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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

It continues too wet to build an ark, if one was included in the post-war projects.

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Many auto accidents are caused by parking space maneuvers. In many instances, a survey shows, the autoist backs out in front of lady drivers and there goes another fender. They wouldn't think of walking in front of her in the parlor.

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France is now flirting with a socialistic form of government. This is one of the things that caused the nation to flop and faint in 1940, while trying to fight Germany on a 44-hour week, the enemy employing a 168-hour week.

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Army doctors report postmortem studies show the late B. Mussolini of Italy was "an unusually healthy man," up to the time citizens of Milan, Italy, held a necktie party in his honor, and the festivities were too much for the late dictator. Il Duce is now as dead as any doornail or mackerel.

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SAFETY FIRST ITEM

(Siskiyou (Cal.) News)

"Friend of ours sends along a bit of sage advice he stole from some other sheet: 'Never go around with a married woman unless you can go two rounds with her husband.'"

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The House, for the time being, voted to eliminate funds for alterations of the White House. It is part of a republican drive for economy, and knocks in the head plans to enlarge the President's office. It is so small now, some of the labor leaders have to stand up, while telling him what to do.

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Army scientists have made radar contact with the moon, they claim, in 2.5 seconds. This feat is of great value on controlling long-range rocket bombs in War III, which is not supposed to occur.

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"The ladies of the Baptist church spent Thursday making quilts for foreign relief. The chilliest nights of the winter have been experienced here the past week." — (Salmon River Items.) — A gentle hint that warmth should begin at home.

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A fleet of 97 American and Japanese warships will be atom-bombed in a lonely section of the Pacific next May, "in the mightiest scientific experiment ever attempted by man." Whyfore of sinking American ships is not explained, except they are rather old, as warships go. The enemy was unable to sink them, and the experiment will convince Japan and Germany, if they need convincing, it can be done.

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RED OF FACE & EARS

"What prominent matron, after having carried home a twin aluminum tea kettle belonging to a fellow club-member, after the recent Women's Club tea in the belief that it was her very own, discovered upon reaching for her coat belt that she had donned her neighbor's coat in lieu of her own, following the pot-luck function. Friends are consoling her with the thought that as long as she discovers her own propensity for walking off with her neighbor's property they will not start counting napery and sterling." — Del Norte (Cal.) Triplicate.)

Twenty-nine per cent of railway crossing accidents are caused by automobiles running into the sides of trains.

Closing time for Classified Ads 8:30 a.m.—Too Late to Classify 12:15 p.m.

Unfortunate

When President Truman yesterday rejected the suggestion of Benjamin F. Fairless, president of U. S. Steel, to call a conference of Big Business executives to discuss the strike we believe he—the President—was right.

....When he added that the best thing President Fairless could do would be to accept the wage compromise Mr. Truman had offered,—an increase of 18½ cents,—he was also right.

For this increase represented an equal concession by both capital and labor, and its acceptance would have accomplished what the people of this country want accomplished!

An end to these walk-outs and a return to work!

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BUT when President Truman at the conclusion of his remarks leaned back in his chair with a sigh and declared he had done all he could to bring order out of chaos in this labor-management war, he could do nothing more, he was WRONG.

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FOR that remark, even though it may be literally true,—which we doubt,—is the type of remark which the President of the country in such a crisis as now exists, should never make.

Could anyone imagine Thoedore Roosevelt, Grover Cleveland, or Andrew Jackson making any such defeatist statement in the midst of battle? The latter had serious internal troubles to settle, the first two had even more serious troubles particularly Cleveland, but while at times matters threatened to reach an impasse—or even defeat,—they never quit trying, they never quit fighting, and in each case by fearless aggressive and persistent leadership, they won.

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NOT only was that remark a serious tactical mistake at this time but we fear it represents a characteristic of President Truman's which is unfortunate, and before his term expires, may prove tragic.

