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Ye Smudge Pot
By Arthur Perry

TIME ROLLS ON, HURRAH!
A New Year dawns tomorrow, and finds this region out of butter, and with no Oregonians for two whole days. "All Hail 1946," shouts the city and county, as one or two men, with the exception of the pear growers, who don't want any, as the insurance rate is apt to be too high. The prospects for next year, as always, looks rosy. This is a great next year country.

The final week of the dying year, it rained cats and dogs, pitchforks, and what-have-you. The moisture left assorted sizes of mud puddles dotting the landscape, and caused the Older Girls to fear the valley would be hazed by a rousing fog. The situation was better than upstate, where a citizen needed a one-man submarine to get the mail. Late yesterday the Sun broke through momentarily, and beamed with the illumination power of the ancient and venerable 1910 Main Street street lights, weather-beaten, and knocked askew by kid autoists.

Daniel Cupid enjoyed a busy year, but with not as many entering the holy bonds of starvelock as the year previous. James Divorce also worked overtime. The final week of 1945 it was so dull around the courthouse, not even a lawyer stirred. Quite a few sold their houses, and learned about the housing shortage, first-hand.

There was no outstanding local news. A local bulldog bit the wrong man, and crawled under the davenport to mourn. Nobody got shot for a deer, though one nimrod had daylight admitted to his hat. Jack Dempsey visited the city. The "Medford Fight" spirit was dormant, and nobody tried to lick the former world heavyweight champion.

The final month of the year, the fair sex starting wearing the upswing hairdo, with a part in the middle of the back of the head. Frequently the part was off-center like the seam in their stockings.

Throughout the year, work was plentiful. Many experienced no difficulty in lying down beside it, in accordance with long established custom. There are signs many will not be infatuated with the idea, the coming year.

The Black Tornado football squad missed being state champions two years in a row, by a hair and a thin one. Next fall they will be no mild zephyr. Six of the crop will go to college in the fall, and continue to fool with the pigskin. They will go to a college, where their scholarships won't be cut off, when their football playing days are over, is the word.

Reforestation of the main business arteries was discarded at the gay Yuletide. They served well in past years as a repository for empty bottles, and a roosting place for sparrows.

The customary end of the year resolutions were made by citizens. Several vowed to cut out Demon Rum, and not become evangelists doing it. In a week they will have the fun of breaking them.

People have started campaigning for an early spring. They want to hear the birds sing, and the mill whistles blow again. They want a different kind of peace, than the kind now raging.

HAPPY NEW YEAR'S TO ALL!
Use Mail Tribune Want Ads.

Net Income of Farm Families Nearly As Much As In 1945 Is Outlook For Coming Year

Pointing out that farm family incomes are generally continuing above the pre-war level and that, with some reduction in income taxes in prospect for 1946, cash on hand for farm family living may be nearly as much as in 1945, a circular, "Agricultural Situation and Outlook," prepared at Oregon State college, seeks to advise Oregon farmers as to postwar trends.

Major farm improvements and more interest in college training of farm youth should be a result of this favorable condition. With the end of large scale food exports from the United States approaching, the agricultural trend may be toward the prewar status. To what extent depends upon such factors as population changes, new consumer demands, transportation facilities, marketing methods and costs. A tendency toward more unemployment and lower national income in 1946 will help force reduction of the over all level of farm prices an estimated 10 per cent and of net farm income, 15 per cent. Further decline in the coming years of unpredicted rate and extent is to be expected, the circular declares. Most of the 1946 reduction of prices will probably occur after mid-year.

Lower Income In 1950
The pamphlet shows Department of Agriculture figures estimating lowering of farm income in 1950 to 9.3 billion dollars with full employment, 6.5 billions with intermediate employment and three billions with severe unemployment. This is a drop from the 13 billion dollar net income of 1945.

Increase in farm income during war in itself has brought about a situation that may prove detrimental to agriculture in the post war era. Gross farm income has risen 248 per cent over the 1939 total and the net total in 1944 was 367 per cent of that in 1939 according to the circular.

A raise in land prices has resulted in high capitalization of land real estate has come about. General farm costs have taken a tremendous upward trend. After past years decent of high costs there has been slower than income decline. In some instances net income has nearly disappeared. Farmers may well suffer the same plight this time.

Federal Help
In the matter of government help to maintain farm prices it is explained that such support may check but not prevent a decline in average farm prices during the next few years. If funds are available prices for some Oregon farm products as milk, butterfat, eggs, hogs, wheat and potatoes will be upheld at not less than 90 per cent of parity. Only about 45 per cent of farm marketing values in the 1935 to 1939 period are accounted for here. Since prices on the items are much over the proposed rate, a large over all reduction from the present level is possible and foreseen.

