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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

Physicians report nearly 100 cases of the flu, on hand and not a one contrary enough to be known as the La Grippe.

• • •

Who can recall when all awkward and unlucky enough to get caught, invariably offered, as a sympathetic alibi: "They never hung the De Autremont boys, but gave me 10 days."

• • •

So Poland defaulted on her war debts, ala La Bulle France. It was the woes of Belgium that kept the people of the valley awake nights, but their hearts also ached for bleeding Poland—the land of Paderwaski, a piano thumping genius. Never shall your corr. forget the day the Germans—meaner than a district attorney—chased the Russians out of the Masurian swamps and the world was told that Poland was "to be sacrificed on the altar of Kaiserism." How the Poles made the tears flow! When the news came that the Teutonic hordes had seized the postoffice in Warsaw, did the indignation mount. Why Porter Neff, a 4-minute speaker, spoke for 20 minutes, he so felt sorry for Poland and the Poles.

• • •

H'AINT THAT SMART!
(The Dalles Chronicle)

The professional "dead beat," of whom there are several in The Dalles, is tickled to death with the depression. Now he has an excuse for not paying his bills. The man who has always paid, and cannot do so now, is shamefaced about it. The professional dead beat goes his way even more blithely than before.

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Only eight days 'till Christmas, and all the little boys are as polite as a little Japanese boy.

• • •

A lead pencil was at large near Eureka, Calif., one day last week and before apprehended another railroad was built into Crescent City.

• • •

You can fool some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time and the rest of the time somebody else will fool them.—(Judge.)—The truth gets mentioned again—accidentally.

• • •

ROMANCE FADES
(Eugene News)

Dear Miss Fairfax:
I am engaged to a nice young man and we expected to be married in June, but I lost my job a month ago.

• • •

A statistician at Oregon State College has figured out with nothing concealed up his sleeves, that the Orangemen are second to Southern California in the football standings of the nation. The deductions excel those offered by "Old Oregon" the year they claimed the Pacific Coast championship because Willamette University failed to beat them.

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The governor thinks the session of the state legislature will consider nothing but taxation measures. The governor does not know that hip-pockets have already started to bulge with Rogue River fish bills.

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It's beyond us. If the people would spend four billion, everybody would prosper; if the Government spends four billion, everybody is poorer. —(Atlantic City Union)—Me no savvy, either.

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Heard at the Bill Gore Corner: "Sure I read Henry Ford put 100,000 men back to work. But did you read he laid off 300,000. The 100,000 he put to work are all his cousins."

• • •

Pig-sticking is the order of the day in the rural areas, and country folks have to eat pork back-straps these long winter evenings.

GIANTS' PHYSICIAN DIES FROM GUNSHOT WOUNDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—(AP)—Dr. William J. Walsh, physician to the New York Giants, died this afternoon of bullet wounds inflicted last night in his office by a "patient," who was later killed by police.

When needing duplicating sales books, flat-packs or fan-fold cash register forms, ledger sheets for bookkeeping machines or any other kind of printing don't order from out-of-town firms who pay more. Phone 75 and one of our representatives will call.

Desirable houses always in first class condition for rent lease or sale. Call 105

Phone 542 We'll haul away your refuse. City Sanitary Service.

Should All Debts Be Cancelled?

WE have received a communication, not for publication, which asks if this newspaper doesn't believe in cancellation of the war debts, and if it does, why it doesn't SAY SO.

If this newspaper DID believe in cancellation of the war debts at this time—believed such action would be best for this country and for the world—it WOULD say so.

But it doesn't so believe. It does believe that no MATERIAL part of the remaining debts to this country, will be paid. But inability to secure any major portion of this ten or twelve billions in gold is one thing; voluntarily writing them off is quite another.

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IN fact, we believe cancelling the war debts now, would be a great mistake. The justice of this debt is unquestioned, the obligation of the debtors to pay up to their capacity is also unquestioned. We believe in standing pat for the December 15th payments, the United States was not only well within its rights, but contributed to a clearing of the entire international atmosphere.

As the situation now stands, the European sheep are pretty well separated from the European goats. Great Britain, as expected, came through nobly, so did Italy, Czecho-Slovakia, Finland, Latvia and Lithuania.

France, also as expected, refused to pay. So did Belgium, Poland, Esthania, Hungary and Greece.

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SO there they stand. The nations that regard their obligations to this country as a debt of honor, and those who don't. Our attitude toward these countries, will be—and should be—influenced by their action. Had we cancelled the debts, or extended the moratorium, there would have been no such division, and our foreign policy would not have been clarified, as it has been.

