

## **A Few Minutes with the Boss**

By: Joseph Andalina

### **Influence peddling**

I always enjoy the non-stop bickering of politics, especially in Springfield, which is always entertaining. Both parties claim to work in a bi-partisan way, but never actually do it. It's particularly nasty nowadays, sort of like at your department sometimes. No? Yes? On top of that is the newsprint media. Particularly vengeful, depending on their point of view.

Examples:

**Republican:** Rauner is a hero. Out to fix all that's broken while he gets rid of the democrats who have been the only positive face and voice of labor.

**Democrats:** Speaker Madigan, who is entrenched, has been entrenched, and will always be entrenched.

However, labor needs him to block Rauner's efforts, even if you don't agree with a lot of what he is doing. For the most part, he has been good to labor. He knows where his bread is buttered and he's not switching to margarine anytime soon.

There are other examples for sure, but the press is all up embroiled in something. It's the press, when they take sides. Impartial they aren't. They are primarily performing "influence peddling." They believe it's their God-given right to steer all us illiterates to the policies they prefer. Recent articles in June by a county-wide paper have illustrated that.

They say they want enough of the silly political games. Enough of this and enough of that and they editorialize, and then explain their editorial so if we didn't get it, now we should.

But at the end of the day, it's usually democrats they are really talking about in my cynical opinion. They want to change the way Illinois legislature operates. So it's Let Back the Republicans!

Well, I don't. It's a joke. Neither party is going to give up their positions, their platforms, their re-districting, their donors, or their constituents, just so the other party can destroy them. C'mon man, as "Boomer" might say.

But the press isn't going to stop trying to influence your ideals. Sorry, I'm not listening. I'm just making fun of you jokesters. I like a House divided in Springfield. It means that they really, really, really, have to try to make things work.

Resolution of our ills will take its own sweet time and the sun will still come out tomorrow, the Bears will stink again, and the Cubs will wait until next year. You can count on it.

Vita é bella