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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

A Lisbon correspondent reports the German people believe the war will last until 1950. This is a blacker grade of pessimism than any American statesman-pessimist has been able to unleash on the public.

Older Girls have started making New Year's resolutions for their breadwinners, effective next Sat. The most popular one resolves they will keep their own lawns as well as the lawn of their husbands. A second resolution adopted by the Czarinas vows they will not run the lawnmowers for their mates.

There is some talk of a Roosevelt-Willkie coalition in case the latter does not receive the GOP nomination for president again. There is some suspicion among mean republicans this romantic political condition has been prevailing for some time and is now being confessed. As evidence, they point out the recent oratorical courtship of Mr. Willkie, in which, he gaily stuck out his neck and chin.

New OPA blanks require operators of establishments serving both food and drink, to keep separate records of the number of meals and milkshakes served. The blanks cover everything except what the milkshake consumer does with the straw when finished: Leave it in the glass or throw it on the floor!

DECEDEDLY CLEVER (Los Angeles Times)

"The other day Sarah went to Victory House in Pershing Square to make a speech for War Bonds and not only inspired one serviceman to buy \$1,000 worth, another one \$500, and another one \$100, but she sold herself and purchased a \$50 bond!"

Reports from metropolitan centers say many Christmas tree dealers were left with an over supply of their stock in trade on their hands, feet, and elsewhere. This was due to a sapling costing more than a portable sawmill.

The Governor has indicated he will call no special session of the legislature, as agitated upstate, on the grounds it is unnecessary. The general public is in the throes of enough things without further afflictions. The objective of the meet was to tinker with the income tax reduction law. It provides relief for a great many people, and therefore, very painful to politicians. There was also post-war project planning to do, it was claimed. Solons planned the depression projects and among the items were leaf raking and WPA tap dancing schools.

Food experts predict the 1944 meat supply will be slightly lower than this year. From the looks of things in rural areas, there will be a shortage of pastures and steers will have to be parked on courthouse lawns until the spring grass comes up.

NOW YOU TELL ONE! (Chicago Tribune)

"My grandpa was in the back yard kicking up his heels to impress the neighbors with his spryness when he accidentally knocked a cord of wood off grandmaw's back."

Gen. Eisenhower, European invasion commander, predicts the war as far as Germany is concerned, will be over next year. The Vice President, he of the gay and giddy Utopian notions, agrees. That other military expert, H. Hopkins, deputy president, without being duly elected to anything, as yet, has not spoken.

The Best News Yet

The best war news for a long time is General Eisenhower's confident prediction that the war in Europe will be won in 1944.

There have been various predictions, arm-chair, typewriter, horse-hair and what have you? And they have been banded about for a long time.... But here is one that MEANS something.

Not only because General Eisenhower knows the actual conditions in Europe, but because he is a man of extreme reliability and sound judgment. And more important than anything else perhaps he is the man who will have to carry out the job, and be responsible for it.

It is inconceivable, therefore, that the General would have made the definite and assured prediction he did, were there any reasonable doubts regarding its fulfillment. It would not only be crawling out on the limb of his own tree but sawing it off.

In fact the likelihood is, in view of such a statement, that the war in Europe will be over before the year 1944 has run out and the American commander is taking no chances when he gives himself a 12-month allowance.

WHICH is all to the good,—rather like word to a party of fog-bound mountain climbers about ready to drop, that the last lap has been reached and the peak is in sight!

Such an assurance from such a source will not only raise the morale of the American fighting forces in Europe but those in the Far East,—for with Germany crushed in Europe and only Japan remaining as an obstacle to world peace, the going from then on should be fast and furious.

So General Eisenhower's New Year's prediction, makes an excellent, if slightly delayed allied Christmas present!

The Labor Saving Problem

Washington, Dec. 28.—(U.P.)—A device which saves more than 3,000 man-hours a year in repairing delicate aircraft instruments has been invented by a former seamstress and receptionist at the Naval Air Station San Diego, Calif., who started work in the factory only seven months ago.

She is Mrs. Mary Blekeney, 3520 Ibis St., San Diego. She was awarded \$150 for her contribution under the navy's program of beneficial awards to civil employees.

Her device is a tool for righting the balance of rotors of the instrument which shows a pilot whether or not his plane is in level flight.

DEVELOPMENT of labor-saving machines and tools, a phase of American industry which has long given the working man a headache, has gone ahead faster than ever with the advent of war, and may help to magnify the post-war employment problem.

Industrial leaders, along with their worry over what to do with the thousands of women who have voiced their desire to remain at work after the war, now are wondering what to do about the gadgets which have speeded up production in many lines. That this problem may be a serious one is shown by the fact that the Victor division of the Radio Corporation of America in the Camden, N. J., plant has increased production 100 per cent since April while adding only two per cent to the payroll.

