

ANDOVER NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY
BY J. HARVEY BACKUS & SON
OUR KEYNOTE:
"There is not a Way, Cut a Way."
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THE "POLITICIAN"

A FAVORITE way for thoughtless people to condemn a man in public life is to call him a "politician." Rabid and sensational metropolitan newspapers are in a large measure responsible for this point of view. Office holders who will not do their bidding are branded as "politicians" and in the minds of those who fail to think for themselves, nothing could be worse.

But what is a politician? The definition of the word discloses that a politician is one engaged in politics. Politics is the administration of public affairs. So by the simple process of reasoning, we arrive at the conclusion that a politician is one experienced in the administration of public affairs.

Is it so horrible to be versed in public affairs? Yet implications have perverted the use of the word "politician" until many regard offices created for the service of the people the least desirable of all vocations in life.

There are those, of course, who are not thus deluded. They realize that men and women trained by experience are needed in public life just as they are needed in any private corporation or small business.

Politicians, if you please, people versed in the art of public business—not machine politicians, not errand boys or disreputable "ward leaders" but clean, honest and reputable citizens who realize that politics offers a useful career.

Men and women of talent and ability should enter the field of politics but many are going to remain on the outside until the stigma is removed from the "politician."

CARVE YOUR NICHE

HAVE you carved your niche in the community you call home? Rather a pertinent question, perhaps, but listen.

We once heard of a man who applied for membership in a lodge. The name was referred to a committee for investigation.

Only one man on the committee even knew the applicant. Who is he? What does he do? What church does he belong to? Who are his friends?

These are only a few of the questions that were asked when his application was being considered.

No one could answer them, except one acquaintance, who knew his name and where he worked.

What did the committee decide? That a man who had lived in the community as long as he had and had made no more of an impression on it than he would be of no value to the lodge as a member.

What impression have you made after living here as long as you have? When your name is mentioned, do people think of you as standing for something definite, as having left your impress upon them?

It is a question that everyone may ask himself or herself.

Carve your own niche and zealously stand by it.

Stand for something.

A cartoonist was imprisoned in Spain for pictures criticising the government. In this country we elect the government critics to the United States senate.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Union Caucus will be held in the City Hall, Village of Andover, N. Y., February 21, 9 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of nominating officers for the coming year. Other necessary business may come before the caucus.

DON'T SW...OR.

It is found, by those who have tried a true horse it is worth him; not trade him off for a donkey. It would be well for the people of Andover, now that village is giving weight to this truism.

President E. J. Atwood and Trustees of the Village Board. The writer does not know whether they could be induced to make the personal sacrifice always necessary in order to serve in this thankless capacity or not. But we do know that for the best interest of the village at least one of them should be retained as President of the Village. In fact, it is a very unwise thing for any village to elect a president who has not had experience on the Board of Trustees.

There are two or three very essential matters that the incoming board will have to handle next year. They are things that need the best business minds we have in the community. First and foremost of these is the contemplated changes and improvements in the village water system. The present board have had the services of a very competent hydraulic engineer, who has planned out and furnished the village with the blue prints and specifications for the proposed improvements. No entirely new board can go on with this work efficiently without a great amount of study and time spent in finding out the things that the present board already know.

Andover has a fine gravity water supply, and it should not be changed, but improved.

There will come before the new board within the year a decision as to how to take care of Andover's Electric supply. Niagara Falls Power will be available and if we contract with these people it will need men of good business judgment to properly safeguard the interests of the citizens of this village.

The proper care of our unimproved streets is another problem that must be met in the not far distant future. The spending of two thousand dollars yearly on our side streets and then have to do it all over again as each season approaches does not seem the most economical way to many and it gives us nothing but mud and dust in return for our money.

The business of the people needs tried and trained men even more than does the individual business interests. What business man in Andover would employ a person to take care of an intricate machine, who had had no previous experience?

Should we not be as zealous in the choosing of men to manage the village's affairs.

If the present officers refuse to go on with the work, by all means place in nomination men of experience and ability.

A CONTRAST

THE citizen who stands on the street corner, with his hands stuffed down in his pockets, his shoulders stooped and a sneer on his face, is of no value to any community.

He is the fellow who says the fire department doesn't know how to fight a fire, and tells how it ought to be done. But he never lends a hand.

He is the fellow who complains about the ruts in the streets, but he hasn't paid any taxes for years and of course, doesn't help keep them in condition.

He is the fellow who finds fault with the public schools and the teachers, but never did anything in his life to improve the schools.

He is the fellow who condemns everything and sees no good in anything.

You all know him and his type. The sooner he leaves us, the sooner we will be able to move forward.

Contrast him with the citizen who is a booster and may be counted on to help every worthy cause.

This type of citizen pays his debts and his taxes, stands for everything that is for the betterment of the place where he lives and never allows his enthusiasm for his home town to lag.

He is an asset to any community. It is men of his class who are responsible for all the improvements that are made. We owe it to him that we have as good streets as we do, that our school system is as modern as it is and that we live in a place that we can boast of to our friends.

Classify yourself and see which class you belong to, which type you match. If you belong to the former, it's time for rejuvenation. If you belong to the latter, more power to you.

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JUST FOR FUN.

The Kaiser started out with a great big blough. After a while he found out that too much is enuff. So he sneaked for Holland and crawled into a whole. And since has kept quiet as a little ground mowl. Jm. H. was going to do a big thing. At last he had to fall back on "John T. King."

Who John T. was no one nose; He had faded away like a summer row. The cow she lows, She licks her knows, And shakes her toze. To see if they are frose. I know that you know I know, you know I know you know all about it. The boys that went to France are made of do. The girls they left at home, were made sough.

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If buying things for the home is a part of your business, study today's ads.

Miracles That We Take for Granted

What would have seemed miracles to men of former generations, we of today accept as a matter of course.

Suppose La Salle, the great French explorer of the 17th century, were to return today to Niagara Falls and visit the power plants along the river. What if he were taken to a small room that there the strength of half a million was put invisibly upon wires single second to the place of Council Fires in the east, to the fires of the Eries in the west a good month's journey in

of two things La Salle would have said—that it was an illusion, or a miracle.

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East Train No. 1,000 26 " 8 West

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

—The Brown & B are being filled this —Mrs. A. A. Por the Kings Daughters

—Mrs. Ellen McC Grant Sherwood has with her part of this

—Firemen's Dance ing, Feb. 18. Help at the same time en

—Mrs. R. E. Ter a company of frien and bridge Wednes Nelson Strait

—moved from this vi Station where he will and Claire.

—Mr. and Mrs. E enjoying a crate fruit, received this and Mrs. Wm. Bine

—A Civil Service advertised to be con ville March, 15, to of Rural Carrier at

—Samuel Reinard from the Jones M Saturday, where he at the past two we

—lacerated hand. —W. S. Clarke man chosen to serv County Court, beg Feb. 25. L. S. B the town of Indepen

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—Archie C. Jone man was instantly the yards at Horn backward directly i

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