

The Andover News

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

BY J. HARVEY BACKUS & SON

OUR KEYNOTE:

"If There is not a Way, Cut a Way."

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"THE LAST PLASTERER"

THERE is a reason to apprehend that bricklayers will become as uncommon as veterans of the War of 1812. When one reflects on the princely wages of bricklayers, it is a lamentable fact that they have to die, but as with all the world's great, no way has been found to save them from this unhappy fate. An occasional veteran of the War of 1812 is recruited by fraud, and an occasional apprentice is admitted to membership in the Bricklayers' Union, but in neither case does the number of recruits begin to equal the mortality list.

The National Association of Manufacturers says that the number of apprentices admitted to the Bricklayers' Union last year was less than half the number of members taken by death. At this rate, bricklaying will soon become a lost art, and our grandchildren will marvel at our skill in laying brick as we wonder at the lost processes of our remote ancestors who understood and practiced the tempering of copper. The passing of the plasterers gives even greater reason for apprehension and disquietude, because they are passing even faster than the bricklayers. We replenish our streams with trout and we protect our song birds from extermination, but we take no thought of our plasterers. By reason of the limitation of apprentices, most of our plasterers are aged men and will not be with us for long. The years are not many when we shall regard with awe the last survivor of the Plasterers' Union very much as we regard the last survivor of the charge of Balaklava.

With the growing scientific interest in these matters, it is not unlikely that the professors at our institutions of learning will soon undertake a study of this disappearing type as they do the small remnant of some of the aboriginal tribes. While there is yet time, we suggest that there be preserved on the phonograph for future generations the voice of a plasterer discussing long hours and slave wages, for the era is not remote when all we shall know of this species must come from a study of the fossil remains.

What antiquarian interest will there soon be in a fragment of freshly spread plaster! We can see the last plasterer, a centenarian on his death-bed, painfully but skillfully spreading this fragment, at the rate permitted under union rules, for preservation in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, alongside the fragment of King Tut's shag.

CARS, TRUCKS AND ROADS.

THE automobile is rapidly turning this country into one vast expanse of good roads—up to a certain point.

When the first primitive car made its bow to the public a few years ago our highways in rainy weather represented mile after mile of mud and slush, through which horse-drawn vehicles had to plow at a snail's pace.

Now hard roads are everywhere, and paved roads are gradually replacing them.

The present system of road paving, however, is only a temporary makeshift. The roads are entirely too narrow for safety and are not made to stand up under heavy truck traffic.

It is only a question of time when public highways will be paved the entire width of the right-of-way, with a foundation and surface sufficient-

ly substantial to accommodate any kind of heavy traffic.

The automobile alone will not bring this greater improvement, but the motor truck will eventually force its adoption.

The time is coming when much of our freight will be hauled in motor trucks, with great caravans of these monsters reeling off the miles at freight train speed.

This will relieve the terrific handicap, caused by car shortage, under which the country is staggering today.

Coming into direct competition with the railroads, it should also result in a material reduction in freight rates.

If you think the motor industry will not compel the widening and paving of all of our country roads, just hang onto life for another fifty years.

You may be so pleased with the transformation you will not want to leave it even for the sake of driving through the pearly gates.

WORK AND PLAY.

WE WORK because it is necessary to work in order to live.

We play because it is necessary to give mind and body that relaxation which keeps them in condition for the performance of our daily labors.

When at work the wise man centers his mind and his energies upon that work to the exclusion of everything in the realm of play. It is this concentration of thought and action that enables men to accomplish the things that stamp them as successful in life.

It is the same when the wise man plays. He puts the cares of business away for the time being, and enters wholeheartedly into that physical and mental exercise which develops the body and strengthens the mind and keeps him in condition to withstand the wear and tear of his hours of toil.

The wise man knows and observes these necessary laws of nature, and gets the substance of life.

The foolish man observes them not—and tumbles around in his own shadow.

HYPHENATED HISTORIES.

Are our American histories pro-American, or are they pro-British?

This question is being vociferously agitated in some sections of the country at the present time.

During the war somebody discovered that our histories were pro-German, and immediately a roar went up demanding that they be de-Germanized. It made good copy for the newspapers.

Now Mr. Hearst and his papers have discovered that our histories are pro-British, and the howl this time is at the expense of England.

If our histories were pro-German during the war, and if they are pro-British now, why is it so, and who is getting the "swag," and why is it not possible to find some one in this country who has a sufficient amount of brains and patriotism to write a history that is pro-American?

Either our historians are un-American for writing them, and our school authorities and teachers are un-American for using them, or somebody is talking through a big hole in his hat.

About the only people who think alike are those who never think at all.

The fellow who tells you that he is an optimist is making desperate efforts to convince himself that he is one.

Never charge an item up to "incidental expenses." The incident may require embarrassing explanations.

