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Will Korean War Spread?

INTIMATIONS of possible open intervention by Russia in Korea tighten an already taut situation. They test with new tension the intelligence and steadfastness of the Allied people.

Words of Speaker Sam Rayburn of the United States that "we stand in terrible danger of World War III" and intelligence reports that Russia has given the Chinese Reds 3000 planes for a spring offensive and that enemy activity is markedly increasing in North Korea deserve sober attention.

We need not assume definitely, however, that the Soviet will take an open part in Soviet hostilities. It is to be very much questioned whether to do so would be to her advantage—as yet at least. However, our thinking might well be in preparation for a new adventure in aggression.

Some might find it difficult to see how general hostilities could be averted if the Soviet should openly attack United Nations forces in Korea.

Conversely, extension of the war beyond Korea by the United Nations might be the spur that would bring Russia into the conflict.

On the other hand, it might not be necessary to assume that Russia is spoiling for war. Moscow may not be in a good position to start a general conflict. Certainly the Allies are under no inexorable compulsion to take such a desperate step.

First consideration should be given to dealing with actual attacks. If Russia attacks in Korea it should be met there. This might involve striking at Russian bases in the Far East, particularly if Russian submarines should raid out of Vladivostok. Already it is reported that the UN commanders have permission to apply the doctrine of "hot pursuit" in chasing enemy aircraft across the Yalu.

A situation might arise where it would be advisable to use atomic bombs, but it would be well not to leap to conclusions in this field. Certainly the assumption that a Russian attack in Korea should be answered by A-bombs in Europe should be resisted. The preventive war advocates declare: "We should hit the heart of this octopus, not its tentacles." But cutting off the tentacles of aggression has many advantages.

It helps to keep clear the direction from which aggression comes, thereby retaining a sounder moral position and the good opinion of mankind. In any prolonged world struggle allies can be vital. Until there shall be definite proof of Russian intervention it would be wise to remember that Moscow may have other reasons for sending forces into Manchuria. One would be to balance Chinese power there and retain control of rail lines and certain ports.

It is difficult to limit the scope of wars. But there are examples. No one who knows what war does will expand it lightly. Even should Russia take an active part in Korea, Allied policy might well be based on the simple rule that, other things being equal, a small war is better than a big one.

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THE LETTERBOX

ANSWER TO ANCIENT

Editor, Daily News:
In regard to "Disgusted Ancient's" letter in the Daily News about the cost of living, I would like to suggest that he try and keep a family of four children on the equivalent of the cost of living fifteen years ago. I'd like to see him do it. According to his statement \$1 can buy \$1 worth of groceries.
Maximum and minimum—
Now compare these prices:

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Hamburger 3 lbs.	25c	60c lb.
Pot Roast 2 lbs.	25c	74-76c lb.
Bacon and tin of		
peas lb.	35c	about 95c
Butter lb.	35c-45c	80c
Maximum and minimum labor		
wages	45c per hr.	\$1.15

Prince Rupert is highly overpopulated with people like "Disgusted." Trains leave here three times a week and planes leave every day. Maybe "Disgusted" could find a place where he can buy one dollar's worth of groceries for \$1.
DISGUSTED NOT SO ANCIENT

HOSPITAL AND COUNCIL

Editor, Daily News:
The report in your columns dated April 10 of the City Council's remarks about our request for a by-law to provide \$50,000 has caused considerable concern among members of the Hospital Board. Our hospital is one of the very few in the Province which does not receive every year substantial grants from the City Council whose citizens they serve. It would seem that we are being embarrassed by our former financial independence—the direct result of efficient administration.

