

The Andover News

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"If There is not a Way, Cut a Way."
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HELPING THE FARMER INCREASE HIS DEBTS

REPUBLICAN leaders, jarred into action by the Democratic victory on November 7th, are scurrying about in quest of a sop for the farmers. They are furthering a bill authorizing the Federal Land Banks to increase the limit of loans on farms from \$10,000 to \$25,000. Those who have become familiar with the present deplorable condition of American agriculture and conversant with its causes doubt the efficiency of this Republican scheme.

American farmers are in debt to the amount of five billions of dollars. They are daily going deeper into debt. Thousands of them are bankrupt. Hardly any of them are able to sell their products at prices that cover the bare cost of production. Their surpluses are accumulating for want of buyers. What they need is a market and a fair return for their grain and cotton and livestock. Europe is unable to purchase the output of American farms because Europe has neither cash nor credit.

The latest Republican tariff has helped to prevent Europe from selling here or buying here. This Republican tariff was a piece of internal legislation outside the United States. The proposed change in the farm loan law will prove no better remedy for the ills of agriculture than the profiteers' tariff act has proved.

During the eight years of Democratic administration which came to a close in March, 1921, American farmers were acquiring new wealth and savings. They were as a class more nearly free from debt than they had been in the history of the country. Most of them were prosperous.

In the campaign of 1920 the Republican candidates, big and little, promised an increase in agricultural prosperity. They were voted into office and power, and from that day to this the condition of the American farmer has grown steadily worse. All his wealth has been swept away. His debts have grown to be a ruinous burden.

The Republicans are offering as a boon to the farmer the opportunity to borrow money instead of a chance to pay what he owes; to incur new debts instead of paying old ones. That is the anti-climax of 1922 to the promises of 1920.

Wisdom knows what not to do.

Write it 1923 — but don't skidoo.

Be content with what you get — but get more.

Look at Hollywood! But keep at a safe distance.

Keep your thots to yourself and you won't lose them.

An overly suspicious man doesn't even believe in himself.

Silent neighbors are often desirable. They don't tell tales.

Hustle! Hustle! Nineteen twenty-three is already slipping away.

You can always get what you want if you don't want what you can't get.

Begin saving your pennies. Another Christmas is less than a year away.

The European situation remains unchanged — probably for lack of "change."

Keep the coal mines working and the home fires will do their own burning.

NATIONS AND THE NEW YEAR

WHAT will be the policy of the nations of the earth the coming year?

Will it be a policy of fairness and justice toward each other, a case of live and let live, or will they continue their present policy of "hogging" everything upon which they can lay their hands?

Let us glance over the field.

In America we naturally want to build up our merchant marine and extend our foreign trade. But we do not covet any foreign territory, we want no "reparations," we seek nothing that can not come to us in a legitimate manner and with peace and good will toward all men. That is the traditional policy of this country as handed down to us from the days of our forefathers.

The seas belong to all people who have an inclination to traverse them, either for pleasure or for profit, yet England yearns to control them and thereby monopolize the ocean freight carrying industry of the world. She does not want to see other nations carrying cargoes from port to port in their own vessels.

The sun never sets upon British possessions, yet the mother country has a watchful eye ever on the alert for new territory that offers a possibility of future profit.

Germany nurses an animosity toward the British and the French especially the latter — that will never die. She but bides her time, hoping that some day she will be able to "come back," combine with Russia and Turkey, retrieve the disasters of her recent defeat and collapse, and wreak vengeance upon her hated neighbor.

Turkey is bitter toward all Christians, and would like nothing better than to put every follower of Christ to the sword.

Soviet Russia plans the overthrow of all regularly established governments, with the red flag of bolshevism ultimately waving over all Christendom.

The Japanese eye never closes in its constant watching for an opportunity to acquire our Pacific possessions and thereby provide an outlet for her ever increasing population.

Mexico, that hotbed of revolution, is reasonably quiet at present, but it is only a question of time when the lid will fly off again. There is no permanent stability below the Rio Grande.

Austria is in much the condition of a toad that has been stepped upon by an elephant. She is in no condition to even let out a squeak. But some day she, too, will have bitter scores to settle.

