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Ye Smudge Pot
By Arthur Pezzy
Farmers have finished plowing through their Jan. 15 income tax report.

The bright sunshine is a cure for the flu and reminds many they will have spring fever, when the time comes.

Mrs. J. Cochran Robin has returned from a short visit to the Willamette Valley. "I enjoyed myself and was hailed 193 times as the first robin of spring," she said.

Among the items of clothing contributed locally for shivering, naked Europeans are a number of pancake hats. When the peasant women of Serbia get tired of wearing them they can't eat them.

ON HIS OWN PETARD (Salem Capital Journal)
"Armed with shotguns and other noise devices, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar F. Jensen were serenaded.

"When William A. Rankin helped get up the party welcoming Mr. and Mrs. Oscar F. Jensen, he must have forgotten that he, too, was a newlywed. After every one in the Rankin home was asleep a three-gun salute was fired by the window and the self same crowd demanded treats."

In the middle of the housing shortage one finds Gloria Swanson, ex-movie queen, in a dire picklement, while seeking to shuck her fifth husband. She was cramped in a New York apartment with five bathrooms and three closets, the divorce testimony shows.

Iran, a tiny land over an oil field, criticizes Russia and Britain. The meek are getting their dander up. In Manila, an army sergeant from Detroit, and former CIO leader, engages in a verbal clash at a hearing with a senator and a colonel, and at last reports was still a sergeant.

Another incendiary has occurred at Vanport, a war-time housing project near Portland. The place has already had more fires than a Tillamook county forest.

A few citizens still lack 1946 auto licenses and calendars and are still dating checks "1945."

The Nuernberg prosecutor in the trial of the Nazi war criminals, was rebuked by two British jurists for extreme long-windedness, in trying to prove the Reich cabinet was a criminal organization. The court held the evidence in this respect was too "inconclusive."

WOOL OVER THEIR EYES
"Finally, in Genesis 4-2, it is recorded that Adam and Eve at first had two sons, Cain and Abel; that Cain was a tiller of the soil, and Abel was a keeper of the sheep. Well, you remember Cain killed Abel, and since that time, somebody or something has been raising Cain with the sheep men, consistently and unrelentingly."

The Cascade Tunnel through the Cascade Mountains in the state of Washington is 41,152 feet long, the longest railway tunnel in the Western Hemisphere.

Forget It!

Well, now the score is even. The naval heads blamed Admiral Kimmel for the Pearl Harbor disaster. Admiral Kimmel, in his first public statement since his court martial was ordered, blames the naval heads.

IT is probably true, as the Admiral states, that had he been given ALL the information the Navy department had, he would have viewed the situation differently.

It is also true, no doubt, that with only the information he had been given, Admiral Kimmel might well have taken far stronger defensive measures than he did.

BUT the big outstanding point is, neither the army and navy leaders in Hawaii, nor their superiors in Washington, thought for a minute the Japs would attack Pearl Harbor from the air.

As Admiral Kimmel stated yesterday: "The navy's war warning message of November 27th, 1941, did not warn me of a raid on Pearl Harbor and cannot be made a catch-all for all the contingencies hindsight may suggest."

"Hindsight" is right.

THE answer to all this has been given in this department before.

No one can be blamed for the Pearl Harbor disaster but the Japs. They pulled a fast one and got away with it. That's all.

This post-war effort to find a Pearl Harbor goat in this country is 99 per cent politics and 10 per cent nonsense,—it should be dropped and the distinguished members of the Congressional committee should turn their energies to more needed desirable and constructive ends.—R.W.R.

Eisenhower Explains

"The army found it impossible to live up to what former Chief-of-Staff George Marshall directed, that all two-year men would be out by March 20th. We found we simply could not do it. Had we not slowed down we would have literally run out of army." General Eisenhower, before Congress committee.

There is the entire story of military demobilization and the recent protests from the GI's abroad.

In mid-stream the official policy WAS changed. The service men were told one thing by General Marshall, and something else again by his successor.

They felt they had been let down,—that promises had not been kept. They resented it and proceeded to voice their resentment.

That is the milk in this army-revolt cocoanut.

THERE had really been no promise-breaking or bad faith. Conditions had changed, that's all, and policies had to be altered to meet them.

In war such changes in high policy were frequent and the men in the ranks never questioned them.

But when a man is fighting he fails to question many things that, when the fighting is over, he must have explained.

There is the explanation. We believe further public protests from the army rank and file, will be few and far between.—R.W.R.

It Is an Outrage; But —

Senator Murray of Montana declares three or four weeks will be required for his committee to determine whether it favors or doesn't favor President Truman's anti-strike proposal.

