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1943

Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

Most of supposed food shortages are self-made and not due to a lack of food, dealers declare. Unlike the self-made man there is no wife handy to take credit or the blame.

From Washington, D. C., upstate and way points comes word the democratic party is having troubles. They will have to do like the orchard run of folks—laugh at them, but don't get gay with them.

The Vice President, visiting the South, where the natives are sore beset by malaria, quite fittingly dressed-down the "quiline trust," one of the principal cures for the ailment. Some critics hold the demagogic appeal of some of his speeches are reason enough to take quinine.

THE FOXIER SEXI (Ladies' Home Journal)

"Even a foolish woman knows enough to laugh at a man's joke, but it's a diplomat who knows enough to hang on to his coat lapel and beg him to 'tell it again!'"

Through the action of the governor, this state has averted and been spared a proposed special session of the legislature. The excuse offered was the consideration of post-war legislation. The action of the chief executive is the first gift in the Christmas stocking of the people.

The cold weather of the past few days has caused English sparrows hereabouts, to puff up like they had been appointed to a minor federal job.

Toasts drunk at banquets attendant to the conference of the Big Three in Egypt and Tehran numbered between 35 and 50. This is a lot of two-fisted, wholesome drinking.

The Nazis are still boasting about their alleged "secret weapon" they will fire at the Allies unless they cease bombing Berlin and way points. This is a Teutonic bluffblitz. It resembles the prohibition want ads that ran: "Party who took gallon of moonshine off back porch is known. If returned at once no questions will be asked; otherwise district attorney will be informed."

GOOD NEIGHBOR STUFF (Wichita (Kan.) Eagle)

"A western Kansas rancher who was extremely forbearing suspected a neighbor of foul play. When he could stand it no longer, he sent the following message across to the suspect:

"Dear Sir: Please don't leave your red-hot branding irons around any more so my cows can lie down on them."

An Oregon astronomer asks "How far away is the moon?" It is too far away to get any of the unrationed green cheese of which it is composed, but close enough for the price of sirloin steaks in the original package to jump over it.

Russia and Czechoslovakia have signed a pact and asked Poland to join a "cordon solitaire." Diplomats can think up the fanciest names for their monkey-business that seldom turn out as pleasing as they sound.

ALIBI FOR EVERYTHING!

"A widow of our acquaintance, with two sons in service, doing all her own housework, who has a very large lawn and garden, and no gardener, does all her repair work herself, does war work and all the other things a good citizen finds time for—sees red when smug persons, to cover up their lack of efficiency say 'Don't you know there's a war on?'"

Editorial Correspondence

San Francisco, Dec. 10: The show windows here are blossoming with Christmas displays and the stores are crowded with Christmas shoppers, but little Christmas spirit is apparent. Perhaps it is a little early for that, but there may be another reason—several in fact.

In the first place while the stores look normal enough on the outside, there is nothing normal within. Normal conditions in fact are exactly reversed. Instead of the clerks trying to sell Christmas things to the customers, the customers are trying to buy Christmas things which they can't get. As a result the shoppers look worried and frustrated and the clerks look worried and bored—there is none of the old Yuletide abandon and good cheer apparent. Perhaps there will be an improvement as the 25th approaches, but we doubt it. For say what we will about the thought being the only important thing, the American Christmas shopper wants to buy certain things, and when he—or she—can't find them, he or she doesn't like it. That not liking it reaction is the dominant Christmas note thus far.

Then too, this warm sunny weather while delightful to the visitor is not exactly in keeping with the Christmas spirit. Save for the "big wind" of yesterday, the past ten days have been more like May than December. Not unusual for the Bay district perhaps yet a bit more sparkle and dash in the ozone would undoubtedly help stimulate the Yuletide note.

Finally we imagine the war has a good deal to do with the absence of the old-time punch and plump pudding atmosphere. Theoretically of course Christmas is essentially a children's festival. (and it is.) But when the young men of the family are fighting 5000 miles away and the young women may be somewhere across the country in the Wacs or Waves, even some of the primary graders about hardly compensate for their absence. And in many instances of course there are no primary graders present.

So, all in all this is neither a white nor a very hilarious Christmas—to date at least.

Little time for movies on this trip and judging by the newspapers few movies here worth seeing, but we did find one which can be recommended. It is a British film up at the Clay Street theatre entitled "Jeannie," and like so many pre-war British films it is delightful. It is the comedy-farce type, but unlike the American genius in the same field, it is entirely free from slap-stick and phooey. There are a few weak points but only a few—all in all it is true to character, amusing and convincing.