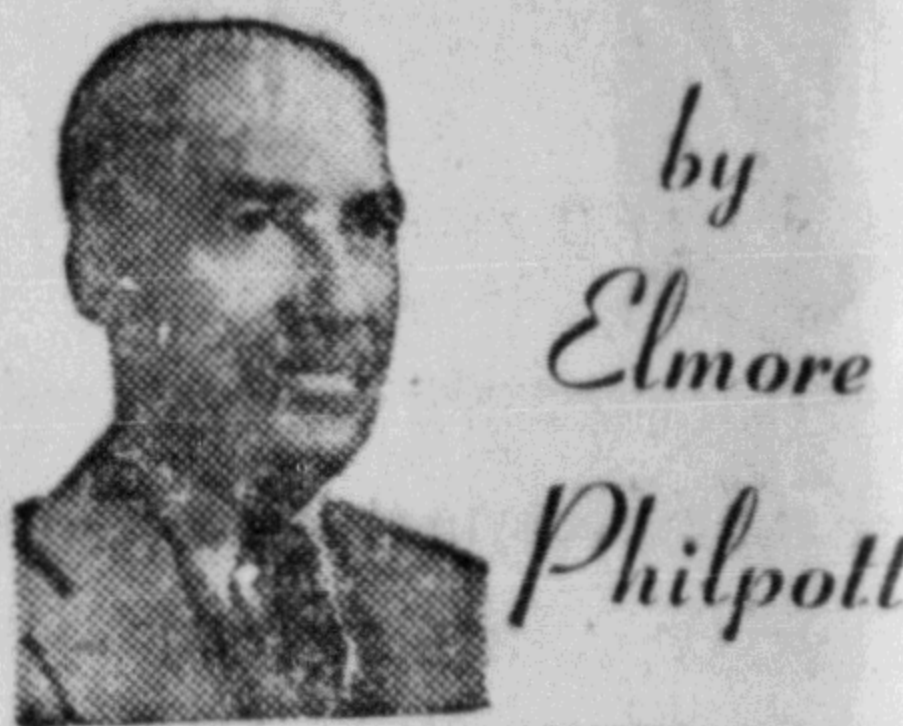
I would like to point out that even now no request is being made for funds for operation but only to complete facilities to provide additional beds.
Mayor Rudderham is quoted as follows: "I don't like the way they do business. They start out on a big building program without consulting us then when they fall down they practically demand aid." I would remind him that there was and is a representative of city council on the Hospital Board. At the time the expansion program was started in 1948 the board, I am given to understand, felt it had sufficient funds—\$50,000, accumulated without any help from City Council to complete the Nurses' Home. This was our most urgent requirement as we were unable to house sufficient nurses to care for the steadily increasing number of patients in hospital. An additional \$30,000 was received from the provincial government and the new nurses' home was commenced. This has now been completed.

Unfortunately costs have risen so greatly that there does not remain sufficient funds in the hospital's treasury to equip the second and first floors (washing) and build the new steam plant and boiler house especially as the provincial government which is contributing substantially to the cost has insisted that the boilers be large enough for even further expansion of the hospital.

What then is our alternative? We can do nothing and lose the further \$60,000 available from Provincial and Federal sources and carry on as we are now. With an antiquated heating plant, gravely overloaded, some unpleasant consequences ensue. We are already badly pressed for beds. Operation other than emergencies, are being postponed, and non-urgent hospital patients are already occasionally deferred admission. With our steadily increasing population this problem can only get worse.

If the city council fails to submit to its citizens the necessary (Continued on Page 5)

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

OILY LAND RUMBLES

KARACHI, INDIA.—Held up for a whole week in Pakistan on my way to the Holy Land, I have had plenty of time to study what is happening in the Oily Lands, in between.

I can't say I have been biting my finger nails to get away from this place—for out at the airport, the thermometer ranges between 70 and 90, but with a lovely breeze blowing.

Besides, anybody like me, with a double set of false teeth, would be a d.f. to bite his finger nails and take a chance on breaking his teeth.

Also worries are comparative. All week I have sweated and stewed trying to get another plane reservation to make up for the one I lost when the BOAC was a day late, due to engine trouble. But now all that is fixed, we hope, we hope. And besides, my newspaperman's troubles are mild compared with those of the regular correspondents hereabouts.

For, with the great political crisis boiling up in Persia over the assassination of the Prime Minister and the nationalization of foreign-owned oil companies, the boys are receiving terse orders from the home office telling them to hot-foot into Persia.

But Persia (or Iran to give it the modern name) is not anxious to make newspaper copy for the journals of the West. All the representatives of big Western papers have been turned down flat when they went to ask for visas for entry to Persia.

READERS MAY RECALL what I wrote at the beginning of this trip: That I regard the area between India and Gibraltar, inclusive, as the most critical area in the world today.

