

# THE ANDOVER NEWS.

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## RADICAL RAILROAD REGULATION

### Railroad Companies Dare Not Invest Money for Improvements and Extensions Under Existing Conditions.

This week we copy a letter by T. A. Griffin, which so clearly and logically expresses our views of the reason for hard times, and "high cost of living" that we give space for the entire letter.

With enormous crops commanding the highest prices ever known; with every kind of business on a safe and sensible basis; with merchandise stock of all kinds almost at a minimum; with everybody desirous of making good all the necessary improvements which the last two years' depression would not permit of, and to fill up stocks which have been almost depleted; with plenty of money and credit to do all these things, there is a hesitation by the greater part of the business community, for the reason that something has appeared calling a halt in the progress which had so fairly started in the latter half of 1909. The one great and most apparent element which has caused this hesitation, is that railroad corporations of this country have stopped the purchase of anything beyond their immediate necessities, so much so that betterments which had been projected, (which are not only betterments, but in a great many cases are almost, or soon will be necessary.) Our legislators seem to be unmindful of the causes of the depression of 1907 and 1908, and give every indication of re-entering the field with even more laws to interfere with and discourage the investment of money in railroad enterprises, whether it be for increases or improvements in existing lines, and absolutely calling a halt on new projected railroad enterprises. And the railroads have not reached the position that they now occupy through any concerted plan; the all realize and appreciate the necessity of renewing their tracks and equipment that the recent depression would not permit of. This in the face of a very general actual or threatened demand for large increases in the wages of their employees, and knowing that the only way they can grant these advances will be by a corresponding advance in their revenue, and the only way in which they could increase this revenue would be by raising their rates, and certainly the outlook for this is far from promising. They have no certainty as to the character of legislation to come; they are in positive fear of Congress, and are warranted in that fear by special bills already introduced, which is a sufficient cause for them to hesitate. They are not certain that the people generally would favor any increase in rates, and they are equally uncertain as to whether the public would not side with labor in its increased demands upon the railroads. They feel as all owners of property naturally would feel, that

Rev. Annis Ford Eastman, Will Speak at the Convention, April, 27th.

The Woman's Suffrage Clubs of Allegany County will meet in Convention in Andover, Wednesday, April 27th. There will be a morning and afternoon session and in the evening, Rev. Annis Ford Eastman of Elmira will deliver a lecture.

The earning capacity of their property is now absolutely dependent upon the manner in which they shall be governed. They do not know what that government is going to be; they are almost positive that there will be no legislation which will cause an increased desire on the part of investors to put their money into railroad properties. They have been given to understand that probably their borrowing capacity is to be limited within narrow lines by the Government, so that even if they were willing to make these expenditures, it would be difficult for them to obtain the necessary financing.

In fact, looking at it from any point, the owners of railroad property have nothing to see that would encourage them in spending any money until they have a more definite idea as to what extent they are going to be controlled and directed by the National Government, and under such circumstances, all of the vast industrial enterprises are depending upon the railroads, will find that at the time that their present orders upon which they are working, issued some six months ago when it was not dreamed of that the present adverse conditions could possibly arise, will have been completed, that we will again be in practically the same position that we were in during the early part of 1908. In my judgement unless Congress restrains its interference with the earning capacities of the railroads, there will be a permanent set-back in the general business of the country, that it may take years to overcome.

Some Congressmen think that the railroad interests are the real force that is behind the rapidly growing unrest of the business men regarding legislation. This is absurd; we need no spur to wake us up to our unfortunate situation, which is by no means confined to railroad supply industries.

There are 1,500,000 railroad employees. It takes 1,500,000 men to supply what the railroads need, and a vast number of men are employed in supplying the personal needs of the above 3,000,000 men. Every kind of business is dependent in some measure on railroad prosperity.

The producers of wool, cotton, tobacco, sugar, and many other special articles in this country, have so interested themselves in their business that they have forced the General Government to put a special protective tax on the things they produce, which we and our employees, who do not produce them, have to pay for, and to many of which we do not object.

