

Illinois Valley News

An independent newspaper devoted to the development of the richest valley in the world, the Illinois Valley and its surrounding districts

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A Radical Idea 100 Years Later

It is considered not only safe but prudent for a small weekly newspaper to editorialize favorably on motherhood, patriotism, and the public school system at least once a month. Nothing remarkable about that—except that to have mentioned “free education” in the same breath with the other two institutions in most communities one hundred years ago would have branded the editor as an anarchist, despoiler of the Constitution, tool of the foreign interests, and maybe even a Democrat to boot.

The tax load would be prohibitive; why educate a person “above his class”; a mill-worker’s son doesn’t need an education to be a mill-worker; the well-to-do can’t afford to pay for educating the children of the poor in addition to sending their own children to private schools (it would be unthinkable for their children to attend these “public schools”). It all sounds quite silly now, and the idea of universal public education needs no plug from us or anyone else.

However we have tried to avoid the term “free education”, because it isn’t free in the strict sense of the word. Our public schools are expensive, from a purely monetary standpoint, and we pay for them; all of us pay for them. The point is, we believe it is worth it. Those who do not have children benefit in countless ways from living in a community where a system of universal education prevails.

We all pay taxes; we have worked this point to exhaustion before and will doubtless do so again because we feel it imperative that it be thoroughly understood by everyone. You don’t pay directly, perhaps. If you do not own property, you pay no direct property tax, but you contribute indirectly to the property tax every time you have dealings with a person who does own property—and avoidance of such transactions is impossible. And of course there are hundreds of taxes, direct and indirect, in addition to prop-

erty taxes and you pay them every day.

The government, be it municipal, county, state or federal, is not Santa Claus; every dollar spent by any of these governments first has to be taken away from you—the people. This money is ours, and it behooves us to spend it like our own; prudently, with an eye to value received. Don’t think that because of income taxes, inheritance taxes, corporation taxes and a host of other taxes you are spending “the rich man’s” money. People of ample means pay huge taxes and complain bitterly about it, but when the smoke clears away they have a lot more left in their jeans than the average man has to start with. There just aren’t enough rich people to carry the load, and if we raise taxes to the point where it’s impossible for a man to be “rich”, as in present-day England, we find that everybody is in the same boat, still paying taxes like mad.

The point of all this is that when the government espouses a certain “welfare” project; pensions, housing, subsidies to various businesses, aid to the gopher breeders—it is definitely not for free. After a look at the merchandise, turn the tag over and see what the price is. We do not ridicule the term “welfare”, nor is this an attack on any of the so-called “welfare projects” before the public today—all we say is, know the price and be prepared to pay it. If, as in the case of the public school system, it looks like a good buy, go ahead by all means. Unemployment insurance and social security are two more “radical” ideas that have found almost universal approval; and if you ever totted up “de-ducks” on your payroll check, you know you’re paying part of it. The parts contributed by state and federal government are also paid by you, through taxes.

So today’s “radical” idea often becomes the respected institution of tomorrow; but first decide it’s worth it, because you are going to foot the bill.



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PET PEEVES



Gals who make a lot to do over life guards.

Elk Hunters Fail To Report

To date, less than half of the hunters who purchased elk tags in Oregon for last season have mailed in their hunting reports to the game commission, it was announced today by C. A. Lockwood, Oregon state game director. Lockwood pointed out that these reports are required by law and are also of vital necessity for the proper management of our big game herds.

Of the 16,980 elk hunters reporting so far, 7,257 have reported making kills and 9,104 reported they were unsuccessful. The remaining 619 reported they did not hunt.

Lockwood stated that the late season in the Baker area running until Dec. 31, probably had some bearing on the lack of reports, but he stated too that many deer hunters have also failed to report. He urged all deer and elk hunters who have not reported as yet to mail their reports at once.

If the return report card has been lost or mislaid, a letter will do. The letter should be addressed to the Oregon State Game Commission in Portland and should include the following information: If a hunt was made or not, if a kill was made or not and if a kill was made the approximate location of the kill and the approximate age of the kill.

This is one way that all hunters can help to maintain hunting in Oregon, Lockwood stressed. (Did

you tell them about that mangy fugitive from the Elk's home that stumbled in front of your rifle, Larry?)

