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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

Naval experts predict Allied

and captured enemy warships

slated for atomic bomb attacks

in mid-Pacific next summer will

survive the tests. In such an

event, it may be necessary to

give them to one of the late

aggressor nations in order to get

rid of them.

The ruling of a Washington

bureau that nightgowns are

"frills" and "non-essential" has

caused considerable of a furor

in the metropolises, among the fair

sex, who admit there is a short-

age of reasonably priced sleep-

ing attire, but plenty of synthe-

tics retailing at \$39.50. There

was a time in Oregon when

nightgowns sold for \$16.50, and

was split three ways, the Grand

Imperial Wizard of Atlanta,

Ga., getting the biggest cut. The

buyer also got a mask to wear

with his nightie, who when en-

route to hang a sinner, could

only be identified by his feet

and walk.

PROBLEM OF PEACE

(Woodlawn (Cal.) Democrat)

"In the way of a civilian

job, what does anyone suggest

as suitable for a 22-year-old

ex-captain who has been called

the old man by kids of 20?"

The bleak and chilly winter

has reduced most of the valley

woodpiles to a shadow of their

former selves. None of the

woodpiles were mixed up in pol-

itics and charged with being the

hiding place of a colored gentle-

man.

The London report a woman

in Paris had become the mother

of seven babies, turned out to be

a hoax. A French policeman

pulled the wool over the eyes

of a reporter. Instead of the

diplomats of one country doing

the same thing to the rest of the

world.

This is the birthday of George

Washington, first president, and

many of the things he advised

against in his farewell address,

have gone unheeded and are

what ails the nation today. He

was against "foreign entangle-

ments," and America now has

plenty of them. Today many

will read his words of wisdom

spoken 150 years ago and highly

applicable to affairs now shap-

ing, with a golf stick or a fish-

ing pole.

The sister city of Salem is

exulted no end by the victories

of its quint over the B. Tornado

this week. It is hoped being hit

by an unexpected shower of

horseshoes will enable the "pow-

erful Vikings" to screw up suf-

ficient courage to tangle with

the losers next fall. In an already

scheduled football game. They

side-stepped this honor last fall

and practically the same thing

confronts them come October.

The army announces it will

put on sale next Monday, 434,000

surplus washboards. No grand

rush is anticipated, as wash-

boards are more out of date than

buggy whips.

Car chains are still needed on

many Oregon highways, due to

snow and ice. This is not the

way some state scribes tell it.

On journeys over notoriously

slick and stormy routes, they ex-

perienced no rigors. Everything

was just lovely and it was no

trick to stop suddenly in the

balmy air and pick a bunch of

ripe bananas, they infer.

Dude ranching is a major

business in Wyoming.

Closing time for Sunday Too Late

to classify 4:30 Saturday afternoon

Please remember.

George Washington

This is the anniversary today, not just of the birth of a great man, but of the historic beginning of a free America. George Washington, the father of this country, could have been a king. He could have made America a monarchy. But because he had the vision and the courage to foresee the destiny of democracy and to wisely lead the first faltering footsteps of the 13 colonies, he stands today in a place in which no king has ever stood. It is a place of dignity and grandeur never before attained by any man, a lofty pinnacle that will never be surpassed in ages to come.

It will be recalled that a certain Colonel Nicola, commander of a Pennsylvania regiment, was so dubious of the virtues of democracy that he candidly wrote to General Washington suggesting that he support a royalist movement. He promised, and probably could have delivered, military backing for the movement. Washington's abrupt and scathing reply was:

"If I am not deceived in the knowledge of myself, you could not have found a person to whom your schemes are more disagreeable."

The movement persisted, however, and on Dec. 4, 1783, a great company of military leaders met at France's Tavern in New City to offer Washington a throne and crown. But determination to retire prompted this simple and democratic statement by George Washington and put an end to the matter for that time and for all time:

"With a heart full of love and gratitude, I now take leave of you.
"I most devoutly wish that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honorable.
"I cannot come to each of you to take my leave, but shall be obliged to you if each will come and take me by the hand."

"LIBERTY or death" was no mere catch phrase with the ragged colonists when they faced the hardships and bitter sacrifices of Valley Forge days. Theirs was a one-way road in their fight for independence from the British crown. They knew that there was no turning back, for at the end of the road they must either achieve victory or face a firing squad as traitors. Washington had to battle a stronger, better equipped enemy, had to withstand the discouragement and despair that so frequently confronted him, had to inspire his loyal followers to carry on, while contending with the jealousy and intrigue of those Americans who sought to discredit and remove him. For a less dauntless leader eventual triumph at Yorktown could not have been attained.