On the same principle, and for the same reasons, when business men become as active in looking after their interests, and with the same rights, we can induce the General Government to give us equal protection by allowing the railroad companies, who are the producers of our revenue, to make sufficient profit to enable them to buy a full plenty of the goods they need which we manufacture. This will involve no special tax, will mean better railroad service, and more business for everyone, particularly the working man; and when it is considered that in reality 90% of all the money received by the railroads and itself goes directly to the working people, we should have the solid endorsement and individual support of very working man in the country.

CAUSE:—The trouble with the whole situation is that many of the men who make the laws are not familiar with the true inwardness of the relations and dependence which the manufacturing and business interests have upon the general railroad situation, nor do they realize that in administering their so-called discipline to the railroad companies, that we are the "ultimate consumers" of that discipline.

—See Frank Raufenbarth's line of Bettendorf Steel Gear Farm wagons for one or two horses.

## Nitro-Glycerine Magazine Blows Up

### Charles Keys, Shooter, Team and Wagon Blown to Atoms Monday Afternoon at Fulmer Valley.

The nitro-glycerine magazine located at Fulmer Valley, about 4 miles south of Andover, exploded at about 3 o'clock, Monday afternoon, killing Charles Keys, an oil well shooter of Wellsville, who was in the magazine unloading some cans of glycerine at the time. The magazine was owned by the E. I. DuPont Co., and Mr. Key was their Superintendent in this field. Nothing is left of man, team or wagon, except a few pieces of flesh, and twisted iron.

It is reported that some 800 quarts of the nitro-glycerine was in the magazine at the time, and the force of the explosion shook the surrounding country for miles around and an immense hole some sixty feet wide and twenty feet deep marks the place where the magazine formerly stood. The magazine was surrounded by woods, which for a space of two acres are now cleared of timber. The cause of the explosion, as is always the case, is not known. When nitro-glycerine explodes, it never leaves anyone to tell the reason.

C. P. Key was a young man thirty years of age, and had been employed by the E. I. DuPont Powder Co. for several years, in charge of their plant. He was one of the most careful workmen ever engaged in this most treacherous business. Key left Wellsville Monday morning, stopping at the magazine on the Duke farm and taking on 100 quarts of glycerine, drove on to the Fulmer Valley field to shoot a well for Tom McAndrew. After the well was shot Key came back to the Fulmer Valley magazine, evidently to leave the empty cans before returning to town. Shortly before three o'clock, a young man, Arlo Babcock, working in the field nearby, saw Key drive his team down the road and turn into the narrow roadway leading up to the magazine.

Twenty minutes later there was a deafening explosion and Babcock was hurled to the ground. When he

came to, the woods around the magazine had been swept away and a heavy smoke hung over the immense hole where once stood the magazine. Windows were shattered in houses for miles around, especially at Hall'sport, and many neighbors rushed to the scene of the explosion, but nothing could be found of the man or team except a few pounds of burned flesh and these were carefully saved and taken to Wellsville, to the undertaking rooms of Earl Jones, to await disposition of the coroner and friends.

Had he only gone to the magazine to leave a few empty cans he would have remained but a few moments and the fact of its being twenty minutes leads some to believe that he had stopped to make some alterations in the stock stored there, but this is only a matter of conjecture. The truth will never be known.

C. P. Key was a young man thirty years of age and unmarried. He has been employed here by the DuPont Powder Co., for several years and was an experienced and careful shooter. Key is survived by a mother and one sister living at Urbana, Ohio; and two brothers, one living in Virginia and another, James Key, a resident of Butler, Pa.

In speaking of Mr. Key, the Wellsville Reporter says: Genial, jovial Charley Key met Monday afternoon the almost inevitable fate which ultimately awaits the glycerine shooter. While some may follow this business for years and escape yet those who have followed it continuously and died natural deaths are indeed few and far between. Mr. Key first came to Wellsville about six years ago to assist Burt Harder who was then superintendent of the DuPont Powder Company's business in this section. When Mr. Harder resigned in 1906, Mr. Key was appointed to the position which he has since so acceptably filled to the satisfaction of his company and their patrons alike.

