

as closely as possible. Of course the Eastern nations do not have that problem, because the four, apart from the Soviet, simply appear to do exactly what they are told by the Soviet.

"The United States completed their reactions to the Soviet proposals late last week, and we received a copy on Thursday evening. There have been consultations in Geneva over the week-end concerning the United States proposals and proposals which had been put forward by the other four Western nations, including Canada, with the intent that there would be a Western plan announced within the next day or two. In addition, the Western plan was to have been taken before the Permanent Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, probably today or tomorrow, but certainly early this week, and then it would have been presented in the Committee of Ten.

#### NO SERIOUS INTENT

"I am not yet in a position to table the Canadian proposals in response to the Russian suggestions or to the United States proposals — to which, incidentally, they were very close — but in my opinion the new Western proposals and the Soviet proposals of June 2, which the Soviet bloc has now refused to discuss further, could have provided a basis for detailed, businesslike and uninterrupted negotiations. It now becomes obvious that the Soviet side were not seriously interested in negotiating on the last plan they put forward. I believe that their action in stalking out of the Committee as they did this morning was irresponsible, and was taken for propaganda purposes. We will now hear great talk in the United Nations General Assembly about the wonderful plan the Soviets proposed, and there will be charges made that the Western nations refused even to discuss it. I believe further... that the Eastern side have overplayed their hand again, just as they overplayed their hand in the breaking up of the summit conference a few weeks ago.

"Canada, from the start, has been very much in earnest about the work of this Disarmament Committee. I believe that the Canadian Government, in following that policy, has had the support of every Member of the House, regardless of the party to which he or she belongs, and also the overwhelming support of the Canadian people. We shall continue to be very much in earnest and will do everything we possibly can to work out some solution to the problem. Unfortunately the problem still exists, and Canada will be willing to negotiate and, as I said, do everything she possibly can to help bring about a relaxation of tension.

#### SMOTHERING WESTERN PLAN

"Naturally these developments are a bit disturbing; but we are dealing here, I believe with the survival of mankind. This problem we are facing is just that serious. I regret more than I can say that the Soviet and the other

four members of the Eastern side should have deliberately walked out of these negotiations knowing that there was a proposal to be discussed within the next day or two. Apparently they were afraid of what would be in those proposals, in so far as world public opinion is concerned. This looks like a deliberate attempt to prevent the Western proposals from getting out to the nations of the world which have not been involved in the work of the Committee.

"I take it, of course, that there will be no opportunity now for the Committee to do any further work. I understand that a message has been sent by Premier Khrushchov to the heads of government of the five Western nations, but we have not actually received that. This is obviously a deliberate step taken to try to upset the West and also to gain a propaganda advantage.

"I regret having to give such a report to the House, but I am afraid that is the situation. I suggest that Canadians should not be downhearted. This is a long road that we are on now and, as I said a minute ago, it is a road which may prevent the ending of civilization. I know all Canadians will do their part in an endeavour to see that some solution is eventually found."

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#### HOSPITAL PLAN FOR YUKON

The eleventh agreement under the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act has been completed, it was announced in Ottawa recently by Mr. J. Waldo Monteith, Minister of National Health and Welfare, on the occasion of signing an agreement with the Yukon Territory.

The Yukon plan, which will start on July 1, is similar in scope to those in a number of other areas of the country. It includes all of the in-patient services required under the federal act and also certain services for out-patients. The latter will be provided within 24 hours after an accident or for a longer period in cases where the required services cannot be obtained within that time.

The plan will be financed out of the general revenues of the Territory and no premiums or authorized charges will be levied to meet the Yukon share of the joint undertaking. Under the terms of the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act, the Dominion Government contributes approximately 50 per cent of costs on a nationwide basis.

Mr. Monteith cited the new agreement as an important milestone for the Yukon. "Like other aspects of our northern development effort," he added, "the hospital insurance plan represents a further fulfilment of the vision which spurred those hardy followers of the Trail of '98. In assuring its people access to hospital and diagnostic services on the same basis as other Canadians, the programme should be of tremendous value to the Yukon in achieving full partnership in the nation's progress."