Farmers will need measures to meet slightly smaller marketing prospects changed consumer demands. Efforts must be made to increase demand for certain products as large scale production will continue.

Consumer purchasing power should be at a high level during 1946 because of greater savings and credit and that factor combined with better knowledge of food values should result in consumption of higher priced, more nutritive foods. Meat, milk, eggs, vegetables and fruits should be in greater demand than potatoes and grains. But use of grains as livestock feed may balance the situation.

Population Grows
An aid to Oregon marketing is the gain of additional consumers through an increasing population in the west. Population has boomed up 50 per cent since 1930 on the Pacific coast to over 12 million, the pamphlet reports.

Facing the farmer will be continued high production costs and somewhat increased marketing costs. Peak of producing expenses during the war was reached in 1943, the circular says, but maintenance and replacement costs of buildings and equipment may increase. But the condition may be offset by reductions on other items. Production expenses of farm operators in Oregon have reached a level of nearly 180 million dollars, almost double the pre-war expenses and greater than the average gross agricultural income in the 1935 to 1939 period.

While no actual prices were named the upward trend in regard to costs of farm land was pointed out. The boom in land sales is now subsiding and prices will depend on net income and number of voluntary transfers of farm real estate with the trend shaping up a year or so after significant change in those two aspects. Volunteer transfers were many during the war. In

1944 seven per cent of Oregon's farms changed hands. The rate was highest in the nation. Statistics quoted show the average price of farm land as of March 1, 1945 to be 165 per cent of that recorded from 1935 to 1939. As for farm living prospects, circular editors explain that commodities in the clothing and equipment line will be short of demand, yet, during the next year. However, small articles, electric irons, clocks, kitchen utensils, may be fairly plentiful in 1946. Production of refrigerators, washing machines and like larger items is held back by labor and material shortage. Nevertheless, production is expected to be greater than prewar by the end of 1946.

people, if they have money as they do now. But in the next year we are planning to get back to our peacetime mass production. We have more machines and men than ever before. War has developed manufacturing shortcuts for production. As production brings goods to the market, competition will be restored. This means not only competition in quality but in price.

It is quite clear then that the expectations of expanding production ahead will work against higher prices. Indeed, this will work gradually as production swells in the latter months of the year toward lower prices.

But the unions are wangling great — unprecedentedly large — wage increases from industry, and this development, coupled with the announced intention of the government to maintain a high price level, will surely force prices higher, they say. Yes, certainly this would seem to force an increase of the price of union-made goods. On the other hand people have grown, during the war, to be satisfied with patches, with old things, with repaired machines. If only the unions get these tremendous wage increases, and the rest of us must plod along on our same salaries in the face of higher prices for union-made goods, the common foresight of the business prophets may not prove true.

There has been every other kind of strike in this country except a buyers' strike. The conditions being created may force one. Therefore, I believe the human element will determine the course of business for 1946. We know the economic factors. We do not know how the people will react to them.

We know the shortages of goods will not be completely cured next year, but a plentiful supply will be restored in many lines. Union wages will be up, but how many others? THE administration wants high prices, but how can it move them higher than now in the face of the coming restoration of competition? Will people pay the prices asked? Will labor's human leadership strike and hold back production? Will the human leadership of the administration accomplish its purposes, and to what degree? With a congressional election ahead, how far will the spending faucets of inflation be turned still further? These are matters no human can possibly now know.

Controls To Help
Continuation of OPA policy to keep price controls while demand is high will aid the farmer-consumer.

Home raised and preserved food will furnish the chief portion of farm diet. Relief from war-time pressure will cause decline in this respect among the higher income families. Expanded use of frozen food lockers is a tendency. Serving of lunches at rural schools may be a development with the release of kitchen equipment. Much building of new farm homes and the repair and remodeling of old is planned.

Security Legs
Farm, family security continues to lag. Agricultural production outlook indicates added improvement of farm methods. This, regardless of demand, will undoubtedly bring a cut-down in acreage necessary for production with utilization required, probably of 325 to 330 million acres in contrast to 379 million in 1944 and 345 million in the 1935 to 1939 span. The condition releases meadow and pasture land needed for livestock to supply diet demand under full employment conditions. That post-war demand will outstrip that of pre war is pointed out. But estimates indicate a lag behind war-time production.

Statistics presented by the circular show in 1944 a 41 per cent increase in farm production over the 1935 to 1939 average. This occurred in spite of adverse interferences such as labor shortage. Principal reasons for the gain are improved methods, better seed and livestock and use of more fertilizer.

