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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

NO SMUDGE POT

Arthur Perry, skipper of "Ye Smudge Pot," is nursing a sprained leg and is therefore unable to take the helm of his column today.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although the use of a pen name or initials for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarity and conciseness.

Like A Dead Mackerel

To the editor:

Now that Mr. Roosevelt has consented, with reluctance—and doubtless some misgivings—to allow himself to be drafted for a fourth term, that makes it open season on the New Deal. It would be an insult to honest democrats to call it "democratic."

Mr. Roosevelt's desire to drop the title is understandable, but it will live to plague him like a dead mackerel in the moonlight.

Their announcement that they intend to stand upon their "record" should bring comfort to the republicans, and all who have not become hopelessly bogged down in the mire of Roosevelt idolatry.

The gravest fear facing a free people today, is four more years of Roosevelt. His devotees profess to approve his policies—everything he has done—if he moved the White House over to Moscow and set it up alongside the Kremlin, they would not raise a whisper in protest. Let a republican follow the same course and they would crucify him.

They will doubtless want to delete several items from that "record," and display only the virtues—not a difficult job. The republicans should have a field day seeing to it that the entire record is laid out for inspection, in all of its stark, shameful nakedness.

If that fails to awaken us to the grave dangers threatening our free institutions, we will know that we have reached that condition so much feared by Washington and Lincoln, and about which they recorded a solemn warning. We will know the time has come to write "Ichabod" over the halls of congress, paint the dome of the White House a brilliant red; write "consummation est" after those two great pillars of our Democracy—Freedom of Speech and Press—haul down Old Glory and place it, along with the Liberty Bell, the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution—in the National Museum as relics of the "horse and buggy" days.

In seeking a fourth term, Mr. Roosevelt has, win or lose, blasted any hopes he may have cherished of having his name placed at the head of the list in the Hall of Fame. Popularity is a fragile foundation upon which to build greatness—and Hitler and Mussolini, with characteristic ruthlessness, have brushed aside a time honored precedent, one respected by our eminent predecessors, and one which should have been incorporated in our Constitution long ago, as a safeguard against just such a situation as this.

Alexander H. Smith, Copper River, Box 58, Jacksonville, Oregon.

CORPORAL SEES STARS

Camp Roberts, Cal.—(U.P.)—A technician 5/e who checks officers' rations in a camp mess hall recently noticed a strange officer with a star on his collar.

"Pardon me, sir," said the corporal, "but is that a new insignia you are wearing and what does it stand for?"

"I am a brigadier general," the officer replied.

Farmers work for a penny an hour when they use muscles instead of an electric motor to pedal a griddlestone, run a corn sheller or pump water.

Editorial Correspondence

Aberdeen, S. D., July 30.—Tit for tat. We have been following conventions around these many years; now the conventions are following us.

No sooner arrived here and settled in a hotel than the state Democratic convention followed us up, and took every other room in the place.

A nice, neat little hotel by the way and Aberdeen we find is exactly the size of Medford,—at least the M. T. estimate of 17,000.

But the place is far less "cited" in appearance, both the Main stem and the inhabitants. This is the center of the dry-farming hard wheat belt.

But there is nothing dry about it this year and wasn't last. In fact the agent who met us at the station (this is a business stop) informed us it hasn't rained for a week which is almost a drought for 1944.

Ten years ago there was no rain at all, nor a blade of grass throughout this section of the state. No wheat was harvested, the stock died of thirst, everyone went broke. The agent gives us all the gory details, to prepare us for a bear market as far as the "family farm" is concerned, which we would like to sell or rent.

However to return to Aberdeen. Had dinner this evening after a trip over to Groton (pronounced with a long "o" not short as in the case of F.D.R.'s boarding school, but that is where it got its name, via one of the Vice Presidents of the Milwaukee railroad who lived in Massachusetts). There was only one other lone, lean pilgrim in the dining room, and one waitress so we were escorted to his table to save, presumably, on steps, cutlery and linen.

He proved to be a delegate from Wakapala, which is a strange name, but no stranger than where Tom Dewey was born, and Bricker also. (Apparently politically the small rural town is coming back.)

Our visa-securing proved to be far from a talkative person, at least while securing his evening nourishment. He failed to respond even when we casually referred to the fact we had attended the DEMOCRATIC convention in Chicago and the last few hours closely resembled a cat and dog fight. We don't know how far Wakapala may be from Aberdeen or what the dietetic resources of that community are, but the delegate from there was obviously famished.

