

LEAD L.J.-P. Qwed. Mar. 4-53.

Late news tonight tells of a sudden conference called in Washington -- British Foreign Secretary, Anthony Eden at the White House. Eden, who arrived in the United States yesterday, was not to have called on President Eisenhower until later in the week. But, this afternoon, the Foreign Secretary conferred with the President and Secretary of State Dulles.

The talk - so quickly arranged that the White House reporters had gone ~~home~~ home for the day, assured there would be no further news.

Then, abruptly, Presidential Secretary Jim Haggerty phoned them, saying Eisenhower and Dulles had gone to the White House at six P.M. You can guess the urgent topic - what it was that brought about this emergency meeting.

SUB FIRST PARAGRAPH STALIN

The latest from Moscow is a radio announcement -- that Stalin's condition continues to be "serious". The broadcast went on to say that -- hardening of the arteries has developed. It isn't clear what this could mean -- except that it sounds pessimistic and for the Soviet Premier. There was after all, little hope after the announcement that Stalin was in a deep coma ~~xxx~~ following a brain stroke.

Crowds gathered in Moscow streets, reading the earlier bulletins. Some people - in tears. The surprise was all the greater - because, in the past few days, visitors had reported Stalin in the best of health, apparently.

Around the world, meanwhile, the news was received with profound attention. For years

the question has been - ~~xx~~ what would happen if Stalin died? He was in his seventies, and the laws of mortality ^{of course} would work out eventually. So now - Stalin-stricken!

What does it mean in terms of world peace?

Your guess is as good as anybody's. In the world capitals, the statesmen are saying - the passing of Stalin from power might bring about a ^{less} aggressive Soviet ~~px~~ policy, while things are straightened out inside Russia. But there's contrary opinion - that a disturbed condition might bring about a plunge into new adventures - to take ^{Communist} peoples' minds off their trouble.

~~In Washington, President Eisenhower issued a statement, expressing friendship for the Russian people, and the hope of peace. The President talked with a group of democratic Senators, and Senator~~

One thing, however, is clear - the talk of an Eisenhower meeting with Stalin is a thing of the past. There are signs of possible trouble in the satellite countries. In East Germany, the politburo of the Communist party is reported to have cancelled the leaves of all members of the Red secret police. In Poland the Czechoslovakia today, the border guards were strengthened

STALIN REPORT

The Moscow report on Stalin has two different aspects - and they^are decidedly contradictory.

One - the fact that the news was withheld, kept secret, for ~~twenty-four~~⁴⁸ hours. (Stalin was stricken in the Kremlin on Sunday night. But this was not made public until two days later - Tuesday night.)

Undoubtedly, the purpose of the delay was to give the Kremlin big shots enough time to make arrangements for political control.

Stalin's authority has been taken over by the Central Committee of the Communist Party, and the Council of Ministers. A prelude, no doubt, to what has long been considered an inevitable struggle for power. They gave themselves two days of secrecy - to ~~cont~~ive and maneuver.

Which recalls the fact that, when Lenin died, some thirty years ago, the news was held back - for

fourteen hours. After which, for another four hours, the foreign correspondents were prevented from flashing the headline to the outside world. All of which suggests the possibility that word of Stalin's death might be withheld. He might already have succumbed to the cerebral stroke. In fact, There are rumors that he has.

But, in contrast to the delay, the two days of secrecy, there's the fact - that the report on Stalin is given fully and frankly with much medical detail. So much so, that American physicians are able to make a positive diagnosis. The Moscow medical bulletin gives an account of the symptoms, the paralysis, the deep coma into which Stalin sank, the irregular ~~hr-beating~~ pulse rate and blood pressure. On the basis of which - American doctors immediately declared the Moscow dictator could not last long. They said it was not the kind of stroke from which

recovery was possible after a ~~long~~ time. But the type of cerebral hemorrhage that's overwhelming, and quickly fatal.

The Kremlin report, with its precise details, declares that the medical treatment of Stalin is being directed by the Soviet Minister of Public Health, with nine doctors attending the patient - their names given, ~~as~~ together with their status in medicine. The number of doctors, nine, recalls the sensational headline weeks ago - when Moscow told of nine top ranking physicians, most of them Jewish, accused of treason and ~~the~~ murder. Charged - with having, through medical means, brought about the death of Zdanov, once regarded as number two man to Stalin. These doctors, arrested were official Kremlin physicians.

Which suggests a reason why today's medical report is so detailed and complete about Stalin's

illness. Although the Kremlin is notorious for
secrecy. ^R The purpose of the candid report could be -
to reassure the Russian people that Stalin is getting
the best of medical attention. Nothing secret or
sinister - as in the alleged case of ~~the~~ nine doctors,
charged with treason.

LENIN

Tonight, the world inevitably - looks back to the days of thirty years ago. When - Lenin died. The resemblances, as well as the differences are striking.

