

# The Reidsville Review

VOLUME XXX No. 5.

REIDSVILLE, N. C. TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 1917

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

## POSTMASTERS MUST STAND CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

More than 10,000 first, second and third class postmasters were placed under civil service Saturday by executive order of President Wilson.

Incumbents of offices are not affected, but in the future when vacancies occur as the result of death, resignation or removal the civil service commission will hold open, competitive examinations. The name of the highest eligible candidate will then be submitted to the President. No person more than 65 shall be examined.

Although the order is framed to remove postmasters from politics the senate, however, has the right to reject the President's appointees.

Postmaster General Burleson made this statement about the order:

"Incumbent postmasters rendering good service and who continue to administer the affairs of their offices with ability will not be distributed in such offices by any recommendation by the head of the department. It is due them, however, at this time to make it clear that hereafter supervisory officials of the department will be more exacting in the enforcement of those postal rules and regulations which make for increased efficiency and postmasters will not only be expected to devote their time during office hours to a proper administration of their respective offices but they will be required to thoroughly acquaint themselves with the various postal activities under their charge and in the future to occupy such part of their time not properly given to administrative work, to performance to some part of those activities."

John C. Koons, first assistant postmaster general declared the executive order "to be the most advanced step ever taken toward increased efficiency and business like administration and that no doubt the necessary legislation to place the positions entirely within the classified civil service will be enacted in the near future."

## Baby's Eyes Valued at \$25,000

The value of a baby's eyes was recently fixed at \$25,000 by Judge Frank J. Murasky of California, who gave judgment for that amount to the parents of little Mary Hubbo, one year old, against a graduate midwife. It was alleged that the midwife failed to care for the baby's eyes properly at birth and now the eyes are sightless. In making the judgment, the Judge said: "A pair of baby's eyes are priceless, no amount of money that this or any other court could give no matter how large the amount, would compensate for the loss of this baby's sight."

"There are hundreds of blind people in North Carolina today, about one sixth of all who are blind, whose eyes are sightless for this same reason," says the State Board of Health "because their eyes were neglected during the first days of their life. Which might have been due to a careless midwife or nurse or to the ignorance of parents, nurse, and all."

"This particular form of blindness is all the more sad, because it is preventable. It is caused by a germ that gets into babies' eyes at birth, causing what used to be called babies' sore eyes, now known as Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Because the prevention of the disease is so simple and easy is probably why it is so much neglected. The prevention consists of properly washing and cleansing the baby's eyes after its birth with a one or two per cent solution of silver nitrate. Many states have laws making this treatment compulsory on the part of the physicians, midwives or nurses."

## Capitalists Buy North Carolina Farm

B. N. Duke of Durham and New York in Durham confirmed a report that "Overhills farm," a forty thousand acre tract of land near Fayetteville, had been purchased by Percy Rockefeller and W. A. Harriman for use as a hunting preserve. Mr. Duke and other capitalists, including Walter H. Marshall, of New York and Congressman William Kent, of California, had considered the establishment of a half million dollar tourist hotel at "Overhills" but the project was abandoned because sufficient subscriptions of stock were not obtained. The purchase price of "Overhills" is understood to have been in the neighborhood of \$600,000.

The fully equipped aerial coast patrol station at Port Washington, N. Y., together with an air cruiser fitted with two 200 horsepower motors and an air plane gun, were offered to the government through the Aero club of America by Rodman Wanamaker. Announcement of the gift was made at a dinner of the Aero club at which former Ambassador James W. Gerard was one of the speakers, and which was attended by many men of prominence.

## THE SPANISH OFFICIALS DECLARE MARTIAL LAW

Senor Riano, the Spanish ambassador has advised the State Department that he was in receipt of dispatches from the royal foreign office at Madrid announcing the declaration of martial law in Spain. The occasion of the suspension of constitutional guarantees is said to be action of the workmen's union which, in the face of a critical internal situation and in defiance of the sentiment of both the press and the public of the nation, had declared a strike.

The cable to Ambassador Riano described the situation as follows:

"A manifesto having been published by the representative of the workmen's unions, proclaiming a general strike without fixed date, clearly with revolutionary purpose and with the idea of disturbing public order, which was very marked at a public meeting held last night, the government has suspended constitutional guarantees after having arrested by judicial orders the signors of the manifesto.