His technique was new to us,—we have seen the genus homo use the knife before as a conveyor of sustenance but never before observed it used with ONE hand and the fork used with the OTHER for the same purpose,—eating on what might be termed a double shift or tandem basis. The delegate was the cadaverously lean and wiry type but how he did stoke his alimentary furnace!

When he finished we expected to have a little converse on the political situation but he rose, took the napkin out of his collar, jerked his head in what we took to be a Wakapala salutation of farewell and beat it. Perhaps he thought he smelled a mouse, or suspected your correspondent of being a G.O.P. slicker from Minneapolis on mischief bent. Whatever it was he obviously did not believe we had a vote in HIS precinct. On the other hand the poor devil may have just been late for an important committee meeting or a poker game.

Surprised to find out there is a split here among the S. D. Democrats, all same as in Texas. There is the regular and what is called the "rump" group,—the former being 102% for F.D.R., the others not so hot. Just what the ruction is about we haven't been able to find out, but it is some sort of outgrowth of the late and lamented Non-Partisan League.

If our "agent" is correct and he has lived in Groton for nearly half a century, the Democrats have only carried the state once in the past 30 years and that was in 1936,—the Republicans won four years ago and (he claims) are a cinch to win this year. We tried to find out his reasons but couldn't. He isn't a student of politics.

Finally found the farm near Groton which Grandpappy B. bought back in the early 80's when returning from a mining venture in the Black Hills. It had a house and barn on it then but they have gone where the woodbine twined,—a tornado assisted in the process the agent thinks, but can't be sure of it. Probably it was wise not to rebuild, he believes, for a tornado went through the east end of the farm only two weeks ago and destroyed two out of the four trees on the place. No member of the family has ever lived on the farm, but for certain sentimental reasons (according to the agent), he has always been told not to sell it. We don't doubt the agent's honesty,—not yet,—but we do suspect he is an incorrigible romantic.

The place is now operated on shares by two old-timers living on either side of it, roughly divided by Mud Creek which runs through it. We talked to them about buying or leasing the place and got precisely what we expected,—the greatest line of pessimistic talk since Aunt A. lost a thousand dollars on her white-face feeders back in '36.

It seems all the good soil on our portion of the "section" was "blowed off" by a dust storm three years ago and a farmer to the east now has it, and is making a good thing out of it!

Oh, there is wheat growing there on the '80 and now being cut, but it won't run over six bushels to the acre at most. When we remarked we were going to see the COUNTY agent at Aberdeen and see what was really wrong with the place, both the old boys showed signs of perplexity and the agent didn't like it either. They all agreed the county agent was a young "smart alec" just out of college who didn't know Black Northern No. 1 from a Black Angus!

Coming over from Minneapolis on the Olympian we struck up an acquaintance with a Capt. R. J. Dore who lives in Stillwater but got off at Aberdeen to see his girl, after nearly two years in the signal corps in Iceland. When he heard we came from Medford he said he had a message for the family and friends of Major O. W. Miller of Medford who is in Iceland, an officer in the U. S. air force and wished all to know he is fit and frisky but would like to get back to Southern Oregon. He wanted his special good wishes to go to the B. Lowerys of Bear Creek. The Captain may stop in the valley enroute to Santa Monica, his next post,—he doesn't regret leaving Iceland.

It is raining great guns now, lightning, thunder and what have you. Bet a silver cent to a million dollars, this rain will ruin what there is left of the '44 wheat crop on the old homestead,—according to the 3 Fates!

Here it is nearly August first when the Dakotas are usually as dry and brown as a Florida bathing beauty, but now as far as the eye can see,—and there are no trees or mountains in South Dakota,—it is as green as the Medford golf course in MARCH!—R.W.R.

PROVES TOO MUCH

Lawrence, Kas.—(U.P.)—After Bobbie Thiele, freshman at the University of Kansas here, had harbored three cats and two stray dogs and had been nursemaid to three small turtles in her room—all in three weeks, she just couldn't say no when she met a sobbing lad who asked her to take a six-week-old puppy that his mother would not let him keep. Bobbie fed the puppy, fixed the pet comfortably in a box, and thought the "matter" would rest until morning, but the co-ed was called at 1, 3 and 5 a. m. to comfort the whining new addition. Next morning, haggard-eyed Bobbie announced: "It isn't puppy love any longer; he and I are through."

