## THE ANDOVER NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

BY J. HARVEY BACKUS & SC

Our Keynote: "If There Is Not a Way, Cut a Way,"

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#### THE FARM BLOC

"T'S a long, long way to Tipperary," but evidently the farmers of the United States either have arrived or are just coming into their own. For generations it has been known that should the agriculturists of this country get to co-operating and trusting the sincerity of their fellows, they could get things pretty much their own way.

From the articles being published in all the leading mind high and his eyes upon the magazines and metropolitan newspapers regarding the ground they are plain to be seen, and agricultural bloc in the Congress at Washington, it be are but stepping stones to greater comes quite evident that the time is quite short that remains between now and the time when the American farmer will have things to his liking.

The "farm bloc is receiving more notoriety these days in this town that need attention, but than any other agency, — so much so that it has become we can not see them if we dream only a sensation of the present "do-little" Congress.

The blcc is the result of the organization of certain determined farmers to have at last a voice in the halls of legislation, a thing they have heretofore been deprived of just peters out. because of the politicians.

So successful has this agricultural bloc become in Washington, that legislation there is revolving about it. It is not only jamming thru the legislation farmers favor but it is shaping or checking the tax and tariff bills and railroad meaures. Scarcely a measure is proposed now that has not first been sent over to the farmers for approval. It is the master of the legislative program. Party leaders nor the President do not venture a move without consulting it.

This bloc is not a spontaneous coming together of the agriculturists from rural districts, but is the creature of the last one. millitant farmer organizations that have risen to authority. It has back of it nearly all of the numerous commercial, social, political and co-operative associations of farmers. But the great factor in creating and putting into life the farm bloc is the American Farm Bureau Associa-

The Farm Bureau is scarcely two years old. There were a few scattering Farm Bureaus before 1914, but the Smith-Lever law giving federal support to an expert agricultural adviser — the Farm Bureau agent — in every county, raised a multitude of these oganizations. These agents built up local organizations that are called Farm Bureaus. The original purpose was to assist the farmers to solve their problems of production and marketing.

These bureaus inevitably took up local collective marketing, then experimented with measures of community buying, and rapidly drifted into the full tide of the agricultural co-operative movement which has swept

over the rural sections like wild fire.

The next step was to form state federations, and then, less than two years ago the national federation was formed. It is a solid growth up from the bottom, not built, as many such structures are, from the top down.

The American Farm Bureau Federation immediately opened a legislative branch office in Washington, conceived the idea of a farm bloc in Congress and with energy and shrudeness made it from the rather crude material and shrudeness made it from the rather crude material from members of agricultural regions. If they faltered, a gentle reminder from the people "back home" who were gentle reminder from the people "back home" who were farm Bureau members, made it impossible for them to do otherwise than get into line. Twenty-five senators and rarm bureau memoers, made it impossible for them to do otherwise than get into line. Twenty-five senators and over a hundred representatives compose it. They meet in weekly meetings with their bosses, the farmers, and consider ways and means to maintain their ranks and their furniess of purposes.

This farmer bloc, once the bitter opponent of trusts firmness of purpose. This farmer bloc, once the bitter opponent of trusts and combinations, now seek legislative sanctions for their collective selling and marketing plans, and for their coperative associations. This involves the amendment of laws they themselves advocated strongly but a few years

The farmers are now demanding the enactment of measures that call for the expenditure of public funds for the positive exercise of government power for the im-

provement of their economic position. provement of their economic position.

While the News may deplore some of the methods
While the News may deplore some of the course is
used in gaining their ends, it believes that their course is
just. The farmer has been buffeted from pillar to post by
just. The farmer has been buffeted from pillar to post by
rromises that never were intended to be kept by the polirromises that never were intended to be kept by the polirromises that never were intended to be kept by the polirromises that never were intended to be kept by the polirromises that never were intended to be kept by the polirromises that never were intended to be kept by the polirromises that never were intended to be kept by the polirromises that never were intended to be kept by the polirromises that never were intended to be kept by the polirromises that never were intended to be kept by the politicians who made them, and if they no covernment in their control for a short period, they should see that the farmers are given at least a fair show with the other industries of the country.