In my judgement the two great questions are:
1. Will the Indian sub-continent hold as a solid basis for Western-style democracy—new, weak and strange as that system is here? And
2. What is going to happen in between all across the Arab and Moslem belt?

I came to the conclusion that young as it is, democracy was likely to hold and grow in India and Pakistan at least for the next few years when the great wrestling match between the world's heavyweight blocs will be decided.

But I also got the clear impression in Egypt that there is a (Continued on Page 5)

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VICTORIA REPORT

... by J. K. Nesbitt

Are Doctors Playing Part?—Bishop on Liquor Question—Government Exercises Authority

VICTORIA.—The special legislative committee which will tour the province investigating every phase of the British Columbia hospital insurance set-up may well look into the part the medical profession should be playing in hospital insurance.

There were several hints, from time to time, in the Legislature during the session that the doctors are not playing their full part.

Arthur Ash, Liberal-Coalition member for Saanich, was the most forthright. He said that a lot of doctors are "definitely sabotaging" hospital insurance.

Arthur Turner, CCF member for Vancouver East, said also the doctors are not doing everything they can to co-operate in making hospital insurance a success. He said that in many countries the medical profession has obstructed public health schemes.

But most surprising of all was Hon. A. D. Turnbull, minister of health and welfare, who said he's convinced the great majority of the medical profession is co-operating but that some doctors are not. He agreed with Mr. Turner that the special legislative committee should look into the part the doctors should play in the whole hospital insurance picture.

Dr. J. J. Gillis, Liberal-Coalition, Yale, the only representative in the House of the medical profession, said that the doctors are co-operating—but that there certainly is a shortage of hospital beds in Vancouver.

It seems the liquor question just will not die. No sooner had the Legislature washed its hands of it—waiting for a plebiscite two years from now—than a powerful churchman, Rt. Rev. Harold Sexton, Anglican Bishop of British Columbia, got up and said that hotels and restaurants should be allowed to serve beer and light wines with meals.

The Bishop, long an advocate for changes in B.C.'s liquor laws, said: "I do not think cocktail bars are the answer to the problem of furtive drinking. The cause of real temperance would

be better served by permitting the citizens to enjoy in moderation a little alcoholic refreshment with their meals in hotel dining-rooms and public restaurants, as in England and elsewhere in the British Empire."

The margarine argument in the Legislature developed into another battle royal. The first day of argument it seemed that Mrs. Tilly Roiston would gain so much support for her amendment to the Oleomargarine Act—which, if passed, would have removed the color restrictions—that the government had to hastily call the caucus into session again to keep the boys in line.

The government takes the stand that there should be color restrictions, that margarine shouldn't look like butter. Otherwise the dairy industry will be ruined.

But, seeing that several back-bench MLA's were wanting to please their constituents by allowing colored margarine, the government had to whip them into shape again.

The new Psychiatric Nurses Act is a big step forward in the development of modern nursing in this province. It will give professional standing to mental case nurses, a standing equal to that of the registered nurse. The new act will provide an incentive to encourage young men and

