

Czechoslovakian Factions In Battle Over Economic Reform

By JOHN BEST
PRAGUE (CP) — An all-out battle has been joined in Czechoslovakia between liberal economists and conservative elements in the ruling Communist party resisting their economic reforms.

The reverberations are certain to be felt in political and social fields as well.

The fact that economic reforms have been officially adopted as government policy doesn't blind the liberals to the inevitable clash with the vested interests.

Opposition to the changes, perhaps the most sweeping ever undertaken in the Soviet bloc, starts "just below the top" of the party-government machine, a leading member of the reform group told me.

It extends down to factory managers and even produc-

tion workers who have learned to live with a system which, while it doesn't offer great material rewards, doesn't demand much hard work either.

Opposition will also come from local party bosses whose personal power largely derives from their ability to use influence to keep unprofitable factories going. Under the new system such enterprises will become profitable or close down.

This could have important political repercussions in Slovakia, southernmost of the three provinces and less developed than Bohemia and Moravia.

WILL FREE PRICES

The essence of the program is to introduce market factors into the economy and eliminate planning rigidity which reformers say, has brought about stagnation.

The price structure will be loosened to allow many consumer goods to find their own level while other goods will be allowed to float between price limits agreed upon by producers and retailers. Prices of raw materials and basic foodstuffs will continue to be controlled by the government.

Factory managers will be given more independence. But they will also be expected to operate more or less as factory managers in the West — generally without props or subsidies and still turn a profit.

This is the core point, experts say. Many directors who

enjoy large bonuses, who have learned the rules of the game and know how to juggle manpower, resources, statistics, and whatnot in order to show what looks like a profit, will not take kindly to the new order.

It is assumed some will try to sabotage the reform.

The old methods of management are so firmly entrenched that it will not be easy to abandon them," says Prof. Otakar Sik, sometimes called the father of reform.

Sik, chairman of a state committee for planning and administering the economy, speaks out frequently and boldly against interests he suspects of bucking reform.

WORKS FROM WITHIN

He is a member of the Communist party's central committee. This gives him a certain power base from which to attack prevailing dogmas. Yet he isn't in the position of say, Russia's Premier Kossygin, who has behind him the prestige of the highest government in the land when he plumps for a liberal reform.

Sik knows he's up against powerful people—some more powerful than he—but one of his strengths is that he offers a cure for a chronic illness. This was the consideration that apparently brought Antonin Novotny, president and Communist party chief, around to backing reform.

Novotny, an old-guard Communist whose leadership extends back to the Stalin era, accepted the changes only after he had become convinced of the absolute necessity.

Sik has laid down two principles for transforming Czechoslovakia's economic structure. It must conform to market demands and must ensure "optimal profit" of enterprises.

"Society cannot afford to maintain those enterprises which are in fact supported by the work of others."

Change can be brought about only by the consistent implementation of the new system of management.

"It will be up to all of us to open up real space not only in the economic, but in the political and ideological field, for its early implementation."

BOOSTS ECONOMISTS

The implication is that the party should loosen up and make itself more receptive to new notions and ideas.

Sik, the economist, doesn't hide his dislike of political tampering in the economic sphere.

Steps to improve the competitive efficiency of Czech industry should have been taken years ago, he says, and would have if the economists, and not the politicians, had been running things.

Another economist talks bitterly of the feeling of many liberals that they are "banging their heads against a stone wall" in trying to bring about a change of attitude.

It was only with the recent 13th Communist party congress that reform was accepted as party government policy. It is scheduled to take effect at the beginning of next year.

One acute problem it will face is the tradition of wage equality. Probably nowhere else in the Communist world is this principle carried to such extremes.

All workers in a factory get paid more or less the same no matter how hard they exert themselves. It's said even foreigners would prefer to be workers since the difference in salary doesn't begin to compensate for the extra responsibilities.

Crane operators have been known to claim approx-

mately equal pay with professors—and get it. And there was the charwoman at a university who complained that the president was making four to five times as much as she was. It's not unlikely she made her point and got a raise.

matter how much he deserves to be.

Reformers would like to see the trade unions change into agencies genuinely concerned not only with the welfare of workers but with promoting efficient labor.

But they would be up against a powerful enemy if they attacked unions directly. Run by men of proven political reliability but little ability, they have been "traditional dumping grounds for the party faithful," says a reform economist.

DESTROYS INCENTIVE

This tendency to equalize pay regardless of performance, and ability has destroyed incentive to work hard and be inventive. And the cost to the economy has been high.

One purpose of the reform is to substitute a comprehensive system of bonuses for managers and workers based on productive effort.