THERE is a perfect example of what President Truman complained about the other night in his "fire-side chat" to the people over the heads of congress,—the procedure is generally known as stalling,—"smothering in committee."

THERE is no reason, whatever, why the Senate Education and Labor committee could not make up its mind on this program in three or four days, instead of three or four weeks.

But Senator Murray is against the program,—he would be against anything that might lose him CIO votes,—and thinks procrastination and delay, the desirable procedure, not for the country, but polically for HIMSELF.

And unless the members of the Senate show some gumption and FORCE him to bring out a report, Murray will no doubt get away with it, as scores of Senators and Congressmen in the past have gotten away with it. It is outrageous.

YES, here, in fact is one of the most serious defects in our democratic government; the ability of an individual, or a small group of individuals to prevent prompt political action,—or any action at all—to defeat the popular will not by doing something about the matter, but doing NOTHING.

If Senator Murray of Montana, chairman of this important committee, does not favor this anti-strike proposal that is OK, let him oppose it; or if he favors it let him favor it and give his reasons for either action. But DON'T let him,—or at least there should be some way of preventing him,—or any other committee chairman from soldiering on his job as chairman, and refusing to take any action at all!

BUT in this, as in everything else in Washington, if the people of the country take no interest in the matter, allow their representatives without protest, to "get away with murder," day after day and year after year, nothing will be done about it,—against the redoubtable General Inertia under such circumstances nothing can be!—R.W.R.

On The Side—By E. V. Durling

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

Love shall be purified by pain. And pain be soothed by love again. So let us now take heart and go cheerfully on through joy and woe; No change the summer sun can bring. Or the incessant skies of spring. Or the bleak winter's stormy weather. For we shall meet them, love, together.

Principal purpose of our Horses & Women research is the attaining of a better understanding of the female. It has been said "women do not want to be understood; they want to be loved." It has always been our firm belief that if men understood more about women they could love them better. A loved woman is usually happy. The more happy women, the fewer the divorces. A decrease in divorces means an increase in children who can enjoy their young life living with both parents. So you can readily see our Horses & Women department research is really a noble experiment. Of course, our H & W experts may voice a few criticisms of the females but it is always 100 per cent constructive. Its object is to persuade women to eliminate as many faults as possible and thus make themselves easier to love.

Queries from clients: Q. In what play did the expression "Sweets to the Sweet" originate. A. In Mr. Shakespeare's "Hamlet." Believe you will find it in act 5. Q. What was the name of the original "fat boy" of the Our Gang comedies. And where is he now? A. Guess you mean Joe Cobb. Don't know what became of him. He must be nearly 30 now. Q. Who do you claim was the most accurate throwing outfielder in major league history? A. Best I ever saw was Jimmy Sheekard of the Dodgers and Cubs. Jimmy certainly could nail the runners at the plate. That was a great thrill. Not so much of that kind of baseball in these days of the lively ball.

Passing By Clark Gable. Greatest actor ever born in Cadiz, O. Once stated I believed Clark to be about five feet ten in height, maybe a little less. Now at this late date a Baltimore subscriber wants to bet a fine Havana cigar Gable is six feet one in height. I accept that bet. Will have Mr. Gable measured in the presence of witnesses soon. Affidavits will be furnished. When it comes to winning a Havana cigar I stop at nothing.

Stargazers All women love flattery but Aries (Mar. 22-Apr. 20) women love it most of all. The easiest of all women for a smart fellow to fool are the Aries girls. Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) women are so eager to be in love they often choose the wrong persons. That is why so many first marriages of Leo girls fail. Leoites usually have two children, no more, no less. Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) women cannot be successfully dominated. Must be handled diplomatically. They are inclined to be a little blue at times for no real reason. But this is usually only on Mondays. All in all they make wonderful wives and are affectionate little cusses. Such are the claims of the stargazers.

Young Mothers A Chicagoan aged 36 who has a son in the navy claimed to be the youngest mother with a son in the armed forces in World War II. California immediately topped this when Bob Gregory, Anaheim, proudly reported his charming 35-year-old wife is the mother of a son in the navy. Then John Shea, Burbank, navy veteran, came through with a topper to that. Reports John: "When I joined the navy my mother was 34 years old."

Audits Harry J. Hoffman of San Francisco says he has seen Bette Davis in the film "Now Voyager" 30 times, paying admission each time. Harry claims to be the country's leading Bette Davis fan. "The man who said wildcats can not be kept in captivity didn't know what he was talking about," writes an Echo, Wis., reader. "I have a wildcat in a cage and he seems plenty contented." (Note: You have something really unusual. Yours is probably the only philosophical wildcat in the country.)