That characteristic is a disposition to avoid trouble,—to go the easy way,—not to come firmly to grips with things, to be satisfied with half measures, to be content with words as a substitute for deeds.

• • • • •

WE may be doing the President an injustice—we sincerely hope we are. But this "quitting" statement at the most serious period of our post-war labor troubles, taken with other statements since he assumed office, does create an uneasy suspicion, that Mr. Truman has yet to develop those qualities of self-confidence, fearlessness and aggressiveness, so necessary in establishing that leadership, which under prevailing conditions, is so imperative, if his administration is to be a success.—R.W.R.

Deserved Recognition

The awarding of the Distinguished Service Medal, one of the nation's highest awards, to Major General Charles H. Gerhardt for his leadership of the 29th Infantry Division in the invasion of Europe recalls the early days of the war here when he activated and trained the 91st Division at Camp White. The citation points to his "outstanding aggressiveness, inspiring personal courage and gifted leadership which was directly responsible for the magnificent performance of his division and its important contribution to the defeat of Germany.

• • • • •

THE award comes as no surprise to General Gerhardt's friends here in southern Oregon. Those who knew the dynamic, colorful young general were confident that he would give a good account of himself as an inspiring leader and shrewd tactician on the firing line. Apparently the high command had the same opinion when Gerhardt was relieved of his command of the 91st and sent to England to head a division chosen to spearhead the invasion of Normandy.

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A DRIVER and stern disciplinarian, General Gerhardt's rigorous training of the 91st brought its full share of gripes from the GI's, but he instilled in the "Powder River, Let 'er Buck" outfit a toughness and "espit de corps" that paid dividends in the subsequent Italian compaign.. In those busy days he found time to take an active part in the Medford Rotary club and other civic groups, and his friends here are many.

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THE 29th Division under General Gerhardt established a beach head on the French coast on D-day and pushed inland against bitter German resistance. His men fought doggedly through the tangled hedgerows on the Normandy peninsula, smashing ahead to capture St. Lo and Vire before heading south, then west to aid in the assault on Brest.

In Holland General Gerhardt directed a successful crossing of the Roer river under heavy fire and flood water conditions. The important city of Julich and the industrial and communication centers of Rheydt and Muchen-Gladbach fell to his command. Much enemy territory, vast stores and thousands of prisoners were the fruits of the 29th's campaign.

Suitable recognition of the distinguished service of this gallant and resourceful leader and former neighbor is pleasing to the people of this community. —H.G.

Training Planes Offered Public

Washington, Jan. 25—(U.P.)—The war assets corporation today placed some 1,059 North American AT-6 training planes on sale for $1,500 each.

The AT-6 is a two place low-wing all-metal monoplane with a sliding cockpit canopy and tandem seating arrangement. It is powered by a 550-horsepower Wasp engine. The planes can be used for civilian purposes with certain modifications.

They are stored at depots at Albuquerque, N. M., Altus, Okla., Augusta, Ga., Camden, S. C., Dos Palos, Calif., Jackson, Miss., Kingman, Ariz., Ontario, Calif., Ponca City Okla., and Venon, Tex.

Closing time for Classified Ads 8:30 a.m.—Too Late to Classify 12:15 p.m.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Washington, D. C., Jan. 25—The confounding results of Mr. Truman's submission of his domestic economic program to congress are plainly evident no deeper than the newspaper headlines. His plans to thwart inflation were greeted with an immediate rising of the stock market in expectation of inflation. News headlines on his message generally said: "Truman calls for action to prevent inflation." The New York Times' account of stock price increases of the following day was headed: "Inflation Outlook Advances Stocks."

Paul Mallon

The mart men simply did not believe the program would stop rising prices—and neither do I. How could anyone? If auto wages are to be hiked 18.5 per cent and the cost of steel increased by $4 a ton as originally proposed, or more, how can the selling price of cars be kept from increasing? Steel is the basic ingredient of autos and labor the main cost factor of their manufacture.