STEAMBOATIN' DAYS

Columbus, Miss.—(U.P.)—Steamboating on the Mississippi river at the close of the Civil War is recalled in two bills of lading discovered by Mrs. Frank Drake here among papers which had belonged to her grandfather. One was for shipment of 17 bales of cotton from Jones' Landing, Dec. 21, 1865, consigned to Lacey, Terry & Co., at Vicksburg, for reshipment to New Orleans. They were carried by the steamer Eddie Capt. John King, master, and E. P. McElroy, clerk. The freight charges were \$55. The other bill of lading was for 23 bales taken aboard at a Mississippi plantation and taken to Vicksburg by the steamer Bierce, Oct. 14, 1865.

ALBINO ROBIN

Shelbina, Mo.—(U.P.)—An albino robin has been observed nesting here, according to the Missouri conservation commission. The solid white bird is a female and is mated with a normal male.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Washington, Aug. 3.—From the Pacific Governor Stassen came back with the message that the home front is optimistic about the end of the war and over-defeatist about the peace.

Public opinion is so eager to grasp every sign of hope for the end that the rearing power of our enemies may have been underestimated. Guessing about that by the most responsible authorities here fluctuates naturally with events.

A man who thinks Germany will last beyond the election is considered an extremist, but bets are being made to that effect. The constant daily news of diplomacy (or lack of it) involving Russian aims, but particularly the news of the colossal domestic tasks ahead (employment, debts, peace economics) unquestionably have caused a public fear which may be pessimistic if not defeatist.

THE reams of statistics that are daily being presented in the news by all the government and lobbying promotional ventures seems to me too much warped by economic facts. As usual, statistics never measure the human element. In my opinion the hands will start playing again at the armistice. Immediately there will be a different public spirit. All the pent-up fears of war will be released. The very occasion will be a signal for renewed hope. Everyone who has someone in the service knows what that means.

To the public also, it will be an end of rationing (or most of it) and similar restrictions of discomfort imposed on civilian life. Those overlooked factors of economics and their inspiration on business will be important.

The GI bill of rights provides \$25 a week unemployment insurance to service men for any 52 weeks of two years after discharge. (Incidentally, the CIO did not gain in popular favor by proposing \$35 a week for industrial workers, but Democratic Senator Murray has hastened to cover his and their embarrassment at wanting more than the soldier by introducing a bill to raise the service maximum to \$35.)

Some special classes of war-workers will suffer a reduction in income by returning to normal work, but any "over-defeatism" on the home front in general seems to me to lie in financial considerations of the years ahead.

But, behind all the news from Europe, apprehensions for the peace are glaring. The fanaticism of the young German officers in resisting the guidance of their elders (recounted in this column published July 26) carries the implication that they may resist reason in the peace. It asks the question:

Will the peace bring peace? Or will Germany, Austria, Poland, the Balkans, after the war, be France in reverse? Will the Nazis go underground and fight like the maquis? Can revolution be prevented?

A younger generation has arisen in Europe since Mussolini and Hitler, a generation which does not know reason, only force. Can we avoid street fighting, revolutions, assassinations on the same old or larger European scale?

NEWS of the day itself asks these questions, not in defeatism, but in search of an answer.

Just now State Secretary Hull is preparing to call a new security conference of the large powers to consider the political settlement in Europe. Up to now, all conferences have dealt with generalities and not with the difficulties which lie in specific application.

So you have the Polish committee of national liberation announcing from Moscow its competition with the Polish government in London. The same situation is present in some degree throughout Europe.

Thus any reasonable analysis of the situation requires the conclusion that doubts about post-war at home may be exaggerated, but doubts about the peace in Europe are not.

'ARREST' BRIDEGROOM

Memphis, Tenn.—(U.P.)—It was just an old American custom, but the bride was horrified. U. S. Army Cpl. Barney Lofton of Memphis who wed an English bride in Wales, missed the reception after the ceremony and almost caused his bride to have nervous prostrations—through no fault of his own. As the GI groom and his new wife left the church, two army MPs took him off to a waiting jeep. They eventually returned the groom and explained that it was an "American joke." The bride's reaction to American humor was most explosive.

STAATS RESIGNS AS STATE POLICE DISTRICT CAPTAIN

Bert J. Staats, captain of the Oregon Department of State Police in the Medford district, today announced his resignation effective Sept. 1 to become receiving and shipping supervisor and inventory control clerk of the A-1 Brewing company. His successor as head of the state police here was not immediately known.

Staats, who has been stationed in Medford since June of 1939, will leave his present position on August 17, take a week vacation and assume his new post on August 24.

