

Illinois Valley News

An independent newspaper devoted to the development of the Illinois Valley and its surrounding districts.

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J. C. Abernathy

Editor

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ACTIVE MEMBER

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Outside Josephine County
One Year\$3.00



TAXES AGAIN

If a person ever runs out of arguments, all he has to do is mention taxes—just any old taxes.

Elsewhere on this page appears a letter from a Courier reader, commenting on that publication's tongue-in-cheek quote of a portion of a NEWS editorial of two weeks ago.

Mr. Harrold makes some fine comments and fetches some cogent arguments, and it is a matter of regret that he did not have the entire editorial to work on. Quoted out of context as it was, Mr. Harrold had no way of knowing that our reference to a "painless" tax was intended facetiously, or that we are just as much in favor of government economy as he is.

Mr. Harrold's protest that such taxes start with one toe in the door and then rapidly proceed to take over the whole house is well cited, but our suggestion was tossed out rather loosely, without any of the refinements that would be necessary before presenting it to the public, and we feel that it would be possible (and desirable) to write some checks and balances into the same act which would establish such a tax set-up.

For one thing, another reader has suggested a "suicide clause" which would cause the tax to expire periodically, say every two years, or five years, unless renewed by vote of the people. No, says another, you gear your schools and roads to a definite source of revenue, then the people vote it down and where are you? That, in our opinion, would be analogous to Mr. Harrold's suggestion that it might be a healthy thing for the people to vote down a budget occasionally; there's nothing for it but bring the people back a budget or a tax bill that they will pass.

Of course this is edging into the field of political philosophy; whether or not it is desirable to take fiscal matters out of the hands of elected representatives and impose the responsibility on the people at large. We might mention in this connection that the present 6 percent limitation is at least "a toe in the door" in this respect.

Anent the "painless" feature, there are sales taxes and sales taxes, but the conventional retail sales tax is ever before you—and is often condemned on the ground that it is a bigger nuisance than the revenue justifies. But it is an accepted source of revenue and, in our opinion, should be investigated before constantly rising levies place a more disproportionate load on the other sources. It would, as Mr. Harrold suggests, be much more desirable to call a halt to the rise of tax levies, but we see little hope of this in the immediate future.

To a degree, the old-fashioned real property taxes are more "painless" than the sales tax, or at least better hidden. How many renters of property stop to consider that although the landlord does the groaning when property taxes are raised, the rise is passed along to him, the tenant, in increased rents? Landlords are no more altruistic than other people,

and are definitely not landlords because they like to hear complaints about the roof leaking. And how many consumers are conscious of the fact that the merchant's rent (or taxes) is wrapped up in the price of the goods he sells? It can't be any other way under our economic system.

Mr. Harrold points out that Oregon's gasoline taxes have skyrocketed 300 percent since they were inaugurated, yet every year they fall farther short of the job they were designed to perform; take care of the roads. This could be an argument pro or con, take your pick—but our highways are vital, and the cost of construction and maintenance has risen and is rising at a tremendous rate. This rise in turn is due to increased demand (and need) for roads, necessity for much heavier construction and the increase in price of labor, machinery and materials—not much you can cut there.

Schools are a little different, and needs vary widely throughout the state. While there are doubtless school districts which could get along well on less money than they are receiving at present, there are many more staggering along on inadequate funds in the face of a rapidly rising school population. And if it is the opinion of any taxpayer that his school district is being conducted inefficiently, it is his privilege and duty to raise hgb with the school board—if enough citizens agree with him, the situation will be corrected.