Another task is to reshape trade unions into organs working to promote industrial efficiency rather than thwart it.

Until now trade unions have acted to some extent as a shield protecting the jobs of lazy workers. Qualified observers say it's practically impossible to fire anyone no

SEEK NEW MEMBERS

LEEDS, England (CP)—The Royal Automobile Club is distributing membership leaflets printed in Urdu for Pakistani immigrants in Yorkshire. Interested motorists are asked to write in English to the nearest membership office.

ON THE AIR

The following program listings are published free of charge as a public service and appear as presented to us by the stations concerned.

THURSDAY PROGRAMS

- CFCY-TV**
- 9:30 p.m.—Musical
 - 10:00 p.m.—To Tell The Truth
 - 10:30 p.m.—Take 30
 - 11:00 p.m.—Milestones of the Century
 - 11:30 p.m.—Vacation Time
 - 12:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 12:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 1:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 1:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 2:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 2:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 3:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 3:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 4:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 4:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 5:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 5:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 6:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 6:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 7:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 7:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 8:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 8:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 9:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 9:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 10:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 10:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 11:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 11:30 p.m.—Country Style
 - 12:00 p.m.—Country Style
 - 12:30 p.m.—Country Style

MacDONALD RADIO SERVICE

Expert repairs radios and record players.
Raidin' Organs — Bell Pianos
180 Kent St. Ph. 4-6915

CKCW-TV

- 12:57 p.m.—Station Sign On
- 1:00 p.m.—Luncheon Date
- 1:30 p.m.—Thursday Playbill
- 2:00 p.m.—To Tell The Truth
- 2:30 p.m.—Take Thirty
- 3:00 p.m.—Milestones of the Century
- 3:30 p.m.—Vacation Time
- 4:00 p.m.—Summer Camp
- 4:30 p.m.—Country Style
- 5:00 p.m.—Country Style
- 5:30 p.m.—Country Style
- 6:00 p.m.—Country Style
- 6:30 p.m.—Country Style
- 7:00 p.m.—Country Style
- 7:30 p.m.—Country Style
- 8:00 p.m.—Country Style
- 8:30 p.m.—Country Style
- 9:00 p.m.—Country Style
- 9:30 p.m.—Country Style
- 10:00 p.m.—Country Style
- 10:30 p.m.—Country Style
- 11:00 p.m.—Country Style
- 11:30 p.m.—Country Style
- 12:00 p.m.—Country Style
- 12:30 p.m.—Country Style

CFCY RADIO

- THURSDAY**
- 6:30—News and Weather
 - 6:55—Morning Roundup
 - 7:00—Island W. and Mar. Temp.
 - 7:05—Morning Roundup
 - 7:10—News and Weather
 - 7:15—Morning Christian Hour
 - 7:20—Morning Roundup
 - 7:25—News and Weather
 - 7:30—Farm Report
 - 7:35—Morning Roundup
 - 7:40—Island W. and Mar. Temp.
 - 7:45—Morning Roundup
 - 7:50—Sports Capsule and Scoreboard
 - 7:55—News and Weather
 - 8:00—Morning Roundup
 - 8:05—Weather
 - 8:10—Morning Roundup
 - 8:15—Notes and Music
 - 8:20—Assignment
 - 8:25—News and Weather
 - 8:30—Notes and Music
 - 8:35—Preview, Commentary
 - 8:40—Notes and Music
 - 8:45—News and Weather
 - 8:50—Notes and Music
 - 8:55—Agriculture '66
 - 9:00—Weather
 - 9:05—Town and Country Time
 - 9:10—News and Weather
 - 9:15—P.E. Road Report
 - 9:20—Town and Country Time
 - 9:25—News and Weather
 - 9:30—Assignment
 - 9:35—Mostly Music
 - 9:40—Thought For Today
 - 9:45—News Headlines and Weather
 - 9:50—Pop Caravan
 - 9:55—News Headlines and Weather
 - 10:00—Canadian Roundup—CBC
 - 10:05—Pop Caravan
 - 10:10—News and Weather
 - 10:15—The Outposts
 - 10:20—Marine Weather
 - 10:25—The Outposts
 - 10:30—Sports Capsule and Scoreboard
 - 10:35—The Outposts
 - 10:40—News and Weather
 - 10:45—Town and Country Time
 - 10:50—News and Weather
 - 10:55—Town and Country Time
 - 11:00—News and Weather
 - 11:05—Town and Country Time
 - 11:10—News and Weather
 - 11:15—Town and Country Time
 - 11:20—News and Music
 - 11:25—Notes and Music
 - 11:30—Notes and Music
 - 11:35—Bulletin Board
 - 11:40—Notes and Music
 - 11:45—Agriculture '66
 - 11:50—Weather
 - 11:55—Town and Country Time
 - 12:00—News and Weather
 - 12:05—Town and Country Time
 - 12:10—News and Weather
 - 12:15—P.E. Road Report
 - 12:20—Town and Country Time
 - 12:25—News and Weather
 - 12:30—Assignment
 - 12:35—Mostly Music
 - 12:40—Thought For Today
 - 12:45—News Headlines and Weather
 - 12:50—Pop Caravan
 - 12:55—News Headlines and Weather