Joining the old traffic division in December of 1928, Staats was stationed at Oregon City. He remained there when the state police was organized on August 1, 1931 until 1932, when he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to Pendleton.

In 1936 he was advanced to lieutenant and sent to Baker, where he remained until coming to Medford in June of 1939. He took charge of the local office in September of 1940 when Capt. Lee M. Bown left to become deputy superintendent of state police under Charles P. Pray.

In April of the following year he was promoted to captain.

Bill Chrysler, general manager of the brewing company, said he considered himself extremely fortunate to obtain the services of a man of Staats' calibre, while the latter expressed his pleasure at being able to make connections with the brewing concern.

Salem, Ore., Aug. 3.—(U.P.)—Lt. Paul Parson of the Oregon state police will be promoted to captain and placed in charge of the Medford district, Charles Pray, head of the force, announced today.

Parson, now stationed at Baker, will replace Bert J. Staats, who has resigned. The promotion and transfer become effective about the middle of August, Pray said.

49 Sales Centers Planned For Sale Of Surplus Planes

Washington, Aug. 3.—(U.P.)—Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones announced today that arrangements have been made by the defense plant corporation for a network of 49 sales centers and storage depots where surplus planes will be sent for sale to the public.

He said interested persons can write to the civil aeronautics administration office in their regions and receive "invitations to bid," details about planes offered for sale, OPA ceiling prices and the date of sale.

Jones said there would undoubtedly be a large number of planes declared surplus "over a period of time" by the armed forces, but that only a small fraction would be usable as "personal aircraft." He said there were a few light 65 horsepower trainer planes now available, and a larger number of army and navy primary trainers—all "economical for private operators."

Polish Riflemen Pot Nazi Troops as Warsaw Burns

London, Aug. 3.—(U.P.)—Polish riflemen of a secret underground army swarmed through the streets of burning Warsaw today, shooting down Nazi troops in a desperate bid to aid the Russian armies battling in the city's suburbs on the east bank of the Vistula river.

A dramatic radio message, flashed to the Polish High Command in London from the underground headquarters inside Warsaw, shortly after noon today, said the patriot troops had launched a heavy attack against the enemy rear and that hard fighting was raging in four districts of the city.

The ill-equipped Poles were reported sniping at Nazi soldiers from hundreds of buildings and engaging enemy units in savage hand-to-hand fighting.

Isolationist Says CIO Defeated Him

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—Democratic Sen. Bennett Champ Clark, pre-war isolationist and New Deal critic, today blamed the "Communist controlled CIO" for his defeat in the U. S. senate in Tuesday's primary election in Missouri.

In a statement issued last night, Clark obviously conceded the nomination to State Attorney General Roy McKittick and branded his defeat "a notable triumph for the Communist controlled CIO in its efforts to take control of the Democratic party."

MUSIC TRUCK LOST

Kansas City, Mo.—(U.P.)—A salesman who lost a truck filled with sheet music valued at \$175 here recently hopes that one of the song titles knows what it's talking about. The piece was "I'll Be Seeing You."

Miss Scribulus



(Acme Telephoto)

Beverly Felt, 18, freshman student at Wever College, Ogden, Utah, was chosen "Miss Scribulus 1944" by popular acclaim after campus beauty contest judges caught a glimpse of this photo.

GUAM JAPANESE STIFFEN BEFORE AMERICAN DRIVE

By United Press

American forces met increasing resistance today in a drive to pocket Japanese on the northern tip of Guam while on New Guinea other U. S. troops inflicted heavy casualties in advancing an annihilation drive against 45,000 trapped enemy soldiers.

The Americans on Guam slugged through mud and dense undergrowth for more than a mile yesterday to capture Tiyan airstrip, the sixth plane base taken during the Marianas campaign. All of the bases are within bomber range of Japan's inner defenses.

7,419 Dead on Guam

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced that 7,419 enemy dead had been counted on Guam while on Tinian, where marines were mopping up last isolated stragglers, 3,075 enemy dead were buried.

American losses on Guam through Tuesday were set at 1,022 dead, 4,941 wounded, and 305 missing. On Tinian the U. S. losses were announced at 208 dead, 1,121 wounded and 32 missing.

Almost daily aerial attacks continue against Truk, Nauru, and in the Marshalls, Nimitz said.

On British New Guinea American forces cleared a coastal sector a mile east of the Dri-numor river and advanced on a two and a half mile front against the encircled Japanese 18th army.