Please Note "You rarely see a man smoking during a meal. However, you often see women smoking and eating at the same time. Why is this?" asks a Toledoan. Don't know why so many women smoke during a meal. Perhaps they don't know better. In any

event it is a barbaric custom. Furthermore, it is quite a breach of etiquette. To puff a cigaret between bites of food is an insult to the cook. Believe there is a book on smoking etiquette. Too bad it is not more widely circulated among women. There is considerable room for improvement in the smoking manners of most women. Stogie Department A Butte, Mont., reader says one winter in the 1930s the temperature in his town registered 62 below zero. He demands a stogie because I said the coldest weather ever was 45 below in Bismarck, N. D. The temperature he claims for Butte is not in the weather records I have. Must have more proof before parting with a stogie.

News Behind The News By Paul Mallon

Washington, Jan. 16 — The way State Secretary Byrnes has been siding with Moscow has impelled assemblage congressmen to ask if a Big Two is supplanting the Big Three or Five, if this is a new American policy and whether Byrnes has the backing of President Truman in these matters.



When Mr. Byrnes stepped from his Moscow plane with agreements practically validating the Russian position in Europe, he said he would go home for a few days, take a bath and sit and enjoy the remaining yuletide. He did not even get the bath. He was summoned immediately to the presidential cruising yacht.

Returning to Washington thereafter, he said he would spend the New Year day opening his Christmas presents and cards, but he was called back to the yacht.

THESE circumstances caused the White House crowd to surmise Mr. Truman was displeased. If not angry. But the explaining which Mr. Byrnes then started publicly attempting was concerned only with assurances that the atomic bomb would not be given away before we found the answer. Nothing was mentioned about giving away Bulgaria, Romania, Yugoslavia or other nations.

Mr. Truman, subsequently, went beyond the usual manner of his responses in a press conference to indorse what Byrnes had done. The president said there was no reason for "dissatisfaction" with the accomplishment at Moscow and the agreements were a "constructive" step forward.

The change of front of American foreign policy was thus established by these events, and what is now developing in London is merely the result.

NEWS readers may have to shield their heads from the paper in shocked surprise when Mr. Byrnes voted with the Russians, against the British in the initial world organization step of electing a president of the UNO assembly.

Actually this was part of a deal which the Russians thought went even further. They had asked Byrnes if he would approve their choice of the Norwegian leader, and he said he would. They thought he would publicly second their man, a misunderstanding privately attributed here to the difference in languages.

When the state secretary merely voted, without a seconding speech, the Russian UNO delegation started their movement to change the rules so as to require public nominations and voting.

IN this situation, Mr. Truman is concerning himself "90 per cent with domestic affairs," his closest observers concede. Certainly he is relying on Byrnes to establish foreign policy to a greater extent than any president since Harding relied on a state secretary (it was Charles Evan Hughes then). Intimate, or calling associ-

ates of the president do not include any known names of a person who might be regarded as a heavyweight counselor in the foreign field. And, in recognition of the new power of the state secretary in world affairs the Byrnes authority today is without precedent in our history.

He can give away nations to the influence of one foreign power or another, without a treaty requiring senatorial approval, or without any real review of his actions by any superior American authority, except the president, who is forced by his domestic circumstances to be only 10 per cent concerned.

FOR this task, Mr. Byrnes has set up no new or secret board of counsel. (His old South Carolina law partner recently brought into the department has been more concerned with politics than other affairs.) His only top close adviser still is Ben Cohen, the silent half of the old Cohen-Corcoran team which wrote the early new deal reform laws.

Neither Byrnes nor Cohen ever had any experience before in a world affairs job or in the subject of international diplomacy officially. By experience and temperament Byrnes is a political conciliator, and Cohen one of the Frankfurter legal school of thought.

Byrnes once was considered a Baruch man, when he sought the advice of that elderly and now retired sage of presidents. In the senate, Byrnes was known as "the great compromiser" as indeed his career was devoted to resolving the differences of those who fought the war of principles.

His closest and most sympathetic observers attribute his "mistakes" (they do not define what these are) to his inexperience in the high technique of diplomacy but they are not worried. Many a congressman, however, are frankly beginning to worry whether the tactics of senatorial political conciliation will work out so well in the world field.

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 permitted. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarity and condensation.

A Petition From Guam To the editor: I don't suppose you remember me, but I used to work on your Buick when I was with Bob Skinner till entering the air force September, 1942.

Since that time I have served at Chico, Calif., and was at the gunnery school in Kingman, Ariz., for 30 months, during which time I can assure you I served my country well.