This phase of the matter however, is relatively unimportant. Another phase of the matter however, ISN'T unimportant. In fact we regard it as of supreme importance.

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TO illustrate: let us assume these war debts had been cancelled yesterday by the United States, as the artful European propogandists proposed.

What would Uncle Sams' position be today? He would be lauded as the saviour of Europe no doubt; he would be acclaimed as a Santa Claus not only in word, but in deed. But coming down to brass tacks, what sort of a spot would he be in?

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IT must be plain to any thinking person that from an international standpoint he would be sunk completely. His hold on Europe would be gone—along with his $100,000,000 paid yesterday, and the billions due thereafter. The greatest leverage he has ever held over Europe—the greatest talking point for trade benefits, for political concessions, for disarmament in which he so strongly believes, would have been abandoned, and nothing whatever to show for it—not a scrap of paper or a dime! Uncle Sam would be written down as the greatest D. F.—the easiest mark,—the most childish bungler of all time.

• • • • •

SO that is why we do NOT favor debt cancellation at the present time. Not that we have any illusions about these billions ever being paid in gold—in fact it would take the entire stock of gold in the world today to pay them. But because they can be paid in other things—in raw materials, in trade benefits, in political concessions, in agreements to reduce armaments on land and sea,—in any number of ways, beneficial to this country and to the world.

And that undoubtedly is what will be done in the international debt conference which President Hoover favors, and which President-elect Roosevelt at the former's request, publicly endorsed.

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WITH ALL interested nations represented at this conference, those who have met their obligations, those who have not, and the United States as creditor, treating them all alike,—demanding money from those able to pay in money, demanding some non-monetary equivalent from those who can't do so,—there is every reason to believe some agreement, reasonably satisfactory to all will be reached.

The debts may be further reduced,—perhaps from ten to one billion, provided such an amount is paid at once in cash. But WHATEVER the final result, Uncle Sam at least will not have committed the fatal blunder of cancelling all the debts at the present time.

The Auto License Problem

ALL the proposals for lowering of automobile licenses in this state, we have seen, have two factors in common.

First a lowering of the average license fee to approximately $5—the lowest to $3,—and a material increase in the licenses on commercial trucks and motor busses.

We believe both propositions are essentially sound. The present motor license fee must be radically reduced. As we stated, when the truck bill came up at the November election, while that measure went too far, there should be a material readjustment, placing a smaller burden upon the private car and a far greater burden on the commercial car.

• • • • •

IN this direction it is interesting to note what has been done in England, which on the basis of area, has the greatest number of automobile vehicles in the world.

As a result of a national conference, attended by an equal number of railway and automobile executives, it was mutually agreed that the entire cost of construction and maintenance of highways—about $300,000,000 a year—should be borne by those using the highways, and that trucks should pay their fair share of those costs.

The license fee of the six-ton truck was placed at $525 per year, the ten-ton truck at $1100 per year. A gas tax of 13½ cents per gallon was adopted.

These figures are given not because we believe they are necessarily adapted to conditions in this country, but to give the people of this state, some idea of what people in other parts of the world are doing.

The automotive problem, the highway problem and the financial problem are world-wide problems. A complete survey would probably show that in every part of the world, as is true in England and in this state, the necessity of the trucks and motor busses paying THEIR FAIR SHARE of highway costs and operation, has been accepted, as a primary step in the proper solution of those problems.

Personal Health Service

By William Brady, M. D.

Signed letters pertaining to personal health and hygiene, not to disease diagnosis or treatment, will be answered by Dr. Brady if a stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed. Letters should be brief and written in ink. Owing to the large number of letters received only a few can be answered here. No reply can be made to queries not conforming to instructions. Address Dr. William Brady in care of The Mail Tribune.

SHOULD CHILDREN TAKE TEA OR COFFEE?

Here is a letter from a girl probably 12 or 13 years old but with the mentality of one 16 or 18. At least she writes a perfect letter, and I believe it requires an I. Q. better than the average to do that.

My Dear Dr. Brady:

Our class had a discussion on the subject of tea and coffee. Our teacher tried to convince us that we should not drink it, but I think she failed.

Would you kindly give your reasons for not wanting children to drink tea or coffee?

The children in our class are between the ages of 12 and 13 and some of them drink it at breakfast time.

If you will prove to them that it is not good for their health I will be very grateful.