"Absolute tranquility reigns over Spain and the government trusts in the common sense of the workmen and the efficaciousness of the measures it has adopted to preserve public order. All the press condemns the attitude of the representatives of the workmen."

## TRAINED ANIMALS

The management of the Sparks Shows have made a study for years to give a circus program replete in all particulars, and knowing full well the importance of some high-class animal acts on the program, have this year imported from Europe several acts that cannot fail to create a sensation.

The acts imported from across the ocean this season include a spectacular equine drill and pyramid performance by a group of Arabian stallions that is said to be the most beautiful piece of horse training ever attempted. The herd of performing elephants under the direction of their famous trainer, Louis Reed, will produce groupings, pyramids and maneuvers heretofore thought impossible. A group of forest bred African wild also hold an important place on this interesting program on account of the wonderful control their trainer, Mr. Fritz Brunner, has over most really ferocious man-killing beasts.

The extensive menagerie carried by the show also affords unusual interest to those who are fond of studying animal life. In it are presented many new specimens hitherto unknown to the zoos of America.

Besides the trained animals some of the world's greatest gymnasts, acrobats, acrobats and equestrians have a place on the bill, and after the grand opening spectacle, which is brilliant in its coloring and massive in effect, the program will go forward with so much vim and vigor, the acts will be of such a high order and classified to such a nicety, that the most critical audience cannot help but be pleased.

The Sparks Shows will give two complete exhibitions in this city on April 12th, at the grounds known as the Burton Show grounds near the Graded School.

## NORTH CAROLINA LEADS

The New York Sun of March 28 carries an interesting account of the work being done by the canning clubs of North Carolina, which shows that North Carolina is head and shoulders above the other states in the union in this work. The article is illustrated with a picture of a "Canning Club in Action" with an insert of Mrs. Jane McKimmon, who has charge of the work.

"Did you know that the government has a splendid thrift plan just for girls?" is the question asked in the heading of the review of the North Carolina work. The article points out that the government will give a dollar for every dollar that is appropriated by the State. Under this plan the Sun calls attention to the fact that last year the State of New York spent \$6,000 of the federal money and North Carolina spent \$42,000. A large part of this money was spent for teachers and directors in the work. While \$84,000 looks like a large sum of money, its expenditure last year yielded a product of 663,447 cans of goods, the total value of which was \$164,241.89. Concluding the article says:

"The point of this narrative lies in this: The United States government has some money to spend on young girls. In the south the girls have made good and are getting the money. Girls have proved that they can become expert in this particular branch of the culinary art. Let New York girls and New Jersey girls and girls all over the country learn to can. It is as practical a way to aid in national preparedness as scraping lint for surgical dressings."

## REPORTED DISCOVERY OF A SUBMARINE BASE

Reports of the discovery of a German submarine base in the West Indies were received at Washington with little surprise. The navy department however, displayed a sphinx-like silence. Secretary of the Navy Daniels said, when informed of the information from Panama City:

"You may say that the Navy Department when shown these statements said that no such information had reached here through official channels."

Official Washington has been watching the Caribbean sea and the West Indies for several days with anxious interest. Various reports of the establishment of German submarine bases in the West Indies and in the Gulf of Mexico have been received from various sources. It was stated tonight, however, that the seizure of German war vessels in West Indian waters would be contrary to international law unless they were operating from some point under the jurisdiction of the United States.

## THE MAN WITH THE HOE

At this crisis in our history the man with the hoe is no less important than the man with the gun; the man in the plow furrow is as necessary as the man in the trench. With so large a part of mankind engaged in destruction, there is a greater reason for all who can to cause the earth to yield her increase. Armies cannot fight unless they are fed; but it is not on the battlefield alone that lack of food courts disaster. When hunger enters the homes of the people, disease follows and death is victorious over thousands. Their names do not appear in the casualty lists of the armies but they are no less the victims of war. Not only against the enemy in the field but against want and disease and death at home the man with the hoe must stand guard.

With a full sense of the gravity of the hour and the responsibility resting on him as the chief executive of a great Commonwealth, Governor Bickett has proclaimed April 5th as "Planting Day," and he solemnly calls upon the people to diligently plant and till, to the end that the harvest may be abundant and none want for bread. This call is not alone to the planters of great fields, but to every one who has a little spot of ground for his use. Even the city dweller is urged to dig his back yard into a garden which will help to supply his needs.

