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Ye Smudge Pot
By Arthur Perry

Though the date has not yet been set, Britain is seething over the next general election, and Premier Churchill and his party face one of the closest contests in English history. A dispatch notes the "delirium" is rising. The time may come when they will clear everything with Sidney, bah jove!

YELP FOR HELP (Exchange)
"You can be cross-eyed, pigeon-toed, table-legged and snemic... or you can be a ravishing beauty. All we want to know is, lady, can you type and take shorthand? Age requirement, 21 to 31. Ability, yes, you should have a little. Physical condition, strength enough to get you to the cashier each week to collect \$35. Seriously, this is a very pleasant job with an old-established firm and now we're not kidding. May we hear from you please?"

The attorney-general and one of his aides in the department of justice are "tueding". As yet, two soldiers have not packed the side out of his office, ala the president of Montgomery Ward.

Local clairvoyants peering in to Saturday at Portland, are as pessimistic over the outcome of the state title football game as a Washington, D. C. official over the end of the war, with a bond drive underway. All enjoyed bad news that turned out fine, the first of the week.

"It used to be that a newspaper could come out bravely in favor of home and motherhood without much fear of contradiction." —(Eugene Register-Guard.)—Fearless journalism on its way out.

A navy launching of a submarine was postponed because of "too much water". This is like the piscatorial enthusiasts, up to their hocks in Rogue river all summer, not attending the Thanksgiving Day football game because they did not want to take a chance on getting their feet wet.

A magazine scribe writes "unrest always prevails among the natives in Porto Rico." Local citizens who have tasted their rum and smoked their cigars, don't blame the natives.

Let All Take Note!

Hope has not been entirely abandoned, but it looks very much as though no agreement between Great Britain and the United States regarding post-war air control will be reached at the Chicago conference. This country insists upon free and open competition. The United Kingdom wants air quotas established. It is not difficult to discern the cause of these conflicting viewpoints. The United States will emerge from this war the greatest air-power the world has even seen, and with practically unlimited resources for maintaining its supremacy. Naturally Uncle Sam prefers free competition with no country capable of competing successfully with him. And just as naturally Great Britain wants air power reduced by quota agreements, for in a free competitive post war world she would be hopelessly out-classed.

THERE are other factors in the situation of course, but here is the main rock upon which the attempt to get together promises to split—the time honored rock of super nationalism—of SELF-INTEREST. If England and the United States can't agree on airpower when they are fighting shoulder to shoulder against a common foe, what chance will there be, when this common danger has been removed, of agreement on that, or on anything else of vital importance?

THIS paper favors a new League of Nations just as it favored and supported the old one. But this impasse at Chicago between two allies still fighting together, should give this country and every other fair warning, that the job of forming any post-war League that will WORK is going to be a TREMENDOUSLY difficult one, unless national self-interest is subordinated to international welfare.

Hard To Figure Out

Something is cooking in South America but precisely what it is, is difficult to make out. Take this reign of terror in Bolivia, for example, culminating in the execution, without trial, of 11 prominent citizens including two former foreign ministers and about 100 others rushed to jail where they are held incommunicado. One has to delve in the files of darkest totalitarian Europe to find anything like this, in fact it is all taken directly from the Nazi and Soviet rule books of the past decade, where jury trial was abolished and mass executions instituted as the first step to the establishment of the respective dictatorships.

DOES it mean Bolivia is to follow the Fascist line and join with Argentine in an anti-North-American federation, and to eventually perhaps offer sanctuary to the fleeing Hitlers and Mussolinis of Central Europe? This might be the case if the Nazis were winning in Europe. But with the Nazi rats deserting the sinking Fascist ship right and left and the anti-Fascist nations growing more powerful day by day, such a program just doesn't make sense.

SELF interest, if nothing else would seem to be a sufficient restraining and amalgamating force to keep the countries of South America out of the any pro-Nazi hook up—at least for the immediate present.

Yet while Fascist fortunes the other side of the Atlantic are getting more and more hopeless; a revival of Fascism seems to be going on south of the Panama canal all the way from Columbia to the Cabo de Hornos and in an increasingly threatening fashion. It is all very puzzling, and in spite of the many recent articles and speeches regarding prevailing conditions in South America, we have yet to run into any information from down there that really explains this.

The Chinese Shake-Up

With General Ho-Ying Chin former Chinese chief of staff, retained as war minister in the new Chungking government, we fear there will be no material improvement in the military situation over there, as a result of the recent shake-up. For General Ho for a decade at least has been a defeatist as far as Japan is concerned. And he can't be very smart or farseeing for on August 17th last he made a broadcast to the world in which he made this categorical statement:

"With a 4th front established in Europe Germany will be defeated in two or three months and Japan will be knocked out of the war within a year."

