

ANDOVER NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

BY J. HARVEY BACKUS & SON

OUR KEYNOTE:

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

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LET THE AX FALL

CONGRESS starts scores of investigations during a session, but few of them ever bring result. They generally curl up and die from too much oratory.

The inquiry into the Teapot Dome naval reserve lease has proved the exception to the rule. President Coolidge has made certain that the people shall have the facts in the case and has ordered an impartial investigation by attorneys of known ability and high reputation, who will prosecute in the name of the government if the evidence warrants it.

The step will be applauded because all too frequently men in public life are accused of accepting bribes for using their official influence as an authority for private gain.

If anyone is guilty of receiving \$100,000 for granting special privileges to any man or corporation at the expense of the government, certainly he should be punished to the full extent of the law and should be severely condemned for violating a public trust.

By the same token, anyone found guilty of influencing a public official through cash considerations or by any other means, to violate his oath to protect the interests of the people, deserves equally as much punishment and as severe condemnation.

PARENTS AND TEACHERS

A NOTED educator says that an active Parent-Teachers association is the sign of a healthy condition and an indication that parents are vitally interested in the schools.

It is even more than that. It discloses that parents are not alone interested in their schools, but also in their children, and in order to better the condition of their offspring, are turning to the schools as the agency that can get results.

Not infrequently it has been charged that the changing social order has resulted in parents neglecting their children, that the increasing demand of people for more leisure time has resulted in more hours per day devoted to pleasure, with consequent neglect of the home life, and hence, neglect of the children.

If this charge be true—and in many instances it doubtless is—a virtuous organization of parents and teachers devoted to improving the schools indicates a change of heart.

Many people are realizing that children have been neglected; that mother has spent too much time with her card clubs and church societies; that father has been devoting too many hours to playing golf or to other pleasures. This has brought added responsibility to the schools.

The natural thing for parents to do, after having overloaded the schools with responsibilities they have borne, is to turn to the schools and help work out a way to meet the problems that confront the child of the present generation.

A Parent-Teachers association is a good sign. More strength and influence to it.

PUBLIC SENTIMENT

THE prosperity of the people of this community and the success of the enterprises in which they are engaged depends in a large measure on public sentiment.

It comes from the public mind—the way in which the people of the community view any project or any activity that transpires.

Public sentiment is the greatest asset we have, because it is the aggregate of all of the people.

How do you, as an individual, help make up the public sentiment?

OWN A HOME

A GOOD percent of the people of Andover own a home. But why shouldn't more of them have a place to go each night, after the day's work is done, that they can actually and really call home?

The time for building is here. The spring of the year is approaching—the time when hope springs anew in the breast and when nature sets about the task of reviving the beauties which she is capable of producing.

Somewhere in the heart of every man is the desire to be independent, because independence is the measure of his standing in the community.

The first step along the road to independence is to own a home. The man who owns his own home is the respected, the trusted man in this community.

The home owner has a deep sense of civic pride. He is established; he is responsible; he is vitally interested in everything that tends toward the peace, security and improvement of the place in which he lives.

There are few excuses for not owning your own home. Means are provided whereby, with a small down payment, one may be acquired by weekly installments paid as rent.

The sense of security and shelter that goes with ownership is well worth the cost. It is a feeling that can be gained only thru owning a home.

The independent man always owns his own home. Build yours now.

There is no reason why Andover should not see a great revival in home building this spring.

Countless people have had the home of their dreams before their eyes for years. They have been waiting for war prices to come down.

But are prices going to come down? Has not a new standard of money values been set up since the war? Has not the average man's revenue increased in proportion to the increase in prices of commodities?

We can't expect the building material dealer to sell his goods for less or the carpenter or the brick mason to work for lower wages so long as the price of everything else remains correspondingly high.

There is no time like the present to build your home. Build now and help make Andover in every sense of the word a city of homes—the best place on earth to live.

CRITICIZING THE NEWSPAPERS

Do you take a pessimistic view of everything that is proposed for the welfare and common good of all the people living here, or do you take an optimistic view and try to foster things that are beneficial?

You belong in one class or the other. Submit yourself to a careful and scrutinizing cross-examination and see if you have been fair when proposals for the betterment of the community have been made.

It is purely a personal and individual proposition. Altho public sentiment is the combined view of all the people, it may be swayed in either direction by an overabundance of pessimism or optimism.

