

# The Reidsville Review

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

THE REVIEW COMPANY  
(Incorporated.)

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## AMERICA FIRST



My Country 'Tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty.

### MR. PENN TAKES THE REVIEW TO TASK

The following telegram from Mr. C. A. Penn, vice-president of the American Tobacco Company, was read to the mass meeting at the town hall Friday night by Mayor M. P. Cummings:

"Charlotte, N. C. April 6, 1917  
"Mayor M. P. Cummings, Reidsville.  
"Being advised of mass meeting tonight and having read editorial in today's Review I desire to have it made thoroughly plain to all Reidsville that we have no intention of moving or dismantling our plug plant and that neither my company nor any of its representatives are responsible for such foolish remarks. I have very plainly stated to the majority of your commissioners, as well as many of your citizens, and as our representatives have made plain on every occasion, that it is our earnest desire and wish that the proposed cigarette factory that we might build in your town be entirely eliminated from the question before your people. After the elimination of the proposed factory from the question the American Tobacco Company will only expect you to serve the tax payers to their best interests and have no complaint when you do it. I know that I am thoroughly understood in regard to the position of my company in the matter. I earnestly hope and trust that never again in any way will any reference be made of the big stick as used so unfairly and unjustly in editorial of today's Review. Please read this telegram to the opening of the meeting and oblige.

"C. A. PENN."

Evidently, Mr. Penn had not carefully read The Review's editorial when he sent the above telegram. In saying that "I earnestly hope and trust that never again in any way will any reference be made to the 'big stick' as used so unfairly and unjustly in today's Review," we think Mr. Penn does The Review a manifest injustice. If we in any way, directly or indirectly, were unfair or unjust to the T. Company in the article referred to we certainly did not intend it. And in order to remove any misunderstandings on the part of Mr. Penn or reader of The Review which may have been caused by a careless reading of our article we today reproduce editorial precisely as it appeared the last issue of the paper. We think any reader who can find words or sentences in the article making an unfair and unjust reference to the "big stick" to call our attention thereto. Following is the editorial in full:

The Review had fondly hoped and loved that the vexatious electric

light problem had been definitely settled. We have all along opposed the selling out of the power plant and granting an electric lighting franchise to any outside company or corporation. We recognized the fact, however, that it would be an advantageous arrangement to secure current from the Southern Power Company, because such an arrangement would remove the limits in filling the demands for lights and power, and that the hydro-electric company could doubtless sell us current cheaper than we could produce it by coal.

The town commissioners had rejected the offer made by the Southern Public Utilities Company, (a subsidiary of the Southern Power Company) to purchase our electric light and power plant and a 60 year franchise for \$30,000 and had made, or was about to make, a contract with the Southern Power Company to secure whatever juice was needed for present or future needs—the town to put in the sub-station, transformers and other necessary equipment to tap on the power company's lines.

But all this is about to be knocked into a cocked hat. Early last week disquieting rumors began to circulate through the town that the American Tobacco Company was dissatisfied with prospective arrangements for electric power and that unless better assurances could be given as to an adequate supply of electricity and at as low a rate as could be obtained in other cities the proposed new cigarette plant would not be built in Reidsville but would be located elsewhere. These rumors spread rapidly as they spread. It was asserted that not only would the new cigarette factory not be built here but that in a short while the F. R. Penn Branch of the A. T. Co.'s immense plant in Reidsville would be dismantled and moved elsewhere, as a result of the unsatisfactory electric power situation. Naturally these reports created consternation among our people.

Everybody recognizes the importance to the town of this great industrial enterprise—giving as it does, employment to hundreds of our citizens. That its loss to Reidsville would be a woeful setback to the town no one gainsays. There is hardly a business enterprise of the town that would not be adversely affected by such a loss. And the excitement grew by leaps and bounds. Dozens of level headed citizens who had heretofore been outspoken in their opposition to giving the electric franchise away became hysterical and began a frantic propaganda to accelerate sentiment in an attempt to stampede the commissioners into rescinding their former action on the franchise question and force them to call an election.

The members of the board were bedeviled on all sides and insistently urged to act quickly.

A few of our cooler headed citizens bestirred themselves to investigate the authenticity of these wild rumors. But they could not be traced to any reliable source. A prominent official of the American Tobacco Company, so we have been informed, disclaimed any desire on the part of his company to bring pressure on the people of Reidsville to grant a 60 year franchise or sell the electric light plant to any other corporation; or to ask the town for any concessions in rates or unusual guarantees as to the adequacy of the supply of electricity.

The Review has been informed that assurances have been given by the town authorities that electric power in unlimited quantity would be given the American Tobacco Company at as low a rate as given by any other city in North Carolina. This guarantee the authorities here are justified in giving because the State corporation commission would protect them by seeing to it that the hydro-electric company give as low a rate to Reidsville as to any other town or towns in the State.

