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Indian Question

It is disappointing that the current session of Parliament at Ottawa was unable to produce some satisfactory legislation to amend the Indian Act and improve the status of our native population—something which is long overdue and in which we are particularly interested in this riding where so many of our neighbors are of the aboriginal race.

Possibly, it is better, however, that the whole matter was deferred, as has been done, instead of turning out something that would have been unsatisfactory. This it seems would have been the case in the legislation which has been shelved with the explanation that the natives themselves should be given more time to consider it.

Next session some real action will be expected. Another deferment under such circumstances as would not be very acceptable to say the least of it.

The Indian people, who are very serious about this matter and have long enough been kept in a state of inferiority through the very way in which they have been handled as wards rather than responsible citizens, are entitled to their new deal—and soon.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE FOR TODAY

In God is my salvation and glory; the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God. Psalm 62:7.

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By **ELMORE PHILPOTT**
COLD WAR BOOM

PORTLAND, Oregon:

Yesterday I wrote first impressions on this June 1950 trip to a bit of U.S.A. There is a boom on. You can see evidences of it on every hand, right on the surface. Also, right on the surface, you can see that the boom is a war boom.

At Fort Lewis, near here, 56,000 soldiers marched past yesterday in an imposing array of military force. That force included a crack regular U.S. army division, plus a national guard division, and many other units. It is a far cry from the old days when you were likely to see fewer uniforms in the United States than you then did in Canada.

There is a big coming and going of U.S. soldiers, sailors, and airmen at this mid-century. In stations, for instance, you see plenty of them. The boom is a product of feeding, clothing and housing those soldiers—and equipping them with all the expensive weapons of 1950 war. Moreover, nobody tries to pretend that the boom is NOT a cold war boom.

THE MAGAZINE "U.S. News and World Report" devotes most of its June 16 number to the boom. It announces on its front cover that the next item on the public spending spree is "Billions For Atomic Defence." Moreover, it makes no bones about the dual purpose nature of the program.

"Billions for Atom Defence will be Next Pump Primer" it explains.

"Plans now being drawn up for the defence of U.S. civilians are on a scale that would have

seemed fantastic in World War II. They include outlays for public works that could cost 100 billion dollars. . . . What is sure is that, in the event of a business slump, the planners will have a pump-priming program ready that will far exceed anything ever conceived in the days of 'big' New Deal projects."

THE DANGERS as well as the advantages of this obviously-coming U.S. spending spree are clear.

In one sense they are staving off a business slump in North America exactly as Hitler dealt with the actual business depression in Germany when he seized power there in 1933. He simply put the millions of unemployed either into army uniforms or into armament factories. He intended from the beginning to go to war in the end. But in the end it would have been next-to-impossible for him NOT to go to war. For the vast war machine was in such momentum that it would have been next-to-impossible to stop it.

THE UNITED STATES HAS certainly not plunged into a military spending spree for the same reasons as Hitler. It obviously honestly feels that it has been compelled to do so by what it considers to be Russian expansionism, applied on a world scale and gigantic proportions.

But history shows many cases where armament races between great powers ended in war—and only a few where such rivalries were brought to a peaceful end, without war. For once the armament race is set in motion, the very mass and momentum tends to take over from the human beings whose policies began it.

An armament race is like a heavy truck started down a steep road. Once allowed to gain

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JOHNNY'S Jottings

"You say, Mr. Johnson, that hundreds of people here are out of homes."

"Absolutely," returned Mr. Johnson.

"And you further state," said Mr. Thompson, "that only 35 of these homeless creatures have applied for information?"

"Absolutely," emphasized Mr. Johnson.

speed beyond a certain limit the driver cannot hold it on the road, if the turns are too sharp, he cannot bring it to a halt. The dangers are therefore obvious.

BUT THERE IS ANOTHER side to the picture. If the great U.S.A. really starts to spend 100 billions (not millions—billions) on relocating factories, building underground shelters, extra hospitals—all such might be planned to make better cities too.

"Hmm," Mr. Thompson stroked his chin in deep thought. "A most mysterious situation."

"Absolutely," muttered Mr. Johnson.

"Damn," roared Mr. Thompson, "is that all you can say? Find the answer to this puzzle! Surely there is a catch in this new housing scheme if only a few residents are interested."

"People are funny," said Mr. Johnson. "They cry on our shoulders for years. They moan that they are crammed in poor housing accommodation. They do not like apartments."

"But when," continued Mr. Thompson, "a plan is drawn up they do not co-operate. A most disgusting situation."

"Absolutely," replied Mr. Johnson.

