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### The Schuman Plan

THE British Government's refusal to commit itself in advance to acceptance of the Schuman plan is criticized by France and United States. Possibly, after the first wave of enthusiasm for the bold idea has subsided, the British stand may be better understood says a United Kingdom Information Service release.

It was asked to agree to pooling its coal and steel production with those of France, Western Germany, the three Benelux countries and Italy and to setting up an international "high authority" which would control them.

The crux of the matter is obviously the question of the "high authority." To decide to place these two key industries under the control of some new "authority" is one of the gravest decisions which the British Government could be called upon to take. It is a decision which could not possibly be taken without knowing very clearly what the composition of the authority would be, what its powers would be and how it, in turn, would be controlled and by whom.

The question is by no means entirely one of national sovereignty as critics of British caution like to suggest for the concept of sovereignty is not merely national. It is closely linked with the concept of democracy—of the "sovereignty of Parliament."

This is the real point. The first British doubt is not whether the institution of the proposed high authority would infringe some legalistic definition of national "sovereignty." It is whether it would infringe the fundamental principles of democracy.

The authority so far as one can gather could issue binding decrees not only affecting international co-operation but affecting matters of domestic policy—such as investment programs, "rationalization" and the standard of living of workers in two industries.

Far-reaching powers would be exercised by a body subject to no kind of democratic control whatsoever. Its members would, indeed, in the first place be appointed by Governments. But thereafter they would be "independent," subject to no control and responsible to no Government and no Parliament.

If that is really what is in the mind of the authors of the plan, it is not easy to see how it can be reconciled with our conception of democracy. For the very basis of that conception is that no person and no body of persons may hold either political or economic power that is not subject either immediately or ultimately to democratic control—to the sovereign authority of an elected Parliament.

Until it is known more clearly than now what the plan really is and what its implications may be, the United Kingdom Government will certainly decline to commit itself to making its proposals an "immediate objective of policy," and it would probably have the support of a great majority of public opinion, irrespective of party.

# Victoria Report

... by J. K. Nesbitt

## Who Is To Be Lieutenant-Governor?—Divorce Reform Discussed

VICTORIA—It seems certain now that Lieutenant-Governor Charles Banks will leave office in a few months, a full year before his five-year term expires. Premier Byron Johnson's office has been advised and it is understood His Honor's resignation is now in the hands of the Secretary of State at Ottawa.

Who to get to succeed Col. Banks is giving the government one big headache. Former Premier, John Hart has been approached. He would like the position but feels he can't afford it.

There's a move afoot to give the Lieutenant-Governor more money so that he won't have to dip so much into his own pocket. His Ottawa salary is \$9,000 a year; he gets his big house free and secretarial staff and two gardeners and a free license plate for his limousine but other than that he must pay the tune himself. It costs about \$40,000 a year. Once the Lieutenant-Governor didn't have to pay provincial income tax. That was a big saving and the money thus saved went into entertainment. But since early in the war there has been no provincial income tax and so the Lieutenant-Governor lost out there.

If John Hart became Lieutenant-Governor he would suitably round out a remarkable career in the public service of British Columbia. He would be only the third man in our history to hold the province's two highest offices—Lieutenant-Governor and Premier. The others were Hon. James Dunsmuir and Hon. E. G. Prior. Mr. Hart was 21 years Minister of Finance six years Premier and for one session was Speaker of the Legislature. He would be the perfect host in the big gubernatorial mansion atop Rockland Avenue Hill.

Divorce Reform League of British Columbia has been registered under the Societies Act in the Legislative Buildings. Members of the League hope to create public discussion of divorce and so perhaps get some government action to have the grounds for divorce widened. The federal government takes divorce into itself. The provinces are powerless to change grounds for divorce. In Canada there's only one—adultery.

Aims and objects of the Divorce League will start argument. That's what the League wants. The League, in its official papers, filed with the govern-

ment, states it was formed "for the true support of marriage, the protection of children, the removal of hardship, the reduction of illicit unions—the restoration of due respect for the law."

Divorce Reform League would have causes other than adultery for divorce. One would be desertion—for three years; another would be cruelty; a third, incurable unsoundness of mind after continuous care and treatment for five years. Reasonable grounds for supposing a spouse is dead and habitual commission of criminal acts would be other causes.

The fact the League would grant divorce for insanity will start heated argument. Many people say it's not fair to ask for divorce from a hopelessly crippled spouse and so it's equally unfair to ask to be freed from a hopelessly insane spouse. These people point to marriage vows—"in sickness and in health—for better or worse, until death us do part."