Very truly yours,

A cup of coffee contains a fair medicinal dose of caffeine, an alkaloid of the same class as strychnine, morphine, atrophine, etc., tho caffeine is comparatively nonpoisonous. The purpose for which physicians administer the drug caffeine by mouth or by hypodermic injection is stimulation. It stimulates the heart; it stimulates the cerebrum; it stimulates the spinal cord; it stimulates the kidneys.

A cup of tea contains a small dose of a similar alkaloid called theine. Tho theine is not used in medicine, its effects are similar in all respects to those of caffeine, tea being somewhat milder than coffee.

It is conceivable that in certain circumstances these beverages or drugs might be beneficial for a child but that would be a matter for the physician to decide. Certainly the effects of tea or coffee are not desirable for the normal, healthy child. That is why we think children under 16 years of age should not take tea or coffee.

If children must have a beverage other than water, soup, milk or any fresh fruit juice in season, cocoa or chocolate is less injurious to them than is tea or coffee. But when a child is given cocoa or chocolate as a beverage the greater the amount of milk or cream and the less chocolate or cocoa in the drink the better for health. Often the child who has been spoiled at home will refuse to take plain milk as a beverage, in school or elsewhere, but if the milk is flavored with caramel (burnt sugar) or with chocolate or cocoa the neurotically trained youngster will take it without the usual fuss.

Tea and coffee, we said, stimulate the spinal cord. They increase what we call reflex activity, and that, in popular language, means tea or coffee makes you "nervous," restless, twitchy, jumpy, irritable, cranky.

In childhood the kidney function is plenty and it is sheer mischief to stimulate it.

Nor is there any sound reason for stimulating the heart and increasing the blood pressure of a normal child.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What to Teach, What to Teach

I teach general science and the head of my department kindly tho perhaps not wisely allows me to teach what I choose under the heading of health and hygiene. I admire your candidness and respect your opinions. What do you advise me to teach high school freshmen? (Miss H. E. H.)

Answer—Candidly I don't think it matters, if the health and hygiene must be just a part of a course in "general science." That's all humbug education in my opinion.

Dampness Is Healthful

My husband suffers from nasal catarrh. We live on the———river and the dampness does seem to make it worse . . . (P. J. T.)

Answer—No, I am certain dampness has no such influence. Invalids or valetudinarians who are obsessed with the fear of dampness often enjoy improved health after they move to a drier climate. But that, I am convinced, is logically due to the fact that they live outdoors more hours when they're not so afraid of the imaginary evils of dampness and chill.

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Ye Poet's Corner

FOLLOW THE ROGUE

Down through the valley there moves
a swift river.
Cool waters rush over gay stony
bed.
No complaint, no delaying as though
pleased with its journey;
Bringing a message because it keeps
saying:
Be skies grey or blue overhead:
Follow the Rogue on to the sea;
Nothing greater ever can be than
finding that which is destined
for me;

On through the valley the green
shadowed river
Hurriedly tosses its white spray
about;
Drops over dams; slips under bridges
Past highway and byway and station and town.
Past summer cabins on mossy stone
ridges,
Bearing its lure of salmon and
trout.

On through the valley the clear
mountain river,
Dark firs beside it pleasantly swaying,
Waits not to hear the killdeers' cry;
Tangle of sweet brier; clean ruddy
laurel
Paths that lead to it—passes these
by,
But it's leaving a message because
it keeps saying:
Follow the Rogue on to the sea.
Nothing greater ever can be
Than finding that which is destined
for me.
Follow the Rogue.

—Hazel Sloneker.

Communications

Another Lie Is Nailed.

To the Editor:

I have been a subscriber to the Mail Tribune ever since I came to Southern Oregon in 1921. I have not always agreed with its policies, but I have never doubted its integrity or sincerity. I have always thought and still think it compares as a newspaper favorably with any other small town daily on the coast—or in the country for that matter. Of late, however, I have been told by my neighbors repeatedly that the Mail Tribune is financed and owned by the California Oregon power company, as an evidence that the Tribune has always played the Copco game in the matter of maintaining present high rates. I am now writing to ask if this is true. I don't believe it, but I have no evidence to support my belief. I would appreciate a statement from you regarding this matter. If you prefer not to answer in your columns I would appreciate a personal letter which I can show to my neighbors around here confirming my view. Or if they are right and I am wrong, confirming theirs. If there is nothing to such talk I think, in justice to itself, the Mail Tribune should make a public statement to that effect. I don't want my name published.