TWO years ago plane manufacturers needed the equivalent of 70 men working for an entire year to complete a four-engined bomber. Only 17 workers are now required for the same job.

A Cleveland manufacturing concern finds that worker performance has increased as much as 50 per cent. In Detroit, such heavy producers of war goods as General Motors and Chrysler have had occasion recently to lay off workers.

While a tremendous demand is building up for automobiles, radios, all types of mechanical contrivances for the home, the suspicion is also growing that the vastly accelerated production rate may make short work of supplying the market and then will come the problem of what to do with the surplus of workers.—E. C. F.

The Lull Before the Storm?

The tottering old world is in mid-ocean today, so to speak,—half way between Christmas and New Year's. The Christmas excitement has died down, the hip hurrah for the New Year, has not yet started. So there is a sort of dead center attained which is not only apparent here at home, but we imagine on the battle fronts.

A good time, we should say, for Old Man World to relax and enjoy what is known as a breathing spell, (God knows the old boy needs it!) If he doesn't take advantage of the situation now, it may well be his last chance for a very long time.

For unless there has been a powerful amount of four-flushing and blurring going on the past three or four weeks the allied Big Push in the west is about to begin.

YES, the bell for the final round must be about due. There is no doubt,—or practically none,—the exact place for the invasion was decided upon at the Teheran conference, and probably within a day or two, the exact time.

According to all reports Comrade Stalin was eminently satisfied with the latter as well as the former so,—well,—brother it can't be long now! Probably not today or tomorrow,—but very probably next week or the week after.

For Comrade Stalin is a man of action and a man of impatience? When he is satisfied with what his allies are doing, not only has the dynamite been placed but the fuse must be a short one!

Your Health and Its Care

BY DR. WILLIAM BRADY, M.D.

Readers should address inquiries to: Dr. William Brady, 285 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Calif.

IT'S NOT SO LATE AS YOU THINK

A misguided, unhappy woman writes:

I am 40 years old, of a good, middle class family....

whatever that may mean. It means nothing at all if the woman has a health or medical problem.

... healthy and normal. I have been married nine years. Due to economic conditions when we were married (the "depression") we postponed having children until we should be in a position to bring them up under good conditions.

Gez whiz! It is fortunate for this country that so many reckless folk no sooner get married than they start right in raising families. Such folk as the Lincolns, the Edisons, the Sullivans, the Eisenhowers. Lower class Americans evidently assume that the object of marriage is to found a family.

Since that time we have moved to a delightful village where we own a nice home with nearly half an acre....

Home, Ma'am? It is just a house so far.

My husband has a fine position with a good salary. He is 50 and in excellent health. Now we would like a child....

You have wasted the best nine years of your life unhampered by children. It seems strange that you should actually be willing to harbor a child now—children are pretty tough on furniture, floors, walls and things and they're forever kicking up alarming coughs, spasms and fevers just when you have a party or a vacation planned.

... When I broached the subject of having a baby at my age, he said the only danger as far as I was concerned would be that I might have a Mongolian idiot, as most Mongolian idiots are born to women over 35.

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I don't know whether I should take the chance....

No one knows the cause of Mongolism, and it may happen in any family, of any race, at any time. So, if you ask me, Ma'am, I think the doctor who brought up that specter must be a middle class specimen, maybe a bit soured on the world because he has no children of his own.

I'm just a low class, plodding, door to door doctor, Ma'am, but if you are not mad at me now it may be worth your while to send me a dime and a stamped envelope bearing your address, for the booklet "Preparing for Maternity." Read the chapter in it titled "Her First at Forty."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Cosmetic Blemishes

Wrote you regarding two warts....

You prescribed for me Cosmetic Blemishes 10 c. Have inquired at pharmacies all over but none of them seem to have it. (Miss M. H.)

Answer—Then there was the young nurse who asked the hospital pharmacy for some Blemishes which she understood I recommended for blemishes. Send 10c and stamped envelope bearing your address for booklet "Cosmetic Blemishes." It deals with warts, wens, moles, moth patches, "liver spots," freckles, freckles, leukoderma, broken vessels, wrinkles, tattoo mutilations, scars, etc. Strange Mother

My daughter who lives near me thinks she is again to become a mother. As she is only 20 and already has two sons... please tell me what medicine to get for her to give her a miscarriage. (Mrs. E. C.)

Answer—What a fine mother you are!

Medicines To Keep In The House

I believe you condemned keeping certain medicines in the house, because they are too poisonous. It might be helpful to many if you would give some practical advice about emergency remedies that should be kept in the house. (Mrs. S. H.)

Answer—Send 25c and stamped envelope bearing your address, for booklet "The Medicine Cupboard." It includes a list of medicines that should be kept in the house, with instructions for their use. (Copyright 1943, John F. Dille Co.)

Ed. Note: Persons wishing to consult with Dr. Brady should send letter direct to Dr. William Brady, M.D., 285 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Calif.

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