The League would also obtain discretionary power in a judge to forbid or limit newspaper reports of divorce cases. Here again the League gets into hot water. Freedom of the press is at stake.

### Publicity Group Present Photograph

A business and social meeting was held by the publicity committee of the Women of the Moose at the home of Mrs. A.S. Hamilton Monday night. A pot luck dinner, served by all ladies present was enjoyed. Committee presented Mrs. George Howe with a photograph of a Prince Rupert sunset. Mr. and Mrs. George Howe plan to leave the city following completion of the school term.

Other ladies present were Senior Regent Mrs. H. Muncey, Mrs. O. Tweed, Mrs. Sylvia Johnson, Mrs. J. R. Parr, Mrs. Carl Matson, Mrs. Josephine Taylor, Mrs. M. Varick, Mrs. R. Harrison, Mrs. G. Robertson, Mrs. T. Ketcheson, Mrs. Fred Thornton, Mrs. C. Love, Mrs. George Howe.

### 25 Years Ago

June 10, 1925

Conservatives in the Skeena riding in convention unanimously nominated George G. Bushby as their candidate in the next federal election.

That there is hanging in the office of Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Japan's greatest steamship company, a huge map on which a dotted line shows a projected steamship line to Prince Rupert, was mentioned at the Rotary club luncheon by Professor Shortt of the Anglican theological college, Vancouver.

Water covers an area about half a mile square from the C.N.R. grade on the north to the hills on the south and from about 200 yards east of George Street to the hills on the east at Prince George.

### 10 Years Ago

June 10, 1940

The Prince George unit of the Army and Navy Veterans of Canada is asking the Dominion Government to immediately intern enemy aliens in all parts of Canada.

Many prospectors are leaving Burns Lake for the north to prospect for placer gold on the watersheds of the upper Omineca and Finlay rivers.

Halibut prices ranged from 10.4 to 7 cents.

Tenders for the building of a combination boat house and garage at Port Clements, Queen Charlotte Islands are now being invited. The bids close June 28.

### Relieving Pastor Enjoying Visit

In the absence of Rev. Earl Solland, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in the city, Rev. Fred G. Hoyme, with the Lutheran Brotherhood at Vancouver, is relieving and, in his first sermon Sunday morning discussed "Life After Death." The evening service was on the subject "Why I Am A Lutheran." This visit is the pastor's first view of Prince Rupert and he stated that he has met many friendly people who are willing to help him become acquainted. His stay here will conclude in two weeks.

Next Sunday's services will include a sermon entitled "Expensive Excuses" in the morning and "A Lutheran Looks At Prophecy" in the evening.

### Social Evening Ends WOTM Year

A delightful evening was spent at the home of Mrs. J. Andrew Monday by 13 members of the Women of the Moose social service at their final meeting under the chairmanship of Mrs. J. Hoskins. Mrs. W. Anderson, Mrs. E. Lugin and Mrs. J. Andrew were joint hostesses.

Winners at cards were Mrs. J. Hoskins, first, and Mrs. A. Hamilton, consolation. A draw was won by Mrs. T. Christoff.

Present were Miss S. Johnson, Mesdames O. Tweed, P. Welter, A. Hamilton, C. Collins, R. Armstrong, W. Terry, T. Cristoff, H. Muncey, Senior Regent Mrs. J. Hoskins, Mrs. J. Andrew, Mrs. W. Anderson and Mrs. E. Lugin. A delicious luncheon was served by the hostesses.

### Gardiner Is Getting Rough

OTTAWA (C)—Agriculture Minister Gardiner said Monday night in the Commons he is prepared to talk tough in an effort to open British markets for more Canadian products.

It was time, he said, that Canada stopped talking "nicely" when she tried to obtain British markets for Canadian food products. This would apply to only "one or two" persons with whom he had trade deals in London. "I think it is about time we stopped talking nicely to some people over in Britain."



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VANCOUVER—VICTORIA Sunday, 9 p.m., Camosun Tuesday, 1:30 p.m., Camosun

ALICE ARM, STEWART PORT SIMPSON Sunday, Coquitlam, 11 p.m. FOR NORTH QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLAND ss. Camosun, June 9 at 10 p.m.

FOR SOUTH QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLAND ss. Camosun, June 16 at 10 p.m.

FRANK J. SKINNER Prince Rupert Agent Phone

Third Avenue