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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

LITTLE GREEN TENTS

WHERE THE SOLDIERS SLEEP, AND THE SUNBEAMS

PLAY AND THE WOMEN WEEP, ARE COVERED WITH

FLOWERS TODAY; AND BETWEEN THE TENTS WALK

THE WEARY FEW, WHO WERE YOUNG AND STALWART

IN SIXTY-TWO, WHEN THEY WENT TO THE WAR AWAY.

"THE LITTLE GREEN TENTS ARE BUILT OF SOD, AND

THEY ARE NOT LONG, BUT THEY ARE NOT BROAD, BUT

THE SOLDIERS HAVE LOTS OF ROOM; AND THE SOD IS

PART OF THE LAND THEY SAVED, WHEN THE FLAG OF

THE ENEMY DARKLY WAVED THE SYMBOL OF DOLE AND

DOOM.

"THE LITTLE GREEN TENT IS A THING DIVINE; THE

LITTLE GREEN TENT IS A COUNTRY'S SHRINE, WHERE

PATRIOTS KNEEL, AND PRAY; AND THE BRAVE MEN

LEFT, SO OLD, SO FEW, WERE YOUNG AND STALWART

IN SIXTY-TWO, WHEN THEY WENT TO THE WAR AWAY."

—(Walt Mason).

Would-be assassins of Axis

men are poor shots. They

couldn't hit a republican presidential

candidate with a tomato

at five paces.

"ATTORNEY—30: Anything

legal or otherwise, Address D. H. 480."—(Chicago Tribune).—

Where's your ethics?

Savants are trying to determine

"why the sky is blue" scientifically.

One wouldn't know, but the way the world is

acting, one can't blame the sky.

Prices of women's dresses

have been "frozen" at the fall

prices of 1941. This leaves the

garment and the wearer in approximately the same fix.

GRANDMA SPEAKS UP

(Baltimore Sun)

"The gentleman in question

is of impressive height and breadth, even in civilian

clothes. His uniform was new, his Sam Browne belt

polished, his shoulder insignia bright, his service ribbons gay,

his regimental markers vivid, his buttons shiny. The old

lady looked him up and down in awed silence for a moment,

then remarked, "My goodness, Charlie, I am glad you are on

our side!"

H. Bridges has been ordered

deported to his native land on the grounds he is a communist.

Our allies, brave Australia, and brave and bewhiskered Russia,

will wait for the final decision, which experts predict will be in

about seven years, if the law-
yers hurry.

Herr Hitler has fired and

jailed his former food chief. In this case, Adolf is following

his appetite instead of his "intuition," as he did when he

can't his top general last winter.

EMPTY LIKE EVERYTHING!

"Last night I was on my way to my office to transact some

public business, and I found my gasoline tank empty. I drove

into a gasoline station to buy some gas, and those in charge

would not let me have any. I then drove to another

gasoline station, and the attendant there would not let me have

any. I finally turned back and drove home and parked my car

for the night, and this morning I went to a gasoline station

where I could obtain only two gallons."—(Sen. Barkley talking in interview).

Editorial Correspondence

Washington, D. C., May 26—Just had luncheon with an old friend who spent three years in Japan, can understand the language and talk it.—the latter very poorly, he claims. He is now doing important work for the government, the details of which he refuses to discuss. But on the general subject of the war, and particularly the campaign against Japan, he is not so secretive.

What interested,—and pleased,—us, was the strongest endorsement of ye editor's pet scheme regarding the campaign against Japan, that has yet been presented.

Yes, friend M. not only declares the United States should have bombed Tokyo from Vladivostok bases, just as soon after December 7th, as arrangements could have been made, but, he believes, the only hope of preventing Japan from smashing China now and becoming supreme in the Far East, is to start an intensive bombing operation from that section of Siberia. He further maintains, that the U. S. "High Command" is working night and day to bring this about.

The main objection to such a program when this department first advanced it was:

It would be playing Hitler's game. It would force Russia to fight on two fronts, weaken Stalin's punch in the west and thus might even allow Germany to win, as far as Europe is concerned. The thing to do, therefore, was concentrate against Hitler, do HIM IN, and then,—and NOT UNTIL then,—secure those bases in Russian Siberia and concentrate on Japan.

