

Wednesday, September 13, 1989 Daily Nebraskan **Poland approves coalitie**

WARSAW, Poland -- Parliament on Tuesday approved the first gov-ernment in the East bloc not led by Communists, giving half the seats to Solidarity but reserving the key ministries controlling defense and police

for Communists. "For the first time in half a century, Poland has a government that can be considered by millions of people as their own," said Solidarity leader Lech Walesa from Gdansk, where the independent movement struggled through eight years of Communist repression to its triumph.

"My biggest dream has come true," said Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, also of Solidarity, after his Cabinet was approved by a vote of 402 in favor, none against and 13 abstentions.

The new Cabinet, called the Council of Ministers, includes Mazowiecki, 11 Solidarity members, and a foreign minister independent but sympathetic to Solidarity. The Communists have four seats.

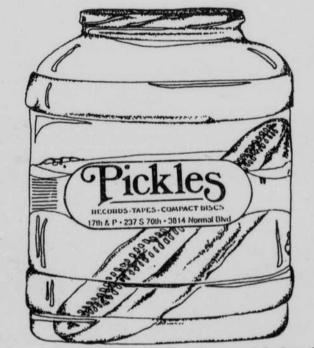
Peasant Party holds four seats, and Solidarity's other coalition partner, the Democratic Party, has three.

The Communists, in addition to controlling the army and police, will retain considerable influence through President Wojciech Jaruzelski, a Communist. The new government also has promised allegiance to the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact military alliance

Still, Mazowiecki, once a political prisoner, promised an overhaul of Communist institutions in an elo-quent speech that he was forced to

interrupt for 45 minutes when he felt faint from exhaustion. He called for reforming the police and the justice system, liberalizing laws on associations, gatherings and censorship, creating a new demo-cratic constitution, removing political and ideological barriers to promotion, giving universities full auton-omy and battling "catastrophic" environmental pollution.

mists have four seats. The Solidarity-aligned United Conomy. Mazowiecki said the ranks



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of the poor were growing and warned that production and living standards, already lower than 10 years ago, are

likely to decline further. "The new government will act under the pressure that at any moment the construction of democracy that only just started can collapse under the economic crisis," he said.

He called for immediate steps to combat triple-digit inflation, including tax reform, making the zloty convertible with Western currency

and creating a stock exchange. Mazowiecki, a Solidarity newspa-per editor who became the East bloc's first non-Communist prime minister, rejected a past when the Communist government "wanted to rule not only over the lives but the minds" of Poles.

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