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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

INVENTORY OF THE YEAR

Everybody started off yesterday on a new year, with a 1945 calendar or almanac, and high hopes for the future—as usual. The main aim of the people is Peace, and a new auto. There is some question in the minds of experts which will be the worse—the ragings of peace or the auto driving when the nation lays down its guns and grabs a gasoline hose.

As the past year ended, there were many signs of Peace. One of these was the way Maws were dressing up Junior. There was a decline in the number of juvenile generals, admirals and sergeants. The very young men are masqquerading as cowboys and Indian chiefs. Both roles enabled them to yell to their heart's content, instead of making a noise like a machine-gun.

This locality had bountiful crops of everything, including weeds and rumors. The circulation of the rumors, however, was cramped. Before one launched at the courthouse could get to the bank corner, it would be knocked in the head. A favorite outdoor pastime was to start a rumor, whereupon its author would discredit it at once. This prevented many vivid rumors from having litters of rumors.

Business was good but slowed down by the war effort and lack of things to sell. This resulted in a record breaking locking of front doors. The golf links, fishing holes, and roads leading to hunting areas were kept open, no matter if the wind was in the North. The tonsorial parlors closed on the slightest provocation and observed everything but Ground Hog Day, and the anniversary of the discovery of the safety razor.

The financial situation was excellent, but 94.5 per cent of the population continued to run out of money unexpectedly. As under Hoover, people battled for something for nothing, and retained their nothing. Farmers prospered, and several cashed in on pigs they did not raise. Summer rains ruined the hay crop, that cows are now eating Pear growers rejoiced. It is reported they just broke even on the crop.

The Black Tornado, also known as Tigers, Pearpickers, and Rogues copped the state high school football title, and did a workmanlike job in the doing. Several nimrods killed the biggest deer and caught the longest fish. No golfers made a hole-in-one, but not because they didn't try.

Public interest was centered in the national election and the war. But seethed throughout the summer. Locally, there was a drouth of candidates. The campaign was largely based on the plea: Don't change horses in the middle of the stream. This was a potent argument. However, there is now some talk of changing generals in the middle of the battle.

The word comes, as 1944 passes, shoe rationing will be tightened. Also there will be plenty of food—try and get it. The better fretters fear all will be hungry and barefooted by midsummer.

There was a light crop of good resolutions. The few that were made were promptly broken. However, many of the thirsty vowed to qquit swigging imported rum in July, and are estranged from it.

So a Happy New Year, with all the trimmings, to everybody.

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

Trouble in Poland Again!

"The Polish nation will never recognize any authority or territory or any totalitarian forms of government imposed on Polish national territory and never will cease to stand for the genuine independence of Poland. After the clearing of the whole territory of German occupation and the evacuation of foreign armed forces, Poland will be able in a free and democratic election to choose a political system for the country and to elect a government in accordance with the popular will."

So speaks the exile government of Poland, while the Lublin government, with the blessing of the Kremlin, declares itself to be the de facto government of the country around which all good Poles are asked to rally.

"So round and round the little ball goes, where it will stop nobody knows!"

* * * * *

THIS situation in Poland is essentially the same as the situation in Greece, Italy, the Balkans and France, and unless all signs fail will soon be the situation throughout Europe.

It is the revolution within the war, and it emerges with a terrific impact, the moment the war ceases.

* * * * *

THE Lublin government is—to use the term loosely—the Communist group, and the exiled government in London is the anti-Communist group and never we fear, the twain shall meet—except in a knock-down and drag-out fight.

* * * * *

ACCORDING to press reports, Washington and London refuse to recognize the new government at Lublin, while Russia, having been responsible for the creation of the government, can hardly repudiate it.

So here is a nice kettle of fish, the United States and Great Britain on one side, Soviet Russia on the other, and the war in Europe, on both the western and eastern fronts still raging.

Obviously all such purely political inner differences should be postponed until Germany has been beaten and peace restored.

That is easy to say but it appears to be impossible to do. For look at the facts—see what has happened in every country in Europe, the moment the German armies have retreated.

* * * * *

THERE is not a single exception, although the seriousness of the situations vary—a dictatorship-of-the-proletariat has immediately started out to establish itself, the conservative elements within the nation have at once resisted.

Such a conflict SHOULD be postponed, but if one side starts direct action how can the other side refuse to resist unless it is ready to admit defeat, and allow a government it does not want, and in the principles of which its doesn't believe, to be established? And no free, sane people will do that!

* * * * *

THIS is an extremely grave problem, boys and girls, just as serious as the recent surprising allied setback on the western front and very likely related to it.