As he was first in war, so was he first in peace. His wise counsel at the Constitutional Convention and subsequent leadership of a youthful nation laid a sound foundation for America's greatness today.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, historians say, was a "regular fellow" who loved to gather with his neighbors for an old fashioned clam bake or trip the light fantastic. He was a scientific farmer, a distiller of fine liquor and a breeder of thoroughbred horses. He was an enthusiastic fisherman, an ardent duck hunter, a clever billiard player and liked a card game with his cronies. He was first in the hearts of his colonial neighbors, just as he is today first in the hearts of 140 million grateful and free Americans.

Abraham Lincoln was right when he said: "Washington is the mightiest name on earth."—H.G.

On The Side—By E. V. Durling

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

When God was making flowers,
Was the time he visited you
Then made you from the pat-
terns
That were within his view.
He gave to you the beauty,
And the fragrance of the rose,
The gracefulness and loveliness
That all the flowers disclose.
—W. H. Ferguson.

(Above is an excerpt from a poem written by the author as a tribute to his daughter Joy, on her ninth birthday. Mr. Ferguson is the father of two daughters, and six sons but Joy is the only child he has written a poem about. Apparently this young lady is the apple of her papa's eye.)

"Today I heard a plump female of 40 or thereabouts say 'I lost my hankie.' That's what I reported several weeks ago adding it seemed a little silly for grown-up ladies to continue to talk like babies. The comment, of course, was made in a spirit of constructive criticism.

I am amazed to find it has enraged a number of our feminine subscribers one of whom, a resident of Champaign, Ill., writes: "One can hardly imagine a worse shock than the one you received on hearing a female of 40 saying 'I've lost my hankie,' and especially a plump female! Perhaps you could make some suggestions as to the proper age for a plump female to leave off saying 'hankie' and 'panties.' Maybe some method of tapering off could be arranged in order to avoid such an abrupt change in the life of the fat, forthright female." (Note: This communication is signed "Fair, Fat and 40.")

Asking
Queries from clients. Q. You once mentioned a book by Con-
an Doyle you had read nine times. The title please. A. I read it 19 times. Title is "Rodney Stone." By no means a classic. Just something that happened to appeal to me. Q. Please name a few good writers among

newspaper men who are not college graduates. A. Damon Runyon, one of the greatest of all writers among newspaper men, is not a college graduate. Neither is Arthur Brisbane or O. O. McIntyre.

Passing By
Phil Cavaretta. First sacker of the Chicago Cubs. Phil broke into Major league baseball at the age of 16. When I was 16 I was still having a tough time holding my position on the high school nine. Other Major leaguers who broke in at the age of 17 or under were Freddie Lindstrom, Mel Ott and Jack Knight. The latter was the first Major leaguer to be nicknamed "Schoolboy."

Lucia Chase. One of the country's most interesting young widows. When her husband Thomas Ewing Jr., died, he left her \$19,000,000. Scorning a life of inactivity Lucia resumed her career as a dancer with the ballet theater for which she also acts in an executive capacity.

Horses & Women
Brooklyn wives are patient and long suffering. It is remarkable how much some of these matrons will stand from a husband. This is also true of Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Toledo and Chicago wives, and generally the same wives living in the country. But Manhattan wives can be pushed just so far and then they act, as indicated by the following communication from a New Yorker: "I have just celebrated my 35th birthday by throwing my husband out. His heavy drinking, sarcasm and cynicism was getting on my nerves. Besides he was giving me an inferiority complex. I am fairly good looking, lively and gay—but quiet." (Note: The young woman doesn't say just how she threw her spouse out. In a quiet way I suppose.)

Almost Confidential
It happened recently in Gal-

veston, Tex. A wife ran away with a nylon hosiery salesman. I am informed that on East 57th St., Manhattan, is an establishment called "Salon for the Manicure." Some class, what? Who is the oldest practicing physician in the United States? A Californian claims it is Dr. F. M. Watson-Reeves of Los Angeles. Dr. Reeves, a woman, is 90 years old. She is a homeopathic physician and has been practicing for 53 years.