In times of peace and in years of greatest plenty, there are people in this country, especially in the great cities, who want for food. What shall they do when the stress of war drives the price of food products still further beyond their reach? In the cities there are always those who suffer on account of insufficient food, and yet within the limits of these same cities there are always vacant lots and idle men capable of producing enough to supply this want to a large extent. If it is our duty in ordinary times to save this wasted energy it is infinitely more so now. The only effective force against the bread riots is the man with the hoe. Let the force be mobilized in the cities as well as in the country.

It will be good for the city man of leisure to lay aside his golf stick and dig in the earth until a little honest sweat stands upon his brow. His food will taste better and his bed will feel softer for it. And if he has any soul left in him, he will be entranced as he watches the miracle performed under his hand. He puts into the soft earth the seeds and waits a little while for God to do His part. The rain comes and pats down the loose soil and the sunshine warms it, and then it looks like everything has stopped; like God has forgotten this tiny part of His great world. But presently a tender shoot struggles through the earth's crust and faces the day. In some mysterious way it gathers life and strength and beauty and from the dark ground, crystal rain drops and the shining sun. The birds sing in joy while the great miracle is being performed, and in due season the harvest comes and the man who has had a hand in this creation feels a new kinship with nature's God. His soul is lifted up and his body is made stronger by the exercise it has had the fresh, wholesome food it has produced for itself. In this way we can take part in God's great "movie" and with the poet sing—

There's a kinship with the weather  
In our souls from day to day;  
We can laugh and sing together,  
We can turn our shadow swaggy.  
As the sun shines so we blossom;  
As the clouds throng, so we weep;  
There's a deep within each bosom,  
Answers unto nature's deed.  
As the day's mood roars our mood is,  
In the storm, our souls are storm;  
In the sunshine we are sunny,  
To the light our spirits warm.  
—State Journal

## CITY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

(Under the above department The Review will publish from time to time short articles on educational topics and other items of interest in connection with the schools. It is the purpose of this department to acquaint the people to some extent with the underlying purposes of various school activities as well as with the more visible and tangible results of these activities. In short, the purpose is to attempt to let the people know what the schools are trying to stand for and how they are trying to stand for it.)

In the fifth triangular debate between Winston-Salem and High Point held last Friday night Reidsville won a decisive decision against High Point in Winston-Salem and lost two to one to High Point in High Point. The question was, Resolved that the federal government should own and operate the railways.

Messrs. Frank Hall and Nathan Womack upheld the affirmative against High Point in Winston-Salem and Messrs. Charles Smith and Archie Wilkinson espoused the negative against Winston-Salem.

Winston-Salem, was represented by Messrs. Alan Wright and Percy Powell and defeated High Point which was represented by Messrs. Carlton Kirkman and Moreland Lynch, in Reidsville on the same night. Winston-Salem had the negative and High Point the affirmative. The debate was a spirited one, and the decision of two to one in favor of the negative was rendered by Messrs. Francis Womack, Ira R. Humphreys and J. W. Dunn.

After the debate the Senior Class gave a delightful reception to the visiting teams, in the school building.

Mr. Gustafson, teacher of manual training, accompanied the High Point debaters, and Mr. Jeter, teacher of History, the Winston-Salem debaters.

In the total of ten debates held, Reidsville has won five and lost five. High Point has won three and lost seven while Winston-Salem has won seven and lost three. While Reidsville has never won both debates in any year, she has never lost both. Winston-Salem has won both debates three times and lost both one time. High Point has won both debates once and lost both three times. The "batting" averages of the three schools are as follows:

High Point 300, Reidsville 500, Winston-Salem 700, of a total possible 1000.

Are you troubled with mice? Mice have become so numerous and so troublesome in the graded school that the children of the fourth grade have decided to try to get rid of them. Various and numerous traps and devices are being tried. Below is submitted a paper on the subject by a member of the grade.

## HOW TO GET RID OF MICE

There are many ways to get rid of mice. They may be caught in traps, cats will catch them, and they can be poisoned.

There are a number of traps, but I think the round wooden one with four holes in it is the best. The best bait for this trap is cheese. When the mouse puts its head in the trap the trap springs and holds him fast until he is dead. Sometimes four mice are caught in one night. Mice are apt to go into the trap if all crumbs and other foods are moved away. Then, when the mice get hungry and come to get food they will not find anything but the cheese in the trap, and if they eat it they will get caught.

