

"Rebel" Workers Dismissed

Thirty workers of the Zeran (Warsaw) car factory were fired as "rebels" and "provocateurs", FAZ reported May 27. Similar action against workers who voiced their dissatisfaction about high living cost was taken at Lodz and Chorzow, the paper reported. It is known to RFE that these higher living costs have been brought about not only by the increase of coal, gas and electricity prices, but also by hidden, not officially announced raises in the price of such important items as bread and meat.

FAZ also referred to a workers' delegation of the "Warszawa" steelworks which was received by Gomulka on April 30. Reportedly, the workers demanded "a limited increase in their wages" and threatened a slowdown. The effect of these demands is not known at this moment, but Radio Warsaw reported that Gomulka and Zenon Kliszko "revisited" the "Warszawa" steelworks on May 28 and had a long discussion with about 400 trade-union and Party "activists" of the works.

Agricultural Circles Congress

The Second National Congress of Agricultural Circles, with 1,015 delegates attending, started its discussions in Warsaw yesterday. The Congress will sum up the achievements of the last four years and draft a program for the future, Radio Warsaw reported. Two reports were read, one by the chairman of the Central Board of Agricultural Circles, Franciszek Gesing, and the second by Agriculture Minister Mieczyslaw Jagielski. Top Party and government personalities are attending the Congress, including Gomulka, Cyrankiewicz and Ochab.

Statement on Laos

The Polish government has deemed the stand of the Polish delegate to the ICC in Laos to be correct, according to an official statement released by the Polish Press Agency (PAP) May 28. "The real causes for the present situation in Laos" are to be found "in the behavior of the right-wing Laotian groups and their Western protectors", PAP stated.

Commenting on the statement on May 29, Mr. Dean Rusk admitted that he did not "understand the attitude of the Polish

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government".

Gyptner Leaving Warsaw

At the moment there may still be a question mark concerning Karl Mewis's appointment as East German Ambassador to Poland (cf. Sit. Rep. May 20), but Richard Gyptner was granted what was described as "audience of leave" with the Chairman of the State Council, Aleksander Zawadzki, yesterday. On May 27 Gyptner paid his farewell visits to Gomulka, Cyrankiewicz and the head of Foreign Affairs Ministry, Marian Naszkowski, Radio Warsaw reported. No reference to Mewis has been made to date.

Polish Party Delegation to Moscow

Since May 26 a Polish Party delegation led by the head of CC Organizational Department, Mieczyslaw Marzec, has been in Moscow studying "Soviet Party organizational work". They have been joined by similar Party delegations from Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

Praise of the Polish Party and its working methods appeared in the Moscow "Pravda" of May 28. The article referred to the visit paid by the Soviet Party delegation to their Polish comrades in April (cf. Sit. Rep. of April 8).

The New Weekly "Kultura"

The new literary weekly which will result from the merger (or liquidation) of "Nowa Kultura" and "Przegląd Kulturalny" (cf. Sit. Rep. May 20) is to appear in mid-June under the name "Kultura", Radio Warsaw reported May 27. A variety of cultural problems will be discussed by the paper, "with particular attention to matters concerning the development of socialist culture in Poland", the broadcast explained.

RFE learned earlier that the new editor-in-chief of the weekly will be Janusz Wilhelmi, at present member of the "Nowa Kultura" editorial board. Wilhelmi, a wartime member of AK (anti-Communist and anti-German resistance movement), sided with the Communists about ten years ago and did not change his mind even in 1956. He has always been in favor of "socialist values" in literature.

The choice of "Kultura" as the name of the new weekly

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may cause Polish intellectuals serious confusion. Under "Kultura" up to now the Paris emigré monthly has been understood in Poland. Could the choice perhaps be deliberate?

Note: Attention is drawn to Polish Press Survey No. 1538 of today containing Jozef Pajestka's article "The Economy at Present and Its Future Prospects" ("Przegląd Kulturalny", May 15) and interview with Edmund Pszczolkowski on Committees for Agricultural Matters (cf. Sit. Rep. May 24).