The burden of re-adjustment after the war fell upon the farmers suddenly, developed more rapidly and went

further than it did in any other pursuit.

ner than it did in any other pursuit.

To improve the condition of the farmers is to benefit it is keeping too many other spasm all classes and the nation as a whole. Then why is not the farm bloc justifiable, even the it does squeeze the corns of narm once justinance, even the frequency squeeze one corns of the politicians dreadfully. Farmers have had their corns stepped on, lo these many years, with little murmor ing or complaint.

#### THINGS WE DON'T SEE

you were to pass along the street might step on a twenty dollar bill without seeing it, while the man with his eyes below the clouds would pick

nighty sermon which it would profit is to learn and to heed.

profit-by looking around us.

things of life, for it is from them the big ones grow.

The things we chief obstructions in the world of af-

ourselves in the beginning of this new year. There may be many little things of the end and give no thot to the

end to be the hard side of a board.

All the world loves a lover

The winners enthusiastically approve

If the world would stop moving for

s disappearing. Using another col or, perhaps.

Every man is sharp in one way. He knows how the other fellow. ught to do it.

After all, knickerbockers for wo en were not sidetracked. They didn't get that far.

Hot times are ahead in Washington. Mr. Pepper is now a member of he honorable senate.

Whatever we may think, Postnaster General Hays at least know then the quitting is good.

n earth who doesn't try to keep others from thinking he is one.

The conference having outlawed oison gas, it will now become neces ary to coin another word for it.

Woman is born to sacrifice. She rings man into the world only to give him away to some other woman.

There is a subdued whisper of the short skirt going out of style. There is not enough left to attract atten-

Regardless of the fact that they continue to call it moonshine, most

advantages in a way. It is an insur-

to pay a high price for the free advice we get most of us would suddenly discover an element of value in it.

The courts should hustle up and dispose of that Stillman divorce case

According to a contemporar costly weddings are going out of style. With no other kind left, what are we going to do?

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EXCLUSIVE ACENTS

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# Business Man

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DID YOU KNOW

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## DID YOU KNOW

That these Mutual Fire Insurance Companies have saved their policy-holders thousands of dollars in premiums during the past twentyfive years?

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Sutfin Block Wellsville, N. Y.

Shafer Block

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Reasonable Prices.

S. L. WITTER. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

F. W. BURROW

MAILS CL East

West

Office The Post and Fridays. W. F. O'CON

Reporte

Tuesday at San Fra

Friendship began opt day. The machinery stalled.

—Heavy frosts if fornia, last week, at reports, has damage Millions of oranges the trees.

—Avery Cheesm wood, has been gratury degree of divor Rhoda Cheesman.

—Miss Mary Cas tain Clinic Hospit. With pneumonia. Signing nicely Wed.

—Snowshoe rabt and controlatil rabbit and cottontali rabbit.

-Snowshoe rabb and cottontail rabbi

Commission

A jolly load of from the Baptist S
Wellsville, enjoyed Andover Tuesday ev chaperoned by Mrs The Ble Re Br

to Greenwood last for a dancing party E. S. Elmer Blab company over the bob-sled.

bob-sled.
—Earl W. Pratt, er resident of Bolivan automobile rechis home in Buffal his injuries. The tat Boliver

his injuries. The :
at Bolivar.
—The Western
Club will hold a
February 2nd.
Syracuse, and E. I
secretary for the
expect to be at th
—At a recent
Steuben-Allegany
J. Cotton, of Frier
president of the Cl
of Almond, secret
—The little yee
Mr. and Mrs. Arth
Station, was mad
week from swall
The child found
discovered had ta
tablets.
—Mrs. Will W.

-Mrs. Will W

in Wellsville a lithight for Boston Mrs. A. P. Wood for a stay of se Wood left for Bowlsville Reporte—George Vicke Wednesday for noith Dr. Stuart, for an X-ray exam. Vickers has beone weaks, and

some weeks, and physicians may covery. At this press no report from the examin

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