No doubt this view was the popular one in this country at that time, and may still be the accepted allied strategy for all we know. (You can find as many unofficial theories on how to win,—or lose,—this war here in Washington, as you can find people.)

But M. thinks otherwise, and he could easily qualify as something of an expert on Japan and her Far East, his views at least are entitled to consideration.

M. compares Japan to a gigantic dragon, built along the lines of a tapeworm (in sections), with only one really vulnerable portion, the head.

That head is securely fastened in industrial Japan with Tokyo as the brain, while the rest of the dragon twists and winds all over the Far East, from Australia to the Burma Road.

To date the United Nations, have concentrated upon these various remote and non-vital (if irritating) portions,—the Philippines, the Dutch East Indies, Singapore, Java, Burma, and with the exception of General Doolittle's spectacular foray left the head and only vital part of the beast, entirely alone.

This has been, according to M. a deplorable, if not a fatal error. Had only holding or purely defensive measures been taken all along the line with a direct air (and later sea-and-land), attack on Tokyo, the war as far as Japan is concerned would be over now, and Germany instead of being able to concentrate against Russia, would be between two fires,—Russia on the East, Britain and the United States on the west,—her complete destruction only a question of time.

We think it only fair to add our friend is NOT a military man, and doesn't pretend to know the fine points of modern war, or military science.

But he DOES maintain, this view is growing in favor in high circles in Washington at the present time,—that General Doolittle and other prominent U. S. fliers have endorsed it from the outset,—and in this direction, he certainly is in a position to know what he is talking about, for he is officially on the inside looking out, and not on the outside looking in,—as is your correspondent.

No much for that.

We give the opinion for what it is worth,—which may be very little.

But it does come from someone who holds a responsible position in the diplomatic service, is taking an important part in the formulation of our Far Eastern policy, and it does support one of the present writer's favorite schemes,—having one's favorite scheme upheld by someone in authority is always most PLEASING!

M.'s final word was this: "Mark my word,—by July 4th if not before, American bombers will be swarming all over Japan, not now and then, but at least once in every 24 hours, and every air base in Russia will be at Uncle Sam's command if he so desires."

Well if that does happen, there will be some excuse for reviving the "I told you so" gag, as far as M. is concerned.

Yes everything here has a war angle, including sports.

This same friend persuaded us (it was a hard job, Raw-lees!) to attend the big Navy Day baseball game at Griffith Park between Washington and the Yankees.

There were three wonderful brass bands,—the army, navy and marine corps—some smart marching by little boys from a local military school (one of them not more than four foot, two, taking up the rear) a flag raising, and was to have been a patriotic speech by the ornamental Paul McNutt, but at the last moment Paul couldn't make it, so Colonel Somebody came to the mike to substitute,—a pretty resourceful campaigner for he merely asked the crowd to rise and repeat the "pledge to the flag"—the Colonel knew it but if anyone in our section did they didn't advertise the fact,—audibly at least.

But that is one way to get away with making a speech and not making one—these military times!

The game was principally an exhibition of baseball as it should,—and should not be played,—the Yanks in the first role, the Senators the second. The latter started out in grand style making four runs off Lefty Gomez in the third inning, while the Yanks were held powerless by Buck Newsum. Thereafter, however, they proceeded to lie down and allow the New York champs to walk over them to a final score of 8 to 4. Washington even got a man on third with none out and then failed to hit the ball out of the infield, for at least one run.

The famous Joe Di Maggio had an off day, only got one scratch hit, but Gordon, Keller and Crossett had a field day in the last few frames, with their bats, and then ended it all with one of the fastest and cleanest double plays we have ever seen,—Rizzuto taking what looked like a sharp grounder for a hit with one hand, tossing to second without a single break in his stride and Gordon firing it to Hassett, like a bullet out of one of the new army rifles.

Our friend who keeps a box score and seems to know his onions in sports also will wager the "world series" this year will be between Cleveland and the St. Louis Cards,—if anyone wishes to cover the bet, a wire to the undersigned might clinch it,—as G. Thorndike knows, we swore off on betting many years ago!—R.W.R.