FAIR PLAY.
(Name on File)

Ed Note: Well, well, so that old bewhiskered canard is still bobbing around in the foothills. A strange world, mates. We sometimes wonder if under prevailing conditions of public suspicion and unrest, it does any good to deny ANYTHING.

We don't know how many times we have publicly denied reports practically identical with the above,—but it has not prevented the circulation of the gossip, or its acceptance in certain quarters.

We have a pious idea nothing will. However, for the benefit of our friendly correspondent, we can state once more this statement not only is NOT true, it is the exact REVERSE of the truth.

The Mail Tribune would probably benefit as much or more than any business by a reduction in light and power rates. We pay on an average of $125 a month to the California Oregon Power company for such service, and as officials of the power company will agree, this paper has tried for years to secure a reduction. The matter of reduction is now before the state public service commissioner, and under our existing law the final decision must rest with that department. We believe this is the proper way to settle such a controversy—not by political or public clamor, but by judicial decision. Neither the California Oregon Power company nor any other business or corporation owns any stock in this paper, or has ever contributed a dime toward financing it. The control of this paper is in the same hands it has been in for over 20 years, and during all that time it has financed itself and in spite of the depression is—thanks to good business management—successfully doing so at the present time.

"De Ducks Eat 'Em."

To the Editor:

This story comes from Queensland, Australia. It is too good to scrap. I thought you would like to pass it on.

The old Negro and his peaches, when he asked the storekeeper for credit: "Sam, have you sold your peaches?"

"Yes sor. But de ducks don' gone eat up all dem peaches."

When he went to collect his pay, they told him:

"De ducks for hauling,
De ducks for packing,
De ducks for storage,
De ducks for freight,
De ducks for commission."

So you see "de ducks don' gone eat up all my peaches."

CHARLES E. C. EDEY,
R. F. D. 3. Dec. 15.

Why Not a Peace Dep't?

To the Editor:

I have seen nothing in our western press concerning the "peace marathons," which are being generally held throughout the east. Does this movement at this time extend to the west?

It is sponsored by the national committee on the cause and cure of war and apparently has gained much impetus in some parts of the country. Trends, movements and institutions, designed for the substitution of recurring wars, are being thoroughly explained and discussed. The various units in this movement are earnestly studying methods of strengthening these units, to compel governments to move forward to permanent peace.

We have a war department at Washington. Why not have a peace department?

Since there are more than 100 peace organizations in the United States and about 1000 throughout the world, including the League of Nations, the World Court, the Court of Arbitration at the Hague, international treaties and pledges, conciliation agreements, etc., all this urge, in the direction of peace, must inevitably lead to something nobler than armed force. If all these forces would cease their efforts to convince the unbelieving and have faith that they, themselves, have the power to carry forward these great movements, success would surely crown their efforts. Love is the greatest force of all.

ALICE McCLURE GETCHELL.
Medford, December 15th.

Beds of pain are eased with sheets of Christmas Seals. Buy several sheets.

It takes a Christmas Seal to make it Christmas mail.

37 Minutes to Make Dress

They laughed when Mr. X started to cut and fit the dress shown above, but women in his audience marveled when the garment had been cut, fit and sewed together entirely within the space of 37 minutes. Dressmakers present were not so enthusiastic but the others considered it a good stunt anyway.

Mr. X Wins Busiest Man Title as Work Piles Up; Window Nap Promised

Mr. X's Program for Saturday.

11 a. m.—Plan a party for 25 high school girls for William Davis, Butte Falls, Ore.
Noon—Luncheon at the Rex.
2 p. m.—Show the kiddies some tricks with a Yo-Yo at Heath Drug Store.
3 p. m.—Conduct a Yo-Yo contest at the Fluhrer Bakery.
4 p. m.—Paint a scenery picture in the display window of the Hubbard Hardware company.
6 p. m.—Dinner.
7:30 p. m.—Undress, go to bed and sleep in the display window of the Medford Furniture and Hardware store.

If ballots were cast to find out who is the busiest man in Medford, Mr. X would win by a mile. The versatile stranger is at the disposal of readers of the Mail Tribune, and his services are free.

On Saturday Mr. X will make another public appearance in showing the kiddies some simple tricks with the Yo-Yo at the Heath Drug store. The store has made arrangements to give one of the latest model Yo-Yos to everybody who makes a 50-cent purchase. Mr. X will be at Heath's for one hour to serve out the Yo-Yos.

At 3 o'clock in the Afternoon Mr. X will be at the Fluhrer Bakery, and will conduct a Yo-Yo contest for the school children. A prize worth having will be awarded to the two best contentants, having regard to the size of the children who participate in the contest.