CONTRACT BRIDGE

By B. JAY BECKER

West dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
Q 103
J 7542
Q J
54

WEST
A J 84
K 96 A 2
S 7 6
J 8 7 6 5 2

EAST
K Q 6
A 9 3
Q 10 P
A K

SOUTH
K 7
A 10 P 8 3
K 10 5 4
A K

The bidding:
West Pass North East South
Pass Pass Pass 1♥
1NT 2♥ 2♠ 4♥

Opening lead — eight of diamonds.

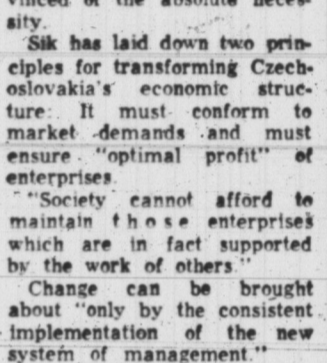
It is not always easy to assess the blame when a side fails to get the most out of a particular hand. Sometimes the result can be attributed to bad bidding or bad play, sometimes to bad luck, and sometimes to exceptional skill by the adversaries.

For example, take this hand from the match between France and the United States in 1956. When the Americans held the North-South cards, they got four hearts on the bidding shown.

The notrump bid by West (Jais, playing with Rezel) was equivalent to a takeout double,

DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Hollywood name
 - Decays
 - Himalayan goat
 - Misfortunes
 - Split (quibble)
 - Foot lever
 - Po. tributary
 - Bestow
 - Compass point: abbr.
 - Breeze
 - Ayas or Wallace
 - Three of a kind
 - Blockheads
 - Artist's stand
 - Vestry
 - Land measures
 - Contractual sound
 - Conversational sound
 - Reimbursed
 - Barless
 - Urfian
 - Lady of Troy
 - German submarine
 - Afternoon receptions
 - Capital of West Germany
 - DOWN
 - Commanders
 - Dry



THE FIRST ESTETRICIAN
KING LOUIS XIII
OF HAMBURG, GERMANY, IN 1521 BECAME THE FIRST MAN TO ASSIST AT A BIRTH—HAVING DISGUISED HIMSELF AS A MIDWIFE.

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE

Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR is LONG FELLOW

One letter simply stands for another. In this sample A is used for the three Ls, X for the two Os, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

OUR BOARDING HOUSE MAJOR HOOPLE

WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY, TIM? BRIGHT FUTURE STUMBLED AT THE STARTING GATE AND FINISHED IN LONGS BACKS! FAP I WAS COUNTING ON A HANDSOME RETURN ON OUR INVESTMENT!

WAIT! INSTANT BUILDERS HEAR THEY WORKED FOR FREE! THEY'LL BE HAPPIER THAN AN ACTOR WITH HIS NAME MISPELLED IN LIGHTS!

THEY USE A STEEL BALL ON A CHAIN TO UNDO THEIR WORK! AND THEY LIKE TO START F. ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE HOUSE. JUST GO THEY DON'T MISS ANYTHING!

YES! WE GOT A LETTER FROM HIM THIS MORNIN'! HE'S GON TO GET A JOB THERE!

AND WHEN TANDY RECOVERS, THEY'LL GET MARRIED!

I'M GLAD! THAT KID, TANDY HAD SOME TOUGH BREAKS!

MOTHER... LOOK! HERE'S UNCLE HUMPHREY'S PICTURE IN THE PAPER!

THAT CRATE WAS AS BIG AS P.P. WAL—AS BIG AS 'YO' IS."

IT COULDN'T OF JUST GOT UP AN' WALKED AWAY!!

IT COULDN'T, HUH?

ER—THAT MANUSCRIPT SEEMS TO OF VANISHED, TOO!!

OH, NO—THAT'S STILL AROUND—

'YO' IS STANDIN' NEXT TO IT!!

I AM?