Sockeye Salmon To Be Liberated In Odell Lake

The Oregon State Game commission has received 300,780 landlocked sockeye salmon eggs for hatching and eventual liberation in Odell lake. The young sockeye salmon will be reared at the Willamette Fish Hatchery near Oakridge and liberated in Odell lake following the ice break-up this spring.

Sportsmen have been favorably impressed with the fishing provided by the Odell lake sockeye which feed extensively in the surface waters during the spring. Most of the sockeye, also known as yanks or bluebacks, in Odell lake mature once every four years, stated Dr. John Rayner, chief of operations for the fisheries division of the game commission. At maturity the sockeye spawn and die, completing their life cycle. The game commission hopes to establish a sockeye population in Odell lake that has fish reaching maturity each year.

WAKE UP BUSINESS By Advertising In This Newspaper



SPORT NOTES

By Claude Newman

'HUNGER' PAYS OFF 0 PREACHER WITH FISTS
BYRON NELSON JUST PLAYS 0 NAVY TO BREW "T"

It's the "hungry" athletes who make the most of their opportunities. This has been true in the fight game for many years. Jack Dempsey was "hungry" when he fought his way up the ladder to fame and riches. Gene Tunney, while not hungry, was a Marine with an idea. He succeeded and became a rich and influential man.

Nearly every champion of record has been a have-not when he started punching noses for a living. As in anything, the incentive has been there—the average man's liking for filet mignon instead of macaroni.

Boxing is only one of the many sports in which the "hungry" ones attain the top. There is something about a lean and hungry athlete—maybe his hunger is only for fame—that sets him apart. He has a determination to win—and often times it's just a case of eating better, or moving up in the world. Tennis is thought of as an effete sport, perhaps a bit on the snooty side. Who are its champions—people born with silver spoons in their mouths? Sometimes, yes, but more often no.

Don Budge, Ellsworth Vines, Ted Schroeder, Bobby Riggs and Pancho Gonzales are good examples. They were just average Americans, none of them rich, who had that hunger for a top place in a sport.

They, then, were "hungry" athletes—and not in the sense that they lacked for food.

What happens to the athlete who ceases to be "hungry" is demonstrated nearly every day.

A fat and well fed champion is a complacent one, inviting a licking. Or, if the champion has had enough adulation, he retires and later on feels impelled to perhaps make another attempt in the game that made him famous.

Such a return to competitive athletics was made recently by Byron Nelson, one-time ruler of all golf, when he played in the Bing Crosby tournament at Pebble Beach, Calif.

At one time By Nelson was a "hungry golfer." But those days are gone. He was a golfer with no particular urge to win—and at Pebble Beach this one-time terror of the iron shot, longest hitter with such clubs in the game, was just another golfer.

You'll be hearing soon about the Rev. Henry Armstrong, preacher of the gospel.

The minister in the case will be a fellow who once "converted" boxing opponents to his viewpoint by using his fists, Henry Armstrong, the "Hurricane Hank" who was the only fighter in history to hold three titles simultaneously.

Armstrong has been studying for the ministry for a long time now and has been an associate in the Los Angeles Morning Star Baptist Church. Once he's ordained, Armstrong expects to make a countrywide evangelical tour.

Come to think of it, there was a church deacon who was a pretty good fighter a few years back—Tiger Flowers.

United States Naval Academy may pack a bit of dynamite in football next season, now that Eddie Erdelatz, a former St. Mary's star, is the coach, succeeding George Sauer.

Erdelatz learned the "T" formation from a master of explosive offensive football, Buck Shaw of the San Francisco 49ers, and will take the system to Navy with him. It bodes ill for Midshipman opponents in 1950.

Incidentally Erdelatz, end coach with the Middies for three years, could have succeeded Tom Hamilton as Navy coach when the latter was fired—but wouldn't take it because the choice wasn't unanimous, as it was this time.

All thoroughbred race horses get a year older each Jan. 1, but can you name the actual foaling date, or birthday, of a single top-flight steed?

It's doubtful if anyone can although it was a practice during the lifetime of Man O'War to write "birthday" stories about "Big Red" each year on his natal day.

Jimmy Karam, Little Rock Junior College football coach whose team won in the "Little Rose Bowl," is still sounding off.

He says he was offered the job of backfield coach at University of Southern California, but wouldn't serve as "assistant to anybody."

You can make a bet Mr. Karam was NOT offered an assistant's job at U.S.C.

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IT'S YOUR MOVE--
Here Are Money Savers

THE AMERICAN WAY



Who does he think he's fooling?

