

Today's Commentary

Common Market Bid Nearing For British

By PHIL NEWSOM

United Press International

The moment of truth is approaching for Britain's bid to join the European Common Market.

Those are the words of British Prime Minister Harold MacMillan himself. And if French President Charles De Gaulle's attitude doesn't change, Britain's chances for common market membership are no better than even, and perhaps less than even.

MUCH DEPENDS on the outcome of protracted negotiations. They are being emphasized by a flurry of conference taking MacMillan to Rome, Italian Premier Fanfani to Washington, and German Foreign Minister Gerhard Schroeder to London.

Until the issue is settled, perhaps within the next 60 to 90 days, the question of a common European defense policy must be held in abeyance, as must European political unity and negotiations toward a freer world trade as seen under the United States' Trade Expansion Act.

Without a final decision, British businessmen have no way to forecast the future and British foreign and domestic policy must remain at a standstill.

At the center of this is De Gaulle, and to a lesser extent Chancellor Konrad Adenauer of West Germany.

This week De Gaulle rejected both President Kennedy's offer of Polaris missiles for France and

THEY ALSO are coming to the belief that some concessions should be made to British agriculture, even if it means re-opening the hard-won agreements which the six finally reached among themselves just a year ago.

Present terms would require a total shift not only in Britain's relations with the Commonwealth and the system of British agricultural supports. They also would mean an immediate jump of about 12 per cent in British food prices, conditions which Britain scarcely can meet.

The next few weeks will be crucial ones both for NATO and the future of European unity.

By DEN BESTE

SALEM (AP)—Gov. Mark Hatfield said Tuesday he thought the legislature should pass the proposal recommended by the state Constitution Revision Commission.

Hatfield asked for constitutional revision in his inaugural message Monday, but did not specifically say the legislature should pass the commission's entire proposal.

HATFIELD also repeated his call for comprehensive tax reform. The major part of his proposed tax change is a net receipts tax—which would tax lower income groups more. He said

Tuesday that proposal would be submitted to the legislature in the same form as last session.

That bill would have eliminated all deductions and provided for a rate of from two to six per cent, depending on the income bracket.

A net receipts tax passed the House in the 1961 session, but amendments allowed for some deductions. The Senate did not pass the bill.

HATFIELD SAID he was interested in the plan of Rep. Richard Eymann, D-Mohawk, to charge a local government income tax to be collected by the state. It would offset local property taxes.

It was at least a concrete proposal, Hatfield said, but "I am not in favor of one level of government collecting money for another level."

The governor, just starting his second term, called again for a special election during the legislative session for the people to

ratify a tax program.

IN OREGON, no tax measure can take effect immediately after it is passed. If enough signatures are obtained to refer it, it does not go into effect until voted on.

Peace Stage Set

UNITED NATIONS (UPI) — The stage is set for peace in the Congo. President Tshombe has offered to surrender his last stronghold, Kalwezi. The UN and the Congo government have agreed to give Tshombe and his followers amnesty. The UN says its forces are ready to move into Kolwezi, but are holding back, keeping in mind Tshombe's broken promises in the past.

In Leopoldville, some 800 Congolese smashed windows in the British embassy and ransacked offices. They are angered over Britain's partial opposition to UN action in the Congo.

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Freeman Has Chance

SALEM (UPI) — Condemned child-slayer Jeannette June Freeman seems assured of a stay of her scheduled January 29 execution Tuesday night as her lawyers lay the groundwork for an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

LEGAL machinery to grant the stay was launched after Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas gave the attorneys a 60-day extension in which to file an appeal. The old deadline had been January 23. The new one is March 15.

This afternoon attorneys Carl Neil and Philip Levin of Portland and William Holmes of Bend filed a motion in the Oregon Supreme Court asking that the court recall its mandate to the Jefferson County Circuit Court or issue a stay of execution.

The State Supreme Court is

considering the motion and a decision is expected soon.

If the state court refuses to delay the execution, the U.S. Supreme Court can order it to do so, at least until after the March 15 deadline.

It would be the second stay of execution for Miss Freeman, who originally was sentenced to die December 6.

MISS FREEMAN was convicted of throwing six-year-old Larry Jackson to his death in the Crooked River Gorge in Central Oregon in 1961.

The governor's office said today there has been a sudden increase in mail on the case. About 40 letters a day are being received, most of them opposing her execution.

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the Nassau Agreement on a multi-national nuclear arsenal for NATO. He also sounded what could be the death knell for British entry into the common market.

Yet unless he is willing to stand totally alone, De Gaulle might not hold the final answer.

DE GAULLE'S strategy has been aimed at ever closer ties with West Germany, and with this Adenauer has gone along, including De Gaulle's tough terms for British common market membership.

But Adenauer is a lame-duck chancellor. Schroeder wants Britain in the European family, as do a reported 80 per cent of the West German people.

Italy, facing isolation in a Europe dominated by a Paris-Bonn axis not only favors Britain in the common market but also supports the idea of a multi-national nuclear deterrent under NATO.

In this, she is joined by most of the small nations of NATO, including those who also are members of the six-nation common market.

These small nations want Britain inside the European community as a counter-balance force to the big countries and have refused to go along with the idea of European political unity until Britain's membership has been accepted.

Humphrey Predicts Win

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Senator Hubert Humphrey predicts liberals will win their fight against filibusters. Humphrey, the Democratic whip, said he expects no vote on the measure until next week.

In the House, Speaker John McCormack says the ways and means committee will start hearings soon on President Kennedy's tax cut bill. The President submits his budget Thursday for the year starting in July.

AF Colonel Killed

LONDON (UPI)—An American Air Force colonel was killed when his jet crashed during a training flight in Britain. The victim was Colonel Wendell Kelly of Oklahoma City. First Lieutenant Paul Briggs of Arlington, Va., survived the crash.

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