NEWSPRINT HIKE EFFECTIVE JAN. 1

Washington, Dec. 31—(U.P.)—A new increase of \$6 a ton in the price of newsprint will go into effect the first of the year, the office of price administration reminded the publishing industry today.

This makes a total increase of \$17 a ton since the war began. The new ceiling price for standard newsprint paper delivered to 38 port cities will be \$67 a ton. There are higher ceilings for deliveries in other parts of the country.

The first wartime increase of \$4 a ton was granted on March 1, 1943. The latest increase was granted to maintain producers' earnings at pre-war levels and to stimulate production.

rites For General

Vienna, Dec. 31—(U.P.)—Simple funeral services were held in the chapel at American army headquarters here today for Maj. Gen. Donald W. Brann, 50, deputy U. S. commander in Austria, who was killed in a fall from a cliff while hunting in the Tyrol Saturday.

The battle for standard measurements has been going on for a long time and still is far from being won, according to officials of the National Bureau of Standards, which was established in 1901.

Mr. Roosevelt, we all thought, at first, would surely cure the depression, but it never got cured. Then later we all thought it would never get cured. During the latter part of the Roosevelt regime, along came the war and pushed us so high out of it we cannot yet see the ground through the economic stratosphere.

Thereafter, during the war, the great prophets all agreed there would be a terrific crash at the end, with great unemployment. Now here we are at the end, with our Christmas sales much higher than in the last year of the war, with more jobs untaken than men unemployed, and we are now thinking of a higher plane ahead—unanimously as usual. I wonder.

LET us look at the facts we have, atom by atom, and behind the atoms. They say there will be "higher prices." Prices generally are based on the availability of goods. When there are shortages, any amount can be charged for goods, and collected from the

On The Side—By E. V. Durling

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

When raindrops, glistening from the thatch, Like drops of silver run, Our dear old grandma lifts the latch. To feel the cheering run. She sees no rainbow in the sky, But when the cuckoo sung, She thought upon the years gone by When she was blithe and young. —William Lisle Bowles.

Nancy Bruff, the Park avenue literary lady, reports she has written a novel about Brooklyn Heights. That's the part of Brooklyn where the trees grow. Miss Bruff has written eight novels. One, "The Manatee," has been published. To exploit this brain child Nancy hired Russell Birdwell, who made the photogenic Jane Russell famous as an actress before she had ever appeared in a picture.

In exploiting the Bruff novel Birdwell practically ignored the literary merits of the book by invading editorial sanctums with a minimum of written publicity and a maximum of photographs of the author. He didn't say "The Manatee" was better than a "Forever Amber" but stoutly claimed Nancy Bruff was better looking than Katharine Winsor. Anyway, about 90,000 copies of "The Manatee" have been sold. This is about 45 times as many copies as the average novel. So we may soon expect a deluge of novels written by women who photograph well and have high powered press agents. But, gentlemen, have a heart. Please, no "leg art" in the literary sections.

Sidelights

You're young. If you like plays or films that make you cry. If you like those that make you laugh you're getting old. So states a character analyst... holdups, robberies and murders have increased 100 percent in London the past seven years. But still no London policeman carries a gun... as the Hollywoodians seem to be reviving a lot of western films why not revive "The Girl of the Golden West?" Remember Frank Keenan and Holbrook Blinn in that?

Please Note
Helen Mercy scored a sensational success when as an understudy she took over the ailing Betty Field's part in "The Dream Girl." Helen is a graduate of Yale dramatic school. Young females with stage aspirations should give this fact a thought. What could be a more pleasant place for a girl to study for a career than on the Yale campus surrounded by all those gay young men, many of whom are rich and socially prominent? If you have a daughter who wants to be an actress call this to her attention.

Asking
Queries from clients: Q. Who would be your choice to play the part of Lord Bruce Carlton in the film version of "Forever Amber?" A. Could not say. Haven't read "Forever Amber." James Mason, the British actor, was offered this part and turned it down. He wasn't impressed with its possibilities. Q. How is the Horses & Women club of Pittsburgh doing? Also the Husbands Protective Association of New Haven? A. Haven't heard from the New Haven husbands lately but am informed the Pittsburghers have just concluded a successful campaign with the slogan "two razors for every home."

Asides
How many keys are there on a piano? If you can't answer that correctly in half a flash cease calling yourself observing.

