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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

Labor continues to strike while the iron is hot, and the public is getting hotter.

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The Salem baseball team of the W. I. league will open its season at home April 30. Everybody with the price of admission and the inclination will be able to get into the ball park. It will be different at the state basketball tournament in the same burg March 12-16, with prospects of 5000 patrons, with room for 2000.

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A returned war correspondent reports the Germans are the best shod, best dressed, and best fed people in Europe, and another writer states everything is knocked out in Germany, but the notion they are the super-race, as Hitler told them, and destined to rule the world. The American army of occupation guarantees the late Hun a 1500-calories per day diet, and, to the people of France and other occupied lands this looks like steak four times a day, the writer states. He further states the "so-called starvation of the German people," America feels sad about these days, is so much propaganda.

• • •

CIRCUMSTANTIAL

(Mankato, Kan., Record)

"FOUND — A man's wrist watch, near the edge of my hog pen on the Alex Judy farm northeast of Burr Oak. I had a hog disappear from this place. This watch shows evidence of having been lost about that time. It is a watch that has at least four identifying features and I desire to get it back to the rightful owner.—Joe McDill. 18*1"

• • •

The Oregon democracy is so hard put for a candidate for governor, it is now coaxing a bright young Portlander to make the race. It was different in the "dark days of 1933." Then they had to threaten with violence, all Democrats registered as such more than two years, to keep them from throwing their hat into the ring, so rabid was the lust for office.

• • •

Fancy bulls are now selling througout the land for as high as $50,000 apiece. It is a mere bagatelle compared to what the people have paid for political "taffy" and "soft soap," charmingly served.

• • •

The senate has approved a $115,000,000 appropriation annually for school lunches. Look out for a jurisdictional fight between the CIO and AF of L to decide which union will was the dishes.

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A San Frnacisco commentator, disapproving of the recent revision notes as follows:

"Try, for example, the Sermon on the Mount. Here's what too many cooks have done with that.

Matthew V:13, in the King James:—

"'Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.'

Now, here is what the Nine Professors have done with it:

"'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden under foot by men'."

Whereupon, he inquires pertinently, "What is so smart about that?" You tell 'em.

French Communist Move May Smoke Out Franco's Falange

By Louis F. Keemle
United Press Staff Correspondent

France, spurred on by her strong communist and left wing elements, has started a fire which eventually may smoke out the Falangist regime of Generalissimo Francisco Franco in Spain.

The French government was cautious in its first overt move, refusing to break off relations with Spain as demanded. Instead, it closed the French-Spanish border, tantamount to an economic boycott.

President Felix Gouin's cabinet apparently hopes not to be left holding the bag, but to gain the support of Great Britain and the United States before it is forced to take other steps.

DANGERS TO INTERNATIONAL SECURITY SEEN

The official French communique said new representations will be made to London and Washington, pointing out again "the dangers to international security involved in the present situation in Spain."

The implication is that France will try to have the matter brought before the security council of the United Nations Organization. The only "legal" and justifiable way to force the Franco government out would be for the council to declare it in fact a menace to world peace, and authorize joint action.

The United States, despite a previous appeal from France, does not favor breaking relations with Spain for fear of appearing to be trying to force a different government on the Spanish people by outside influence.

BRITAIN AND U. S. AGAINST INTERNAL INTERFERENCE

Britain has the same scruple against open interference in Spain's internal affairs. London, moreover, is not inclined to disrupt trade relations with Spain, and is keeping an anxious eye on that country because of its location on the empire life line to the east. Russia, of course, would support almost any move to oust Franco. The Soviet Union has no diplomatic relations with Spain and is not directly involved in the present stage of proceedings.

The French government reluctantly acted alone not so much because France is Spain's immediate neighbor as because the communists, socialists, trade union organizations and the left wing press have been exerting extreme pressure.

The same kind of pressure is being applied elsewhere in the world and may influence the course of Britain and the United States, even though the leftists have not so much political power in those countries as in France.