Jap Ship Sunk

A communiqué by Gen. Douglas MacArthur said an undetermined number of Japanese were killed when they attempted to turn the American flank in the area below Aitape.

MacArthur reported that a navy Catalina bomber sank a 5,000 ton enemy vessel in the Soela Islands off Halmahera Monday night.

U. S. ground forces at Sansapor were expanding and strengthening their position four days after landing and construction of a new air base was progressing in the newly won area only 600 miles from the Philippines.

Mustachioed Pilot Leading U. S. Ace

Allied Headquarters, Southwest Pacific, Aug. 3.—(U.P.)—Major Thomas B. McGuire, Jr., of Ridgewood, N. J., dapper, mustachioed Lightning pilot, became the leading American ace currently fighting in the southwest Pacific when he shot down his 21st Jap plane during a surprise raid recently on Halmahera. It was disclosed here today.

McGuire, who admits he would like to beat Maj. Richard I. Bong's theater record of 27 Jap planes down, is known as one of the best shots in this area.

MISSIONARY TO SPEAK, PRESBYTERIAN SUNDAY

Miss Irene Forsythe, a native of Oregon and a missionary to China for the past 18 years under the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian church, will speak at the Medford Presbyterian church Sunday at 11 a. m. Miss Forsythe's work was rural evangelism in the villages out of Tsingtau, China. She was repatriated on the Gripsholm in 1942, but expects to go back to Free China next year.

The missionary will speak at the Jacksonville Presbyterian church Sunday at 8 p. m., and before the Phoenix Women's Society at 2:30 p. m. August 9.

TREASURE HUNT NETS \$6,000 IN PORTLAND HOME

Portland, Ore., Aug. 3.—(U.P.)—A real, honest-to-goodness treasure hunt is going on in Portland, and searchers have discovered approximately \$6000 so far and are still hunting in an old house once inhabited by a pair of elderly bachelor brothers who evidently collected gold coins.

The treasure hunt is perfectly above-board, and under the direction of the attorney for the estate of the two eccentrics, both of whom died within the last two years.

Going by maps found in the personal effects of the owners, various caches have been discovered, including a Mason "Economy" jar full of \$20 gold pieces with a few insignificant \$10 and \$5 pieces.

\$3000 in Stove

An old stove in the basement yielded around \$3000 and an estimated \$2000 in silver coins was found in money bags in bureau drawers.

All the coins were wrapped by dates and in good condition, further corroborating the theory that the men were coin collectors. Oldest coin found is an 1852 dime.

The searchers are just beginning to turn to the most romantic part—digging in the back yard for anywhere from \$7000 to \$10,000 buried somewhere on the premises, according to the map.

Identity of the brothers and address of the house are being kept secret to protect the premises against "volunteer" treasure hunters who might wish to help.

Salem, Ore., Aug. 3.—(U.P.)—State police are searching today for two holdup men who made off with \$12,000 in small bills after holding up J. C. Berry, cashier of the Bank of Grande Ronde, about 35 miles from here.

The two men, armed with pistols, entered the bank just before closing time Wednesday, one of them shoved his weapon through the wicket at Berry, who was alone in the bank, and told him to "get your hands down—don't be funny."

They then forced him to open a vault, took all the money in sight, mostly in 20, 10 and five dollar bills, and then left, after tying his hands and instructing him not to call for help for half an hour.

Berry rushed out a side door after they left and called police.

The holdup men were described as being 35 or 40 years of age and clean shaven. Berry said one was red haired and the other dark.

State police, who were notified immediately, believe the men escaped in a 1939 gray Ford. They said they believed the first three numbers on the license were 203.

Quinine Sub May Rid Nations Of Malaria Threat

Chicago, Aug. 3.—(U.P.)—Development of Atabrine, the quinine substitute, should make it possible to eliminate malaria from every civilized nation after the war and the large scale production of quinine or totaquine is not considered necessary for army and navy needs, the Journal of the American Medical association said today.

The report, published by the National Research Council's board for the coordination of malarial studies, said that there is "convincing evidence" that atabrine cures falciparum malaria, the type which is responsible for practically all malaria deaths, but "the evidence of a similar curative effect of quinine is not conclusive."

The National Inventors Council reports that robot planes were invented in the United States as long ago as the last war, and in 1927 and 1928 Charles Kettering, of General Motors Research Corp., and Lawrence B. Sperry, of Sperry Gyroscope Co., were granted robot plane patents.

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TEN YEARS AGO TODAY

August 3, 1934 (It was