But whether or not the American Tobacco Company had or has had any intentions of carrying into effect any of the threats these wild rumors credited the company with making, they have certainly brought about a change in the sentiment of many of our citizens on the electric franchise

question. The Review does not believe the granting of a franchise or a sale of the electric light plant to the Southern Utilities Company would change any plans formulated by the American Tobacco Company one way or the other as to the building of the new cigarette factory or the removal of their plug plant. If the directing forces of that great company decide to locate the cigarette factory in another town or to dismantle the large plug plant in operation here their plans, in our opinion, will be carried out regardless of the wishes or in spite of the prayers of our entire citizenship. The mere statement of a belief that the A. T. Company would try to coerce our people into giving over the control of an important public utility to an alien corporation and punish us for a refusal to do so by moving their plants is, in our opinion, silly and childish chatter. Such talk or rumors do a great injustice to the officials of the tobacco company. They are honorable and high toned gentlemen and would not stoop to any such petty methods of coercion. It would indeed be a cruel and ruthless use of the "Big Stick."

But even for a moment to admit that the directing officials of the American Tobacco Company would decide to bulldoze our people into parting with its property and franchises without adequate compensation, what assurances or guarantees have been given that when our people hand over these valuable concessions to a third party (or corporation) that the American Tobacco Company will not in a few weeks revive or cause to be revived the talk of moving their plants again? Understand, The Review does not believe there is the slightest intention on the part of the A. T. officials to shake the "Big Stick," to those who do believe in these alleged threats and are willing to "bend the hinges of the pregnant knee that thrift may follow fawning" owe it to themselves to secure some sort of a guarantee against future threats of reprisals.

But at this writing it appears that whoever started these rumors of threats to dismantle the A. T. Company's plant here has succeeded admirably in terrorizing a large proportion of our citizenship. The game to "put it over" on us has been deftly played and may succeed. In the minds of many of our people the whole matter has resolved itself into this proposition: Shall we give up our electric light plant and retain our most important industrial enterprise; or shall we give up the industrial plant and retain the electric plant? To those of our people who feel that the proposition as stated above is what is put up to them to decide, arguments against selling the electric plant and franchise have about as much effect as a bean shooter against a granite wall. To say to them that the tendency of the times in all progressive communities is for municipal ownership of all public utilities falls on deaf ears.

A mass meeting of the citizens of the town has been called at the town hall tonight to determine the sentiment of the people on the question of calling an election. Unless some of the hysteria now gripping the people wears off, the meeting will probably go on record as favoring the election. And if the hysteria continues the election will undoubtedly be in favor of selling out the power plant and franchise.

The Review has endeavored to give a fair statement of facts as we understand them on the franchise question.

We think it unwise to call an election during these troublous and exciting times. It is to be hoped our people will attend the mass meeting tonight (Friday) and discuss the matter in a calm and business like manner. We hope they will not be terrorized and stamped by wild and irresponsible rumors into unwisely giving to an alien corporation a valuable franchise without careful and thoughtful consideration. Do not commit us in haste to something we will repent in leisure. Sixty years is a long time to wear a yoke of oppression!

### A Timely Reminder

That every Southern Farmer who grows a food crop this year will be able to dispose of it at handsome prices either in its original shape or as live stock was the unanimous opinion of the fifty experts of the Development Service of the Southern Railway System and affiliated lines who met in Atlanta to discuss plans for farm marketing, immigration, and the agricultural industrial development of the South.

The market and farm products agents are aiding the movement for increased production of food crops in the South by their efforts to put growers in touch with dealers and consumers desiring their products and have been so successful that the demand for products of Southern farms has greatly exceeded the supply.

While livestock growing is being advocated earnestly, farmers are urged to provide food crops before buying live stock. Any farmer in the territory served by the Southern Railway System or affiliated lines who desires aid in disposing of any crop will be given all possible assistance if he will communicate with the farm products agent located in his section or with Roland Turner, chief farm products agent, Atlanta, Ga.

Eleven pigs, first litter! Best registered Berkshires in America. Boar pigs out of this litter 6 to 8 weeks old \$10 cash, on the farm. We make no deliveries.—M. E. Roberts, Practical Farmer.

### OUR FLAG

RESOLVED, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." These words brought the flag into official being—a resolution of congress, adopted in Philadelphia on June 14, 1777. Yet a whole year earlier there had been a flag, the one sewed by the devoted fingers of Betsy Ross, the young Philadelphia woman who had made it at the suggestion of a committee from congress, accompanied by General Washington, from whose coat of arms the design was borrowed.

The flag went into battle for the first time at Brandywine, Sept. 11, 1777, and on Feb. 14, 1778, received the first salute from a foreign power when the Ranger, commanded by John Paul Jones, was saluted by the French in Quiberon bay, France. At length came Vermont and Kentucky into the Union, and two more stripes and two more stars were added to our banner on May 1, 1795. So it continued for twenty-three years, by which time five more states had entered the galaxy of commonwealths. And then on April 4, 1818, the flag was fixed at thirteen stripes again, but with twenty stars, one to be added on July 4 for each new state thereafter. And Illinois, admitted in December of the same year, was the first to set a new star in the blue field where today are forty-eight.

### COUNTRY CLUB PROPOSED FOR ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

A movement is on foot to organize a country club in Rockingham County. The location of the club will probably be at some point where it can be reached over good roads, with equal facility by residents of all sections.

