

# Banner-Waving Douks Protest School Policy

By STEPHEN SCOTT  
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VICTORIA.—Between 300 and 400 Radical Sons of Freedom Doukhobors may descend on the British Columbia legislative buildings here soon to press for release of 35 of their children held in government custody.

That was the prediction Wednesday by members of a group of singing, banner-waving Doukhobors who marched on the capital to protest the government's policy of compelling Doukhobor children to attend public schools.



THIS IS THE latest picture of Vincent Auried, 71-year-old lawyer from Le Harve, who is the President of France. It was the French Parliament even days and 13 ballots to elect this successor to the retiring President, Vincent Auried. Coty will take office on January 17.



PRESIDENT Vincent Auried of France wears the Grand Necktie of the Legion of Honor, which he received this month, when he was decorated, which is one of France's highest, from Legion d'Honneur Commander, General Bloch Dasso, in Paris.

## Landings Sharply

OTTAWA, (CP) — Landing of fishery Canadian sea-fishermen was sharply last November, compared with the same month of 1953, mainly as a result of a poor herring catch on the Pacific coast.

The Bureau of Statistics said yesterday the November catch amounted to 139,333,000 pounds valued at \$3,347,000, as against 122,000 pounds worth \$2,489,000 in the corresponding period of the previous year.

However, the November catch was not large enough to offset losses in production in earlier months of 1953.

The Pacific coast catch in November totalled 106,674,000 pounds worth \$1,799,000, including 29,487,000 pounds of herring.

They failed to meet with Education Minister Bonner but held a three-quarter-hour interview with deputy education minister H. L. Campbell.

Many of the women were sobbing when the delegation began the return journey to their homes in the interior Kootenay area, 350 miles east of here.

They will carry back word that the government will not back down on its policy of sending children of the radical religious sect to public schools and will, if necessary, take away more children from parents who refuse to comply with the law.

There was no violence or stripping during the demonstration, a possibility that was reported earlier.

Before they left, the delegation told reporters they were relatives of the 35 children now held at a former sanatorium at New Denver, B.C., and "some of us are mothers and fathers of children the police are trying to take away from us."

During the interview with Mr. Campbell, held in the education department library, the group charged that the children were being "emotionally" and physically mistreated at the makeshift school.

One of the Freedomites said it was "silly" for the government to start educating their children now because "we feel our time is due to leave the country, according to our prophecies."

The Sons of Freedom, numbering about 2,500 of a total population of 10,000 Doukhobors in B.C., refuse to send their children to public schools because of their beliefs.

## Unions Plan Strike Votes

VANCOUVER (CP) — Two unions, B.C. Projectionists' Union, Local 348, and Club and Cabaret Workers Union (AFL), are conducting government-supervised strike votes.

Results of a ballot in 23 Famous Players theatres in B.C. are expected to be announced Jan. 15. Union officials also said a conciliation board majority report recommended a 10-cent hourly increase in a two-year contract.

Four projectionists in the two theatres in Prince Rupert are involved.



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