The followers of the prophet are seething with discontent over British rule, in India; Egypt is not satisfied with her semi-independence; China is divided against herself by internal wars; Spain and Italy are wondering if it is worth while keeping their kings, and most of the lesser nations of the earth are barking at something or other in order to keep in the "push."

And so it goes.

Thruout the earth, with few exceptions, we find hatred, suspicion, greed, avarice — everything but good will toward men.

Nineteen twenty-three has a heavy burden to bear.

GIVE IT A BATH

WHEN a man goes from month to month without taking a bath we consider him unclean, and avoid him. He is not of our class.

A town is simply a collection of men and women and children, together with their places of abode, and those provided for the enjoyment of pleasure and the transaction of business.

If it is in accordance with the law of nature that mankind should be kept clean, it is quite as important that his habitation be the same.

The cleanest of bodies will soon become fouled if forced to dwell amidst refuse and filth in yards and streets and alleyways.

During the coming year why not give this town an occasional bath?

Laws made by nature should not be unmade by man.

It is rumored around town that somebody went to church Sunday morning. Was it you?

Cheer costs nothing, and perhaps that is the reason why so many people never hang onto it.

Have you noticed the black eye a certain young man is wearing? It is merely its natural color.

Women's skirts have been considerably lowered as a result of the season's styles. But fortunately they did not come off.

There ought to be a law barring all pedestrians from the public highways. They interfere too much with reckless motorists.

AS THE EDITOR SEES IT

THE festivities are over, and now another year of work is before us. Let's hit the ball before it hits us.

IT WAS a Merry Christmas, anyway, and a Happy New Year — as usual.

But what kind of a year is before us? Not "as usual," we hope, because the last few have been anything but what we might desire.

Prosperity comes to those who earnestly and diligently and intelligently seek it — unless it is left by a rich dad who conveniently fades away.

It is greater prosperity that we

want in this town, and in this community, and in the state and nation.

Let's go after it, and stick until we get it, and hang onto it after it comes.

Talking is sometimes good, because it puts us in the right shape of mind. That's why we are talking on paper now.

But work is better, because it enables us to accomplish definite and desirable results.

Therefore, let's do both — talk and work — in 1923.

It's the sure road to prosperity.

AND while we are engaged in beguiling prosperity, let's also endeavor to promote harmony.

If the doors of our hearts are open harmony will always seek admittance. It doesn't like to wander around without a home — and its home is in the head and the heart.

Harmony will do wonderful things for us in the run of a year.

AND along with harmony comes a good fellowship — its twin brother.

Good fellowship promotes harmony, and harmony promotes good fellowship, and when the two pull together it is difficult to resist or check them.

By all means let us have good fellowship, too.

BUT that isn't all.

Harmony and good fellowship promote kindness, and generosity, and thoughtfulness, and consideration; and a willingness to do for others as well as for self.

That, also, is good — very good. The fellow who lives for self alone doesn't really live. He only afflicts us with his presence for a time.

But when we perform a kindly act for others it leaves a warm glow in the region of the heart — that heart that should never grow cold.

We must have all of these, too.

IN FACT, there are many things we might have and do in this community in 1923 — things that work for improvement, and prosperity and sociability.

Perhaps you can suggest a few.

IN PASSING, we might suggest that 1923 will be better if made, instead of being marred.

Making a community is not difficult. It only requires intelligence and a will to accomplish.

Marring a community is even less difficult. In fact, it is not difficult at all. It only requires that spirit of indifference that is so often found where it should not be.

We'll do something of course — but what?

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GOOD-BYE AND HOWDY-DO

Just now we're busy saying "good-by" to an old year and howdy-do to a new one. It is the time of change, and change is the only thing that stays with us.

Change has given us better food, better clothing, better homes, better ways of living.

Among all the changes none is greater than the change in sanitation, which is only a large word for plumbing.

BETTER SANITATION, OR PLUMBING If you please, has changed the death rate that follows tuberculosis. Sanitation has cut the yearly number of cases of typhoid fever for every one hundred thousand people from twenty-two down to seven. Sanitation has brought health, strength and happiness to all our millions.

Thanks to sanitation, the United States is not only the richest but the healthiest nation on earth.

So we say "good-by" and "howdy do" with a feeling that plumbing will bring even greater changes during the year of 1923.

Thanks to our customers, and thanks to all who are helping to make our community a better place in which to live.

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