

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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| | In Josephine County | |
| | One Year | \$2.50 |
| | Six Months | \$1.50 |
| | Outside Josephine County | |
| | One Year | \$3.00 |
| | Six Months | \$1.75 |

DEADLINE

for church news and organizational news of the previous week is noon Tuesday. Deadline for all other news and for advertising is noon Wednesday. News received after the deadlines will be published the following week if it retains sufficient news value.



WHO'S A SOCIALIST?

The old-timer dropped in again last week, bearing a dilapidated envelope and his usual air of self-satisfaction.

"The postoffice people put one of your letters in my box, so I brought it over," he announced. "I opened it — thought it might be something important." My sarcastic thanks bounced off his hide like a BB from a Sherman tank. The letter was a propaganda handout of the type which averages a ton per week in a newspaper office, and I tossed it aside and went on about my work.

"It's from an association of manufacturers back east," he volunteered, evidently laboring under the misapprehension that I couldn't read, "and they are sure pushing some radical ideas."

I checked the return address again. "Did you say 'radical' ideas?" I inquired.

"Yes, they want to close up the Federal Reserve Bank, put a stop to subsidies for steamship lines and airlines, stop RFC loans to business, cancel second-class postal rates to newspapers — all that kind of stuff. Why it'll be the ruination of this country," he said. His cheek seemed to be bulging slightly, but I couldn't tell whether it was his tongue or a chew of tobacco.

I pulled out the leaflet and gave it a fast scan. "Where does it say that about newspapers?" I asked.

With the air of a first grade teacher spelling out d-o-g, he jabbed a finger at the sheet. "It leads off with the statement that 'Socialism is communism,'" he said, "and then they go on to explain that 'Creeping socialism is engulfing the country, and we've got to put a stop to it before we're as bad off as Russia.'"

"Well, the dictionary doesn't bear them out on that 'socialism is communism' stuff," I admitted. "but —"

"That's one thing about old Dan'l Webster," he said admiringly. "He sure tied up a lot of loose talk in a tidy package."

"Noah," I corrected.

"Huh?"

"Noah — Noah started the dictionary."

"Your'e confused, son; Noah built the Ark — it was Webster wrote the dictionary. Maybe you ought to go to church a little oftener." He got back on the track before I could defend myself. "They got their own definition of socialism too, and it seems to be the handing out of government benefits and the interference of government with business. As I see it these subsidies are benefits, and by interference they probably mean agencies like the SEC, which has encouraged small investors to pour billions of dollars of capital into industry and enabled business to expand. And the Federal Reserve system and RFC are definitely government corporations; that's the purest kind of socialism, and they must be the ones this association is gunning for."

Some days I'm just slow and other days I'm awfully slow, but by now I was onto the old fraud. "You know very well what they're talking about, Mr. McPungle," I said severely. "And will you kindly get out of my chair — what these people are against is indiscriminate benefits to individuals, government regulation of prices —"

"— And subsidies to farmers," he took it up, grudgingly yielding my chair so that I could sit down at the Linotype machine.

I shuddered slightly. "Those are called 'parity payments,'" I reminded him stiffly, "and you'd better keep your tongue off the farmers. Ever since the politicians found out they can

LOCALS

George D. Jones is visiting his sister and family, Mrs. Martin Rouse. Mrs. Rouse broke her arm recently, and will be in Medford for treatment this week.

Little Larry Welsh has been ill with a sinus infection following flu.

George Wells has been visiting his brother Roy for the past month. He says that for awhile the weather made him think he was still home in the Klamath basin.

Mr. and Mrs. John Milburn returned Tuesday last from a two and a half months vacation. They drove to Phoenix, where Mrs. Milburn stayed with her sister, Mrs. Jim Grutchfield, while Mr. Milburn went to Colorado by bus for three weeks' visit with his sisters, brothers and old friends. He then came back to Phoenix, where Mrs. Milburn rejoined him and they toured southern California. They visited with Nat Wooley's sister in La Mesa.