Meeting trouble half way may be all right, but kicking it aside and moving right along will get you there a whole lot sooner.

The easiest way to wealth is not always the shortest. Rich relatives often take a long time in shuffling off.



Wear One of Our Cool Summer Suits

\$12, \$15, \$18, \$20, \$25

If it is a wool suit you want we can fit you in a cool blue serge or light-weight worsted in the new greys and light-toned materials. For complete summer comfort we can supply you with the new featherweight Mohairs, Palm Beach, Silks or Alpacas. All cut in the newest fashion and modeled in stylish lines to please the most particular.

Come in This Week and Let us Fit You

James P. Cannon Company

Store Open Every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday Nights

Editorial

The Community that Holds Fast to Obsolete Ideas, Surrenders Supremacy.

Bridging the Gap of Waste

Each day it becomes more evident that capital and labor must gain more enlightened knowledge of the effect of their operations before the mass of the people in this country arrive at a state of industrial peace and reasonable comfort. Certainly the present relationship does not work out and there are abundant evidences of abuses on both sides.

The high wage for the honest day of work is the goal to be sought. The high cost of labor because of inefficiency in management or plain loafing on the job never will accomplish. When the railroads were taken over labor was sharply classified. Piece work was abolished. Each man was fitted exactly into his niche. The result was heavy increase in labor cost for minimum production. To open the door of a locomotive required the services of two men. To remove a blower pipe two others were employed while to remove the tip a machinist and his helper were used.

Superficial thinking labor leaders were quick to grasp this opportunity to fix a still firmer grip on the control of manufacturing operations. Living costs naturally advance with labor costs.

Capital would like to see the means of production further standardized mechanically, but it balks when standardization is applied to labor. Seemingly labor always must remain flexible. An honest day's work must be given, and at the same time an end must come to the theoretical vapors of men who figure the cost of bare necessities of life a living wage.

We must come to see the difference between living and existing.

Farmettes May Prove Angels

The experiment of the farmette in some of the eastern states may prove of greater import to the farmer than he imagines. If the experiment be extended to the young men of the colleges there will soon be an intelligent awakening to the fact that the farmer at best gets a poor share of the value he produces. When thinking men are compelled to work for small wages because the industry in which they are employed cannot afford to pay them decently, the wheels will soon be set in motion to bring about a new order of things.

The farmette movement has taken deepest root in the Catskill mountains where New York girls are invited to spend their "vacations" by the State Department of Labor. The girls will pick berries and fruits. They will earn from \$8 to \$12 a week above expenses. They will keep house cooperatively and live in cottages, converted barns and tents. Of course only the lightest work on the farm can be affected until the plan is extended to include man labor. There are thousands of boys working their way through college. The state colleges of agriculture might prove excellent distributing points.

While farm labor is supposed to be unskilled labor, the fact is that the average city man is quite useless on the farm. At the same time one of the best investments the farmer could make would be gattering to his aid young men of understanding and seeing to it that they learn first hand why the farmer has been compelled to keep wages down.

poem by UNCLE JOHN

Most everybody's got 'em, though it's powerful hard to say, whether they are due immediate, or, at furdur distant day. Yet a feller ort to figger, as he chaws his daily bread, how they meet the gail—or PROSPECKS glory—in the prospects out ahead.

AHEAD There's nothin' more absorbin' to a feller's heart an' mind, than in tryin' to shape his prospects to the sort he'd like to find; and, I couldn't think of nothin' that can fill my soul with dread, like a batch of gloomy prospects which is furdur on ahead!

I aint ashamed to own it,—that the chief of my delights, is, to dream of happy prospects, as I lay awake of nights . . . And I wake up in the mornin' with my face toward the sky, and the appetite fer battle—mebbe never knowin' why!

While everybody's hopin' fer a better state of things, when they swap these earthly garments fer a pair of heavenly wings,—Yet, they better be particular in the pathway that they tread, if they'd dodge the fire an' brimstone in the prospects out ahead!



Bar Out the Fly

It's Never Too Late to Mend

Flies are to stay through the full summer months.

Don't put off repairing those screens. New wire will quiet the SLAP of the swatter.

A fly-proof home is a sanitary home.

Screen Doors & Window Screens.

HORAN HARDWARE

Cash & Carry Grocery

Now is the Time to Buy

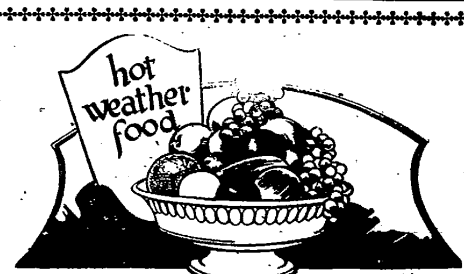
Pineapples

for Canning

The Price is Right

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Open Every Night Except Tuesday and Friday



APPETITES HAVE TO BE TEMPTED DURING THE WARM DAYS

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