Says He
"I see some secretaries are protesting regarding cartoons and jests dealing with secretaries sitting on the laps of their bosses," writes a Chicagoan. "These young women indignantly deny such a thing happens and claim it gives secretaries a bad name. I am an executive and a bachelor. Being in my thirties it is necessary for me to have a strict policy of business before pleasure. I can tell you it is very difficult to get a secretary who doesn't try to climb on your lap. These women figure that is a way to make their jobs more secure and easier. Furthermore, the boss usually has a good income or salary and is able to take a girl to high class places of entertainment if she can manage to inspire his affections. Of course, if he is a bachelor like myself, she will try to marry him."

Please Note
Regarding that claim of some men of science that children born and brought up near radio broadcasting stations are likely to be taller than the average: I have just heard of a boy living near WJL's transmitter in Lodi, N. J. This lad, who is 17 years old, is six feet, seven inches tall!

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

News Behind
The News
By Paul Mallon

Miami, Fla. Feb. 22—The mad rush of the people to spend and throw their money around freely is visibly ac-

centuated here in the nation's winter playground.

Betting at the Hialeah horse track is running nearly double 1943-44, the last previous racing year. Daily an average of \$400,000 is

poured through the mutuels by 20,000 to 30,000 persons.

Three nightly dog racing tracks in this area reported \$15,800,000 was bet by people during the first 113 nights of their season, a 50 per cent increase over the war-betting year.

Gambling casinos in this area have been pushed out across the county line by official action, but so much money has been lost in the most lavish of these establishments, its activities may get into the national wire news before the season is closed.

INSIDERS tell me this gambling spree has been inspired mostly by black-market money, the untraceable, untaxed cash which operators in tires, butter and shortage materials manage to extract in the large cities.

But the common man is spending his, too. Every imaginable archaic form of jalopy and trailer hit the highways this winter for this massive sunny sandbar which is the state of Florida. Practically every trailer camp has a sign in front: "No vacancies." One woman started a sit-down picket demonstration of 24 hours or more in a hotel lobby in protest of her inability to obtain lodgings.

What is not being reported is that these eager people, some with their war savings, or veterans with their discharge allowances, are gladly paying 40 to 80 cents for a hamburger; \$30 up for inferior tires; \$2.85 for a fast haircut and wash; \$70 a week for medium-class hotel room and board; \$3 and up (up to \$30) for dinner without drinks; \$8000 for a cottage for a few months—and commensurately for other items of living.

Money is flowing fast and fur-

iously. This condition, as I say, is not unique in Florida. The nation is on a spending spree. You can merely see the flow in closer focus here, where money was never sticky, yet never so slippery as now.

WHAT happens when the money runs out? What comes next when the war bonds are cashed and spent, the discharge allowances gone, the black markets dispelled by normal supplies of living materials? Will the populace not wind up one day broke and shriek to the government again: "Save me?"

Wise men of knowing reputation, to whom I have put these questions have not given me the answer I expected. They figure the spending spree is a temporary interim postwar condition, which will soon sop up its own causes and effects and leave no disastrous results. It is true, however, these days resemble 1929 in their surface aspects.

People are bidding for goods and services rather wildly, anticipating even higher prices. But there is one great difference now. In 1929 people bought with debt, they bought on the installment plan beyond their ability to pay (corporations as well as individuals). Today people are spending cash and are not acquiring debt.

Logically, then, they expect to escape the former consequences of their folly.

THERE is another escape to which they look forward. If the nation goes to work and produces goods for the vast shortage-markets, the present flow of cash may be expanded. If the sales of all the autos, radios, ice boxes and what-nots are effected, this current spending spree might be followed by a boom for two, three or five years.

Personally, I am not so sure of this, as most authorities seem to be. I am beginning to wonder if the people will have enough money left to buy all the things they need. I am not certain that the strikes have not dangerously delayed production while money went elsewhere, and I ask myself (without getting an answer) if the increased prices required to satisfy the unions' demands will not be a deterrent to boom buying and spending, as wages generally have not increased sufficiently to give permanence to current war-bloated buying power among the great mass of the people.

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Flight o' Time

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TEN YEARS AGO

February 22, 1936
(It Was Saturday)

Postmaster General Farley defends New Deal spending at Topeka banquet.

Unsettled. High 55, low 47.

Charles Wings buys prize Guernseys for his dairy.

Ashland defeats Medford 21 to

14.

Tornado defeats Roseburg

28-16, with Sam Van Dyke throwing 17 points.

High wind hits valley and rips down signs.

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