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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry
 The cigarette famine continues but nobody is famished. Even juveniles, with one eye cocked for the police, and the other for their Paw, buy and puff them.

Benton county was the banner Republican county of the state in the election Tues. This caused Ralph Watson, a metropolitan political scribbler to brand them "the Vermont of Oregon". By the same token, and a majority for the permanent president, Multnomah (Portland) county is the Alabama of Oregon. Yes, suh! we-all sho' did po' out of the shipyos do' a f'oth term!

G. (Peepity-peep-peep) Averill, the B. Falls sea-dog, is still in the hospital, but is coming along fine, and will soon be shipshape.

Rain fell during the week. It stopped farmers from plowing, and those with no shotgun shells from going duck hunting.

Other than for president, Democrats emerged from the little end of the horn in the mandate, the first of the week, in this commonwealth.

The wind Wed. blew the leaves on the neighbor's lawn, and vice versa.

The Grey Mask is still unhorsed and persons non grata around here. At the weekly Army ruckus Thurs. eve, his foe rendered himself defunct, by a cruel miscue.

F. Luy, the Phoenix-Antelope cowhand, has been wearing his range boots all week. When compelled to walk a block, he makes more noise than a high school girl in wooden shoes.

The Older Girls have stowed away their electric fans for the year, but keep their trusty fly-swatters handy, for the liquidation of a few remaining itinerant pests.

J. Tannehill Walker, 5, is very proud of his cousin, Sandra Hubbard, who got an A for the first six weeks of school. So did Mique Hemmilla's sister, Georgia.

Rural residents are dining again on pig backbones and turnip tops. As far as city dwellers are concerned, pigs have discontinued having backbones for the duration of the war.

Grocery ads in Portland papers praised the valley pears and climate, with more high-toned adjectives than ever unleashed by a local CoC. secretary, in the memory of the oldest booster.

Jens Jensen and J. Wesley Bates both have wedding anniversaries this week. The latter also has a birthday.

Snow adorned the local hills, the tail-end of the week. The womenfolk have made their annual demand for a white Christmas, and never get it.

Citizens have started getting over their disgust or joy over the election results, with both sides hoping for the best.

The past week saw several inconclusive arguments between Espee moguls and speed idiots at the leading crossings. For the most part the driver after determining to knock locomotives off the track thought better of it. The council prohibited jaywalking and ignoring redlights.

New pictures of Premier Stalin, reveal a new contour to his late handle-bar mustache. Several observers surmised he had trimmed it himself.

MEDALS AWARDED
 Washington, Nov. 11.—(U.P.)—Two Californians, Capt. Henry J. Romo, Jr., Redlands, and Corp. Arthur L. Davis, St. Luis Obispo, today were awarded the bronze star medal.

War Casualty Claims

The Russians are marvellous fighters, but we doubt if they are equally good at arithmetic.

At least the latest Russian report on German casualties has this department deeply puzzled.

A few days ago the Kremlin announced that Russian armies on the eastern front have since the German invasion, June 22, 1941, killed and captured 8,590,000 Germans.

From the same source (Stalin) July 3rd, 1942, the German casualties were placed at 10,000,000 distributed as follows:

Killed.....3,500,000

Captured.....2,600,000

Permanently disabled.....1,200,000

Wounded.....2,700,000

BUT certainly German casualties from the start of the Hitler invasion, as far as dead and captured are concerned, especially the latter, must have been far greater AFTER July 3rd, 1942, than before. For during the latter period the Germans were constantly being routed and driven back, at terrific losses.

Yet if the first figures are correct then the total Germans killed and captured on the Russian front from July 3rd, 1942 to the present time, a matter of over two years and four months—would be the difference between 8,590,000 and 6,100,000 or only 2,490,000. Of these 1,200,000 were permanently disabled, leaving a net total of 1,290,000 only! An absurd figure of course.

IN other words in the first year and 10 days of the war with Germany, Russia claims the Germans were killed and captured at the rate of approximately 15,000 per day, while in the remaining two years and four months, the rate was only 3,000 per day—one-fifth as much.

Obviously, either the figures of the first year must have been greatly exaggerated, or the figures for the last two years and four months greatly under-estimated. As neither Russia, nor any other nation, is disposed to underestimate any losses inflicted on the enemy,—those first year figures must be placed under the heading of "arithmetical errata".

HOWEVER they are all we have. So accepting the present and smaller estimate as correct that of 8,590,000 Germans killed and captured since June 22, 1941, and adding to this figure the approximate claims of German losses by the American and British governments during their participation and we get the following total:

Russian claims.....8,590,000

British claims.....2,100,000

U. S. claims.....900,000

Total.....11,590,000 (in killed and captured alone)

Now estimating the wounded—nothing but estimates are available,—and this total would probably be increased by at least 4,000,000, or a grand total of German casualties in the World War No. 2 of approximately 15,590,000.

Deducting from this total the estimated number of new military classes available in Germany since 1939, also the wounded that have been able to return to the front, and a total of at least 12,000,000 Germans put permanently out of the war is reached.