It is going to take the highest intelligence, the best wisdom, the greatest restraint the allies can muster, to solve it without impairing the allied war effort to a serious extent.

The "Winnah!"

It is not very difficult to figure out the ultimate winner in this diplomatic conflict over Poland.

Great Britain went to war for Poland, and the United States is committed to the principle of national self-determination, so at this stage of the game the Anglo-American group could hardly desert the London exile government.

On the other hand, there is no reason to believe Soviet Russia will ever desert its Lublin government.

So the situation reminds one of the time-honored query as to what happens when an irressistible force meets an immoveable body?

Only with this important difference:

Soviet Russia, practically speaking does represent an "irresistible force" but Great Britain and the United States do not exactly represent an "immoveable body."

Equally vital, Russia is in Poland, Uncle Sam and Johnny Bull are NOT.

So-o-o Soviet Russia can't lose this one!

Let's Have It

U. S. killed at Leyte 2,630.
Japs killed at Leyte 55,237.

The above figures are official from General MacArthur's headquarters. And they are not so out of way for the entire American campaign in the South Pacific—the Yanks have been killing the Japs at a ratio extending all the way from ten to 30 to one?

How come?

* * * * *

WHAT have our troops got in the South Pacific they haven't got in Europe?

Or what have the Germans got the Japs haven't? There must be something extremely exceptional in the Far East theatre as compared with the western or even the Russian theatres. For the casualties in the former bear no resemblance whatever to those in the latter.

* * * * *

YET the men who have fought against the Japs, both on the ground and in the air have never to our knowledge questioned the Japs courage, fighting ability or the quality of his equipment.

Moreover ever since Bataan the Japs have been fighting on the defensive and on ground presumably chosen by themselves—in modern warfare regarded as a decided advantage, as far as casualties are concerned.

* * * * *

YET day after day both in the air and on the ground the Americans are knocking over the sons of Nippon like so many clay pigeons, while our own casualties are consistently and persistently light.

There must be some good reason and it seems to this department the O.W.I. is missing a good bet in not giving it publicity.

For properly put together and authenticated such a story would make a wonderful yarn, and a very cheering one, not only to the men at the front but the people back home.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Paul Mallon

Washington, Jan. 2—(Part V) I have traced the fact of nearly two-thirds of the servicemen not voting for either Roosevelt or Dewey and contrasted it with the highly organized political action of the Congress of Industrial Organizations and its new theory of freedom as being organized control of the individual through unions and federalized power, in an effort to bring into the light for plain discussion the apprehensions evident here as to where this country is going, domestically and internationally.

There was great fear of fascism in the country before our war victory became visibly probable. Fascism is a dictatorship by rightwing elements. It was evolved by Mussolini and perfected by Hitler as the only means of combatting communism, which was a dictatorship by the leftwing elements.

They had the same methods and ideals, believing freedom to be the organization of the individual to the service of the state, contrary to the old democratic basis principle which held that freedom is individual liberty. Neither represented the yearnings of any great body of the people. They were conceived at the top and imposed on the people. They were revolutions in which highly organized minorities got control of the people, the bulk of whom are not and cannot be expert in politics.

* * *

THEY did not come from elections, yet they adhere to the system of elections. Both Hitler and Stalin held elections, generally winning them 100 to 1 because the people dared not vote any other way, unless they wanted to be killed or ruined. To make their living, the people had to vote the way in which the highly organized minority at the top told them to vote.

Even so, no dictator has been able to maintain himself in office without periodic purges to murder and supress the opposition. In any kind of a political system, opposition always will arise.

No important segment of our people wants either fascism or communism. Yet there is a very popular movement for the basic principle, denying the democratic concept of individual liberty as being a good thing, and interpreting freedom just as the fascists and communists do.

Where we seem to be heading in all this is toward a new form of a capitalistic republic controlled politically and economically by the unions. But is it possible to have that? Can you have capitalism and union control? Can you maintain democracy under union control?

* * *

IF YOU have the union wage class in economic control, it would make all capitalism work toward its ends — higher and higher wages, which would force higher and higher prices with less and less profits, incentive, private capital. It could not last any more than a controlled capitalism by business could last.

From the political side, unquestionably the great bulk of the people who pay the prices and the wages would not long stand for it. Once you accept the basic new idea of freedom as meaning federal control, you cannot have either capitalism or democracy dominated by any group or class. It could not work. Only a strictly judicial type of government, dispassionately maintaining the interests of the whole, could make both ends meet economically.

But is it politically possible to have dispassionate government in this country of such highly organized minorities?