The story is of a hard-working Scotch lass, who had spent all her youth up to 27 years, being a slavey for her hard-fisted and dour father, suddenly left alone when he dies and leaves her his entire fortune consisting of 297 pounds or something less than \$1500—at the present rate of exchange.

Instead of continuing her life of drudgery and self-sacrifice she decides to have a bust, take a trip to Vienna, a spot in Europe which had always represented gayety and romance, see the sights and do as the Viennese do until the money is gone. Then she will return, with memories to last her a life time and renting the old cottage, she will go into service.

Well, she takes her dog "Bobbie" along, meets a very personable and amusing inventor of a washing machine en route, and a real Austrian Count when she gets there and through the persistence of the inventor, secures a luxurious suite at the Hotel Splendide in the Austrian capital.

The Count proves to be the conventional type as far as matrimony is concerned, but far from the conventional type as far as manners and acting go—one of the nearest bits of characterization in fact we have seen on the "cinema" screen for a very long time.

It is not the plot of the comedy however, so much as the way it is DONE that makes "Jeannie" a movie worth going miles to see, and as far as we are concerned worth seeing not only once, but several times. We feel entirely free in boosting "Jeannie" liberally and without charging advertising rates for—unfortunately—foreign films never are shown outside of the larger cities—R.W.R.

Letter From Washington

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH
Member of Congress From Oregon

Washington, D. C., Dec. 11—(Special Correspondence)—The mild influenza epidemic that has hit Washington is heavier in point of numbers involved than the tragic 1918 flu contagion. (90,000 cases reported.) Several schools are closed and numerous government offices are almost out of business. I have heard of no deaths directly traceable to the current wave of infection. Bad colds or mild flu cases lasting but a few days with apparently no serious after-effects seem to be the extent of it. All of my own office help came down but fortunately only after I had spent most of last week in bed and was about again. The office has been kept open but not, as you might guess, at its highest efficiency.

A COUPLE of weeks ago a new book, closely imitating the external appearance, including type, ink and colors, of Wendell Willkie's book, "One World," but bearing the title, "One Man—Wendell Willkie," made its appearance here. I bought a copy and read it. It is apparently supposed to smear Willkie so badly that he will not be nominated by the Republican convention. Many Republican congressmen are opposed to Willkie, and so greeted this book with great glee. One Washington by-product of the flurry caused by the book was a speaking invitation extended by the member in charge of this week's 78 Club program to C. Nelson Sparks, former mayor of Akron, Ohio, and author of the book. The 78 Club is an organization of the Republican freshman members of the house, and each member of the club has charge of one program during the year and may select his speaker. Sparks apparently wanted to get some publicity for his publishing venture. Our programs being off the record, the publicity value was nil. The Sparks speaking date was cancelled.

The fact that many of the regular Republicans here are openly battling against Willkie does not spell doom for his chances of being nominated, but it does forecast formidable opposition. Right now Tom Dewey seems to be leading the field. The strange thing about Dewey's "candidacy" is that he is not a candidate! It will be recalled that in order to get solid Republican organization support for his race to be governor of New York, Dewey forewent any further interest in the presidency during his term as governor. The binding of this promise was eased a little when New York

recently elected a Republican lieutenant-governor, but for all practical purposes it still stands. Dewey is not a candidate. However, if the Republican convention were to nominate Dewey without any personal activity on his part, no one—not even a hardened New York politician—could reasonably deny his right to accept it. So, on that basis, Dewey may still be considered a candidate. The Bricker boom has not started yet. But it is coming. They are endeavoring to give it exactly the proper timing. SO MUCH for high political gossip. Meanwhile the congress is getting jammed up again near adjournment time. All legislative bodies seem to do that. The majority leader announced today that this session would likely continue on until after Christmas. That may prove to be absolutely necessary. It is reported, however, that McCormick, the majority leader, is nettled at the activities of the Republican committee for action group (dubbed the "commandos") and plans to let the session run unnecessarily long. However, the Democrats are just as anxious to go home for the Christmas holidays as the Republicans are. THE four days of debate in the senate on the soldier vote bill had some terrific repercussions. Democrat senators divided sharply and bitterly on the issue. Early this week they had a bitter verbal set-to on the senate floor with threats of an outright break-up—the southern senators threatening to pull away from the present Democratic party and make a third party of their own. Yesterday Speaker Sam Rayburn took the house floor to plead for national unity. It was generally assumed "on the hill," however, that that he was doing was indirectly asking Democrat members of the house to pull together and not break out against one another as they did in the senate.

