

# Gomulka to Get Leading Position Today in Poland

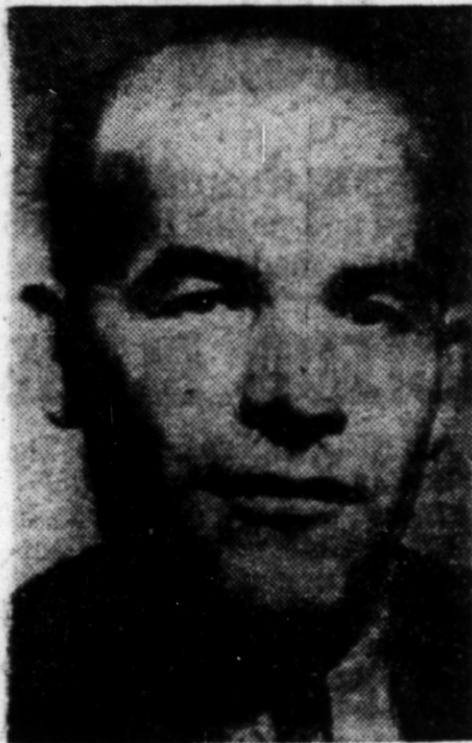
WARSAW, Oct. 18.—Wladyslaw Gomulka will be formally re-installed tomorrow in a position of leadership. Gomulka, 50, was formerly a vice-premier and Communist Party general secretary. He was accused of "deviationism" for stressing an independent Polish path to socialism.

## Doubt Claims Of Strikes in East Germany

BERLIN, Oct. 18.—Vague and contradictory reports of strikes in East Germany, published by the West Berlin paper, Der Tag, were doubted by the majority of West Berlin organizations claiming to have underground links with the East.

Der Tag said strikes were taking place in Magdeburg, Erfurt and Chemnitz, and that troops had been rushed to Magdeburg.

Similar reports were spread by the West Berlin organization called the Free Jurists Investigating Committee.



GOMULKA

Gomulka's return caps the vast democratic changes now taking place in Poland.

Newspapers of Poland said yesterday that Gomulka had returned to the party's top circles.

Gomulka had maintained that small industries and farms employing less than 50 workers should be permitted to remain private industries.

The Polish economy is undergoing important changes. The huge machine building industry is being reorganized and men held responsible for the conditions leading to the Poznan riots have been dismissed.

The climate of change, reorganization and decentralization stretches down into the townships, where more and more power is being given to the people's councils to administer their own affairs.

A Polish News Agency survey reported these efforts have already yielded "considerable results."

In Lublin, the district industrial board has completed plans for decentralizing local industry. Enterprises "greatly restricted in their autonomy" will get new powers to manage themselves. District and municipal people's councils would supervise and run all small-scale industries and handicraft.

The Kielce District People's Council approved 271 motions increasing the powers of People's Councils.

In Lodz the City People's Councils were granted the right to independent management of market places and slaughterhouses.

Decentralization is stretching even to "the struggle of trade union sports," the agency reported. A new plan is being developed because of "too much centralization, bureaucracy in the sports apparatus and the incorrect division of financial means."

On the political side, United Peasant Party leader Qzga Michalski said his party was being reorganized to "enable us to play a greater role in stimulating and organizing peasant initiative."

Michalski, who is also vice-marshal of the Polish Parliament, said in an interview that the party had followed a "mistaken approach" in the past "alongside the Polish United Workers (Communist) Party under the dictatorship of the proletariat."

"The situation has greatly improved recently," Michalski said, "although there still remains much to be done."

## POLAND TO CUT TAXES

WARSAW, Poland. — Income taxes on Poland's industrial workers are to be cut 30 percent beginning Jan. 1, 1957. It was also announced that all workers with large families have been exempted from tax payments irrespective of earnings.

The tax reduction follows an announcement earlier this month of a lowering of prices on certain

manufactured goods and a number of household articles. Price slashes ranging from 15 to 40 percent were also introduced on cotton textiles and an average of 20 percent on rubber-soled footwear.

Some two million workers in state industry and in building will benefit from the tax cut. A lower tax rate for other workers and white collar employes is to be put into effect over a period of time.

## KKK Calls Its First N.C. Rally In Four Years

SHANNON, N. C., Oct. 18.—The Ku Klux Klan will hold its first rally in four years here Friday night.

Handbills circulated throughout Robeson County Wednesday said that the meeting will feature speeches and a cross-burning. The handbills, printed on yellow paper with red lettering, proclaimed "today communism is our enemy."

The Klan has been inactive in North Carolina since a crackdown by state and federal authorities in 1952. The crackdown followed an 18-month reign of terror by masked night-riders in nearby Columbus County, N. C., and part of South Carolina.

Several Klan leaders from both states, including Imperial Wizard Thomas L. Hamilton, were sent to prison. Hamilton was paroled in February, 1954, and renounced any further connection with the Klan.

## Tentative 3-Year Rail Pact Reported

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—Negotiators of unions of operating railroad employers and the companies were reported agreed tentatively on terms for a new three-year contract providing an immediate raise of about 10 cents an hour and a package totaling about 25 cents for the entire period of the pact.

The pact is also reported to include a cost-of-living escalator clause—a provision that for some years covered the railroad workers but was discarded shortly after the Korean war.

The unions, composing the railroad department of the AFL-CIO, are reported taking the terms for approval before the negotiators of their respective unions, with the employers doing likewise.

Still to agree are the unaffiliated and CIO-AFL unions of operating workers covering some 200,000 workers. The terms for operating crafts will undoubtedly influence the base for an agreement with the operating Brotherhoods.

## Peking Reports