

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

There is much high powered diplomatic talk about China and the Chinese and how they are going to be saved. A Chinaman has no gumption unless it concerns a shirt in the laundry, or a tong war, 480,000,000 Chinks let 90,000,000 Japs cuff 'em around, and holler for the rest of the world for help.

The 7 days commencing tomorrow have been officially designated as Home Brewing week.

The Portland turkey market reports the birds heavier than last year, running a peck of gravel to the craw.

Any number of citizens are showing signs of an irresistible desire to run for something at the primary next spring. Most of them will not even get their own vote.

"COLORED PORTER SHOT TWICE IN CULINARY DEPARTMENT"—(Holine Sacramento Union). Cruel and unusual.

HE EATS YEAST

Harold, the 1111 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. George Youner left Tuesday for Prineville, Oregon to spend Thanksgiving with relatives.

Madalyne Obenchar, the charming beauty who inspired one sweetie to let daylight into the Chief Sweetie, goes on trial Monday at Los Angeles. The lady in a written statement has a hunch that she will do most of her flirting for the next several years from behind a window, barged with iron.

While the work of ridding the world of war is going on, something really ought to be done to prohibit society ladies of New York from putting silk knitted night caps on their dogs.

Henry Ford wants to buy all the battleships and pound them into Lizzies. This is good propaganda for Henry's presidential bee. If the country ever goes crazy again and elects him chief executive, the Great War will seem like a high school football game.

A SOCIAL CROWBAR

Mrs. Thomas H. Williams returned the earlier part of the week from the east where she spent about two months.

The opening arguments were made in the trial of Fatoee Arbutckle yesterday. In accordance with expectations the prosecutor addressed the women in the courtroom instead of the jury.

The valley is suffering from some winter weather, which is unusual and entirely unexpected at this time of the year.

A bank cashier at Jefferson, Mo., skinned the first of the week with \$50,000. He was not a Sunday school superintendent, and took nobody's wife with him. So far he is uncaught.

The British only have 64,000 tons of submarines, so they devoutly argue that the 90,000 ton limit is too high, as proposed by Mr. Hughes. Mr. Hughes replies that "the way to reduce is to reduce." This is a very wild statement, and indicates the gent is talking through his whiskers. He should have made a two-hour speech, that nobody could understand, and propose in the name of humanity that California be ceded to Japan.

Joseph Gannon was seen sharpening a lead pencil Fri. As the railroad from Fells to the coast is built, here's a bridge across the Pacific ocean.

Royal Arch Masons

Crater Lake Chapter No. 32 Special communication Tuesday, Nov. 22nd, 7 p. m. M. M. and P. P. Oyster supper. Visitors welcome. A. E. NOTH, Secy.

Editorial Correspondence

EN ROUTE WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—All the way from San Francisco, the talk in the smoking room has hovered around the armament parley. The crop outlook, lack of rain and snow, business conditions and the usual drummer's stories have had attention, but the armament parley has been uppermost.

This is a significant thing for a transcontinental train is a living cross-section of the land, and its interest is bound to be the country's interest. There can be no doubt, therefore, that this conference in Washington occupies the public interest from the Golden Gate to Sandy Hook—the people are talking about it, thinking about it, and wondering what it will really amount to, after all.

Early this morning a couple of citizens boarded the train at Pine Bluff, Nebraska. They looked like typical country town merchants—well fed, good natured, and apparently prosperous. In spite of the low price of corn, they wasted no time in preliminaries, but grabbed copies of this morning's Denver Post, lighted cigars and proceeded to devour the highly colored contents.

"Well, what do you think about it anyway, Charley?" one of them asked, putting down his paper and regarding the tip of his cigar, "think they're going to do anything?" "Looks like this man Hughes give 'em something to talk about," said Charley.

"But how about this Jap done. Say they'll be good if we'll give 'em a free hand in Siberia and those countries around there. That sounds like the old bunk." "Well, I don't know much about it, but it looks like if the Japs scrap their feet as we ask, and give up their treaty with England as we ask, that we'll have to do something they ask. It's all a game of bluff and back scratchin'. If we do this, then you must do that. And the Japs are there on that sort of game. They'll beat us in the end."

"I don't know about that. It looks to me as though the Japs were in for a trimmin'—with this man Hughes on one side and Lloyd George on the other."

"Perhaps so, but if you get the best of 'em then you'll have to fight 'em. I tell you, Lary, it looks this way—why not let the Japs run things over there and let us run things over here, and then keep out of all this foreign business. We ain't goin' to fight Japan for a lot of pig-tailed laundrymen over in China, so why pretend we are. And Japan ain't goin' to fight us if she can help it. I say let's everybody agree to mind his own business, and we'll be better off."