HERO SAVES \$2
New York, Dec. 14—(U.P.)—Col. Hubert Julian, 47, known as the "Black Eagle" of Ethiopia, took his scrapbook of clippings into court when he appeared on a parking charge. The magistrate was impressed enough to make the fine \$2 instead of the usual \$4.

WEATHER
Northern California, Sacramento valley—Fair today, tonight and Wednesday; little change in temperature.

Your Health and Its Care

BY Dr. WILLIAM BRADY, M.D.

Readers should address inquiries to: Dr. William Brady, 265 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Calif.

NOWADAYS IN CERTAIN WAYS WE ARE BETTER AND BETTER

The mortality rate from tuberculosis was cut in half in the first twenty years of this century, and the 1920 rate was again lowered one half by 1940. The mortality statistics showing reduction in the tuberculosis death rate from 200 per hundred thousand population in 1900 to 45 per hundred thousand population in 1940, give good reason to believe that tuberculosis is disappearing and its eradication is not just a beautiful dream but an achievement now within sight.

Why do only 45 persons die of tuberculosis now, as compared with 200 the same number of persons forty-odd years ago?

Well, we don't know all of the reasons or factors responsible for the improvement; no more than we know why clostridia (the green sickness) is rarely seen in young women today whereas forty-odd years ago it was a common type of anemia; or why spasmodic croup, so common in children forty-odd years ago, is now comparatively rare.

Probably all physicians or health experts will agree that the discovery of the cause of tuberculosis (Bacillus tuberculosis) by Koch sixty-odd years ago laid the foundation for prevention.

The increasing popular acceptance of tuberculin tests for early detection of latent tuberculosis, and increasing use of chest X-rays in the routine examination of school children, large groups of youths or young adults, and the newer knowledge and greater skill of physicians in examining or studying beginning tuberculosis, all contribute toward the prevention of the disease.

Disheartening slow but steady

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

(Continued from Page One)

tion campaign already has started in the minds of the politicians. Indeed, Mr. Rayburn himself is considered a vice presidential possibility, although his state of Texas is reported to be one of the four most critical of the New Deal in all the south.

Only a few days before he spoke for unity, his own administration wheel-horse, Senator Guffey, was at work bitterly promoting disunity in the party with personal attacks on southerners in the senate.

THIS peculiar situation is presented almost daily in a certain newspaper in New York, which howls for unity on odd numbered pages and openly promotes disunity on the even numbered ones, with such hate-filled headlines as:

"Representative Rankin sneers at war heroes," and "Cotton Ed Smith backs lynch law."

This is the prevailing state of the whole administration itself—calling for unity and good feeling alternately with inflammatory attacks upon adversaries.

Or consider the inner back-ground of Mr. Wilson's words. He is certainly non-political. His warning that the country may go too far in its swing toward the right was certainly sound.

But, in submitting his warnings of disunity, he also offered war production figures indicating industry is doing an excellent job—an evidence of considerable unity. He put forward no suggestion that production is falling off.

Indeed, his figures led the American Federation of Labor weekly to carry a banner line "War Production Over the Top" (letting shipyards and war plane records to December 1).

Mr. Wilson also spoke of "men who preach disunity" (not naming any), "plunging us into disastrous internal strife." If there are any such, unquestionably they should be named, tried, jailed or subdued. The administration has great powers to punish them outside the courts if they exist in business, and if they are an important factor.

BUT I read the papers, and magazines probably as fully as anyone, and I see little real

PLYMOUTH PARTS
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33 So. Riverside—Dial 4980

DREAR CHRISTMAS IS PROSPECT FOR WARTIME BRITAIN

Lack of Supplies, Rationing, High Taxes Put Damper on Usual Buying Rush.

By Dudley Ann Harmon
(United Press Correspondent)
London, Dec. 14—(U.P.)—The government announced today that it will release within the next few days 1,000,000 turkeys, geese and chickens imported from Elze.

This means that most of Britain's 40,000,000 persons will have to celebrate their fifth war Christmas without the traditional bird.

Stories from America about the rush buying of milk coats, diamonds and other luxuries find shoppers here willing to settle for a good book. That's about all you can buy without ration coupons.

Few In Stores
A tour of London's largest department store showed this situation:

Clothing department—Deserted except for the scarf counter; everything else takes a coupon.

