

New Italian Chief Can't Shift Policy

Scalza Continues to Carry On in Spite of Gronchi Election

BY POLYDORIDES

Although most exactly disturbing, news from Italy has of late assumed a different hue than the one to which we were accustomed during the seven-year-long Presidency of Dr. Luigi Gronchi.

This is not taken to mean that the new President, Giovanni Gronchi, is likely to change the trend of Italy's foreign policies, because even if he wanted to he lacks the constitutional powers to do so. Thus the cabinet that ran the Italian government before the election is still in power, and Premier Mario Scalza is carrying on with his same old vigor.

LEFT-WING STAND

What, however, seems to be happening in Italy today is that the old coalition of Christian Democrats, right-wing Socialists and Liberals, has been somewhat weakened, since President Gronchi, who belongs to the left wing of the Christian Democrats, is opposed to the rightist and socialist groups of the same party. His expressed opinion that the basis of the Cabinet should be widened. This could happen through the inclusion in it of other elements, some of them belonging to the left-wing Socialists, who up to this moment are cooperating with the 148 Communists in the Italian National Assembly.

Such a move appears to threaten the governmental coalition, while the more conservative members of the Christian Democrats are aligned with the even more conservative Monarchists and Neo-Fascists of the Social Movement.

SERIOUS THREAT

Now the Monarchists control 40 votes, and Neo-Fascists another 30, they constitute a serious threat, especially if they are drawn closer to at least half the Christian Democrats making another 130 out of 252 votes. In such a case the 19 right-wing Socialists will have no choice but to declare their preference in a matter which is of vital importance to them, the government and the country.

This matter has to do with the settlement of the land question, with the landless peasantry given a

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