



# Old CLAY—New PRODUCT

**PERRY, Aug. 2—(Special)**—Many southwestern families this summer are enjoying their lawn parties and barbecues with new crockery developed by the imagination and energy of two veterans in Perry.

The two, Leonard Tate, a native of Perry, and Allen Macaulay, recently from New Jersey, have produced what they believe is the answer to prayers of anyone who has sworn at buffet suppers and other affairs where eating involves juggling a plate of food in one hand, holding a cup and saucer precariously balanced in the other, with eating utensils stored uneasily in a pocket.

"We call it the One-Hander," Tate says, "because it's a . . . well, it's a one-hander."

Actually, the remarkable product—which resembles nothing else for purposes of the U. S. patent office—is a nine-inch dinner plate and saucer cast in one piece, with a corner built up in three grooves to hold silverware. The cup, a unique article in itself, holds half again as much coffee as the conventional china cup.

Something new in handles is an exclusive with the One-Hander's cups, too. Instead of the usual loop, these cups include a tunnel to fit the index finger, designed so that the hand fits around it completely, equally satisfactory for either left- or right-handed persons.

Macaulay, who claims to be the creative artist in the partnership, dreamed up the tunnel idea one night

while toying with a blob of soft clay. Unable to get just the right idea fixed in his mind, he seized the clay with his hand. His fingers went right into the clay, making a tunnel. From that was made the original mold in plaster.

The entire set is manufactured, from start to finish, in the backyard of Tate's home in Perry. The "main plant" and business office are housed in a garage where Leonard's dad once stored boats and fishing gear. Close by is a large portable kiln, the only

item of equipment not designed or built by one of the two partners. The building, a rambling, one-story wooden structure, now houses Perry's newest and fastest growing industry—Tamac pottery products. The name Tamac, of course, is a contraction of names of the owners.

In the beginning, there was a garage, period. In August last year, Tate and Macaulay, who learned about starting from scratch while serving in the navy and army, respectively,

added a concrete floor. A small compartment called home by the family pooch was cleaned up and is now a business office, shipping room, display room, and the place where friends are entertained with Tamac cups.

Macaulay and his wife both were born in New Jersey. Mrs. Macaulay met Tate's wife during the war. Last summer, while the Macaulays were visiting in Perry, Allen observed that Oklahoma was a likely spot to settle down. Up to that point, pottery-making had not seriously entered the

other partner, Allen Macaulay, makes the Tamac cup which fits into its proper depression in the new plate—and holds more than an ordinary cup—with special outside finger grooves. Right, Mrs. Tate, Mrs. Macaulay and their respective husbands, demonstrate the new pottery ware in a genuine garden party.

mind of any of those now concerned. Things began to happen slowly. Inquiries here and there produced odd bits of interesting intelligence: Perry has a standing offer of free land for factory sites; some of the cheapest natural gas rates are available here; invaluable technical assistance is nearby at Oklahoma A&M college, 24 miles away, and the southwest, Tamac believes, offers the greatest opportunity for industrial expansion.

"We realize our debt to authors of the GI Bill of Rights," Macaulay admits. "The provisions for small businesses has enabled us to weather troubles that always come when money is going the wrong way. Now that the money is beginning to flow the right way, our working day can be cut from 12 or 14 hours to 10 or 11."

Despite the conservative, trial-error nature of their beginning, both partners are optimistic for the future. Production problems have been licked for the present and the first trickles of One-Handers have found ready markets.

Macaulay and Tate both feel the chain of events which led to the successful establishment of the venture was no mere happenstance. "When two plain citizens with little pull, and few contacts, can secure materials where there are none, get help or advice when none was anticipated, and finally, hit on a successful idea the first try, it is inevitable that we should conclude that the hand of God is pulling strings somewhere," the two will tell you.

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