• • •

KNOWING souls in congress wink their eye and say prices will sneak up as a result of the Truman measures now on the fire, regardless of OPA or high water. If wages and basic materials in general go up, can prices be far behind? War experience developed many ways in which price increases could be accomplished indirectly if not directly — reduction of quality, creation of new products which cannot be price-catalogued, and many others.

Yet it seems no one objects to what Truman says, only to what Truman does. His recitation of his purposes drew no criticism from congress and little elsewhere. The country evidently wants the basic idea of a high wage-price economy with full employment, will pay high taxes and is opposed to further inflation. So does congress. No one wants deflation.

But the things Mr. Truman proposes to do are simply not generally in accord with his purposes.

• • •

TO think that costs can be increased without a price increase is not the only strain upon average intelligence. Mr. Truman wants congress to pass immediately the C.I.O. full employment bill, pledging the government to great expenditures, and is already increasing practically every appropriation for peace activities of the government, even planning a big wing on the White House, and proposing increases of salaries of congress—at a time when we are threatened with inflation. Normal reasoning would call for the opposite tactics of government economy in a battle against inflation.

Again, a main problem of the fight against inflation is to get our men back to work, but his budget calls for $16,000,000,000 for national defense (a new kind of spending, the economic effects of which are not clear, as much of the money may wind up in foreign lands). Although he says veterans are lounging before going to work (war workers also?) he demands that congress increase the unemployment compensation allowance, and extend the number of weeks men may get it, thus counteracting his quick reemployment purpose.

• • •

THE president wants congress to increase the minimum wage (for unskilled labor largely) but this labor is already generally getting a higher wage than the proposed figure. Yet, by whatever degree it increases minimum wages in some industries it will serve the cause of inflation.

His recommendation for continuance of OPA controls is about the only one which jibes with his anti-inflationary purposes, but he is simultaneously digging a hole in that ceiling for steel, and is proposing to pay bigger government subsidies on foods in an effort to conceal a price increase by having the government pay for it. He is paying subsidies to packers to hold down meat prices, but the workers are striking for wage increases which must increase prices or subsidies.

Thus his actions run counter to his theory in basic fundamentals. He has the right program, but is defeating it himself in many ways.

The above reasoning represents not only what I think, but what congress believes, as well as the stock market. This explains the incongruities of the White House-congress stalemate which was not broken by the president's earnest message.

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 25, 1936
(It Was Saturday)

Al Smith denounces New Deal, and "will take a walk" if Democrats nominate Roosevelt for second term.

Millionaire found on relief rolls in Georgia.

Special election to vote on sales tax to provide old age pension funds opposed by many beneficiaries.

Generally fair. High 40, low 32.

Harry Bridges, labor leader, visions civil war in coast dock dispute.

TWENTY YEARS AGO
January 25, 1926
(It Was Monday)

Gov. Pierce undecided about running for U. S. senate.

Klan organization in Oregon plans to re-organize.

Gen. Andrews lays "dry law farce" to courts.

Unsettled with rain. High 42, low 32.

De Luxe open cars to be on market this year.

China swept by famine, floods, and bandits.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO
January 25, 1912
(It Was Thursday)

"Many picket fences in town have been torn down or painted the past week" — (Jacksonville News)

Medford women rally to work for women's suffrage.

Government to come here and study how valley orchardists keep Jack Frost at bay.

Socialists plan "riot of the idle" at Portland, but it fails to materialize.

Rain. High 57, low 34.

WEATHER

Northern California: Clear today tonight and Saturday. Cooler today and tonight. Gentle to moderate northerly winds off coast.

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Oil Burners, Brooders and Furnaces
Work Guaranteed
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Park View
Convalescent Home
153 Granite St. Ashland Ore
Registered Nurse in Charge
Equipment for bed patients.