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women to qualify as psychiatric nurses.
It is interesting to know that 400 nurses have already graduated from the School of Psychiatric Nursing operated by the Provincial Medical Hospital at Essondale. The B.C. Psychiatric Nurses' Association has a membership of 375 graduates in psychiatric nursing. Among the association's objectives are the promotion, improvement and maintenance of an enlightened and progressive standard of psychiatric nursing and the development of an active public interest in the treatment and care of the mentally ill.
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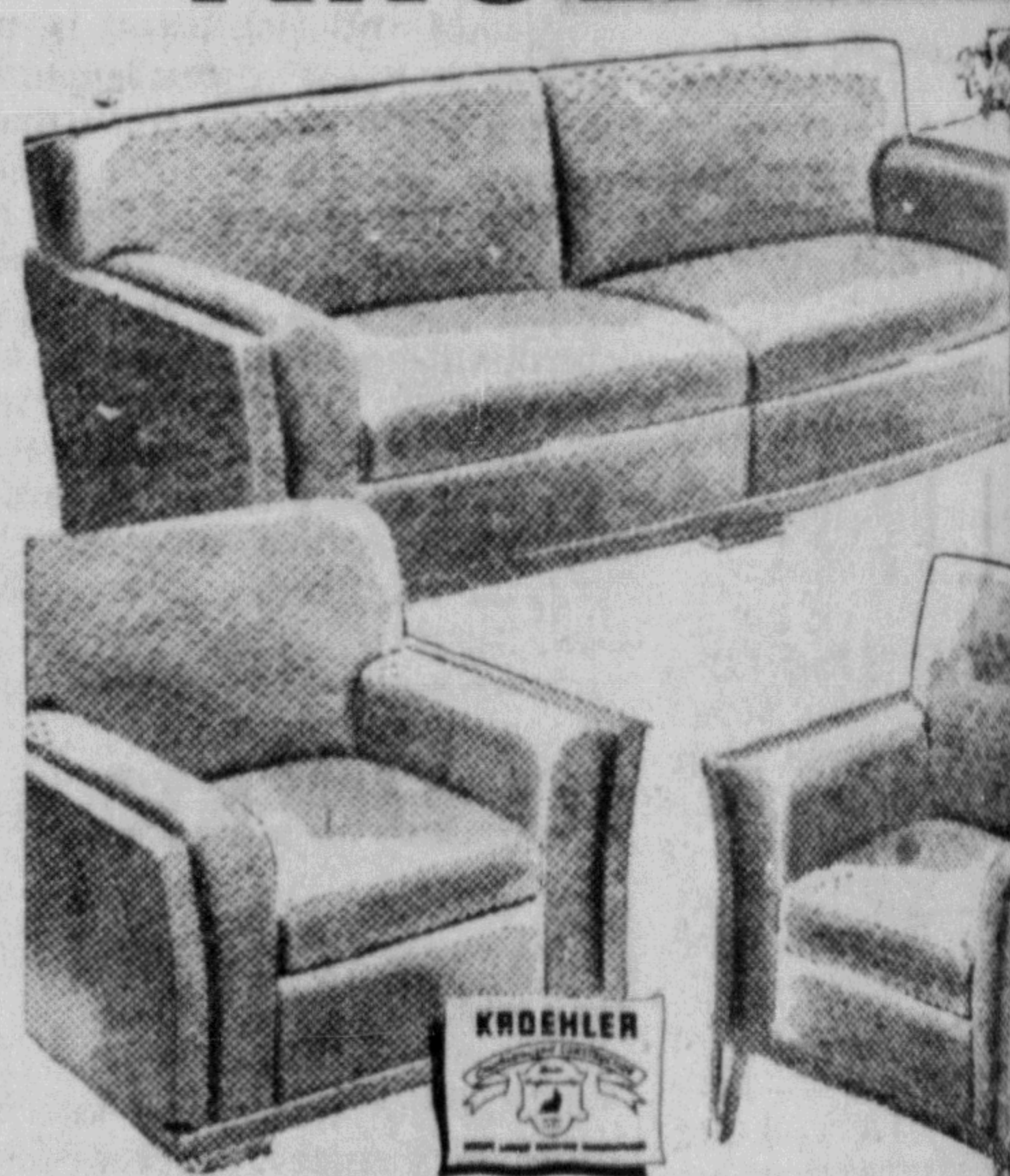
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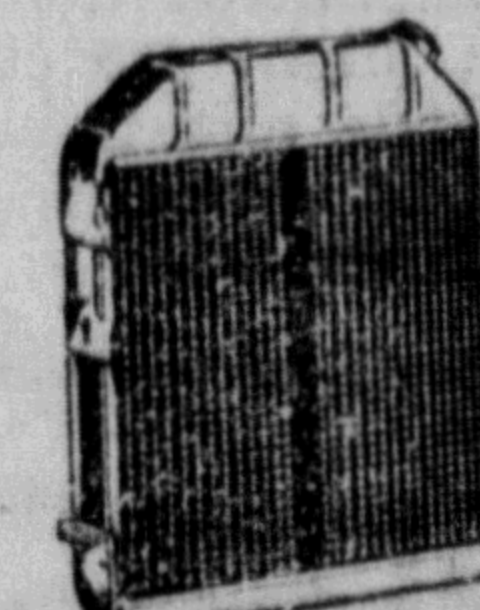
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