Cats will catch mice if there is not too much furniture in the room for the mice to hide behind. Cats are more apt to hunt mice if they are hungry for meat, so it is better not to feed them too much meat.

In going rid of mice by poison, the most important thing is not to put it where animals or children can get it. If they eat it it might kill them. The best poison for mice is "Rough on Rats." Spread the Rough on Rats on a piece of bread as you would butter. Put pieces of the bread where the mice can get it and keep all other crumbs that they eat away.

NATHAN MATHEWSON  
March 26th, 1917.—Fourth Grade.

German Submarines Cause Loss  
In answer to questions from the representative of the Associated Press concerning German submarine activities Sir Edward Carson, first lord of the Admiralty said:

"German statements are exaggerated but no one suggests that submarine warfare does not cause very serious damage both to neutrals and belligerents. The losses, however, do not exceed the estimates on which we have based our policy and after most careful consideration it is abundantly clear that German hopes of starving us out are quite illusory. So far neutral countries have suffered more from German methods than have the belligerents."

## MRS. C. A. WHITSETT WINS \$2.50 GOLD PRIZE

Quite a number of solutions to the missing letter contest published in the last issue of The Review have been received. The first correct solution was received from Mrs. C. A. Whitsett of Reidsville, to whom the prize was accordingly awarded. The solution is as follows:

G—New Southern Hotel  
E—Gardner Drug Store.  
N—W. B. & J. F. Wray.  
E—Climax Barber Shop  
R—Citizens Bank.  
A—Minnie Lee Jones Hat Shop.  
L—Fred DeGrotte.

V—Boyles Bros.  
O—Trent & Trent.  
N—Piedmont Tailoring Co.

F—Reidsville Motor Co.  
A—Chas. Fetzer, Druggist.  
L—Piedmont Drug Store.  
K—J. S. Hutcherson.  
E—Cleggs Pool Room.  
N—Morrison Jewelry Co.  
H—Walker Hide & Junk Co.  
A—Reidsville Candy Kitchen.  
Y—Royal Cafe.  
N—Tucker's Drug Store.

General Erich Von Falkenhayn of Germany.

## SIBLEY'S SUPERB SHOWS

HERE ALL THIS WEEK

The Sibley Superb Shows arrived here yesterday and has located on the Linton lot next to the graded school opening their shows for business Tuesday and continuing each afternoon and evening during the balance of the week. The Sibley Shows comprise twelve high class attractions, among them are several of especial merit. The big water circus featuring Miss Margaret Offer, the world's champion heavyweight swimmer and diver supported by a clever company of real legitimate girl champion swimmers and divers from various countries is well worth a visit. The show is clean, educational and sensational. Diverse collection of freaks in animal life—a big show in a mammoth tent—is another of the numerous shows that is especially interesting. The animals exhibited being all alive.

Then there is the Barnes Comedy Company who present an up-to-the-minute entertainment; Ada "That Strange Girl, an attraction appealing to the morbidly curious; The Golden Days of 49—a splendid reproduction of the days in California in 1849 and others of which lack of space forbids mention. The Sibley Shows also carry the latest type of Ferris Wheel—a beautiful merry-go-round, and the latest sensation in riding The Whip.

Prince Nelson, in one of the most thrilling high wire acts ever conceived, also performs twice daily. This is a free act.

## It Allows Each of Us One Every Three Days This Year.

One potato every three days to each person in the United States, instead of one potato every day, is the limit allowed by the 1916 potato crop, according to Eugene H. Grubb, the "potato king" and owner of extensive potato lands near Carbondale, Colo. His figures are based upon an average of 100 potatoes per bushel and a total production of 250,000,000 bushels, which means only a bushel and a peck, or 123 potatoes, this year for each American.

"In knowledge of potato culture and fertility of the soil farmers in the United States are from forty to fifty years behind the farmers of Europe. The potato crop is the most difficult one to grow. This vegetable is most easily affected by bad soil and weather conditions," said Mr. Grubb.

"If farmers of America studied the raising of potatoes their crops would average from 200 to 250 bushels an acre instead of eighty bushels, as at present. Some of the best farmers abroad make their lands yield as high as 500 and even 700 an acre. When we do this we will see material decreases in the celebrated high cost of living."

