

ANDOVER NEWS

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BY J. HARVEY BACKUS & SON
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WAR IN THE PEACE CONTEST

WHEN Edward W. Bok started after the bag of gold at the end of the rainbow, namely peace, he didn't expect to find pewter.

When Henry Ford chartered a ship and took a crowd of idealists to Europe to get the soldiers out of the trenches by Christmas, he accomplished about as much as Mr. Bok has with his American Peace Award.

Mr. Ford, in search of peace, encountered nothing but war among his guests.

Mr. Bok, after the same elusive object, started a war among the contestants.

The sum total of the manuscripts submitted was 22,100. Each was limited to 5,000 words.

The judges returned a decision that was said to be unanimous, which leads to the conclusion that they read all the manuscripts. If the passed upon all submitted, it would require the reading of one every minute during eight working hours of every day during the time allotted for the contest.

This is one of the very good reasons why some of the 22,099 losing contestants have raised their voices in complaint.

This is also one of the reasons why the senate is investigating Mr. Bok's thorny road to peace.

Whatever the outcome, Mr. Bok must be convinced by this time that finding peace for the world is more hazardous than lifting the soldiers out of the trenches by Christmas.

TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE

THE United States observes few holidays compared with European and Latin-American countries.

Yet there are prosaic souls who think we stop too often—that we pause all too frequently to renew our devotion to our national heroes, to whose courage and patriotism we owe our national existence.

February, of all the months in the year, is especially significant, because within this brief space of time fall the birthday anniversaries of two whose memories we most revere.

The nation has honored them unstintingly, for who deserves more than Washington, whose leadership made possible a republic that had a mission to fulfill, and Lincoln, whose stalwart Americanism preserved the same republic for a greater and better day.

As we approach the time when their birthdays are celebrated, let us reconsecrate ourselves to the same ideals as those to which the Father of our country clung when he suffered the privations of Valley Forge and to which the Savior of our country steadfastly held when the sufferings of a people, divided one against the other, weighed heavily upon him.

THE PROBLEMS OF LIVING

A COLLEGE professor on the Pacific coast told an audience of school teachers that the greatest human problem in the world today is the problem of living together.

But is it such a problem after all? Is it not simple unless we make it complex?

The science of living together is, after all, not a science at all.

It is friendliness. Nothing more. People who dwell in peace and happiness are friendly people. They make friends by being friends to others.

There is no deep secret about it. Reduced to its simplest terms, living together in peace and harmony is practicing friendliness to everyone, never harboring hatred and never

REGULATING BUSINESS

NO LESS an authority than Thomas R. Marshall, former vice president of the United States, told a convention of insurance men that publicity was the only antidote for meddlesome regulatory legislation.

He recognized the tendency of legislatures and the congress to regulate in every possible way, all classes of business.

People are beginning to react unfavorably to it. State and federal governments have meddled in private business so long that they are no longer able to attend to their own.

There are just two kinds of men in the world. One kind is honest and the other kind is dishonest. The latter should be sent to the penitentiary and the former should be permitted to conduct their business unmolested. In this manner, the states and federal government can deal with dishonest business without trying to rule all business regardless of whether it is good or bad.

Mr. Marshall's reference to the insurance business recalls that the state of Wisconsin has gone into the life insurance on a wholesale scale.

For ten years, the state has had a provision for insuring people, but no one but state employes took it seriously.

There might not be so much objection, if the state stopped at life insurance. But, if the people don't offer a protest to this practice, states will be peddling milk some day.

It is argued by proponents of the state life insurance scheme that agents' commissions and office rents are saved because the business is done in the state house. Furthermore, it is argued, the state's general fund is back of the insured.

But did it ever occur to those who are so anxious to put the state and government into business, that the business might be mismanaged? In such an event, the state's general fund, is made up of money collected as taxes from the people regardless of whether they hold a state insurance policy, would be drawn on to pay the loss.

Putting the state into business is the favorite pastime of "lame ducks." They thrive on it because it generally opens up some fat-salaried jobs for them, and they are lonesome unless they get three meals a day out of the public trough.

Unless people object strenuously we may see the day when we will have to call up the town hall to get a ton of coal or a dozen eggs delivered.

Business is business and it has to be conducted privately, if we expect to continue to thrive as a nation, thru individual initiative.

Business that does not give service will not succeed. So the final test is with the individual. It's no affair of the state so long as no laws are violated.

questioning the motives of others. least of his worries—except that they take a certain amount of time

Now and then, perhaps, you may find some perverse souls who refuse to permit you to practice the art of friendliness on them.

But in the long run, being friendly will overcome barriers that could not otherwise be scaled.

PETITIONS

NOT so long ago a petition ten miles long, bearing the names of 345,546 people, was presented to congress.