THE AMERICAN SPIRIT

THE features of Quentin Roosevelt as symbolizing the American spirit during the war, have been selected for perpetuation in the commemorative monument to the French and Americans who fell during the fighting in the Champagne region.

No choice could be more in keeping with American traditions. Few of the hundreds of thousands of the flower of America's youth had a more brilliant career in the world battle against German imperialism.

Lieutenant Roosevelt was a pilot in the 95th Air Squadron and fell battling in the air with the enemy in 1918. He was his father's own son, and one of whom his illustrious progenitor was justly proud.

Americans will applaud this choice because Lieutenant Roosevelt was a typical American, and combined in his character were the traits that made the former president famous. He chose the most hazardous branch of the service and he died a hero as he would doubtless have lived had his life been spared.

He typified the same courage and self sacrifice that every American soldier had in his makeup and that he should represent the thousands from the United States, who gave their lives, for the same cause as he, is entirely appropriate.

It is announced that ideas concerning peace in the Capitol haven't changed since Mr. Bok's peace plan was announced. The ideas of many outside Washington haven't changed either.

Water that has gone over the dam never generates any electric power and unnecessary words never solve any of the world's problems.

Prosperity once was determined by the number of new homes being built, but now a community's prosperity is judged by the number of new automobiles it boasts.

Labor saving devices are created to save the labor of men so they can labor more.

If there's anything in a best thing in the world to have a good government

CRITICIZING THE HOME NEWSPAPER

CRITICIZING the home newspaper is the favorite pastime of a large majority of the people.

Like public officials, what it says and what it does are constantly before the public, and its errors are easily detected.

An individual may go thru life making one mistake after another and few will know it, but let your newspaper err in even a small detail, and the critics have a choice morsel to chew.

Newspapers, tho mechanical, are human, because they are conceived by human mind and put together by human hands.

They are as liable to error as any man or woman and their opportunities for making mistakes may be found in every line—in every word.

A wrong street address, incorrect spelling of names, little inaccuracies may creep into the newspapers' columns, no matter how earnestly the editor and his assistants may strive to be accurate.

All your home paper asks is that you be charitable. Make a few allowances for the difficulties that beset the newspaper publisher, and remember always, that nothing hurts a newspaper editor quite so much as to see his mistakes in print.

He has no chance to cover them up. The printed word can't be erased. Don't forget that newspapers are made by human minds and human hands and to err is human.

Another farm conference has been called, but most farmers think they can do more good putting in twelve hours a day on the farm.

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This Week



By Arthur Brisbane

IF TEDDY WERE HERE. MONEY IN SATCHELS. EVOLUTION—EMBRYOLOGY. LENIN'S GOOD BRAIN. THE WISE BRITISH.

Can you imagine what Theodore Roosevelt would be doing about now if that Teapot Dome scandal were uncovered in his administration? He would have all the liberal givers of cash before him, he personally, inspecting their satchels.

He would have a battleship on its way to France to bring back Sinclair, if the law would let him, and whether it would or not. His teeth would be snapping and his hair bristling. There would be real fireworks, and how he would enjoy it.

And Mr. Fall, Secretary of the Interior, who leased away valuable oil lands that had been reserved for the navy, testified that he got \$100,000 from Mr. Ned McLean, of the Washington Post. Then, on second thoughts, he testified, as did Mr. McLean, that the latter gave him a check for \$100,000, but he didn't cash it.

Now comes Mr. Doheny one of the ablest business men of the country, who testified that he lent his old friend, Mr. Fall, \$100,000 which he gave him in cash in a suit case. Mr. Sinclair lent, or gave, Mr. Fall \$140,000, some in bonds. "Easy money?" Yes, very.

Mr. Fall says, "I am a sick man." That isn't because he couldn't hire a doctor, apparently.

One hundred thousand dollars in cash in a satchel that Mr. Doheny sent to Mr. Fall without taking his note or receipt had nothing whatever to do with the fact that a few weeks later Mr. Fall, as Secretary of the Interior, member of President Harding's Cabinet, leased 28,000 acres of oil lands in California to Mr. Doheny.

Mr. Doheny says he believes the company will make one hundred million dollars of profit out of that lease, which shows that he is a good business man. The next time the United States needs a Secretary of the Interior it might hire Mr. Doheny. He knows how to make a good bargain; more than can be said for some of our Secretaries of the Interior.