## Certainly a Coincidence

Yesterday in a four-line paragraph we said this about a ventriloquist: "And in all this hurry, hurry we haven't heard the name of Ben Tillman. He is perhaps receiving his wasted strength to make out a patriotic appeal when Congress meets. The old pitchfork soldier will ring true." And then when we picked up the Columbia State yesterday evening, after the editorial was written and in type and printed, we saw where Ben had visited Columbia the day we were writing, visited his physician to see that he was fit and fine, and said he was going to Washington to vote for war. Just a little remarkable, that is all. It may have been that we had Old Ben on the Telepathic line and got his message. Those who know what wireless does can understand how this is possible.—Greensboro Record.

## A SHREWD FAKE PULLED OFF BY REIDSVILLE MAN

The last issue of The Review carried a story to the effect that Geo. A. Bristow had received a telegram from Secretary of the Navy, Josephus Daniels advising him that he had been promoted from first quartermaster, (the rank he held when mustered out from the naval service thirteen years ago) to second lieutenant, and instructed him to report to the Brooklyn Navy yard at once.

It has since developed that Bristow faked this telegram himself. Also three or four others purporting to come from Commander Peary of Philadelphia, the first one granting him a thirty days' furlough and another ordering him to report at Savannah, Ga., to hold a Court Martial. Bristow is undoubtedly crazy. One of his friends voluntarily loaned him money to pay his fare to Savannah. He used a part of the money in paying off some debts around town. Instead of buying a ticket to the Georgia city he bought a ticket to Greensboro, volunteering the information to the ticket agent here that he had received later orders to report at Greensboro where he would be joined by a navy officer. The two would be furnished transportation, so he told, at Greensboro.

When he reached Greensboro he went to the Proximity Cotton Mills and told the superintendent he had been instructed to open a naval recruiting station there and would have his tent in a couple of days. His appearance and actions aroused suspicions and Corporal Wilson, the army recruiting officer in Greensboro, was notified and asked to investigate Bristow. Corporal Wilson examined the telegrams, which appeared genuine in every way, but certain statements made by Bristow aroused Corporal Wilson's suspicions and he came to the conclusion that Bristow was deluded. He called up the police here and started an investigation which uncovered the fact that the telegrams were faked and had not been received at the Postal office here in Reidsville.

Bristow had in some way secured quite a number of the Postal telegraph receiving blanks and envelopes. The telegrams he showed were typewritten, had check numbers of the sending and receiving offices, the initials of the sending and receiving operators and were in every detail properly filled out. So cleverly and cunningly were they prepared that they would fool anybody. In order to further carry out the deception he had arranged with the Postal messenger boy to deliver these telegrams from time to time.

The text of the messages were correct in every way. The only defect in the first message was that the first message was that it was addressed to Geo. A. "Bristol" instead of "Bristow." Even this apparent error would be more calculated to divert suspicion of faking rather than arouse suspicions, as the natural supposition would be that this was in an error in transmission.

Bristow was advised by Corporal Wilson to return to Reidsville and he came back Saturday night. He made a rambling statement to his wife which convinced her that his mind had become unbalanced. Sunday morning Bristow himself went to Recorder Humphreys and asked that he be taken into custody. He told the recorder that he had been feeling queer the past few days and he was fearful that he was losing his mind and might do some irresponsible act if left to himself. He explained that when a child he sustained a fall which injured his head and that on one or two previous occasions he had had lapses of his mind. He showed knife wounds on his body which he claimed were self inflicted while under a temporary aberration of mind. Recorder Humphreys sent him to Wentworth to await an examination as to his lunacy. If he is found to be of unsound mind he will doubtless be sent to the insane asylum at Morganton.

Bristow has been living in Reidsville for more than a year. His actions at intervals have appeared queer and some who have noticed him particularly were of the opinion that he was under the influence of some sort of dope.

But the most distressing part of the whole thing is that he has a wife and five small children ranging in age from three months to seven years. The family is absolutely in destitute circumstances and the mother has no living relatives. The fate of the unfortunate family rests on charity.

Secretary McAdoo's three sons have volunteered for service in the naval reserve in case of war. They are Francis H. McAdoo, a New York lawyer; William G. McAdoo, Jr., a senator at Princeton, and Robert H. McAdoo.

We have a few corn planters at old prices. Buy now before they are all gone.—Reidsville Hardware Co.