Horse Drags Boy to Death at Halter End

Bend, Ore., May 29.—(P)—

Dragged by a plunging horse,

Vincent Rosengarth, 12-year-old

son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony

Rosengarth, was fatally injured

last Wednesday.

The boy mounted the horse

and tied the halter rope around

his waist. He fell from the animal

and was dragged over jagged

rocks. He was unconscious

when found by his parents.

UNEMPLOYMENT LOAD NOW AT LOWEST EBB

Salem, May 29.—(P)—The

State Unemployment Compensation

commission said today that

its claim load has shrunk to the

lowest point on record.

Last week 1,668 claimants re-

ceived \$24,592 in benefits, com-

pared with \$39,383 in the same

week last year. The number of

claimants dropped almost 60 per

cent last month.

Mustard gas causes incapacitation by producing acute inflammation of the skin, eyes and throat.

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. No reply can be made to queries not conforming to instructions. Address Dr. William Brady, 265 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Calif.

CAN'T HEAR IN THE DARK

When our deaf correspondent who wishes to remain anonymous explains that she can't hear over the telephone,

the party calling is usually likely to begin shouting in order to make her hear, and this

compels her to hang up the receiver. Where-

as if the calling party will speak slowly and calmly she

is able to understand well enough.

When she says she can't hear in the dark, people sometimes

think she is a bit off her nut (the lady didn't use this expression, it is mine, as you should know.)

What she means is that the expression on the speaker's face is a great help in understanding, and probably she also

does some lip-reading whether consciously or not.

Now I have rather better hearing than the average normal

person, although I have only one ear. The tin ear is a total

loss, merely an ornament, or a place to grab hold of if you

have occasion to haul me about. But the good ear is very good

indeed—in a quiet place. Confusion, the hum of conversation

in a crowded room, and all sorts of discordant or disconnected

sounds or noises quickly get my patience down and my dander

up.

When any one insists on mumb-ling his stuff into my tin ear I react according to my estimate

of his intelligence or importance. If I think what he may

have to say is of no consequence anyway I let him go on and

probably I do not hear a word he says.—It depends on the

amounts of disconnected noise round about. If I think what

he has to say may be worth while, I ask him to wait until I

get around the other side and then ask him to begin over

again.

Some people who are partially deaf in both ears are un-

usually sensitive about explaining their difficulty of hearing in

any circumstance, they tell me. That is a mistake. One good

way for deaf people to protect themselves against being mis-

understood is by wearing one of these modern hearing aids.

That reminds me—I had known and had many pleasant

conversations with the wife of a retired professional man long

before I noticed that she wore

unemployable. It must be aimed

at keeping good jobs for good

workers, not at an unattainable

security through bankruptcy.

PECULIAR war-time cross-

currents are not confined to

Britain. Someone started lam-

basting congressmen a few

weeks ago and since then the

popular movement has reached

the proportions of a campaign

against congress.

Apparently it started out as

a campaign against the former

isolationists, although God

knows why, because they have

been as docile as if they were

in a concentration camp since

the war started. They have

voted for every war appropriation,

have made few speeches.

However, a liberal magazine,

started off with a purge list for

the coming elections, and other

magazines got busy along the

same line. Soon some of my col-

leagues were calling for

the scalps of congressmen in

general, not just a few in particular.

Congress is in disuse. If it

also comes into discredit, the

main constitutional bulwark of

the democratic way of life and

the four freedoms, will be lost.

There are both good and bad

individuals in congress, but congress

is not functioning during this

war. It has wisely ceased to be

a restraint on the executive. It

has, like its isolationists, kept

quiet and permitted the swift

functioning of one-man govern-

ment.

Some minor officials (not

many) in this government think

this would be a good idea to

continue into the future. They

think congress is a failure.

It is all right with me if you

want to throw anything you like

at a congressman as an individ-

ual, but when you start throw-

ing at congress, you are apt to

hit yourself.

such a hearing aid. Perhaps

change in her style of hair dress-

ing uncovered the little gadget

to my eyes. Anyway, I never