"Perhaps so,—only there's a lot of trade over there and this open door you hear so much about." "I suppose so. But there's more trade right here if we only stop this army and navy business and get down to a ten-hour day again."

"You're right there, Charley, but these big guys don't seem to see it that way. Anyway this plan Hughes popped over can't be lost in the shuffle entirely. The people are waked up to it. If they try any funny business, and don't start scrapin' feet, the people will want to know who spilled the beans and they'll come pretty near findin' out."

"I guess so. But it's as this man Brisbane says. Cutting down armaments don't mean the end of war any more than putting boxing gloves over bare knuckles means the end of prize fighting. I suppose there will always be more or less fighting, but if we can cut down the expense, why so much the better."

"But the trouble is with them Japs can you trust 'em. We say we will do this all right, but how do we know the Japs will do what they say. I tell you I don't trust 'em."

"Neither do I. Well, there's the first call for breakfast. Let's go in and eat."

And they did. I have an idea this dialogue fairly represents the general mental attitude of a majority of the people of the middle west—a general hope for good out of the conference, but a scepticism that up to the present time rather overshadows it.

R. W. R.

Quill Points

Oh, why are the crises of yesteryear?

A man seldom goes to the dogs until he learns to whine.

Prejudice: Any honest conviction held by the opposition.

A soft answer turns away wrath unless it persuades the other fellow you have cold feet.

It must be nice to be rich and not feel under obligations to pay your bills promptly.

A tiger shark turns its belly up before devouring its victim, but the loan shark merely turns his palms up.

A policy of preparedness isn't wholly consistent unless its subsidies a few crutch factories.

The world always gives a respectful hearing to a reformer who isn't trying to make a living at it.

One good way to improve your mind is to glance through the children's school books occasionally.

Fable: Once there was a man who did another a favor and later reminded him of it only 3,764 times.

A magazine writer says mothers can stop war. They can by refusing to be mothers until the world disarms.

You have doubtless noticed that people never rebuke a scandal peddler until they get all the particulars.

The only light reading that encourages serious thought is the gas meter.

In this free country the people know as much about their affairs as conference delegates think they should know.

The statesman who holds his ear too close to the ground doesn't hold his nose close enough to the grindstone.

A general reluctance to compromise arouses the fear that a hard winter won't cause as much suffering as hard heads.



SIGNS OF WINTER.

THE trees stand naked in the woods, their leaves beneath them lying, and to the warmer neighborhoods the honking geese are flying. And I must quit my book and lyre and occupations sweeter, and dig up miles of rusty wire, and wrestle with a heater. The skies are gloomy overhead, with swarthy clouds careering, and all the goosebone seats have said that stormy days are nearing. I wish the summer days were back, the sunny days and pleasing, for I must go and bank the slack, to keep the spuds from freezing. And I must take some liquid glue and splice the roof together; oh, there are many things to do before the wintry weather. The frost falls white, the cold winds rant, and I am most dejected; for everything reminds my aunt of something I've neglected. "Now, go you forth," she cries, "with haste, ere snow is falling thickly; the cabbageheads will go to waste, unless they're garnered quickly. You haven't brought the popcorn in, the pumpkin vines are withering, and you continue, with a grin, your everlasting liting." And now I take my slender roll I've been so long in earning, and buy about a peck of coal to keep the home fires burning. The balmy days are gone and lost, stilled is the wood, and chorus; oh, winter, winter, you're a frost, and you're all before us!

SAP AND SALT BY Bert Moses. Illustrations and text: "Ignorant men flatter themselves on their intelligence." "The way to be happy is to consider your duties a pleasure rather than a hardship." "About all the good luck some people ever have is what the fortune-teller says they are going to get." "The whole world seems to be suffering from fatty degeneration of common sense." "Don't supply a scrap unless the other fellow insists upon it." "The chief aim of us all should be to die young, no matter how old we get." "HEZ HECK SAYS: 'Some of 'em do and some of 'em don't.'"

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW?

- 1. What animal washes its food before eating?
2. How long is the spinal cord?
3. How many pounds in a metric ton?
4. What per cent of the land of the earth is in forests?
5. What is German Silver made of?
6. At what velocity does the wind begin to do damage?
7. When is the next president elected?
8. How many eyes has a spider?
9. For what three crimes do army regulations provide the death penalty?
10. How much territory does the government printing plant cover?
Answers to Yesterday's Questions:
1. What four cities have had the most baseball champions in the last fifteen years?
2. Who wrote "Little Boy Blue"?
3. How many of our states border on Mexico?
4. What profession has furnished the United States with twenty of presidents?
5. Of what is the city of San Juan the capital?
6. How much sugar do grapes contain?
7. How can you tell directions by a watch?
8. Who wrote "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush"?
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SPUR THEM ON.

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