North Carolina forbids teaching in public schools "any form of evolution which makes it appear that man descended from any of the lower order of animals (monkeys or anything else)."

The North Carolina authorities should forbid study of embryology. It is discouraging to find, in embryonic conditions, that human beings in the period before birth pass thru various animal stages duplicating practically all of them from the single cell up to the fully developed "primate."

At one stage of his development before birth every man has two feet like a gorilla. Sometimes one of the feet does not develop, and the man

is born with one gorilla foot, which we call a "club-foot."

That can be easily arranged by forbidding the teachers to say anything about embryology. If you don't like facts, why smother them.

Doctor Semashko announces that Lenin's brain weighed 1,340 grams; not an unusual weight. The brain of Turgeneff weighed 2,000 grams. That of the great naturalist Cuvier was even heavier. But the convolutions in Lenin's brain were extraordinarily deep. That is what counts.

The deeper the convolutions the larger the surface of the brain, and all thinking is done close to the brain's surface just as all crops are raised close to the earth's surface.

In the depths of the brain, doubtless, as in the depths of the earth, are hidden great treasures not yet developed.

Surprising to Americans that do not know the English is the fact that Englishmen of high rank and most conservative traditions consent to join the Labor Government. You could not imagine any of our powerful reactionaries joining cabinet with a union labor man at its head. Britain has statesmen used to changes, asking only "How can I render service to the Empire?"

OUR CHURCHES

SEVENTH-DAY BAPTIST

Rev. Walter L. Greene, Pastor. Sabbath services at 2:30 P. M. The pastor will preach. Sabbath school following the church service.

BAPTIST

Rev. A. D. Shepard, Pastor. Morning worship, 10:30. Subject, "The Apostolic Gospel." Bible School, 12 M. Y. P. S. C. E., 4 o'clock. Topic, "In His Steps. How and What Jesus Taught." Matt. 5:1-12. Evening worship, 7:30. Theme, "Moses' Birth and Fallure."

Monday evening, 7 o'clock. Rudiments of music, Miss Minnie Clair, 8 o'clock illustrated Lecture, "Public Road Improvement." Illustrates the construction, maintenance and advantages of different kinds of good roads.

Tuesday, Recreation night. Thursday, Prayer and Praise. Saturday, Choir rehearsal.

PRESBYTERIAN

Royal E. MacGowan, B. D. S. T. B. Sunday, February 10th.

Morning Service, 10:30 A. M. Sermon: "The Finding of God." Evening Service, 7:30 P. M. Sermon: "The Christian and His Habits."

Sunday school immediately following the close of the Morning Service; there are classes for all, and everyone is invited to attend and join one of our classes.

Christian Endeavor meeting at 6:30 in the evening. Topic: "How and What Jesus Taught." Matt. 5:1-12; 13:3.

Midweek Service every Thursday evening. During the month of February, we will continue our series of special Thursday evening revival services, with union services in the Presbyterian church; the public is invited to attend these services.

METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

Rev. C. H. Whelan, Pastor.

"OUT IN THE COLD." This is the judgment of Jesus Christ upon some near-Christian communities, while the privileged find a place in the Kingdom of God. Such was the burden of Mr. Whelan's Sunday morning sermon, and in the evening, "NOT ONLY GOOD, BUT GOOD FOR SOMETHING." What is the measure of your character? Are you good; and are you good for something? Jesus' verdict was that the goodness of life could be seen by what that goodness would do for men.

Were you in the congregation Sunday morning? Perhaps you did not get there in time to get a good seat. Come earlier; we shall still meet in the lower room, until we outgrow it. And in the evening we do the same.

We have been telling you about some warnings by Jesus Christ, the sterner side of Jesus' teachings. Now for some positive teaching, "Some Elements in Christian Character." February 10th, "Righteousness, a Burning Flame." And in the evening, "Jesus and Nathanael, One of Jesus' Converts."

Sunday is missionary day in the Sunday school. Next week we shall be observing Lincoln's birthday, and on Sunday we may talk a bit about the church and the negro problem.

By Sunday we expect to have our new Sunday-school song books, "The Hymnal for American Youth," edited by H. Augustine Smith, Prof. of Church Music in Boston (Methodist) University. Come to Sunday school and to the evening service; we shall try the new book.

Watch out for announcements about that Brotherhood Dinner.

Religion deserves a chance in Andover, for it asks nothing but a chance to make better men and women.

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