COMMUNISTS OF WORLD IN ANTI-FRANCO CRUSADE

Communists all over the world have been called into the anti-Franco crusade. They have the support of the World Federation of Trade Unions, which is not entirely communist, but is under communist, socialist and left wing leadership. Such strong organizations as the American CIO, the Russian trades unions and the British trades unions council are back of it.

The WFTU claims to represent 66,000,000 workers in more than 50 countries, and has been seeking representation in the UNO as an unofficial world power.

The WFTU has called on its affiliates in all countries to start a campaign in favor of breaking relations with Franco. The national secretariat of the communist party in the United States, rallying to the WFTU war cry, has just issued a manifesto calling for mass action to influence the American government. The statement said:

"Protest actions are on the order of the day. Mass meetings must be held and telegrams must be sent to the White House by trade unions and other organizations of the people, as well as by individuals."

On The Side By E. V. Durling

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

Before I trust my fate to thee
Or place my hand in thine
Question thy soul tonight for me.
Does there within thy dimmest dreams
A possible future shine
Wherein thy life could hence-forth breathe,
Untouched, unshared by mine?
Is there within thy heart a need
That mine cannot fulfill?
One chord that any other hand
Could better wake or still?
—Adelaide Anne Procter.

• • •

A young matron of Chicago writes: "As for being married to a Pisces (Feb. 20-Mar. 21) man. It's wonderful! My dear, darling delightful husband born under that sign turns every penny of his paycheck over to me. He serves me my breakfast in bed and treats me like a queen!"

Asking

Queries from clients: Q. My husband says there was a song titled "When the Harvest Days Are Over, Nellie Dear." I say the girl's name was Jessie. A. You are right. The ditty was titled "When the Harvest Days Are Over, Jessie Dear." About the same time there were songs titled "Wait Til the Sun Shines, Nellie" and "Ain't You Coming Back to Old New Hampshire, Molly." Q. Five members of the Philadelphia Hot Stove league would like to know where you rate "Stuffy" McInnis as a fielding first baseman. Q. Well, gentlemen, considerng fielding only Hal Chase is first. Right? And I would put Jake Daubert second. After that it is hard to rate them. But I would put "Stuffy" in the first six. Q. You say Charmion, a burlesque queen, threw her garters to the audience. That's wrong. It was Mlle. De Leon, the girl in blue. A. I don't recall making that statement. Charmion was before my time. But I remember Mlle. De Leon tossing her garters to the eager male customers. She was quite a character. Some Hollywoodian should make a technicolor film based on her career.

Please Note

A new Yorker says it was not his rendition of "I'll Never Smile Again" that made Sinatra famous but the manner in which he sang "Night and Day." That might be true. Maybe Frankie better start singing "Night and Day" again. Many Bobby Sockers are deserting him and going over to Bing. And if Gregory Peck could croon neither Frank nor Bing would be in it. Even so, Peck seems destined to become Hollywood's No. 1 heartthrob.

Asides

If a man still has a bad habit after 50 years of age it is impossible to cure him. So states a character development expert. I question that claim. I know a man of 52 who was cured of playing three-horse parlays. . . Now I have a reader in Algonac, Mich. I'll have to start collecting road maps again. I once had a map of nearly every state in the union. So when I found I had a reader in a town that was new to me I looked it up on the map. Anybody got a road map of Michigan to spare?

Sleep

It was pointed out here that "Rabbit" Maranville, the famous major leaguer, always slept face down, flat on his stomach with arms out-stretched. And that Maranville believed this manner of sleeping had much to do with his attaining a physical condition which enabled him to have such a long major league career. Attracted by this item a member of the staff of Northwestern university decided to try Maranville's system of slumbering. He says: "I have found that way of sleeping much more restful. I do not wake up at intervals as I did previously. It has improved my outlook on life. No longer do I wake up grouchy and irritable. Now I get up in the morning full of pep."