Passing By
Constance Collier. Is chiefly celebrated as a stage actress but she has been plying in films off and on for 30 years. Made her Hollywood debut in "Macbeth," in which Sir Herbert Tree was starred. She played Lady Macbeth. Highest paid private in the U. S. army. Receives \$325 a month in dependents allotment. Is the father of 13 children. An army major's pay is \$3,000 a year; captain, \$2,400; first lieutenant, \$2,000; second lieutenant, \$1,800. So Private Haudenschild has an income that tops them all. Shows what

NEW PHOTO PLANE
Farmington, N. Y., Dec. 31—(U.P.)—Development of a huge, speedy and long-range photo reconnaissance plane that is expected to revolutionize aerial photography was revealed today by Republic Aviation Corporation with army approval.

C-C MEETING SET
Washington, Dec. 31—(U.P.)—The U. S. chamber of commerce will hold its 32nd annual meeting in Atlantic City from April 30 through May 2, 1946. It was announced today. It will be the first such meeting since 1943. Its business has been conducted by mail in the interim.

On June 12, 1905, the Pennsylvania Special of the Pennsylvania railroad covered three miles in 85 seconds, traveling at the rate of 127.06 miles an hour, the fastest train ever recorded in the United States.

a man can achieve if he doesn't believe in birth control.

George Arthur Griffith called his wife "The Neck." Seems Mrs. Griffith once said to her husband: "George, you're the head of the house but I'm the neck and the head has to be twisted around to where the neck wants it" . . . Am asked what is my favorite mixed drink. No mixed drinks for me. I am a very moderate consumer of bourbon highballs with plain water and a bit of brandy with the after dinner cigar and coffee.

Flight o' Time

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

TEN YEARS AGO
December 31, 1935
(It Was Tuesday)
Gov. Martin says 1936 will be great year for state, industrially.

Snider's buy Gold Seal Dairy. Partly cloudy with fog. High 46, low 39.

Crater Lake park is covered with 66 inches of snow.

Business was fair in city and valley despite recession.

City to welcome New Years tonight with many house parties and dances.

Record cold hits Klamath Falls, Eugene, and Albany.

Ashland chief of police addresses Valley Ministerial association meeting.

Past year best for business in history of city, and next year's prospects even better.

Frank Hinkey, greatest end in football records, and Yale captain in the 90s passes.

Cloudy. High 32, low 26.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO
December 31, 1911
(It Was Sunday)
New auto licenses are green colored.

Christian church congregation votes to build new church soon.

City and valley shows progress socially and financially past year.

Infant 1912 to get quiet welcome in city.

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(Acme Telephoto) Mrs. Gwendolyn Walls, San Bernardino, Calif., is in custody following slaying of Mrs. Ruby Clark, girls school teacher. Mrs. Clark was reportedly slain while she was in company of Don Walls, husband of the assertedly confessed killer.

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The bill would authorize the government to reimburse cities, states, towns and universities for the money they have spent to acquire surplus government-

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Owned housing units. The national housing administrator would be authorized to acquire all surplus housing units owned by other government agencies, and transfer them to localities where the housing shortage has worked an unusual hardship upon veterans and their families.

The president signed the bill aboard the presidential yacht Williamsburg, which is anchored off Quantico, Va.

White House sources said the president spent a good part of the day working on his Jan. 3 radio speech.

Closing time for Sunday Too Late to Classify 4:00 Saturday afternoon. Please remember.

Gala NEW YEAR SCREEN ENTERTAINMENT

CRATERIAN ENDS TOMORROW JACK OAKIE - BEGGY RYAN - JOHNNY COY

On Stage Everybody

STARTS WEDNESDAY She WENT TO THE RACES JAMES CRAIG FRANCES GIFFORD

RIALTO ALWAYS 2 FEATURES ENDS TUESDAY

The HIDDEN EYE Edward ARNOLD Frances RAFFERTY

Penthouse Rhythm

FIRST FEDERAL Savings & Loan Assn. of Medford

27 North Holly

STARTS WEDNESDAY Firebrands of Arizona SMILEY BURNETT SUNSET CARSON

HUMPHREY MOTORS Used Car Exchange 33 S. Riverside Ave.

OSBURN HOTEL . . . HOLLAND HOTEL EUGENE MEDFORD

Wishing You All a Very Prosperous NEW YEAR

Osburn Hotel . . . Holland Hotel EUGENE MEDFORD

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All the prayers of the past for peace are now answered, and we can go forward with 1946 to a future of peace and happiness. Conger-Morris wish one and all a finer, happier New Year!

CONGER-MORRIS FUNERAL PARLORS

Osburn Hotel . . . Holland Hotel

EUGENE MEDFORD

Wishing You All a

Very Prosperous

NEW YEAR

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Earley

Joe E. Earley, Jr.

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