Will Be Artist.

At 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon Mr. X will be up against a tough problem. He is to appear in the display window of the Hubbard Hardware store, and is to paint a scenery picture. Just to make it a little more intricate for Mr. X, he will not be permitted to use artist colors, but the picture is to be painted in house paints.

Another stipulation which was made at the time the challenge was issued to Mr. X, he must paint the picture upsidedown, and when it is completed it will be given to one of the spectators. This will be worth watching.

While visiting the Medford Furniture and Hardware store, he was in conversation with the manager of the furniture department, the talk later turning to electricity, and to the electrical wizard of the age, the late Thomas A. Edison.someone said that Mr. Edison only took five hours sleep out of every 24. "So do I," said Mr. X, "that is because I know the three requirements of sleep, one of which is the physical requirement, a comfortable bed to sleep on."

And what do you think happened? Right then and there he was challenged to don his pyjamas and go to bed and sleep for an hour in the display window of the store. Mr. X will take his nap at 7:30 o'clock.

On Thursday, the first day of activities of Mr. X in the city of Medford, he started off by opening the silent auction sale of a Majestic radio at the Palmer Electric shop. The sale will close on Tuesday afternoon, and until that time you may cast your bid.

Later in the afternoon Mr. X appeared in the window of the J. C. Penney store, where, true to his word, he fashioned an evening gown on a living model, using 36 pairs of Gaymode hosiery. The gown, when completed, was a good looking affair, and many favorable remarks were heard from the large crowd which gathered to watch Mr. X do his stuff.

FARM SYSTEM FOR BASEBALL APPROVED

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—(AP)—The so-called baseball "farm" or "chain store" system, under which clubs like the New York Yankees and St. Louis Cardinals operate a string of minor league teams, received the stamp of joint major league approval today, for the first time, in legislation adopted by the magnates to overrule previous opposition of Commissioner K. M. Landis.

Flight 'o Time

(Medford and Jackson County History from the Files of The Mail Tribune of 99 and 10 Years Ago.)

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY
December 16, 1922
(It was Saturday)

Little chance for post-season game with Toledo, Ohio, team.

Wallace Reid, famed screen actor, near to death.

Community Christmas tree is assured.

Cities of the Pacific Coast subscribe liberally to aid fire-stricken Astoria.

Icy gale sweeps nation.

After a short delay, 18 candidates for postoffice janitorship show up.

Christmas mail—incoming and outgoing—reaches peak at local postoffice.

Secretary of state serves notice no period of grace for auto licenses will be granted coming year.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY
December 16, 1912
(It was Monday)

Merchants start campaign for canning plant.

Espee announces special colonist rates from east next spring.

J. Pierpont Morgan dominates the "money trust," and small clique of financiers own the country.

Few people want to vote at Medford city election, registrtaion shows.

Judge Colvig calls last meeting of the Commercial club.

Vicious dog loose in north end of city, police told.

Sams Valley

SAMS VALLEY, Dec. 16.—(Special)—Hiram Moore of Evans Valley was here buying grain Friday. He said the weather was similar to conditions over forty years ago when the thermometer remained around ten above for six weeks.

H. E. Richardson and family moved from the R. M. Conley place last week to his new home at Phoenix.

Ladies' club was entertained by Mrs. Grant at the school house on Thursday afternoon. One feature of the program was the demonstration by Mrs. Frank Myers of Table Rock in making attractive door stops. Names were drawn for the club Christmas tree December 22.

Crown Mills cooking demonstration at the school house Friday afternoon was considered well worth while by the ladies attending. The large cakes baked by Mrs. Humphrey were donated to the H. E. C. of the Sams Valley Grange to aid in raising funds for Christmas candies.

Little Doreen Straus is receiving care at Purucker's for influenza.

FREE—Pioneers and descendants photographed without charge for pioneer historical collection — SHANGLE STUDIO.

THEY'RE OVEN-FRESH!

You reach for another
...and another

Every appetite responds to a big plateful of *oven-fresh* Snow Flakes.

Tender, flaky, salted, they grace a salad ...add their true wheat flavor to a bowl of savory soup...or keep in perfect step with caviar.

Snow Flakes are baked for you in nearby "Uneeda Bakers" bakeries. They're double-sealed and thus kept *oven-fresh*.

Your grocer has Snow Flakes in the familiar big red carton. He'll recommend it to you. Take his advice.

Don't ask for crackers—say
SNOW FLAKES
—in the familiar red package
NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY
Uneeda Bakers