I hope no one will think this analysis has a political, critical or propaganda intent. I firmly believe no one can stop this current trend of union political action, except the union leaders, and I think they will—unintentionally—by excessive zeal in their own behalf.

* * *

AS TO our future form of government, the facts of Europe show surface forms do not mean much. You can have elections, even a reichstag, call yourself a republic (as Russia does), and still have dictatorship by the right or left. The true difference between those ways and ours to date has been that we allowed political opposition, and they did not. This is the real dividing line.

Democracy dies when genuine political opposition to the party in power dies, is murdered or suppressed. This is the test of whether individual liberty exists.

Call your state or movement by whatever pretty name you think will be enticing to the great bulk of people who have insufficient time from their daily living to keep up on the fine points of political matters, and can be made to believe practically anything by highly organized propaganda methods of interested experts. Your state will have real freedom only as long as a chance is held out to opposition to gain control by peaceful means.

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 condensation.

Is Central Avenue Patriotic

To the editor: I think it's time some patriotic citizen protested the recently adopted truck route through Medford.

Medford prides itself on its patriotism which evidently endures only as long as no personal discomfort is involved.

I'm thinking of the Central Ave. merchants objection to the extra noise, the imagined hazard, and the apparent embarrassment caused by a vital war industry—trucking.

No doubt many of those same business owners have sons and employees fighting in the front line battles of this war. Have they complained of the extra noises of battle? No! And some of those noises will permanently deafen some of those men. And the sound of a truck bringing life saving supplies is the most welcome sound they'll hear 'till they hear the word "Victory!"

Do those valiant Medford fighting men complain of the hazards of war? No! They risk, and lose, both life and limb on the battle field. They ask only the home front to back them to the fullest extent. Are we backing them when we fear a mere truck on a city street? You answer that.

Is a soldier embarrassed if the ambulance that offers him aid lacks a coat of paint or has a dented fender? No! It is a welcome sight. It is sufficient that it is THERE to help him when his need is greatest. Yet the population of Central Ave. is embarressed by a load of logs, a load of lumber, a load perhaps of vital medicines or munitions passing through.

Can these people of Central Ave. call themselves good citizens? Does a true citizen wish to delay any phase of the war effort for a single minute? I think not. Yet with each trip through Medford a war shipment is delayed ten to twenty minutes by the truck route.

I'm not a representative of the trucking induserty. I don't own a truck or even drive one. But I have taken the trouble to drive over the truck route. There are four sharp turns to be made. There are seven and possibly ten stops as compared with two stops on Central Ave.

Couldn't these premature ideas for a quiet peaceful city be postponed while we all pull together for a quiet peaceful world once more?

Shady Cove, Dec. 29. L. S. BISHOP.

ORANGES FOR GIs

Los Angeles (U.P.)—An orange in every overseas serviceman's Christmas stocking was assured by an order from the California Fruit Growers Exchange that shipments to military camps take top priority.

Daily Weather Report

Forecasts

Medford and vicinity: Mostly cloudy tonight and Wednesday. Little change in temperature.

Local Data

Temperature a year ago today: Highest 48; lowest 30 degrees.
Total monthly precipitation, trace. Deficiency for the month .08 inches.
Total precipitation since September 1, 1944, 6.22 inches. Deficiency for the season 1.14 inches.
Relative humidity at 4:30 p. m. yesterday 81 %; 4:30 today 85%.

Tomorrow

Sunrise 8:39 a. m.; sunset 5:52 p. m.

Boise	36	24	...
Boston	39	30	.44
Chicago	21	-6	...
Denver	41	7	Trace
Eureka	56	...	...
Havre	11	-1	.03
Los Angeles	77	42	...
Medford	46	28	Trace
New York	54	18	.35
Omaha	14	2	Trace
Phoenix	57	32	...
Portland	47	38	...
Reno	48	13	...
Roseburg	57	37	...
Salt Lake	37	30	...
San Francisco	61	...	...
Seattle	49	43	Trace
Spokane	31	30	...
Washington, D. C.	55	20	.84
Yakima	48	18	...

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads.

THEY'LL NEVER BE YOUNG AGAIN—A heaping dish of ice cream ordinarily would never fail to delight the average youngster, but these Polish war refugees eat theirs seriously, with sorrowful eyes staring ahead of them into space. So great has been their suffering that it would take more than ice cream to make them forget it.

Film Stars Wed

(Acme Telephoto)

Actor John Payne and his bride, diminutive blonde actress Gloria De Haven, display "wedding bliss" grins as they leave Beverly Hills, Calif., after their wedding. It was Miss De Haven's first marriage, Payne's second.