Mr. Harrold, in his turn, "puts his finger" on many of the fiscal troubles of the day when he gets to what he terms the "luxuries" of government. If a person desires a luxury and has the money to pay for it, no one can criticize him for the purchase—if he hasn't the money and plunges headlong into debt for luxuries, his personal fiscal policies are open to question, and the same would apply to government. And a politician who holds out these government luxuries to the voters without showing him the bill is as full of guile as a fisherman. The plain citizen, on the other hand, who thinks all these nice things come from heaven is quite as unrealistic as the three-year-old tot who wanders into a confectionary and tries to purchase a bag of candy with a handful of buttons. Fortunately there are indications that the plain citizen is gradually awakening to his responsibility and is beginning to have some second thoughts about Santa Claus government. We have a social responsibility for our fellow man, but we don't have to keep him in luxury; and we should take care of him out of our own pockets, rather than those of our grandchildren—our grandchildren are going to have fellow men to take care of, too.

In summation, then, let us say that the sales tax was suggested as another source of revenue for expenditures we feel to be vitally important; if this revenue can be rendered down from fatter portions of the corpulent body politic, so much the better—we too think sales taxes are a nuisance.

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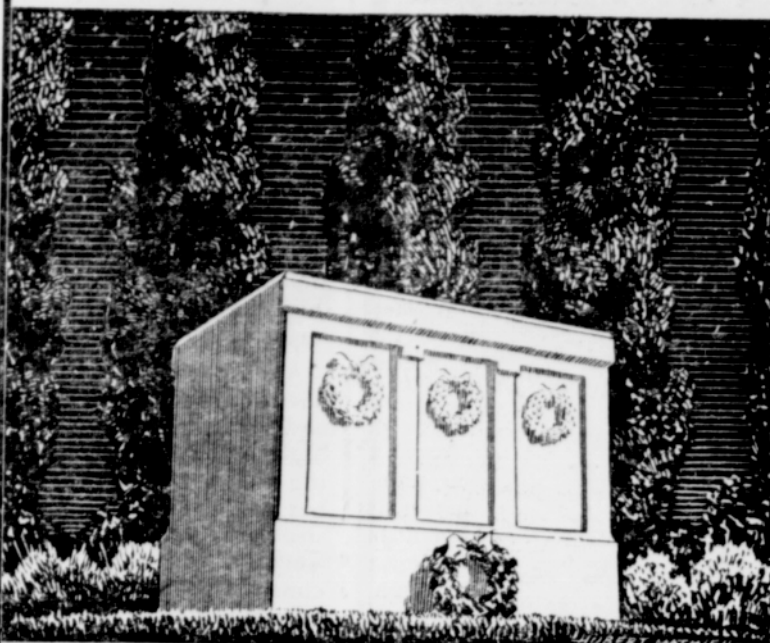
K's Electric Service
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Send The Illinois Valley News to Your Friends

OUR DEMOCRACY — by Mat

"WHERE VALOR PROUDLY SLEEPS"

From Concord Bridge to San Juan Hill, from Flanders Field to Iwo Jima, "sleep the brave" who fought the good fight, that this free nation might remain free.



TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

Deep in our hearts, on this Memorial Day, burns the hope that, in the future, men need not die that freedom may live. But only if the living are infused with the indomitable spirit of those Americans who have faced death in war, can the ideals of Our Democracy hold fast in enduring peace.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

(Reprinted from the Grants Pass Daily Courier of Monday, May 22).

TO THE EDITOR: (Courier)

Re: the sales tax editorial quoted one by Mr. Abernathy at Cave Junction in the paper, this is the same old argument over again as rehearsed for the past 30 years. Newcomers, especially Californians, seem unacquainted with the history of this sales tax matter in Oregon. Mr. Abernathy's proposal was much improved on over ten years ago when a better bait than he proposes—old age pensions and schools—was used and defeated better than two to one. Some 15 years ago the cry was we had to have the sales tax or we'd have no schools in less than five years. Seems to me they have done pretty well since with always bigger and better (?) budgets.