### STEP LIGHTLY.

Andover has a Few such "Fathers" Holding Down Street Corners and their Pockets at the Same Time.

Children, hush! for father's resting, he is sitting tired and sore, with his feet upon the table and his hat upon the floor. He is wearied and exhausted by the labors of the day, he has talked about the tariff since the dawn was cold and gray; he has lost eight games of billiards for his luck today was mean, and his luck was still against him when he bucked the slot machine; so his nerves were under tension, and his brow is dark with care and the burdens laid upon him seem too great for him to bear. Oh, he's broken down and beaten by the long and busy day; he's been sitting in the feed store on a bale of prairie hay, telling how the hungry gratters have the country by the throat, how the tariff on dried apples robs the poor man of his coat; how this polar rampus might be settled once for all—and his feet are on the table and his back against the wall; let him find his home a quiet and a heart consoling nest, for the father's worn and weary, and his spirit longs for rest.

### A FEW DON'TS.

Don't fail to sound its praises wherever you are.

Don't make your money out of its citizens and spend it somewhere else.

Don't frown on every public improvement simply because it will cost you a dollar or two.

Don't sneer at the efforts of your fellow citizens to build up the town but lend a hand yourself.

Don't be a great deal about what has been done and re-in on the back of the man who has done it.

Don't say the public schools are a failure because your boy has been

upsetting the school's discipline and been punished for it.

Don't say a board of trade is "no good on earth" until you can prove it by statistics.

Don't stay at home on election day, but get out and "hustle" for good men and good government.

Don't let a good local paper that is the town's untiring champion abandon the champion business because of lack of deserved patronage.

Don't forget to drop your dollar in the slot when the committee that is after a new enterprise comes around with the subscription list.

Don't forget that in building up the town hearty co-operation united endeavor and a spirit of get there are what win the day. There is no pull like a long pull, a strong pull and a pull together.

### BIDS WANTED.

The Town Board of the town of Andover, N. Y., will receive bids at the office of the Town Clerk, for painting 24 bridges in the town of Andover, N. Y., average size of bridge, 16x33 feet, on or before April 26, 1910, at noon. Paint furnished by the Town Board. The Town Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Signed, W. E. Snyder, Town Clerk. 16

The foolish virgins who spend nine-tenths of their time in learning to decorate china would do well to remember that a young man in search of a wife is more likely to tie to a girl who knows how to decorate her china with a good square meal, well cooked and daintily served.

### NOTICE TO GAS CONSUMERS.

All bills are now due and payable on or before the 20th of the month. Bills that are not paid on the 20th, positively no discount will be allowed thereafter.

MUTUAL GAS CO. LTD.

### WILL PRESENT THE HEIRESS OF HOETOWN.

Andover Amateurs at the Auditorium Thursday Evening, April 21.—A Rural Comedy.

The Heiress of Hoetown is a side splitting comedy in three acts in which the following characters are introduced: Jimmie Blake, a physical culturist, Jack Wright, a civil engineer, Ezra Stonyboy, the village postmaster, Count Victor Quebec Picard, waiting at the church, Corporal Cannon, a veteran, White Blackstone, a lawyer and dealer in titles, Congressman Drybottle, a power in politics, Doolittle Much, constable and proprietor of the village hack, Mary Darling, an heiress, Betty Brown, a school teacher, Jane Stonyboy, a woman of ideas, Tilly Tung, the village pest, Summer boarders, village loafers, etc. The scene is laid in a small New Hampshire village. Mary's aunt, Jane Stonyboy is anxious to have her marry a title. Blackstone with Pecald, a bogus count appears and an arrangement of marriage with a large settlement is soon made. Jimmie somewhat slangy, but with good hard sense, discovers the count is not the real thing and with the aid of Mutch decides to run him out of town. Blackstone accuses Jimmie of stealing Mary's necklace, demands that he be searched but instead Mutch searches the count, finds him without money and arrests him as a common vagabond. The count is released, wedding arrangements are proceeding when a financial panic wipes out Mary's money and Blackstone and the count get cold feet and hike for old Broadway. Jimmie with just love, courage and car fare stays, and the loss, the sham, the foolish dreams cease to gail, for Mary knows true love has called her.