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
January 1, 1935
(It Was Tuesday)

The first baby born in 1935 in this city is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Ward.

One hundred autoists of city and county are given notices to purchase new license plates, or quit driving.

Ten jurors chosen for trial of Bruno Hauptmann, charged with murder and kidnaping of Col. Lindbergh baby.

Mercury drops to 28 degrees for one of the coldest nights of the year.

Old age pension applications in county number 135.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., in auto wreck near Philadelphia.

One out of every 30 hunters killed a deer last season forest service reports.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY
January 1, 1925
(It Was Friday)

State supreme court holds illegally held liquor cannot be used as evidence in prohibition case.

Dortha Florey of Medford and Barnard Joy of Ashland winners in Better Home Lighting contest.

Theatre world aroused over radio menace. John McCormick and Lucrezia Bori broadcasts empty New York theatres.

England offers new solution of French war debt.

Unsettled with probable rain. High 47, low 38 degrees.

Local ministers to give dinner for new city officials.

Trigonia oil well drilling to be resumed soon.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY
January 1, 1911
(It Was Sunday)

Plan to start work soon on new hotel at Main and Riverside.

City greets New Years tumultously.

Japanese activity in Philippines confirmed.

COLDS' MUSCLE ACHES, PAINS quickly relieved by Penetro—Grandma's old-time mutton suet idea developed by modern science into a counter-irritant, vaporizing salve that brings quick, comforting relief. 25c, double size 35c.
PENETRO
BASE RICH IN MUTTON SUET

Merchants Warned On Discourtesy To War-Time Shoppers

Philadelphia— (U.P.) —Elmer Wheeler, author of eight books on salesmanship, has warned merchants that "wartime discourtesy" will not be forgotten by customers when present shortages no longer exist.

Wheeler says businessmen are only "slitting their own throats" by rudeness to customers who request a hard-to-get item. He recommends these sales techniques to insure continued patronage after the war:

1. Be patient in explaining stock shortages and try to provide substitutes for unobtainable commodities, instead of shouting: "Nope, I'm all out of that."

2. Don't ration courtesy, patience or politeness.

3. Cater to regular customers —"they will probably be the only ones around after the war."

VETERAN OF 3 AIR FORCES

Fort Wayne, Ind. (U.P.)—Sgt. George A. Furste, who recently returned home with his English wife, has been in the service for three years and in that time has been a soldier for three different nations. In 1941, Sgt Furste joined the Royal Canadian Air Force, and 10 months later asked to be transferred to the British Royal Air Force. In June, 1943, he donned the AAF uniform.

Closing time for Classified Ads 9 a. m. — Too Late to Classify 12:30 p. m.

Wax Tablet 'Stove' Gives Hot Rations In Battle Regions

New York— (U.P.) —A three-ounce wax fuel tablet which will burn for 25 to 35 minutes has been perfected by the Socony-Vacuum Oil Co. in co-operation with the army quartermaster corps and makes possible hot meals in battle areas.

The tablet is made of high melting point refined parafin wax and wood flour (fine sawdust) and is two inches square and an inch-and-a-half high. The cardboard container enclosing the fuel is heavily coated with special waxes to protect it in all kinds of climate.

To heat rations, a soldier digs a hole from six to eight inches in the earth, drops in a fuel tablet and lights the flap of the container and at once has a "stove" over which he can heat his condensed soup, dehydrated vegetables, coffee and field rations.

Postwar use of the tablets may include highway flares, emergency illumination and heat for campers.

NEW kind of ASPIRIN tablet
doesn't upset stomach

When you need quick relief from pain, do you hesitate to take aspirin because it leaves you with an upset stomach? If so, this new medical discovery, SUPERIN, is "just what the doctor ordered" for you.

Superin is aspirin plus—contains the same pure, safe aspirin you have long known—but developed by doctors in a special way for those upset by aspirin in its ordinary form.

This new kind of aspirin tablet dissolves more quickly, lets the aspirin get right at the job of relieving pain, reduces the acidity of ordinary aspirin, and does not irritate or upset stomach—even after repeat doses.

Tear this out to remind you to get Superin today, so you can have it on hand when headaches, colds etc., strike. See how quickly it relieves pain—how fine you feel after taking. At your druggist's, 15¢ and 39¢.

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

Superin TABLETS

AMPLE PARKING SPACE
Since 1888
CONGER-MORRIS FUNERAL PARLORS
Sixth and West Main St.
Office of the County Coroner
AMBULANCE SERVICE
Phone 3147
H. W. Conger — Carlos W. Morris