Toys—China dolls are selling for as much as \$40 if you can find one. Frustrated mothers face a sign reading: "Why not cheer up the old doll by getting her a new dress?" Stores ration toys to two or three to the purchaser. The government has fixed a top price of \$5 on toys.

Accessories—A shoddy imitation suede bag costing \$1 in America is priced at \$16. An allied silk umbrella costs \$8 and bears a tag: "Not guaranteed."

High Luxury Tax
Cosmetics—100 per cent luxury tax on paint and powder; lipstick costs \$1.32.

Costume jewelry—Also taxed 100 per cent. A cheap gilt necklace is tagged \$3.

Men are the big problem for givers. Gold cigarette cases aren't being made, and pipes that sold for \$1 in peacetime now sell—when obtainable—for \$5.

Britons are hardest hit by the shortage of suet, spices, eggs and fruit for the beloved Christmas pudding.

FOOD RETAILERS TOLD TO APPLY FOR NEW TOKENS

Food retailers were reminded today by the local war price and ration board that applications for their supply of the new ration tokens are to be made through their local banker not later than tomorrow, Dec. 15. The new tokens are to be distributed to the food dealers about Feb. 22. Application blanks are to be obtained from wholesalers.

The tokens, to be somewhat smaller than a dime in size, are to be red for meats and fats and of blue for processed foods. After the tokens go into use, the stamps in ration books will each be valued at 10 points and will be validated on a horizontal or across-the-book basis instead of a vertical basis as at present.

A schedule of validity dates will be established with a total of five processed food stamps worth 50 points for each consumer at the start of each month and three meat-fats stamps, worth a total of 30 points, will become valid every two weeks.

For the first assault of the North African campaign 110 tons of maps were required, and 400 tons more were needed in the later phases of the campaign.

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson Co. His story from the files of the Mail Tribune 10 and 20 years ago

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY
December 14, 1933
(It was Thursday)

War propaganda magazine printed in Japan is seized in Honolulu.

Autoists can display their 1934 licenses on cars tomorrow.

Cloudy. High 53, low 38 degrees.

Portland cafe loses its Blue Eagle.

Medford high to play Weed here next Wednesday in first basketball game of season.

Labor and Granges of state unite to defeat sales tax.

McKenzie pass is closed for winter.

Postoffice to stay open Saturday afternoon until after Christmas.

Twenty Years Ago Today
December 14, 1923
(It was Friday)

Huge Panama oil swindle revealed in Chicago.

Ten die in New Mexico blizzard.

Fair. High 46, low 34 degrees.

Elks annual Christmas tree to be held next Thursday.

Central Point radio fans get music from Los Angeles. Hear canary sing.

Campbell barn near Phoenix burns down.

Tillamook county calves can be purchased through county agent.

Flying Fortresses at cruising speed use 250 gallons of gasoline an hour, and at full throttle the rate is almost doubled.

BLONDE FREED IN RIVAL'S SHOOTING

Chicago Dec. 14—(U.P.)—Rosalie Walsh, a slim, 21-year-old blonde, embraced her fiancé and wept last night when a jury acquitted her of the murder of her rival in love.

When the jury of seven women and five men found her innocent of the slaying of Miss Alberta Morrow, 28, Rosalie cried, "Thank God," and threw herself into the arms of her lawyer.

Then she hugged and kissed her fiancé, Anthony Van Arkel, 27, in whose apartment the slaying occurred.

Closing time for Sunday Too Late to Classify 5:30 Saturday afternoon—Please remember

MISERIES OF Baby's Cold Relieved As He Sleeps

Now... here's wonderful home-proved medication that works 2 ways at once—to relieve distress of child's cold—even while he sleeps! Just rub throat, chest and back with Vicks VapoRub at bedtime. Instantly VapoRub starts to relieve coughing spasms, ease muscular soreness or tightness, and invite restful, comforting sleep. Often by morning, most of the misery is gone.

For baby's sake, try VapoRub tonight. It must be good, because when colds strike, most mothers use Vicks VapoRub.

MONTGOMERY WARD

Suit Clearance!

DRASTIC REDUCTIONS!

Regular 9.98 and 10.98 Suits Now **6.49**

Good news! Handsome suits reduced for clearance. Plaids... tweeds... part wool... even some all wool! Hurry! Sizes 12 to 20 in the group.

Regular 12.98 Suit... Priced to Clear! **8.75**

Unusually well tailored suits! Smart and sturdy... and amazingly low priced! All wool solids, wool and rayon mixtures and tweeds. Sizes 12 to 20 included.

Montgomery Ward

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Beautiful New 1944 Calendars

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