For myself I'm not complaining, but some of the boys here got up a petition to Senator Johnson and everyone signed it and sent a copy to their home papers.

I hope you will send this copy to the senator of ours, or make an editorial of it, or both. We're not complaining of being in the army, just of being on Guam as there is no earthly reason to be here since Japan is not being bombed. The only work is just to keep us going, transportation, administration, etc.

The copy of the petition going to Senator Johnson has 800 signatures of 20th air force men. Thanks, and hope to see you soon.

The petition follows: "Dear Senator,— "The announcement of the War department made public yesterday, Jan. 5, 1946, stating that demobilization will be sharply reduced for overseas veterans, has resulted in a deplorable and serious blow to the morale of all servicemen, who have been overseas in the Pacific for more than a year.

"We feel compelled to point out that the demobilization program is a product of inconsistent and conflicting policies."



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Help lay track and ties, ballast the roadbed, and keep the line in good condition. Healthful outdoor work. No experience needed. The company furnishes free housing, including fuel, light and water. You get railroad benefits: medical and hospital care, passes, insurance, fine pension plan. Work for a permanent company—one with plenty of work ahead.

S.P. The Friendly Southern Pacific Apply S. P. Agent Medford, Ore.

ency, contradiction and vacillation to wit: "At first they said there was a shortage of shipping and then the navy pointed out that there were more than enough ships to take us home. "The War department then glibly resorts to the subterfuge that there is insufficient manpower. We can't understand that claim, because right now there is little or no work for us to do. As a matter of fact, they have stated that there is a surplus of men in this wing of over 36 per cent, a fact that is probably duplicated in other overseas units.

"To cap the muddled affairs of the War department, we are then treated to the shocking ignorance of the secretary of war, who has publicly professed a complete lack of knowledge that the point system was frozen as of V-J day, that he did not know that two-year men will be eligible for discharge on March 20, 1946, and that emergency furloughs had to be approved by the A.G. in Washington, D. C.

"We, the undersigned, respectfully but vehemently protest to this palpable breach of all the promises made by the War department. We state that we have sacrificed much, willingly, and have received in return only this: 'THEY SHALL NOT GO HOME.'"

"This letter signed by over 800 20th AAF men now stationed on Guam!" T/SGT. GEO. M. EDWARDS, 305th Air Eng. Squadron, 69th A.S.G., A.P.O. 334.

Flight o' Time Medford and Jackson Co. History from the files of the Mail Tribune 10. 20 and 34 years ago.

TEN YEARS AGO January 16, 1936 (It Was Thursday) Rain in January so far totals 5.56 inches, a record.

Bruno Hauptmann, kidnapper of Col. Lindbergh baby, granted 90 day reprieve.

Partly cloudy. High 48, low 38.

Soil conservation to be basis of new farm aid program.

Soldier bonus to pass despite veto by Roosevelt.

Rudyard Kipling, famed British author, near death.

TWENTY YEARS AGO January 16, 1926 (It Was Saturday) Movie to open at Gold Hill soon.

John C. Mann is elected president of Red Cross.

General attack on President Coolidge in senate starts, with

Sen. Norris of Nebraska leading fight on world court, tariff and Mexican policies.

Rain. High 40, low 35.

Republicans plan further cut in income taxes.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS 'AGO January 16, 1912 (It Was Tuesday)

Oregon Retail Merchants association to open state meet here tomorrow.

Chicken theft on Court street routed when owner fires several rifle shots through roof.

Five hundred people see Washington school students present play.

Rain. High 48, low 38.

NEW VIRGINIA GOVERNOR Richmond, Va., Jan. 16—(UP) William Munford Tuck, 49-year-old south Boston lawyer, tobacco man and political figure, today became the 61st governor of Virginia.

SAVE TIME ON HOME LOANS Quick Action by Our Appraisers See Mr. Kyle at FIRST FEDERAL Savings & Loan Assn. of Medford 27 North Holly

YELLOW CAB DIAL 2121 24-HR. SERVICE

Starts TOMORROW HE'S IN THE SADDLE AGAIN and looking for trouble! GARY COOPER LORETTA YOUNG ALONG CAME JONES WILLIAM DEMAREST DAN DURYEA TRACK WORKERS WANTED! LAST DAY BEAUTIFUL HOMICIDAL CRAWFORD Mildred Pierce JACK CARSON S.P. The Friendly Southern Pacific Apply S. P. Agent Medford, Ore. HOLLY

Great Way to relieve stuffiness, invite Sleep if nose gets "stopped up" Tonight! VICKS VA-TRO-NOL