Lenin, the founder of Bolshevism, had established a degree of personal ascendancy - comparable to the Stalin worship of today. Stalin, in fact, merely carried on the tradition of one-man domination, and increased it ⁱⁿ in a way that Lenin never dreamed. ~~of~~

Lenin was felled by the same kind of malady that now has brought Stalin down. But - with a difference. In May of Nineteen Twenty-Two, the founder of Bolshevism had a paralytic stroke. But - survived for nearly two years. He had three strokes in all - and, in the interval, was incapacitated, helpless for the most part.

It was during this period of Lenin's illness,

that Stalin laid the foundations of his political power. Less than two months ^{before} ~~after~~ Lenin was stricken, Stalin had been made the Secretary-General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. Which was then - an inconsequential sort of post. Or, so everybody else believed -- regarded as routine, humdrum - one of Stalin's duties being to keep a watch on lesser party officials throughout Russia.

But that, exactly, was the trick in Stalin's rise. He had never been an important figure, compared with big-shot Bolsheviki - like Trotsky. But, as Secretary-General, supervising the local Communist officials - he was able to do an undercover job of getting them on his own side. ~~Explain~~ Or - of replacing them with his own henchmen.

The result became evident - when, after Lenin's death, a Congress of the Communist Party

LENIN - 3

gathered in Moscow. Most of the delegates elected were those same local officials - Stalin's men - and the Secretary-General, thanks to his quiet manipulation, had a majority at the Congress. They supported Stalin - in the struggle for power.

Lenin, in his testament, warned against Stalin. Calling him - too "rude". But Stalin, rude, rough and ruthless, won out. →

So that was the pattern, thirty years ago - in the struggle for the succession to power. The big difference today seems to be that Stalin, unlike Lenin, will not linger on and be incapacitated for a couple of years while schemes and intrigues are carried out.

Today, the post of Secretary General, which enabled Stalin to establish his domination, is held by Malenkov. Who, for some time, has been regarded as the most likely successor to Stalin. He has ^{that same} grip on the Communist Party, recalling Stalin's control of a majority thirty years ago.

So what kind of individual is this Malenkov? Well, he's pudgy, middle-aged, a personal henchman of the big Red boss. He began, in fact, as Stalin's private secretary. The belief is that, if Malenkov should become top man of the Kremlin, his policy would

be the same as the Stalin policy. Striving tenaciously for world Communism, but prudently avoiding a Third World War. His principal rival would seem to be - Molotov, Deputy Premier, said to have the support of the Red Army. Molotov is a bitter enemy of the West, especially the United States. If he gained power, the belief is that he would have an extreme policy - against the West.

The other Soviet leader named prominently in the contest is - Beria, Head of the dread Secret Police, successor to the old OGPU. He, like Stalin, is a native of Asiatic Georgia - and is regarded as a moderate. Recent opinion rates Beria a bad third - running well behind Malenkov and Molotov.

Those are the three names mentioned prominently in the news today - as likely successors to the stricken Soviet dictator. ^R But, let's take another

look - back thirty years. At the time when Lenin died, Stalin was not regarded at all as a possible successor. There were big names - like Trotsky. But Stalin, almost unknown to the outside world, sneaked in. Which is a thing to keep in mind right now - the possibility that, in the Kremlin struggle for power, the successor might turn out to be somebody not mentioned at all.

STALIN-ROOSEVELT

It is being noted that Stalin's malady is the same that caused the death of the late President, Franklin D. Roosevelt; Stricken by cerebral hemorrhage in Nineteen Forty-five; Not long after his return from the conference with Stalin at Yalta. He was recuperating from the fatigue of the trip to Yalta - when the end came.

Today by way of coincidence, was the twentieth anniversary of the first Inaugural of Franklin D. Roosevelt, as President of the United States. Old style inauguration day - March fourth.

So memory goes back to those times of whirlwind action in Washington - the White House and Congress in dizzy motion, trying to do something about the depression.

Today, United Press correspondent Lyle Wilson recalls the rush - telling how the Banking Act,

technical and complex was passed by Congress and signed by the President by mid-afternoon of Inauguration Day. In the House, before the vote, one member of Congress wanted to see the bill. So the chairman of the committee on Banking and Currency waved - a tightly folded paper. Actually, it was a copy of the Washington Post. But the Congressman thought he saw the bill - and it was promptly passed.

In the Senate, a newspaperman swiped a copy of the bill - and the text of it was on the wire, while the Senators were ~~asked~~^{looking} for it. Another copy was procured, and the Senators actually did see the bill - though they didn't read it. They just passed it.

Yes, it was a time of quick action - and dazzling changes. In his ~~in~~ inaugural address, twenty years ago, President Franklin D. Roosevelt assailed

high taxes, and called for a reduction in the cost of government. He pledged a twenty-five percent cut in federal spending. But, shortly afterward, the philosophy was - big spending, and pour out government money, to lick the depression. Presto, chango.

And now here's Nelson.