The Earl Spencer family recently enjoyed a vacation visiting friends and relatives in Portland.

Harry Holmes was in Crescent City on business last weekend.

Friends of Alfred Lemartine better known as "Frenchy," who for some years has been a resident of Cave Junction will be sorry to hear that he is miserable at Parkview Rest home in Grants Pass suffering with a severe attack of shingles. He would appreciate a letter, greeting card or a call from any of his friends.

Friends of Mrs. Lester Boling were sorry to hear of the serious automobile accident which happened to her son-in-law, Victor Masters, on January 19 as he was driving with two other men on the Redwood highway. The mishap resulted in the death of one of the men and seriously injured the other two. Victor is in the hospital with five broken ribs and other injuries.

vote, the Republicans have been offering them more than the Democrats."

"Now let's be broad-minded about this, son," he said reproachfully. "I'm not saying anything against these parity payments — I've done some farming myself, and we sure went through the mill before the government stabilized farm prices. And the consumer took a beating too, only the profit disappeared somewhere between him and the farmer. I figure the taxpayer is getting his money's worth there just as much as he is from the airline subsidies — where would we be today without our airlines? What I object to is this outfit referring to their own spade as an implement for moving small quantities of dirt — but it's sure a spade when anyone else starts using it."

"Then I take it you're a Socialist," I switched to the direct attack.

"Not exactly," he replied. "I figure pure socialism is too good for human beings. It might work in Heaven, where you're dealing with saints and angels — but you and I will never see that," he beat me to the punch triumphantly. "No," he resumed, "as long as you hold out such a golden opportunity for one man to live on another man's labor, the chiselers will keep it from working. Look at Great Britain; the chiselers dragged the producers down 'til they're all standing on the same rung — and it's the same rung the chiselers were on to begin with."

"But you can't divorce the economy from society, nor society from the government. In a free country such as ours, society is the government, and the economy exists for society. Therefore the government has to take a hand occasionally, regulating the economy on the one hand, aiding it on the other. For the most part it runs pretty well without either aid or regulation, and that's the way the American people want it — don't worry about that." The old philosopher punctuated his dissertation with a stiff forefinger to my wishbone.

"In a country like Russia," he went on, "the government is everything and both the economy and society are in slavery to it. The fact that their economy is pseudo-socialistic doesn't mean that communism and socialism are the same thing. And if government aid to an individual is socialistic, so is government aid to business."

He raised his voice above the clank and clatter of the machine as I sent a line in: "Now you take this great state of Oregon, which registers Democratic and votes Republican; our Republican state administration is doing a fine job in the liquor business. I hear a lot of people complaining because they can't buy a drink at the bar, but I've never heard anybody complain because the liquor commission is socialistic."

"It is a measure of control," I pointed out. "In order to have liquor handled as they want it handled, the state has to do it."

"It's a government business and a government monopoly," Mr. McPungle said stubbornly, "and that's socialism by anybody's definition. Personally I'm in favor of it; fewer stores and central buying reduces overhead and makes liquor cheaper. The profit to the state makes it unnecessary to add on another tax. But it's still socialism."

I was wondering if I would ever get rid of him. "I still think you're a Socialist," was the best I could think of.

"No I'm not," he leered. "I'm a Free-soil Democrat. But if you're going to make Socialist a nasty word, let's hang it on everyone who believes in socialism. I think it'll take in most of us." He moved toward the door at last. "Oh, thanks for letting me read your letter," he said over his shoulder.

What a character; imagine him calling me a Socialist!

County Agent Remarks

by Bob Murdock

FARMERS' INSTITUTE

To most of you farm readers the phrase 'Farmers' Institute' has a special meaning, while to others who are new to this section of the country, it might imply that it's where farmers go when they have lost all sense of balance and direction, and perhaps to a certain extent that definition could apply.

