

The Andover News

PUBLISHED WEEKLY
BY J. HARVEY BACKUS & SON

OUR KEYNOTE:
"If There is not a Way, Cut a Way."
ANDOVER, N. Y., MAY 18, 1923.
Entered as second-class mail matter
under act of Congress, at the Post-
office at Andover, N. Y.

Subscription Rates	
One year.....	\$2.00
Six months.....	\$1.00
Three months.....	.50
Single copy.....	.05

THE GREAT IDEA.

WE NEED something in this town to wake us up, something that will jar us into greater life and activity.

We are by no means dead. We are not even sleeping. We are stepping forward at a pace that is commendable when compared with the progress of other communities.

But that isn't enough. We ought to step faster, take longer strides, and get there sooner.

When we look around us and consider the extraordinary amount of intelligence to be found on every hand, we are at a loss to understand why we are merely "stepping along" when we should be "pushing the breeze."

Someone is nursing the great idea that will eventually fill us all with enthusiasm and pep, but that someone is too timid. His idea is bottled up and he hesitates to pull the cork. Spread your idea broadcast and watch it take root and grow. It is useless as long as it is confined by a cork.

A SURPLUS FOR CHANCE.

FOR many years Americans had an intimate acquaintance with the word "deficit" as applied to the federal government.

Congress has made its annual appropriations, and governmental departments have proceeded to spend more than their allowances. A deficit has been the customary result.

But perk up! They say every cloud has its silver lining, but this year it is to be a golden one, thanks to our national budget system.

From whence does this good news come? From General Lord, director of the budget—the man who ought to know.

The general tells us that at the end of the present fiscal year there will be in the federal treasury a surplus of sixty millions of dollars over expenditures for the period.

Of course, sixty millions are not much—only a bagatelle—but "surplus" sounds sweeter than "deficit", sixty million dollars sweeter.

Long live the budget—and hasten the day when taxes begin to fall.

CRITIC OR KICKER.

THERE are two classes of people in this country who are constantly in the public mind—constructive critics and destructive kickers.

The constructive critic is a person who looks always to the welfare of his country, or to that of his state, or community. He analyzes questions of import to the people with a fair and just mind, separates the good from the bad, and seeks to advance the interests of the one and to retard those of the other. To accomplish this end it often becomes necessary for him to point out to others those salient features which to him appear to be to the best interest of the people, and to expose and oppose that which is inimical to the public weal.

A kicker is one who does not analyze his subject, who voices his objection hastily and without proper investigation, who often opposes a proposition simply because some other person or persons favor it, and who is invariably found on the negative side of questions that come up for public discussion. He is a man who never leads and will not follow.

Think hard—which are you?

Two wrongs never make a right, but some people go on the theory that a dozen will turn the trick.

Editorial

Liberty is the Battle-Cry of Brotherhood

Farmers' Watchdogs on the Job

It is a peculiar fact that in considering the relation of the farmer's product to the prices he must pay for commodities notice is rarely taken of the fact that the average farmer has resting on his shoulders the burden of a mortgage. It is all very well to theorize that farmers are prosperous when prices of the products he must buy are brought within range of the prices paid for farm products. These are fluctuating elements, and may be brought to reasonable equalization.

The tangle comes however because we consider the farmer's problem in terms of commodities, those sold and those bought, when the vital element, the mortgage and the interest fall into entirely a different class.

The mortgage and the interest spell actual cash that must be wrung from the profits of the farm and at specific periods, and while the money market may fluctuate and be of importance to temporary borrowers, the sum total of mortgages remains the same, and the fixed interest remains the same.

If the farmer ever is to get rid of his old man of the sea, then some consideration must be given to this fact. In 1910 the farmer had to pay \$9.20 from every \$100 he received to take care of his mortgage interest alone. In 1920 he had to pay \$11.50 to meet these demands. In 1922 he had to give up \$14.10 out of every hundred received. It can be seen that a lowering of the price the farmer must pay for commodities does not by any means solve his problem.

Let's End Loafing of Idle Dollars

When one of the young Vanderbilts can stroll up to the roulette table in Havana, as reported by a prominent Austrian business man recently, take out a bundle of \$1,000 bills, place one after another on the same number, lose ten times in succession and then calmly turn to the fascinating fox trot, while time is kept by the popping of champagne corks at the tables around the dance floor, it is time for some of our taxmakers to put on their thinking caps.