But at the start of the war Germany's population was less than 80,000,000 with only 38,000,000 males and only 10,000,000 of military age with less than 7,000,000 fit for combat service. So this is the arithmetical result:

We have over twice as many German casualties since the start of the war as Germany has had soldiers available for combat service, if we accept the Russian and allied claims as correct.

SO what? Well nothing of great importance. In modern war casualty claims by all nations are a combination of guesses and propaganda,—they vary only in degree not in essential character.

On September 27th, 1942, a year and three months of war for example Germany claimed she had killed, wounded and captured 14,000,000 Russians.

Assuming she did only HALF as well in the same length of time, AFTER that date; and the Russian casualties on the 27th of September 1943 would have totalled 21,000,000! Since then, Heaven only knows how many, but following the same graph line and it would be at least 26,000,000.

SO don't take your own or other enemy casualty claims seriously hereafter, and take the Russian and German casualty claims with an especially large supply of salt!

No Bonus for Veterans

We have been asked when the "veterans bonus just passed will be paid and how much for 26 months combat service?"

No veterans "bonus" HAS been passed. The bill passed at Tuesday's election provides for a loan to Oregon service men only, and a loan where (we quote) "Secured payment thereof shall be and is a prerequisite to the advancement of money from such fund."

State bonds to a maximum of about \$30,000,000 are authorized and also a state tax, not to exceed 2 mills, or about \$2,000,000 a year, to finance the bonds.

That is all that has been done. Other details must be worked out by the legislature.

As in the case of the state veterans educational measure, the federal G-1 bill, makes better provisions, and will in all likelihood be more popular with Oregon ex-servicemen than to take a loan from their own state. However, Vox Populi Vox Dei. A large majority of the voters wanted this bill, now they have it!

NEW CONGRESS TO FACE MANY VITAL DECISIONS, BILLS

Tax And Peace Problems In Taxes And Jobs—Flood Act First

Washington, Nov. 11.—(U.P.)—The election is over but there remains a war to be won, a peace to be negotiated, a civilian economy to be restored and a lame duck session of congress to be got out of the way.

That was the situation tonight as the administration settled down to work, happy in its triumph at the polls but taking its cue, apparently, from the Armistice Day message to the nation of Acting Director James F. Byrnes of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion.

In a broadcast speech (NBC) at Columbia, S. C., Byrnes said: "The election is over, but the war is not over."

The new, 79th congress will face difficult decisions of unprecedented nature. It appears likely that the senate in the next two years will be called on to ratify peace arrangements with Germany while this nation is still at war, with Japan. That done, it subsequently will have to take up the problem of peace in the Pacific.

Both houses, with democrats in the saddle, will have gigantic new problems in the fields of taxation, reconversion and jobs for 11,000,000 war veterans and some 20,000,000 war workers.

The last session of the 78th congress starts next Tuesday with nearly 80 members of the two houses in the category of lame ducks.

This session will face a docket piled high with important measures which must be passed before January 3 when the new congress convenes.

Extension of vast presidential war powers, passage of three major postwar project bills, the Pearl Harbor issue, and major changes in social security laws are among tasks on the schedule.

In the postwar fields, the senate will begin immediate debate on the flood control bill, which would authorize an estimated \$992,000,000 worth of postwar projects. The measure, already passed by the house, will be followed in the senate by the house-approved rivers and harbors bill, carrying projects totalling \$498,000,000.

In the house, the senate-passed postwar highway bill is expected to come up for action first. The bill would authorize an appropriation of \$1,350,000,000 to be distributed at the rate of \$450,000,000 a year for each of three successive postwar years. Highway construction would be financed on a 50-50 basis with the states, bringing the total joint outlay to \$2,750,000,000.

Following passage of the highway bill the house is expected to take up crop insurance—a measure which may not reach the senate before the end of the session.

With U. S. Troops in Belgium, Nov. 11.—(U.P.)—Amid the sounds of war, American soldiers and Belgian soldiers and civilians joined in homage to the dead of World War I and II today at a ceremony held little more than an hour's drive from the front lines.

PARISIANS CHEER CHURCHILL VISIT

Paris, Nov. 11.—(U.P.)—Prime Minister Winston Churchill received perhaps the most uproarious triumphal welcome of his career today from an estimated 1,000,000 Parisians openly commemorating Armistice Day for the first time in five years and the friendly atmosphere prevailing at his visit was heightened by announcement that France has been asked to join the European advisory commission.

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London, Nov. 11.—(U.P.)—London marked the 26th anniversary of the end of the first World War with a few simple ceremonies today in Westminster Abbey and at the Cenotaph in Whitehall.

Portland, Ore., Nov. 11.—(U.P.)—Oregon vote counting was stalled tonight with one slow precinct in Vanport and four soldier boards in Multnomah holding up a complete count, but President Roosevelt maintained a 22,000 vote lead over Gov. Thomas Dewey.

The latest totals from 1828 out of the state's 1829 precincts were: President—Roosevelt 246,828; Dewey 224,365; Thomas 3837; Watson 2233.

Fourth District Congress—Ellsworth (R.), 57,155; Dover (D.), 29,676.

