

Sport Gags

By K. D. P.

Mighty glad to see that Billy Hulien has swallowed the bitter pill of paying the losing bets to the winner on the game between Roseburg and Medford. And wonder of all wonders, as far as I can remember, it has been the first time that Billy said nary a word about the game. He did not even breathe a word about the Medford team being on the losing side because of too many personal fouls being called on Medford players. It has always been my sad and annoying experience to hear him moan every time the Medford high team loses and invariably he would blame it on the referees.

Medford high has a very good team, in fact I believe to be on par with crack Salem H. But there is one thing that was against Medford from the start to the end and that was the breaks of the game. It is mighty hard to win all games without breaks in your favors. Look at Ashland, it had a mighty clever team this year but the breaks was against them and expect for a few weeks hold a good chance to win the district.

The sport editors in Ashland showed a mighty good brand of sportsmanship lately. When Ashland bowed down to Medford on their own floor in a very important and deciding game, their editors never say one uncomplimentary thing about Medford, nor do they speak about the grade of umpiring. Not so with Billy—he can find more fault with anyone than any one I know of. And that sort of thing can do more harm to the young boys on the team than anything else I know of.

The catfish or bullhead season is on now. There have been quite a trek down to the ponds or sloughs for the catfish. There are more feverish digging of worms than has been the case lately. Though most of them told me that they were digging garden plots now. But I

wonder what are they having old cans beside them for. I have the fever too.

Catfish, the lowliest form of all fish life, enjoys popularity on a much bigger scale than trout or salmon. From upstate down to southern California, young lads, young girls, too, young men and ladies, (yes, ladies too, especially ones who yells hysterically when the worm starts to wriggle around her fingers and her brave hero has to rescue her), middle-aged folks and so on are now camped on the edge of some pond eagerly fishing or languidly fishing. It always happens at this time of the year when the warm weather first comes.

My, what strange power the ugly looking catfish, with their whiskers, have over them all.

Water Shortage Due Unless More Rain Comes Soon

An unusually dry February in Oregon—even while California was being deluged—has changed the irrigation water picture for this state materially in the past month, according to the March report of water prospects issued by Arch Work of Medford. The snow surveys and water forecasts are sponsored cooperatively in this state by the Soil Conservation Service and the state college experiment station.

Unless conditions as to snow cover and prospective runoff improve more during March than is to be expected, a late season water shortage in some sections of the state could occur, says Work.

Considering all storage reservoirs together, the amount of water now in storage is greater than last year at this time, but fewer reservoirs are half full or better than for several years. In other words, some of the larger ones are well filled now, but the condition is not general.

Looking at the state by regions, it appears that the most shortage in

prospect now is in northeastern Oregon, with some in southern Oregon and the central Cascades. Southeastern Oregon and the south central basin around Klamath Falls are in pretty good shape, says Work.

This preliminary summary of conditions is not intended as a final forecast, by any means, as conditions may change in the next month. The detailed forecasts for each region will be made early in April when Work will make the annual tour of the irrigation districts of the state to confer with cooperating agencies. All information will be pooled at that time in arriving at final forecasts.

Mrs. Ruth Cearly Shower Honoree

About fifty friends from Medford, Eagle Point and Central Point gathered at the Heath home for a surprise shower on Mrs. Ruth Cearly. Violin and guitar music was furnished by the three Lacy boys, Ralph, Dolph and Cecil. Delicious refreshments were served by Mrs. Cearly's mother, Mrs. Heath, her aunt Mrs. J. R. Colley and Mrs. Roy Heath. The honor guest received many lovely gifts.

Economic Highlights

In future years, historians will record the swift changes that took place in the temper and attitude of the American people and their leaders during 1940 and 1941. Looking back now on the months that followed the outbreak of World War II, it seems as if we lived then in another world. The majority of the people wanted neutrality—and they wanted no part of Europe's newest mess. They wanted to avoid the risk of war at all costs. And the statesmen who represented them felt the same way.

Today the polls show that we still want to keep out of war—but that a considerable majority, despite that, favor helping England to the fullest

extent even if it involves the risk of our being drawn into war. No one talks of neutrality—it is as dead as Moses. The cash-and-carry policy has been virtually forgotten—it is perfectly clear that every financial resource will be used to help arm Britain no less than ourselves. The American people, in short, are violently partisan, and the American nation is definitely and irretrievably involved in the war.

What has caused this change? It took us almost three years to become really anti-German in the last war—it took us less than a year this time. Better communication, both verbal and visual, has been a factor. So has the amazing courage of the British people—the Americans like and respond to any display of bravery against odds. Most important, in all probability, has been the fast-growing feeling that our destiny and Britain's are inter-mixed and inseparable, and that if Britain falls we will be in grave danger.

There are those who stoutly believe this doctrine, but they are much in the minority. The President obviously thinks that Britain is fighting for us as well as for herself. So do most members of Congress. So do the bulk of the leading commentators. So do a long list of principal daily newspapers. That is why opposition to the lend-lease bill has made so little progress. There just isn't enough support behind it.

Last chance of defeating or seriously modifying the bill—and, at best, it was an extremely frail chance—died when Wendell Willkie took the stand. Mr. Willkie received 22,000,

000 American votes last November, only 4,000,000 less than the President. His trip to England, in which he crammed months of visiting, talking and investigating, into a few days and nights, was a dramatic pilgrimage. He made a fine impression abroad. While he has lost some of his past supporters, he has gained new friends and followers. So when Willkie said he was 100 per cent in favor of the bill, with certain modifications, and went even farther than the President in some respects (by suggesting that we give Britain outright destroyers and Army bombers) the die was cast.

The two men who were given the votes of close to 50,000,000 Americans in their race for the presidency, and who stand out head and shoulders above any other national figures of this day, believe that England's fate and our fate cannot be separated. There is no doubt of their sincerity—even as there is no doubt of the sincerity of those who still hold to a

different and opposed point of view. And there is no doubt that this country is committed to the hilt to the policy for which Roosevelt and Willkie stand.

Today millions of Americans hate Hitler and what he represents with an almost personal hatred. For Mussolini they have contempt and laughter. These millions of Americans feel that the dictators are their enemies, just as they are England's enemies. The old crimes and mistakes of imperial England have been forgotten. And in the opinion of many a thoughtful student, we ourselves are about to embark, from necessity, on an unprecedented imperial policy of our own.

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