

WORKER COUNCILS ENDED IN HUNGARY

Last Gain of 1956 Revolt Is Replaced by Factory Units Under Regime's Thumb

By **JOHN MacCORMAC**

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VIENNA, Nov. 19 — The workers' councils, whose existence represented the last democratic right won by the working man in the Hungarian revolt, have been abolished, the Budapest radio, said today.

They are to be replaced by factory councils under the control of the trade unions, which in turn are completely under the thumb of the regime.

The Government under Premier Janos Kadar has been slicing away the authority of the workers councils ever since it took office in November, 1956. One of its first actions was to dissolve the central workers council a year ago and to arrest its chairman, Sandor Racz. His fate has never been disclosed.

Under today's Government decree the factory councils are to consist two-thirds of officials of trade unions, the Communist party and youth movement. The director and chief engineer of the enterprise concerned will also belong to this group. Workers will be permitted to elect only the remaining one-third of the members.

Workers councils were first established in Yugoslavia in 1950. There they share in profits and losses and have the controlling voice over decisions taken by plant managements.

Recognized in Poland

In Poland during the bloodless revolt of October last year, workers councils took over factories in the Warsaw area and some other sections. They were recognized by a statute adopted a year ago. However, they have received little encouragement from Wladislaw Gomulka, the Communist party leader, who, like Mr. Kadar, believes the workers should content themselves with representation through factory committees and trade unions.

Workers councils in Poland have been made to conform closely with centralized planning and operation.

The Czechoslovak Government has refused to let workers councils be formed at all. At a meeting of the Communist party's Central Committee, Vice Premier Jaromir Dolansky said that Czechoslovakia had no need to follow Yugoslavia's example, since workers were sufficiently represented by their unions.

In the Soviet Union the idea is workers councils is anathema.

The "idea of putting administration of production in the hands of producers is anarchistic," the publication Pravda Ukrainy said some months ago.

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