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CENSORS PUT BAN ON V-2 BOMBING; GERMANY BOASTS

London, Nov. 11.—(U.P.)—The roar of bursting robot bombs punctuated a grim Armistice Day observance throughout southern England today, but censors suddenly forbade all further speculation on whether the Germans still were firing their new V-2 rockets against Britain.

Barely 24 hours after Prime Minister Winston Churchill confirmed that the stratospheric rocket bombs had been showering down on British soil for several weeks, Berlin declared that the Belgian Port of Antwerp also was being bombed heavily by the new weapon and that a great area of the city was in ruins.

They angrily countered Churchill's statement that V-2 had proved largely ineffective, and promised increasingly heavy attacks on London.

"London's surprise will be still greater in the not distant future," one Berlin military spokesman was quoted as saying.

Salvoes of V-one flying bombs crashed into southern England last night and today, but fighter planes and coastal anti-aircraft batteries took a heavy toll of the blind raiders and some of their "pick-a-belly" launching planes were believed to have been shot down into the North sea.

German propagandists, meanwhile, ridiculed Churchill's assertion that their V-2 rockets contain only one ton of explosives and have only about one-sixth the effect of the British six-ton blockbusters.

They boasted that large sections of Antwerp's dock area have been smashed and many of the city's residents have been evacuated as result of V-1 and V-2 bombing.

Experts who have been examining the mass of tangled wire and chunks of steel scattered by the V-2 rockets have deduced a few certainties, principally that this missile climbs higher into space than anything every used in this or any other war.

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FRANCE INVITED TO JOIN ALLIED ADVISORY BOARD

Washington, Nov. 11.—(U.P.)—The United States, Great Britain and Soviet Russia today opened the doors of high Allied councils to France by inviting Gen. Charles de Gaulle's government to "full membership" in the European advisory commission.

The action was interpreted here as an indication that De Gaulle may be invited to participate in at least some phases of the forthcoming Roosevelt-Stalin-Churchill conference.

It was assumed that henceforth France will participate on an equal basis with the big powers in discussions of a world security organization on which she has been assured a permanent council seat "in due course."

For all practical purposes, today's action expands the big three to a big four, restoring France to her position as a great world power.

CRASH AVERTED

Los Angeles, Nov. 11.—(U.P.)—Crash of the southbound Southern Pacific Sunset Limited was narrowly averted today by two alert sheriff's deputies who flagged the train to a stop 25 yards in front of an automobile lodged in its path.

Forty-three mountain peaks in North Carolina reach an elevation of over 6,000 feet; 82 others exceed 5,000 feet.

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson Co. History from the files of the Mail Tribune 10, 20 and 34 years ago.

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY

November 12, 1934 (It was Monday)
 City observes Armistice Day with parade and football game. All stores closed.

Gov. Meier going to California for a two weeks' vacation and Fred E. Kiddle, president of the state senate, will act as governor.

U. S. supreme court directs California to show cause why review of Tom Mooney case should not be granted.

Quality turkeys in demand at 20c per pound in Portland and is top price.

Unsettled with occasional showers, high 66, low 34 degrees.

Political factions of France stage street fights on Armistice Day.

Pear shipments to date total 1645 cars.

Special city election for voting \$100,000 bonds to build new

BOY HUNTER AND NAVY PILOT LOST COASTAL WATERS

Marshfield, Ore., Nov. 11.—(U.P.)—Calmer seas today allowed coast guard patrol boats to search the coastal waters more thoroughly for a navy flier who last was seen floating in a life jacket Thursday south of Cape Arago.

After his plane went into the ocean blankets and a rubber liferaft were dropped to the pilot, but, owing to a heavy surf, it was believed he was unable to reach the raft.

The navy did not disclose the identity of the missing pilot.

North Bend, Ore., Nov. 11.—(U.P.)—The coast guard announced today that it had abandoned hope of finding John Hillar, 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Hillar of Empire, Ore., who was last seen clinging to an overturned boat in Coos Bay.

The boy had been duck hunting with his brother, James, 16, when the accident occurred last Saturday. The boat was found drifting near the air base Tuesday.

SEWER SYSTEM CALLED FOR DECEMBER 4

Medford High defeats Ashland, 14 to 12, in close game before large crowd. Conrad and Genn were the chief ground gainers for the locals.

Premier Mussolini of Italy says fascist regime is gaining ground.

Cloudy. High 48, low 32 degrees.

Walter Johnson, pitching star of big leagues, buys Oakland team in coast league.

Emma Goldman, exiled anarchist, disgusted with life in Russia under bolshevikism.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO November 12, 1910 (It was Saturday)

Japanese porter on way to work saves Medford laundry from flames.

Rogue river fish bill carries by big majority.

Mexican situation improves.

SCOTT'S CAFE SOLD

Purchase of Scott's Cafe in Central Point has been announced by Mr. and Mrs. Barney Kluckert of Central Point. The new owners have taken possession of the property and are now operating the restaurant under the name of Elsie and Barney's cafe.

Matteo di Bassi, Italian monk, founded the Capuchin Order.

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