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT

PALACE OF ST. CLOUD
Paris, France.
"I WAS BOUGHT FOR \$50,000 IN 1658 BY BIRTHELEMY HERWARD, THE TREASURER OF FRANCE AND IMMEDIATELY SOLD IT FOR \$46,320!"

HERWARD REPORTED THAT HE PAID ONLY \$46,320 FOR THE PALACE BECAUSE HE FEARED QUESTIONING AS TO THE SOURCE OF HIS RICHES—AND THAT HE HAD ACCEPTED AN OFFER OF THAT AMOUNT FOR THE PALACE BY KING LOUIS XIII.

ICELAND'S FLAG
FEATURES A DRAGON, VULTURE, BULL AND GIANT—THE SHARDAN SPIRITS OF ICELANDIC MYTHOLOGY.

WE WAS BURNED AT THE STAKE FOR HIS ACT



THE FIRST ESTETRICIAN
KING LOUIS XIII
OF HAMBURG, GERMANY, IN 1521 BECAME THE FIRST MAN TO ASSIST AT A BIRTH—HAVING DISGUISED HIMSELF AS A MIDWIFE.

THE LONE RANGER

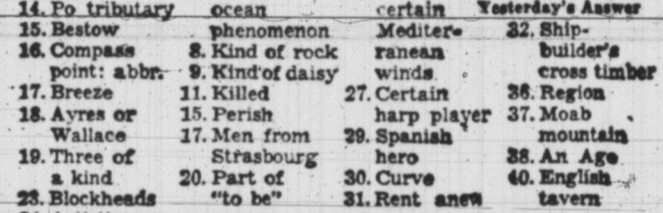
CUT WO! THEY COULD WAIT THERE IN AMBUSH!

THEM TURN AROUND HILL AHEAD—

QUICK! BEHIND HERE!

MINUTES LATER...
THEY'VE PASSED US, HATT! BUT WE DIDN'T END THEIR MESSAGING!

WE WILL! NO ONE'S KEEPING US FROM COLLECTING THAT WHITE BUFFALO HIDE!



SECRET AGENT X-9

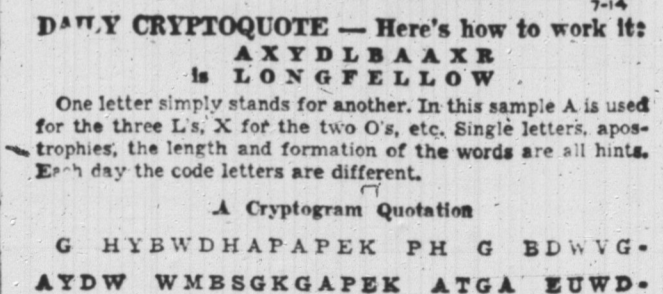
LET'S STOP DABBLING HERE, IS THAT GARDENING APPOINTMENT?

ONE OF MANY AROUND THE WORLD, PHIL, BUT THE ONLY ONE IN THIS CORNER OF FRANCE.

DOES HE COME HERE OFTEN?

ONLY WHEN THERE'S A DEAL HERE THAT NEEDS HIS PERSONAL ATTENTION.

HE POPPED IN A WEEK AGO THEN OUT, BUT THE GRABBER HAS IT HELL BE BACK WITH A SCHEME TO COP OUR NEW NATO DEFENSE PLANS!



THE LONE RANGER

SO STEVE'S MOVED TO CHICAGO?

YES! WE GOT A LETTER FROM HIM THIS MORNIN'! HE'S GON TO GET A JOB THERE!

AND WHEN TANDY RECOVERS, THEY'LL GET MARRIED!

I'M GLAD! THAT KID, TANDY HAD SOME TOUGH BREAKS!

MOTHER... LOOK! HERE'S UNCLE HUMPHREY'S PICTURE IN THE PAPER!

THAT CRATE WAS AS BIG AS P.P. WAL—AS BIG AS 'YO' IS."

IT COULDN'T OF JUST GOT UP AN' WALKED AWAY!!

IT COULDN'T, HUH?

ER—THAT MANUSCRIPT SEEMS TO OF VANISHED, TOO!!

OH, NO—THAT'S STILL AROUND—

'YO' IS STANDIN' NEXT TO IT!!

I AM?



JOE PALOOKA

THAT CRATE WAS AS BIG AS P.P. WAL—AS BIG AS 'YO' IS."

IT COULDN'T OF JUST GOT UP AN' WALKED AWAY!!

IT COULDN'T, HUH?

ER—THAT MANUSCRIPT SEEMS TO OF VANISHED, TOO!!

OH, NO—THAT'S STILL AROUND—

'YO' IS STANDIN' NEXT TO IT!!

I AM?

