the resolutions on technical progress passed at the Fourth Plenum on 20-22 January 1960.

Expulsion of Party Members in 1961

Supplementary figures on new Party membership, on expulsions and crossings off were supplied by Trybuna Ludu March 28 in connection with a plenary session of the Central Party Control Commission. It follows that not all the figures previously supplied on the subject (cf. Situation Reports January 11 and 29) find their confirmation in the findings of the Control Commission. While the figure of 196,675 newcomers to the Party is repeated, the data on expulsions and crossings off are a bit different. The number of those expelled is 8,428 now, while previous reports quoted "over 4,500" and 29,609 both expelled and crossed off. The report of the Control Commission claims that the number of those crossed off the Party list in 1961 is "over 29 thousand". Party membership figures having always been subject to occasional "modifications", it is difficult to conclude whether the recent ones are true. More important seem to be those passages of the Commission's report which pertain to the reasons for expulsions and crossings off. Thus, 49.6 per cent of the expulsions have been brought about by "economic abuses" of the Party members. The rest have been expelled for "immoral behavior, drunkenness, offenses against Party discipline", etc. The reasons for the crossings off were mostly "lack of interest in Party life and negligence in fulfilling Party duties".

"Agrorod" Again?

"Mechanized, highly productive agriculture may again contribute towards town creation". This statement comes from Jan Dab-Kociol, member of the State Council and former (1947-1954) minister of agriculture, writing in Rada Narodowa March 31 on the problem of small towns. The biggest concentration of small towns, Dab-Kociol finds, falls on the voivodships known for high agricultural production. The increase of agricultural production may stop the present process of the fading away of smaller towns, and even contribute towards their resurrection and reinvigoration. "Small towns will be given a new lease of life when

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they become an extension of agricultural economy. They have grown from and on this background and today they have natural conditions for further development", Dab-Kociol concludes.

Although in the whole article there is no reference to "socialist reconstruction of the countryside", it is difficult to fail to notice the veiled hint to the role of the small town in the "agrogorod" to be as envisaged in the recent discussion on the future of Polish agriculture (cf. Situation Report March 29).

American Businessman Fined in Warsaw

Mr. Willaim Louis Brett, the American businessman charged by the Poles for violating currency regulations (cf. Situation Reports March 8, April 2) was fined 120,000 zlotys with 12,000 zlotys costs after having been found guilty by Warsaw District Court on two counts, Reuter reported April 9. In both cases, Mr. Brett accepted payments in zlotys in Poland to be repaid in dollars abroad. The total damage to Mr. Brett of 132,000 zlotys represents in terms of actual (black market) value about 1,300 dollars.