Noble Experiment

Part of an adult education program in New York city is an eight week course in home managing for married women. Those taking this course will be taught how to handle their housework in an efficient and scientific manner. Many New York husbands who see considerable room for improvement in the way their homes are being managed are having their wives take this course. Sounds like a truly noble experiment.

Passing By

Eugene O'Neill. Believed by some to be America's No. 1 playwright. If you remember his papa, James O'Neill, in "The Count of Monte Cristo," you are eligible for the Old Timers club. Eugene's new play is titled "The Iceman Cometh." The "Iceman" is death. The action takes place in a waterfront saloon. Sounds like quite a grim opus. . . Packey O'Gatty, Erstwhile ringman. Fought 12 years and never suffered a black eye or a bloody nose. Now runs a gymnasium here he helps many broadway beauties, and some from Park avenue keep their figures by exercise.

P.T.A. Activities

Butte Falls P.-T.A.

Butte Falls Parent-Teacher association will meet at the high school auditorium Friday, Mar. 1 at 2 p. m. Refreshments will be served after the business meeting and program and everyone is cordially invited to attend.

The gravity meter method of discovering oil structures is said to be an improvement over the seismograph system.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Washington, Feb. 27 — The Truman - Bowles "nutcracker" economic control plan proposes that wages be increased 30 per cent or more over prewar, but that prices be allowed only to permit business a prewar profit, as I explained in my last column, promising to answer today the question: Will it work?

Paul Mallon

I do not believe it will or can. I think someone sold Mr. Truman a destructive bill of economic goods, and I will tell you why.

Something must give in this kind of a nutcracker. Business will not, and cannot be expected operate with dollar earnings limited to prewar (because the dollar had a much higher value in purchasing power then), while labor and the rest of the economic world lives in the current era of the inflated dollar and its depreciated purchasing power.

• • •

MY information from the inside suggests the administration thinks business can change its books and values around so it can survive and will be willing to produce. The administration also may point out that with limitation of profits to prewar levels it will affect only the industries which cannot absorb the 15 to 20 per cent proposed wage increase without increasing their prices, and therefore not many may be affected.

This does not make sense. A super-mathemetician might be required to spend a few months finding out how each individual business would fare under this proposition, but the general condition is quite apparent. Only the richest industries could possibly take this 15-20 per cent wage hike, atop 15 per cent of the little steel formula, and all the labor costs boosts effected during the war (vacations, portal-to-portal, reclassifications), and the increased cost of materials, including basic steel, which is up $5 a ton—I say few businesses could absorb all this increased cost without doing something about it, if any could. The nut-cracker must eventually squeeze production generally.

• • •

WHAT will producers do? If they cannot increase prices, they will be compelled to allow the quality of their production to deteriorate. They will use inferior materials, which cost less. The deterioration in the quality of both goods and services which developed during the war will continue. This, of course, is a secret price increase and a further decline in the purchasing power of the dollar because the consumer gets less and less for his money.

But who will want stock in a company which measures profits in prewar dollars (now worth a fraction of their former purchasing power), and which is limited to earning that same amount of dollars, while individual earners are allowed to take in more and more dollars because of inflation? No wonder the highly inflated stock market nosedived at this news. Its people fathomed the proposal better than the public. These factors I have cited would be destructive to production.

• • •

THEN, what should we do? Should we rush the other way and follow the advice of the big business organizations which want all price controls removed? This would get production, which Mr. Truman says we so vitally need, while the Bowles program would not, in my opinion. But it might also, as Bowles says, cause a short boom and then depression. Certainly it would start a varied price fluctuating era. Prices in competitive goods would fall as soon as production is obtained. In noncompetitive industries, prices might be arbitrarily maintained.

What would seem logical sound and fair would be the substitution of an orderly, nonsocial nonrevolutionary government control program to cushion, but not specifically control, every item in the reconversion period. Congress can kill the project to limit business to prewar dollars and profits. This would eliminate the suicidal quality of the program. Simple general controls over prices and materials distribution could be continued during the shortage period to prevent chaotic fluctuations in important lines. A price increase policy could be followed to encourage production in certain needed lines.

