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Chart- (H) @ PARLIAMENTS MEET JULY 30th

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MUNICH, July 26, MONIT/LEASON. -- Deputies at the next Hungarian parliamentary session, to be convened July 30th, will have the right to ask questions from the floor, according to a statement by a parliamentarian over Radio Budapest July 24th.

Prague Radio said last night that the Czechoslovak National Assembly will also meet on July 30th.

Deputy Sandor Barcs said in an interview that the implementation of a plan to elect candidates individually rather than by lists will make parliament "more lively, more active" and more "critical" in tone.

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"I am absolutely convinced that the new interpellation will have great success," Barcs said. "A question raised by a member of parliament must deal with a matter of the greatest interest as far as the public is concerned."

Individual elections "will have a great encouraging effect on the members of parliament."

In a Szabad Nep interview of July 23rd, the speaker of the Hungarian parliament, Sandor Ronai, said that in future the authority of the speaker will be increased. Instead of the present four special parliamentary committees there will be nine -- for legal administration and justice; foreign affairs; national defense; plan and budget; agriculture; industry; commerce; cultural; and social and health.

Ronai said "new standing orders" on the deputies' right of interpellation and on the creation of a "separate parliamentary immunity committee" will be debated. The immunity measure will "be a guarantee of the right of immunity as laid down in the constitution."

Ronai also said that the July 30th session will have on its agenda a report by the chairman of the council of ministers; a speech by the supreme prosecutor and a subsequent debate on problems connected with the consolidation of socialist legality; and a report on the visits of parliamentary delegations.



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Ronai said in an interview in Szabad Ifjusag of July 1st that proposals made at this session will be debated by the committees concerned and that the majority of deputies will contribute to the lawmaking. Later, they will give an account of parliamentary work to their constituencies.


The new first-secretary of the Hungarian communist party, Erno Gero, said in his speech July 18th that parliament will meet more often and that committees will in the future be more active. He also promised that the electoral law will be revised to provide for individual elections.

The Hungarian trade union paper Nepszava carried an interview with several Hungarian parliamentarians on July 5th. Nepszava reported that the deputies agreed that the weakest point of past parliamentary work was that there were no committees to take an active part in discussing problems relevant to the various ministries. The deputies suggested that these special committees should carry out their activities during recesses so that in this way the "guiding role of the national assembly would really become complete and democratism in our state life would deepen."

On the right of interpellation, Nepszava reported the deputies agreed it was exercised in the past "only...if the deputies used it with discretion and care."

One of the deputies said a great number of past mistakes could be traced to the fact that parliament was not informed about important economic and political questions. The deputies took only a "formal" part in national affairs.

But, "no matter how we look at it," the deputy said, "we too are responsible for what happened. None of us had the strength to say: 'this is not so.' The workers have therefore rightly criticized me and others."



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The first Polish parliamentary session held (at the end of April) after the 20th communist party congress in Moscow was characterized by much discussion among deputies. Warsaw radio reported at the time that there was wide discussion of the budget, criticism of bureaucracy and that the editor of the newspaper Zycie Warszawy suggested that state censorship be reduced to control over what are considered state or military secrets.

The Polish premier Cyrankiewicz told parliament on April 23rd that "it is not accidental that it is only of late, only now, that the Sejm has begun to fulfill its role." He said the Sejm should become in reality what it is constitutionally -- "the supreme legislative body, controlling the activity of all inferior state organs." To make this possible, the other state organs must take the proper attitude toward it.

Cyrankiewicz said past legislative activity consisted all too frequently in merely "rubber-stamping" decrees. Deputies should have more access to information; in the past the government had not been cooperative in this respect -- there were "even cases of hampering access to information." Interpellations were treated as irritating intrusions into government business. Answers to questions were neglected in an "inadmissible fashion."

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