Ten thousand dollars to a Vanderbilt is a mere bagatelle of course, but when this kind of money waste is set down side by side with the enormous demands made upon middle class producers to contribute to the country's charities until giving becomes a burden, then it assumes the aspect of a near saturnalia.

Business men, particularly those struggling to get a foothold, are the sufferers. Examples of this kind of spendthrift nonsense have brought about the onerous income tax that has taken out of the world of trade and thrown into non-taxable securities millions of dollars, millions that could well be used for the expansion and development of American industries. The nation cries aloud for revision of our tax system, for the modification of the burdensome surtax, but our lawmakers find their excuse in the popular approval that gathers to them as a result of any move that seems to show them willing to "soak" the rich. There are rich men and rich men, however. Some are of the young Vanderbilt variety, but there are others who have made their millions by financial and commercial activity of a worthy character, men who in the making of their fortunes have built up the prosperity of the country.

It is "Home, Sweet Home," until the sweetness disappears.

Never turn the other cheek, unless you want it mugged up, too.

The fellow who doesn't know his own mind hasn't much of it to know.

Some people's consciences never worry them. They never get found out.

No man ever knows it all. He has to find out what his wife thinks of him.

Some people never contract a monetary debt. Others know them too well.

Of course France and Germany might consent to make up—if the kiss were eliminated.

Don't be too hasty in making your mark in the world. You can't always rub it out.

Many men never stray from the straight and narrow path. Their wives see to that.

Some people think they are unlucky, when they are only too indifferent to succeed.

Keeping young has been reduced to a science, but it is making a lot of massage artists rich.

This country shelters many great men, but most of them are too modest to make themselves known.

Many people are willing to give a world of free advice when they are too tight to lend a fellow a nickel.

Murder by hazing is murder by another name. There is a punishment to fit a crime, but it never fits.

The bald headed soldier has the advantage of his buddies in time of war. He doesn't need a fine tooth comb.

And now we learn of the young woman who washed dishes for 31 consecutive hours. She is still single.

Most men have an eye to feminine beauty, especially after they have been married for twenty or thirty years.

Some people are entirely too scrupulous in their dealings. They believe in getting money and earning as much as they can.

It is possible, of course, that the average rich man's son is flabby minded because dad was so hoggyish he kept all of the brains.

We do not agree with people who say that charity should begin at home. Only the most callous persons would consider it charity.

Never say "this is so sudden" to a man when he proposes. He might coincide with your views and take a few more years for thinking it over.

Certain men are never satisfied until they get into trouble, and then they are never satisfied until they get out. It's hard to please some people, anyway.

HORNELL ROADS HAVE DETOURS IN BAD SHAPE

Hornell, May 15. — Yesterday the road from Canisteo to Greenwood was closed. Traffic is being sent around by a detour, which is said to be unusually bad, on account of the inclement weather so far in May, aggravated by the heavy rains. At the same time the road between Jasper and Woodhull is closed and this is also said to necessitate a bad detour.

STOCKHOLDERS MEETING

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Allegany Mutual Telephone Company, will be held at City Hall, Andover, N. Y., June 1st, at 2:30 o'clock, for the purpose of electing directors for the next year, and to transact all business that may properly come before the meeting. 21 E. A. RICHARDSON, Secretary.

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What They Didn't Find

The diggers who dug into Old King Tut's tomb found many, many things. Some of these things were strange, some valuable, some funny. All of them bore the mark of a bygone civilization.

But what the diggers didn't find! That is the real interesting thing. That shows the difference between then and now — the difference between living in ancient Egyptian splendor, and living in our own age of solid comfort, real convenience and good health.

What didn't they find? They didn't find a shower bath. Neither did they find a hot water heater.

Had King Tut known about these modern things, which, of course, he didn't, he would have given half his royal riches for them.

To-day a family, without wealth or power, can have hot water for every need — where it wants it, when it wants it — at the turn of the faucet.

That is only one of the many things that plumbing has given to the world since King Tut was placed in his tomb.

Why, with hot water in the bathroom, at the kitchen sink, in the laundry — everywhere that hot water is needed — any man can live better than any king lived a thousand or even a hundred years ago.

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