With the gas tax as an early experiment in sales tax, Oregonians have been loath to repeat

the error made at that time by opening a field of taxation without proper safeguards as to the amount that can be levied. We were told when the gas tax was originated in this state that two cents would take care of our road needs from here on. It's been increased 300 per cent since that time. Gas, sales or income taxes have all started with just a crack in the constitutional protection but once established they have no limit. In fact, Mr. Abernathy put his finger on much of the fiscal troubles of today when he calls them "painless" taxes. They are too painless for the good of the taxpayer and the country generally. If our present day tax structure was not hidden as it is you would find the people much more careful of what they demand and take more interest in how the money was spent.

Schools and roads are essential. No one will question that, but when school budgets carry funds for irrigation systems and lawns



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Why "Moose" Changed His Mind

Last week, parents were calling Moose Jackson on the phone—and kids were hooting at him in the streets. All because Moose fenced in his field near the depot, where the kids like to play ball.

Moose got sore the way folks acted—refused to budge. Then Doc Sherman, who likes to play center-field himself sometimes, decided to "use a little psychology."

Over a friendly glass of beer at Andy's Garden Tavern, Doc says, "Sorry this came up, Moose. We were thinking of asking you to umpire—what with your professional

experience and all." (Moose used to play a little semi-pro ball.)

That did it! Next day Moose put up a stile over his fence. In return, the kids promised not to cause any damage. From where I sit, when you try to understand the other fellow's point of view—like his personal preference for beer or coffee—and then take into consideration the will of the majority, why, things seem to go better all around.

Joe Marsh

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Don't overload your electric circuits. When you build or modernize provide ADEQUATE WIRING. SEE YOUR ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

CENTRAL CAFE

WILL BE

OPEN

Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 30

and

CLOSED

Wednesday, May 31

at the expense of reductions in funds for teaching supplies for major educational departments one wonders whether this continual quest for additional tax sources is not putting the cart before the horse. There has been other instances where allocation of funds have been seriously questioned without answers being forthcoming that were satisfactory. In some of these cases it has not yet come to the taxpayers attention that these questionable budgets can be voted down without jeopardizing the public interest for to do so only means that the budgeting body has to get together and produce a budget that is proper and will be acceptable.

Apparently, it is human to love luxuries and we easily become accustomed to them. Isn't it about time, however, for a logical exploration of the spending of public money and confine its need to actual essentials than to always be trying to open sources of new and still greater funds to be lavishly expended in the same manner?

Maybe there just isn't enough to go around when a country's income is already being consumed in this field at the present rate, about one-third, there is certainly room for a more substantial try at economy than appears evident in the past.

M. E. HARROLD,
Box 29, Grants Pass.

Itinerant Service To Be Discontinued

H. V. Retherford, manager of the Grants Pass Local State Employment office, reports an increasing demand in this area for skilled sawmill workers. In several places, certain key workers such as sawyers, ratchet setters and edgers are needed before other members of the crew can be hired. Further, Mr. Retherford reports there is a growing shortage of registered applicants who are qualified by training and experience for jobs in other fields of work. Applicants for work are urged to contact this office immediately.

The itinerant service provided residents of Illinois Valley each Tuesday during the past several months will be discontinued after May 23, 1950. The service provided for the taking of unemployment claims and applications for work. It is expected this service will be re-opened in the fall of this year.

Grange Plans Picnic

The Illinois Valley Grange will hold a picnic at Grayback Forest camp Sunday, May 28. A potluck lunch is planned, with invitations going to all Grangers, their families and friends.



MEAL-TIME MAGIC BY Adelaide Kerr

FOOD RESEARCH CONSULTANT,
HOME-MAKER'S CLUB, INC.

TONGUE IN TOMATO ASPIC

1 cooked tongue
1½ teaspoonfuls salt
½ cloves
2 2/3 tablespoonfuls gelatine
4 cupfuls strained tomato juice
½ teaspoonful beef extract
1 small onion
Pepper to taste

Simmer together the tomatoes, salt, pepper, cloves, and onion for twenty minutes. Add the beef-extract and the gelatine, which should have been allowed to soften for five minutes in cold water to cover. Wet a mold with cold water. Pour in a thin layer of the tomato aspic, and when it is almost set, put in the tongue, which may be whole if nicely trimmed, or may be sliced. Add the remaining tomato aspic if the whole tongue is used, or if sliced, put in another layer of the aspic, and then one of the tongue, continuing in this way until all is used. Serves six.