The two gentlemen gazed out over the city. They were conveniently situated at the highest point of the community and surveyed the scene below with judicious scrutiny.

"Hmm," they both agreed.

Mr. Thompson pulled at a blade of grass. He chewed at it and at intervals spat out the greenish remnants. Mr. Johnson ad-

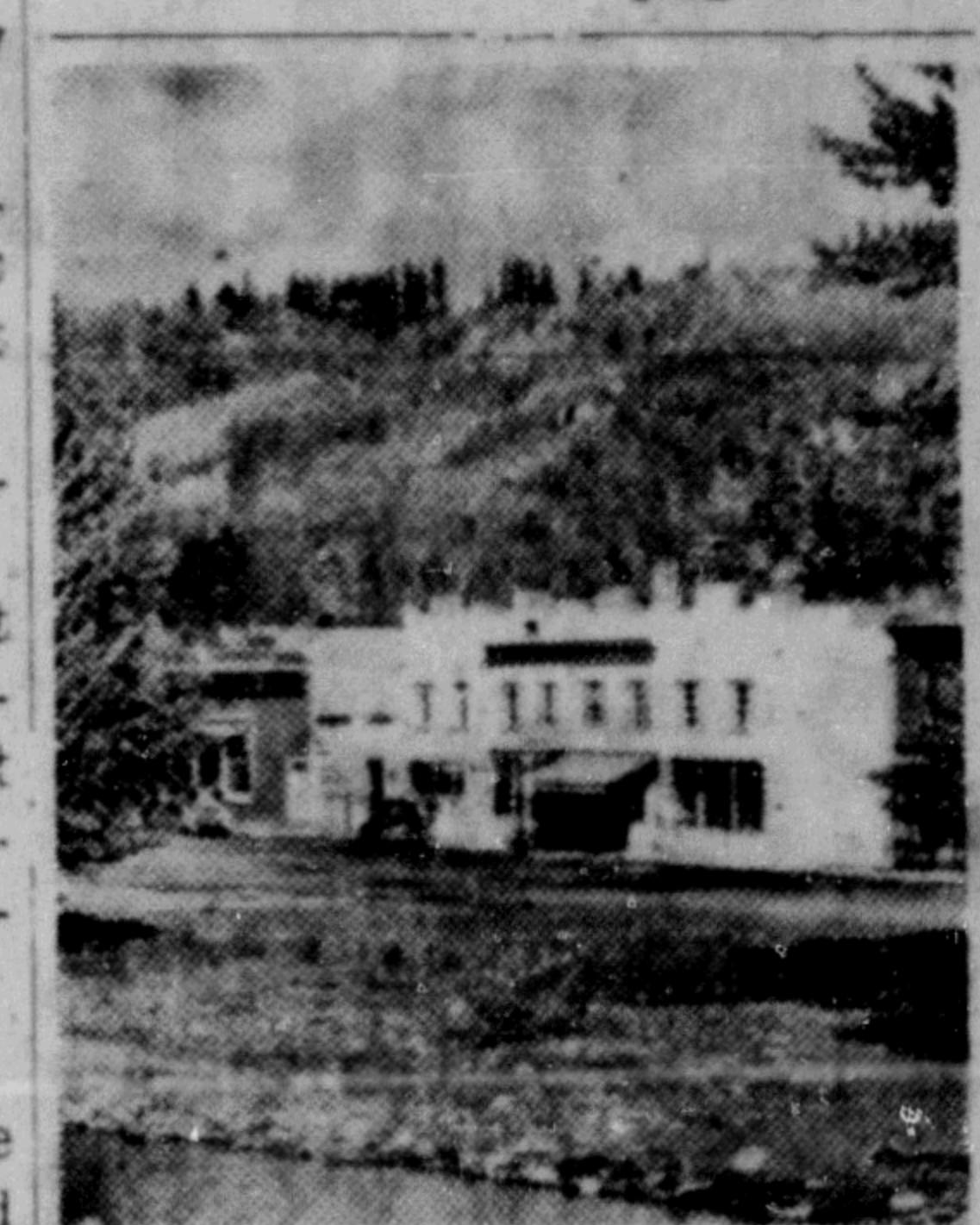
justed his eyeglasses, pondered the critical subject.

"But how can people be so stupid?" asked Mr. Johnson.

"By just acting ntatural," replied Mr. Thompson. "But of course, the terrain here is so jagged. Not an ideal place for a home."

"Quite true," agreed the other, "but still one must live." They were silent for some time then Mr. Johnson brought up the subject of figures. "Only yester-

(Continued on page 3)



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