This alternative would, no doubt, cause some further inflation, but Mr. Truman has only himself to blame. He called for his wage increases at the wrong time economically. This time was logical politically. The unions wanted to keep their wartime earnings. But the right time economically would have been the coming moment when business starts to lag, when purchasing power is threatened, and needs stimulation. He pushed the wage increases when inflation had already gone too far from sound values (witness the stock market and every other market), and when purchasing power was already too large for the amount of goods available.

DRY CLEANING SERVICE FOR CENTRAL POINTERS

Central Point, Feb. 27—Their collection store established in the Cash building opposite the Kincaid Implement company on Pine street here, Harold and Donald Burelson inaugurated the Central Point Dry Cleaning Service Monday.

The brothers are delivering garments to a Medford wholesale firm for cleaning. Harold Burelson, owner of Harold's Ladies Apparel i Medford, i. operating the new business while his wife is running the Medford store. Mr. and Mrs. Donald Burelson have a dry goods shop in Central Point.

Seals Stadium in San Francisco is the largest roofless baseball arena in the United States.

Flight o' Time

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

TEN YEARS AGO
February 27, 1936
(It Was Thursday)

Situation in Japan calmed, when militarists who assassinated three leaders jailed.

Unsettled with showers. High 44, low 34.

University of Oregon students object to military drilling.

Oregon congressmen urged more coast defense for state.

Ethiopia hopes LofN will establish more sanctions against Italy.

TWENTY YEARS AGO
February 27, 1926
(It Was Saturday)

Rome aroused by British report Premier Mussolini in ill health and slowly starving to death.

Rudolfo Valentino, film shiek, near death in auto smashup.

Oregon cattle in best condition in years.

Clear and mild. High 65, low 44.

Ashland Normal school to be completed May 20; summer term to start June 21.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO
February 27, 1912
(It Was Tuesday)

Teddy Roosevelt leads in straw vote at Star theater for president.

Chances considered good for Crater Lake park appropriation.

Insurgents capture Juarez in Mexican civil war.

Plans are completed for Public Market on South Riverside.

Daily Weather Report

FORECASTS

Medford and vicinity: Partly cloudy with showers tonight and Thursday. Slightly cooler tonight.

Oregon: Showers tonight and Thursday. Little change in temperature. Fresh south to southwest wind off coast.

LOCAL DATA

Temperature a year ago today: Highest 46; Lowest 29.

Total monthly precipitation .93 inches.

Deficiency for the month .96 inches

Total precipitation since September 1, 1945, 14.94 inches.

Excess for the season, 3.46 inches.

Relative humidity at 4:30 p.m. yesterday 79%; 4:30 a.m. today 99%.

Tomorrow

Sunrise 6:48 a.m. Sunset 6:00 p.m.

Observations Taken At 4:30 A.M., 120 Meridian Time

	High	Low	Prec.
Boise	46	37	
Boston	24	22	.26
Chicago	40	27	.01
Denver	43	20	
Eureka	57	55	.55
Havre	42	26	
Klamath Falls	46	38	.05
Los Angeles	69	43	
Medford	47	43	.32
New York	33	30	T
Omaha	43	15	T
Phoenix	76	41	
Portland	49	43	1.01
Reno	61	31	T
Roseburg	51	49	.67
Salt Lake	43	26	
San Francisco	61	53	T
Seattle	53	44	.80
Spokane	47	35	.08
Washington, D. C.	72	57	
Yakima	50	37	.24

HITO TO EYE TOKYO

Tokyo, Feb. 27—(U.P.)—Emperor Hirohito will tour war-damaged areas of downtown Tokyo tomorrow, including a 15-minute stopover at the large Daiichi building for the purpose of observation from its roof, it was announced today.

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

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