TONGUE WITH BLACKBERRY SAUCE

1 fresh beef tongue
Cloves
1 glass blackberry jelly or jam
1 cupful raisins
Juice 1 lemon

Cook the tongue till very tender in salted water containing a tablespoonful of mixed pickle-spice, one of two extra bay-leaves, and a few dried celery tips. Allow time suggested above. When very tender, remove the skin, trim off the root-end and stick the solid meat full of cloves. Place in a greased baking-pan, dust with salt, pour over the jelly, beaten soft with a fork, and the raisins, which should be cooked till tender in a cupful of water. Add the lemon-juice and bake twenty minutes, basting often. Serve hot or cold. Serves six.

SCALLOPED SWEETBREADS

2 pairs sweetbreads
1 cupful mushrooms
2 tablespoonfuls fat
2 tablespoonfuls flour
½ teaspoonful salt
½ teaspoonful paprika
2 3/4 cupfuls top milk
½ cupful dried bread-crumbs
2 tablespoonfuls butter

Cut the sweetbreads in pieces, after they have been soaked in cold water for fifteen minutes and allowed to stand in boiling water for ten minutes. Wash, peel, and cut in quarters. The mushrooms. Sauté them with the sweetbreads in the fat, add the flour, salt, and paprika and cook one minute longer. Then add the top milk, or half milk and half cream, and cook several minutes. Pour into a casserole dish and sprinkle the top with the dried bread-crumbs and the two tablespoonfuls of butter in

small bits. Brown in a 500°F. oven for twelve minutes. Serves six.

SWEETBREADS

Soak the sweetbreads in cold water, then simmer for twenty minutes in water to which has been added ½ teaspoonful salt and two tablespoonfuls vinegar. Lift out of boiling water and plunge at once into cold water for one minute. Trim off all gristle. The sweetbreads may then be seasoned with salt, pepper, and lemon juice, egg and crumbed and sautéed or cut into pieces and mixed with a white sauce. Creamed sweetbreads are served on rounds of toast or in ramekins dishes covered with buttered crumbs and browned in the oven. Garnish sautéed sweetbreads with pieces of lemon and parsley.

SWEETBREAD CUTLETS

2 pairs sweetbreads
Bread-crumbs
2 tablespoonfuls water
Toast points
2 beaten eggs
Clean, trim, and cook the sweetbreads in boiling, salted water until tender. Then drain and cut in neat, half-inch cutlets or slices. Dip the sweetbreads in finely sifted, dried bread-crumbs, then in two beaten eggs, to which the water has been added, then in fine crumbs. Fry in deep fat at 390° F. until golden brown on all sides. Lay on a hot platter, and garnish with toast points, and lemon or serve with a savory sauce. Serves six.

SWEETBREAD MOUSSE

2 sweetbreads, or 1 pair
½ cupful chopped English walnut meats
1 tablespoonful gelatine
1 3/4 cupfuls sweetbread liquor
3 egg-yolks, beaten light
½ cupful cream, whipped
¼ teaspoonful salt
½ teaspoonful cayenne
pepper
Clean the sweetbreads, and simmer till tender in slightly salted water. Remove from the liquor and strain it. There should be one and one-fourth cupfuls of liquor. Add one-fourth cupful to the gelatine; combine the egg-yolks, salt, cayenne, and the remaining liquor in a double-boiler top, and cook over hot water until the mixture coats a spoon. Add the gelatine, and just before the mixture begins to set, add the nuts and whipped cream. Put the sweetbreads in a mold, pour over the mixture, and let stand in a cold place till solid. Slice and serve on lettuce-leaves with a garnish of mayonnaise and English walnut meats. Serves four to six.

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