The good roads program being put through by our County Commissioners will make it a matter of comparative indifference at what point the grounds of the club are located, but the ground selected must be of a nature suited to golf, with some wood and possibly a lake development.

This is unquestionably a step in the right direction, and the promoters have our best wishes. There is a sad lack of opportunity for outdoor recreation for both young and old in our county. There is no objective where our citizens may ride to with the certainty of meeting some other citizens of our county, and spending a few hours in healthful exercise, and friendly intercourse, and where food can be procured without being obliged to carry it along.

We have not in our whole county, a single pleasure resort where our young folks can meet, and enjoy games of skill that help to build up good constitution, and brighten monotony of country life; where they can meet each other and enjoy such pleasures as are obtainable in other more favored sections, which consequently offer greater inducement for our growing citizens, and inevitably lure them from the dull monotony of a life without variety. The need is felt by our older citizens as well, and we feel sure that the country club will be a throbbing center of human interest that will count greatly in the future development of our county.

A meeting of all interested in this matter has been called for Tuesday April 17th, at the Court House, Wentworth, beginning at 1:30 o'clock. Some notices will probably be mailed but it is requested that this be accepted by every one interested in the movement, as a cordial invitation to be present, to give advice and assistance in bringing about the establishment of this most desirable object.

### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS UNDER ONE MANAGEMENT

So familiar has the public become with the fact of the enormous growth attained each year by the Sparks World's Famous Shows that the return of this great American show is awaited with much interest, knowing full well that there is always something new to be seen each visit.

In fact, words fail to do justice to this wonderful aggregation of arenic celebrities, hippodrome spectacles and animal features. This season they have come together from all corners of the earth to make this the most complete exhibition of its kind ever attempted.

Every day at 12 o'clock noon, the grandest, rarest and most complete free street parade ever seen—a fortune invested in wardrobe, trappings, and accessories—will pass through the principal business streets, and cages and tableaux in endless variety gorgeous floats, fierce wild animals, ponderous elephants and stately elephants and stately camels will swing past to the martial music of four brass bands, musical wagons and the soul stirring callopes.

Notwithstanding previous enlargements, the additions that have been added to the show for this season are far greater than ever before attempted and make this beyond all doubt the most noteworthy amusement achievement of the century, keeping ever in mind the three chief watchwords—magnitude, excellence and exclusiveness.

## You Need a Tonic

There are times in every woman's life when she needs a tonic to help her over the hard places. When that time comes to you, you know what tonic to take—Cardui, the woman's tonic. Cardui is composed of purely vegetable ingredients, which act gently, yet surely, on the weakened womanly organs, and helps build them back to strength and health. It has benefited thousands and thousands of weak, ailing women in its past half century of wonderful success, and it will do the same for you. You can't make a mistake in taking

# GARDUI

## The Woman's Tonic

Miss Amelia Wilson, R. F. D. No. 4, Alma, Ark., says: "I think Cardui is the greatest medicine on earth, for women. Before I began to take Cardui, I was so weak and nervous, and had such awful dizzy spells and a poor appetite. Now I feel as well and as strong as I ever did, and can eat most anything." Begin taking Cardui today. Sold by all dealers.

Has Helped Thousands.

### FLY TIME IS NOW HERE AND SWATTING IS IN ORDER

"Not only fly time is here, but the flies themselves," says the Board of Health, "and unless these first arrivals are met with swatters, traps and other means of extinction, there will be millions to swat next week or in a few more warm days. Now is decidedly the right time to swat flies, when they can be counted on the fingers and not when they become countless hordes. Swatters get individual flies, those that come early and stay late, and those that slip in at the screened doors, but swatters are useless where there are no screens and where there are no efforts made to fight flies.

"By far the best means of fighting early flies and preventing them from coming and staying, is cleanliness, that absolute cleanliness is starvation to the fly. What is sometimes passable and harmless in the way of filth

for lack of cleanliness in cold weather becomes dangerous and intolerable in hot weather. In other words, filth of any kind is decidedly more filthy and dangerous in summer than in winter. One of the first thoughts of the careful housewife on the first warm day is, what is there about the house that may be food for flies. She knows that whatever becomes a feeding place becomes also a breeding place, and that flies are attracted only where there is something to eat.

"Get out your fly swatters and use them now!" is the advice of the Board. "If you haven't good ones left over from last year, buy new ones now and don't wait till your house is full of flies to be reminded that you haven't any. The next step is to clean up and keep so perfectly clean that when flies come they will either starve or refuse to tarry."

A nice assortment of fresh cakes.—Harris Bros.

## Telephone Troubles

BELL Telephone employees are constantly trying to prevent trouble of any kind in the workings of the equipment, and to repair such troubles as soon as possible after they occur.

Subscribers are asked to report trouble immediately, and to exercise a reasonable patience while it is being cleared.

If you do not see a man actually working on your telephone, it does not mean that you are not receiving proper attention.

The difficulty may be at the switchboard, in the cable or at any one of several other places. Two or three men may be at work hunting it down.

It is always our first consideration to clear troubles promptly.

When you Telephone—Smile

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