SEQUIN CLUB
HOTEL DEL ROGUE, Grants Pass
DELICIOUS DINNERS (Jack Hutson, Chef)
No Cover Charge for Guests Arriving by 8 p. m. After 8 p. m., 90c, including tax. No Cabaret Tax on Dinners before 9 p. m. (Bar Service Only on Tuesday. No Cover Charge).
Abby Green, his Orchestra, Piano, Nova Chord.
Jeanne Hackett, vocalist Rudy Wiley, Tenor-Sax
Tutt Halaas, Drums-Vocal

Diseased Baby Brings $125 In Sale To Wife Of Sailor

By Patricia Clary
United Press Correspondent

Los Angeles, Jan. 25—(U.P.)—The wife of a discharged sailor was told by an "astrologer" that she was born to be a "wonderful mother." And she said she thought he was kind when he sold her an "opera stars" baby for $125.

But today Mrs. Robert Blucker, the "mother," discovered that the month-old girl had an inherited, probably fatal, disease.

Police went looking for the unnamed astrologer.

They said he had packed his crystal ball and vanished.

The baby, Bobbie Jean, lay near death in General hospital. It was taken there after Mr. and Mrs. Blucker discovered that it turned black when they fed it.

Doctors said that the infant had only one chance in 10 of surviving, and, if it recovered it would be blind. Its condition must have been known to whoever gave the baby for adoption, attendants said.

"We consented to the unusual adoption because we wanted a baby more than anything else in the world and couldn't have one of our own," Mrs. Blucker said.

Her chief machinists mate husband recently was discharged after eight years in the navy.

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Hollister's Kwick
ALL-VEGETABLE LAXATIVE
NR-TABLETS-NR
NR TONIGHT TOMORROW MORNING

Let's Go
ROLLER SKATING
MEDFORD ARMORY
7:30 to 10:30
THURS., FRI., SAT. and SUN. NIGHTS
SKATING PARTIES by SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

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We back up our CLAIM
It's Thrifty to Buy at ANDERSON'S THRIFT MARKET
VACUUM BOTTLE CORKS ..... each 10c
PREWAR QUALITY POCKET COMBS..each 10c
GILLETTE THIN BLADES ..... 4 for 10c
HONEYSUCKLE BUBBLE BATH ... pkg. 59c
$1.25 WOODBURY SPECIAL DRY SKIN CREAM 97c
60c ALKA SELTZER...49c
25c CARTER'S PILLS...19c
35c VAPO-RUB 29c
COFFEE BY THE POUND — YOU CALL IT CHASE & SANBORN lb. 29c
PLUMS—Deluxe, in heavy syrup.....2½ tin 20c
SPAGHETTI With Mushrooms in Sauce. Lb. jars 2 for 49c
SPINACH—Tip-Top ..... 14½ oz. jar 15c
PORK & BEANS VAN CAMPS 20-oz. Can 2 for 25c
SOUP MIX—Betty Crocker.....3 reg. Pkg. 27c
SPERRY'S WHEAT HEARTS 28-oz. pkg. 23c
CLAPP'S — HEINZ or GERBER'S BABY FOODS 4 cans strained 28c
BAKER'S COCOA ½-lb. tin 10c
ALL WEATHER GLOVES—POPULAR PRICES
PEAS PICTSWEET SMALL or LARGE 2 No. 2 Cans 33c
APPLE BUTTER ..... 68 oz. jar 59c
MARMALADE PURE CITRUS 2 2-lb. Jars 39c
ASPARAGUS—Trupak ..... No. 2 can 45c
BEETS ROYAL CLUB SLICED 2 No. 2 Cans 29c
FRESH PRODUCE
LETTUCE, large heads..... 2 for 19c
PARSNIPS, fresh, crisp..... 3 lbs. 29c
GRAPEFRUIT, Arizona..... 4 for 37c
ORANGES, Sunkist, sweet large ..... doz. 43c
CARROTS, bulk ..... 3 lbs. 21c
TURNIPS, bulk fresh ..... 4 lbs. 25c
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MEDFORDS POPULAR TWO FRONT STORE