Now I would like to tell you how we here in the Extension Office interpret the meaning of Farmers' Institute. To us Farmers' Institute means a series of meetings of farmers, arranged and conducted by the Extension Office, the program to consist of speeches by either Extension Specialists or other qualified persons on subjects of interest to the farmers of our county.

We have arranged a program of this type to be presented February 5th and 6th in Grants Pass, and February 6th and 7th in Cave Junction. We cordially invite everyone interested in farming and agriculture to attend. Following is the program:

February 6th, American Legion hall, Cave Junction. 10 to 11:30 a. m. Noel Bennion, poultry specialist, Oregon State college and Dr. E. M. Dickinson, veterinarian, Oregon State college, to discuss and answer questions pertaining to poultry diseases, management, feeding, etc. 11:30 to 12. Harold White, agronomist, Talent Experiment station, Ashland, to speak on the value of the experiment station to farmers in Josephine county.

12 to 1 p. m. Lunch, price \$1, prepared and served by the American Legion Auxiliary in the kitchen. The menu features Italian spaghetti, green salad, French bread, home-made pie and coffee.

1 to 2 p. m. E. R. Jackman, specialist on pastures, Oregon State college, to speak on pasture management, rotation and adaptable new grasses.

2 to 3 p. m. Art King, extension soil conservation specialist, Oregon State college, to give us a view of the fertilizer situation and our needs.

3 to 3:30 p. m. Lou Gentner, entomologist, Talent Experiment station, Ashland, to discuss bugs and insects in our county.

On February 7th, American Legion hall, Cave Junction. 10 a. m. to 12. Al Oliver, associate professor of animal husbandry, Oregon State college, to discuss the various methods and equipment used to cut and wrap meat for either the home freezer or the rented locker. Also to discuss the cuts of meat, to call your attention to some of the cheaper pieces and how to prepare them.

12 to 1 p. m. Lunch, price \$1, prepared and served by the American Legion Auxiliary. Menu: Irish stew, salad, hot rolls, dessert and coffee.

1 to 3 p. m. Oregon State Game commission; a very interesting, educational program on management, feeding, handling and control of our various game specimens.

I hope you folks can see from the above program that it will be well worth attending. As you noticed, the program has been designed to be of interest to both men and women. So, let's make it a family affair.

Sgt. Norman Spitz was home from Ft. Lewis, Washington, visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Spitz, over the weekend.

Results Of Card Party

In the second game of the pinochle series being conducted by ladies of the American Legion Auxiliary, Freda Messenger was ladies high, and John Milburn was men's high. Peggy Milburn was ladies' low, and George Webb was men's low.

Prizes were given to Hazel Prairie and Ed George, while Frank Knight received a special cake prize.

The next game of the series will be held Saturday evening, February 9, at 8 p. m.

BLESSED EVENTS

LEE—Born to Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Lee at Josephine General hospital in Grants Pass on Sunday, January 20, 1952, a baby girl weighing 5 pounds 10½ ounces.

LEMON—Born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lemon on Thursday, January 24, 1952, at Josephine General hospital, a baby girl weighing eight pounds.

Don Rosenberg spent Tuesday on the Smith river fishing.

WANTED

Peeled or Unpeeled
DOUGLAS FIR
POLES and PILING

Delivered at Puget Timber's
Grants Pass Yard
Contact G. W. Thrasher at the
Mill or at his home ½ mile
south of Kerby.

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Johnson Jeweler
133 S.E. 'H' St. Grants Pass
(Rogue Theater Building)

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At 7 P. M.

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We will sell on consignment or
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a community bank
WITH
community interest

Our future is closely linked with the future of our customers and their continued progress is dependent on community advancement.

It is logical then that this bank should be eager to promote local progress and the advancement of our citizens in every way consistent with sound banking practice. Let us work together for our mutual advantages and further improvement of local conditions.

BANK at HOME — TRADE at HOME
BANK of ILLINOIS VALLEY