It matters little what the petition was for. The point is that congress is petitioned so often that one seldom creates a ripple on the surface of the placid capitol.

To a politician nothing is quite so funny as a petition, or a resolution which amounts to the same thing.

It is the favorite outdoor sport of a large class of our so-called good citizens. They take it seriously.

But the hardened politician? He knows a petition is little more than the letting go of mental pressure, the exhaust pipe of the over-worked business man.

He is well aware that resolutions and petitions are solemnly read widely acclaimed thru the public press, invariably adopted with a loud aye vote—and very soon forgotten.

The politician can afford to take time to read them when they come in from the home district. He knows they express the sentiment of the people of that locality for the moment, and he also knows that very few of the petitioners or the resolvers will be out on primary day, when political power is given birth.

He has been in the game long enough to know that until people take an active part in politics, actually join a political party and have something to say about its conduct, petitions and resolutions are the

forcement not here and there, but very place.

No community can afford to allow disregard for law to get the upper hand. A wholesome respect for law exists here crime does not often loiter, and because it breeds crime. Where

The future is only another name for opportunity.

We hope the fellow who complained about the open winter is satisfied.

The disease of gloomy exaggeration is one of the most fatal of all human ailments.

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy and all play and no work makes him a good athlete.

President Coolidge visited his valet, but he may have lost some friends in Boston for it.

The country would probably be better off if more people were laying bricks and fewer throwing them.

You would never accuse the present generation of youngsters of going too fast a clip, when at work

Many's the man who sings of his longing for a mansion in the sky, or Sunday, that would be satisfied with a house on Main street, on the installment plan.

College professors say they expect to harness the atom. Doesn't he know harnesses have gone out of style.

Alleged imported liquor generally exports those who drink it to another climate.

When only cars paid for in full are allowed on the highways, the traffic problem will be solved.

A man mailed a letter without a stamp or return address and it reached its destination. That is the eighth wonder of the world.

Progressives are supposed to progress, but they seem to have started the present session of congress backward.

A Virginia minister said the rich are a menace to prohibition. And prohibition is a menace to the rich, if they are not very careful about the brand.

There are lots of dangerous corners in these days of fast driving, but none quite so dangerous as the one where father finds his young son pulling on a cigarette.

Gasoline that can be obtained from an automobile supplies the heat in a new cook stove for tourists. But most of the gasoline will continue to be burnt up by the motors.

FEBRUARY 1924

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E. W. PIERCE OF ALFRED KILLED IN EXPLOSION

Ernest Pierce was instantly killed about five o'clock Monday afternoon at his home between here and Alfred Station, when a acetylene tank exploded.

The tank had been frozen in the ground, and Mr. Pierce went out to thaw it out with hot water. The supposition is that the tank generated more gas than its capacity when the water was poured on and blew up before the ice melted sufficiently for the pressure behind it to break it out. The body was blown some 20 yards from the tank and mutilated. It was brot out that he was evidently leaning over the tank at the time of the explosion.

Mr. Pierce was 21 years of age and leaves a wife and a small child.

LAST NUMBER OF ENTERTAINMENT COURSE

The final number of the four given as the 1923-4 entertainment course in Andover was presented by the Betty Booth Concert Co., Monday evening. Miss Booth as soloist with two gentlemen pianist and violin composed the company. Their work was that of artists and the program of classical numbers enjoyed by a large audience.

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McLaughlin Millinery Parlors

It Runs a Trolley While Ironing a Baby's Dress

A big interurban trolley, crowded with passengers from Auburn, rumbles through the streets of Syracuse. At the same instant a skilled mechanic in Jamestown starts his motor-driven lathe.

On a lonely farm in Allegheny County the hired man is milking the cows with an electric milker. In Rochester a woman is ironing her baby's dress.

In a big Buffalo steel mill a traveling crane lifts a girder weighing 20 tons. Twilight is gathering in Westfield, and from house to house the lights begin to twinkle through the dusk.

Thus are some 2,000,000 people in 147 communities simultaneously served—each day, each hour, each second, by inexhaustible, unvarying Niagara Power. Over the far-flung transmission lines it flows to them ceaselessly—dependable, instantly available at a finger's touch.

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—Feb. 2nd, C next Saturday. Regular mee man Relief Corp —The third d ed at Masson's L —Mrs. Clara be out after a grippie. —A meeting League is sche next Monday. —School has after being clos count of scarlet —Mr. and Mrs brated their for versary Tuesday —Truman Ba had his right ar the wrist, while —James P. C his clothing sto shoe store stock —The Baptist burg was destr afternoon. A Litt contents. —At the an Andover Dairy the officers we the coming ye —Dorothy, d Mrs. Frank Th her right arm while roller sk —The Inasm E. Church will at the home o Monday evening —Mrs. Char ville, who suff weeks ago, is able to be at Page is the m Carr of this v resident of An

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