

THE ANDOVER NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY J. HARVEY BACKUS & SON

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

ANDOVER, N. Y. SEPTEMBER 8, 1922.

Entered as second-class mail matter under act of Congress, at the Post-office at Andover, N. Y.

COAL OR WORDS

WINTER is rapidly approaching when coal will be needed to prevent the people of the North from freezing and millions of those living in the South from becoming most uncomfortable.

The coal strikes have been settled at last, after nearly six months wrangling over prices and conditions. Theoretically the Union mine workers won their point. Practically the coal operators won their point and absolutely the American public lost on all counts.

But railroad trains must be kept running in order that the coal may be delivered to the people and food distributed to those who need it. This or freeze and starve.

With this condition facing the public the disputes between the railroad corporations and their employees remain unsettled with no apparent hope of an adjustment in sight.

The millions of men, women and children, who are in no way responsible for this paralysis of the most vital industry of the country, are shocked and helpless, with no way to turn, ground between the relentless stones of conflict that never cease to move.

The people are looking to our congress to enact laws for their protection, and to President Harding and his assistants to put those laws into execution and enforce them. There is nothing to prevent their doing this, except that they are so busy going back home to campaign for reelection that the people must wait.

Will they do so?

That depends altogether on whether the big moneyed powers of the nation want it done or not. The present administration was put into power by the money kings, and they will have to do their bidding first.

To the ordinary mind the way things are turning, it would appear that "big money" had made up its mind to kill all union labor. They elected their men to congress and the White House for that purpose, and will not be satisfied until all those of us who work for a living are reduced to the extremes of European laborers — serfdom.

But we do not sympathize so much with the man who has to work for a living as we might. He fell into the trap set for him by the wily Republican politicians and helped elect this present mess of office holders. They should have known better, because every one knows that what is in the interest of the money lords is detrimental to the welfare of the poor man, politically. When the big boys go Republican, it's best for the working man to vote Democratic.

This is an opportune time to put a vital and leading question up to congress and the President.

"Are you going to discharge your duty to the American people as a whole, regardless of political considerations, or are you going to bow the neck of authority to the corporations?"

Oh, for a Theodore Roosevelt at the helm in this critical period!

One hundred million people want coal and food delivered to them — not words.

OPEN THE IRON DOORS

THE press and the consumers of this country should unite in a determined and relentless effort to prevent profiteering in coal prices this winter — if we get any coal at all.

Henry Ford has taken the lead in this movement and has been promptly supported by the City of Detroit. The coal profiteer will find little comfort there. He may even find a few prison bars.

But Detroit holds only a tiny portion of the coal consumers of the United States. Tho they lose in Detroit, a few dollars a ton tacked on the price of coal thruout the country will filch hundreds of millions of dollars from the pockets of the consumers and transfer them to the swollen bank accounts of its profiteers.

It is folly to apply persuasive methods in attempting to prevent profiteering. A profiteer has no conscience at best.

Prison cells are the only thing that cause terror to them — the only curb that will have lasting effect. Open the iron doors and shove 'em in!

If the legal arms of the government and states fail to prosecute these "birds," then there is a drastic law that applies to dereliction of duty.

AS THE EDITOR SEES IT

HENRY Ford recently announced that he would close his great automobile works because the steel trust wants to rob him in the price of the raw material that goes into the construction of his cars. He asserts that he will not be a party to such profiteering.

Altho, the closing of the Ford industry will bring hardships to millions of people, the stand taken by Mr. Ford is commendable.

As long as the American people meekly submit to being robbed the robbers will pluck them to the bone. And even the bone may soon disappear along with the pound of flesh.

TWO valuable animals were fighting at death grips any person of intelligence would endeavor to separate them and preserve the usefulness of both.

The railroads and the coal mines and their employees are in just that condition of antagonism, with the entire nation facing appalling disaster as a result of the struggle.

Have we no public officials with sense and courage enough to step in and arbitrarily settle the strife in fairness to both sides?

Or is the welfare of the American people of less consequence than that of an animal?

SOME people say that politeness costs nothing. But is that entirely true?

It is possible that a chronic grouch may at times assume a certain degree of courtesy, but it is invariably at the cost of a tremendous effort.

His natural inclination is to growl, and grumble, and snarl, and such people invariably follow the bent of their inclinations. To suddenly assume an attitude of politeness is foreign to his nature. It requires an effort, and no effort is without its cost.

But the greater the cost the more precious the jewel.

Give the polite grouch the credit that is his due.

WE ALL have our faults, but in our own eyes they are generally considered to be virtues.

When commenting upon the delinquencies of our neighbors it might be well to consider that what we term his faults he may deem to be virtues.

It is difficult at times to understand our own minds, and quite impossible to follow the minds of others.

For this reason it is possible that in judging the other fellow we may lay ourselves open to being judged even more harshly by him, and with some measure of justice.

POPULARLY speaking, charity begins at home, but from a practical standpoint there is little to be found in many of our modern domiciles.

A man will growl at his wife for some trivial act that is readily excused in another woman, while many a husband is roundly condemned for what is promptly condoned in other men.

It's a queer world and some of us are even more so.

When you hear a windbag blowing off in public don't believe everything he says. He doesn't believe the half of it himself.

And when making a big noise yourself be careful of what you say, or others may hang a windy label onto you.

Some people believe in the prompt payment of debts, especially when they are coming to them. We are of the same, with a good many coming our way.

Of course honesty is the best policy — when it wins.

A secret is something you are just dying to tell.

Wasps never make noises. They only cause them.

Appointing women as judges and clerks of election is a mistake. It entitles them to demand the ages of their dearest enemies.

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Advertisement for Punchettes featuring a portrait of Rev. M.A. Matthews and text: 'Political Chaos Who doubts for a moment that there is at this time more or less political chaos in this country? The political chaos of this country is approaching the political confusion in other parts of the world. We haven't political parties today as they were understood at one time in the history of this country. We have what might be called political organizations carrying the names of ancient political parties. In other words, the political parties have a name to live but they are dead. The reason they are in this condition is because they have abandoned great fundamental principles of government, and doctrines of the Constitution. They abandoned them hoping that they might surrender principles for policies. You can't build a great party on a policy; it must be builded on a principle. If the parties of this country are to be revived and invigorated you must inject into their backbone the following particular: FIRST: Amend the law by creating the right to hold a PRE-primary party convention. If the party would meet in a pre-primary convention and nominate a ticket this would not prevent any individual or any number of individuals from using the provision of the direct primary law and filing their declaration of candidacy for office. It would have the effect, however, of making the individual stand alone on his merits, and independent of party support. The pre-primary convention would file its slate under the same provision. When that slate was filed, the candidate under that filing would have the support, endorsement, and influence of the party. In that way you would crystallize the party, restore its organization, responsibility, and accountability, and at the same time you would preserve to the individual the right to file independently under the primary law. SECOND: You ought to amend the primary law and raise the qualifications for office. Men who are not qualified for the position have no right to be elected. If you want to save representative government raise the standard of office holders.'

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