THE two and three month period has passed and Germany is still fighting. In a couple of weeks it will be four months since the General made his prediction of total defeat.

As for the defeat of Japan within the year ending next August 17th, not even Admiral Halsey who predicted Japan's defeat by January 1, 1943, would venture such a rash statement at this stage of the game in the Far East.

THIS doesn't necessarily disqualify General Ho as a competent war minister—in the end-of-the-war predicting business there are few left who haven't made mistakes—but it also does not tend to raise any great hopes that a government which retains a man of General Ho's general record and type, to handle the war, will be any marked improvement over the government that preceded it.

Flight o' Time

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

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY December 1, 1934 (It Was Friday) Republican leader says "human sympathy is need of nation; favors low interest rates and no price fixing by government."

Naval leaders say America is being forced into armament race with Japan. President Roosevelt opens drive for work for all, and end of relief.

Unsettled with probable rain. High 48, low 35 degrees. Nation drenched by snow and rain, farmers rejoice.

Detroit University defeats Oregon State 6 to 0 in game; Navy defeats army 3 to 0. Graduation will take 14 Medford high football players.

City to vote Tuesday on sewage disposal bonds. TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY December 1, 1924 (It Was Monday)

Congress opens 86th session. President's message to be read Wednesday. Democratic party not to punish Sen. Wheeler of Montana for his desertion to third party during campaign.

Rain. High 58, low 41 degrees. Boy Scout campaign rally this evening. Federal tests of dairy cows in valley to start next week.

Miss Rowen Gela, student at the U. of O. sustains slight injury when she falls from horse. Farm census of county planned.

No agreement reached in settlement of French war debt payments. THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO December 1, 1910 (It Was Thursday)

Official census shows Medford has population of 8,840. Oklahoma City only place to grow faster. Plan to grow ginseng here launched.

John H. Summerville, tourist delighted with city, and plans to make home here. Some Are Nazis

Flynn Digs Deep For Alimony Tax

Hollywood, Dec. 1—(U.P.)—Actor Errol Flynn was digging deep into his pockets today for \$11,336.79 to pay his ex-wife, Lilli Damita, covering income tax charges on her \$1500 a month alimony. Flynn won a partial victory in the financial squabble when Superior Court Commissioner J. B. Faulkner allowed him 30 days to make the payments. An Army survey shows that Army nurses, who number 40,000, are marrying at the rate of 19 per day.

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lip rather than heart service to Hitler." He said AMG already knew of some bad choices that had been made. About 75 per cent of Aachen probably will have to be written off permanently. Buchholz estimated half of the factories were wrecked by Allied bombing and another 25 per cent in the battle.

Frequent X-Rays Urged For Teeth

Chicago, Dec. 1—(U.P.)—Teeth should be X-rayed every six to 12 months, Lt. Cmdr. A. Porter S. Sweet, U. S. N. R., an authority on dental X-ray, declared today in an article in the Journal of the American Dental association. If this advice is followed, Sweet said, all harmful and dangerous conditions will be discovered quickly. During 1943 inventories of shoes in the United States declined more than 53,000,000 pairs, according to the OPA.

AACHEN IS MADE GHOST CITY WITH 11,000 HOMELESS

Military Governor Describes German City as Challenge To Coming Events.

By Jack Fleischer United Press Correspondent Aachen, Dec. 1—(U.P.)—If you can imagine an industrial city about the size of Reading, Pa., devastated by a tornado with only 11,000 bewildered, largely homeless survivors and with all public utilities and mechanisms of law and order vanished, you can get a pretty good picture of what Aachen was like when the Americans moved in. Once a city of 175,000, Aachen is a ghost town today with only about 11,000 persons left. But it is a good sample of things to come for the Allied military government. City Is Challenge

Maj. William E. Hurlbert, Jacksonville, Fla., is the military governor of Aachen and he described the city as a "terrific challenge." He estimated that at best not more than one-quarter of Aachen's industrial production could be restored. Lt. Col. George J. Buchholz, Kansas City, Mo., economic expert of the AMG team, pointed out that only five of the city's 156 textile factories can be restored and only one of these had a chance of getting into production at an early date.

The AMG team's job is bigger and more complex than that of any relief agency. It represents the military victors and it doesn't speak the language of the conquered. Its first job largely was to get the city to make the best of its fate. The team included 16 officers, two warrant officers and 25 enlisted men. MP's are provided by the provost marshal so the first job of the AMG was to organize a German police unit. It picked 147 civilians for the task, including some of the old Aachen police force. They were sent to a training school, but AMG frankly doesn't know what luck they will have in remodeling the Nazis in so short a time.

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