During the play several catchy songs and pretty dances will be introduced, which together with the fast and furious fun and elaborate special scenery will make this one of the best amateur productions ever seen in Andover. The following persons are in the cast: Messrs Frank Burrows, Herb. Snyder, Erwin Daker, Will Snyder, John Cannon, Leo Raufenbarth, Andrew Fuller, Glenn Cheesman, and Misses Grace Cheesman, Mary Brown, Josephine Raufenbarth and Daisy Yarger. The chorus, Misses Julia Raufenbarth, Helen Richardson, Illa Brown, Maryella Green, Jessie Bloss and Angie Davis. Messrs, Lou Bloss, Leo Snyder, Lee Robbins, Harold Brainard, Lawrence Hunt and Robert Dean. Proceeds are to go to the Auditorium seat and scenery fund. Cannon's Orchestra will give a special program and accompany the chorus. Seats on sale, Monday morning at Calhouns. Prices downstairs 250 seats at 35c, 100 seats at 50c, Balcony 25 and 35c.

—Raufenbarth invites you to inspect that new line of Bettendorf Steel Gear farm wagons for one or two horses.

—The fine art of millinery perfection to be had at Trainor's Millinery Parlors.

## AROUND THE HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS

### Interesting School Notes Picked up by the News Correspondent Among the Faculty and Scholars.

The Art Exhibit is now in full swing and will hold until Saturday night. Every one is pleased with the pictures, of which there are 300. There is a short program each night by the scholars.

We are glad to learn that Winifred Porter is recovering from an operation for appendicitis.

The High School base ball team played its second game in Belmont Saturday which resulted in another victory for Andover, score Andover, 9, Belmont 6.

Following was the lineup: Andover, Positions, Belmont, L. Bloss, 3rd Base Handoch C. Trowbridge, 1st Base. Jasper Payne, S. S. Newton Brainard Pitcher, Marriner Backus, Catcher Corbin O. Baker, 2nd Base Mertes J. Richardson, L. Field, Norton A. Bloss, C. Field, Morhouse Whitcomb R. Field, Black

The next game is to be played in either Angelica or Friendship. Professor Bartlett has been seriously ill with an abscess in his head. Dr. Barney came up from Hornell Wednesday night and performed an operation.

Miss Judd has been entertaining her mother this week.

Professor Bartlett's mother was called to Andover from her home in Gowanda on account of the illness of her son.

The pupils of the High School were granted leave of absence to attend the lectures given in the coaches of the Special Milk Train at the station, Tuesday afternoon.

### PURCHASES BRICK BLOCK.

Mrs. Effa R. Beever, has purchased a three story brick block on Main Street, Galeton, Pa., in which she will locate the Leader-Dispatch plant. Mrs. Beever was formerly an Andover girl. She has published the Leader-Dispatch for eight years past, and has made a success in the management as the new purchase indicates, as well as the paper which she publishes.

### CHEESE MEN ORGANIZE.

More than 100 men, representing nearly 300 factories and an investment of over half a million dollars, met in Cuba recently and organized the Western New York Butter and Cheese Makers' Association. A call for the convention was sent out by a self constituted committee of leading factory men and the cheese buyers of Cuba.

—The latest styles in millinery to be had at Trainor's. Every thing up to the minute.

## Choice Garden Seed

We offer a good variety of Fresh Goods, selected with the utmost care. We have no lack of confidence in the quality of the seeds we sell.

H. H. Williams & Co.