

The Reidsville Review

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

THE REVIEW COMPANY
(Incorporated.)

W. M. OLIVER President
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AMERICA FIRST



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

CLEAN CUT FROM BOTH

A correspondent lays it down in plain United States language when he says, and to the point:

William Jennings Bryan, in his patriotic speech delivered in Chicago last week, said: "After Congress has acted in declaring war it is a matter of law, and the man who criticizes this is not law-abiding. He is resorting to anarchy." Again: "I don't know how long the war will last, but no matter how long it may last I know that the quickest way out is straight through.

Observations: Certainly clean cut, succinct and to the point. Mr. Bryan would have been wholly within the truth had he further said: "Our Congress having declared war against utterly heartless, aye, fendish, Hohenzollern militarism, the man claiming American citizenship that criticizes the government is either a traitor, a spy, an anarchist, a contemptible coward or a fool, and therefore he should be 'handled without gloves' by the government, aye, be promptly imprisoned for life or run out of the country as a stenchful, disease-breeding rat is run into its hole."

Law and order, the foundation upon which public safety and the best interests of our republic must rest, demand that neither the pen, the tongue, nor the conduct of the man that would embarrass the government at this crisis should be tolerated for a moment. Both common sense and the common weal are calling strenuously for such drastic action against our country's shameless, conscienceless or brainless enemies.

WHY THE LOWEST BIDDER?

Editors of The Review:

In your issue of October 2nd, you publish a statement by the board of commissioners "after careful and conscientious investigation" and a "desire to render unto the manufacturing establishments of Reidsville the assurances given by our predecessors in office, thereby protecting the honor and integrity of the municipality." Now, is not that fine talk? It sounds well doesn't it? But what are the facts? In a letter addressed to Mr. C. A. Penn by the predecessors this is the obligation they make:

"We have had one conference with the Southern Power Company's representatives, but have not closed the deal with them yet, but want to assure you that we have agreed to furnish you current through your city, or, direct through the Southern Power Company at the best rate we can obtain from them. We further want to assure you that we will only be too glad to render you any assistance that we can be of service in this or any other enterprise of yours.

Signed: "M. P. CUMMINGS, Mayor
"J. E. AMOS,
"G. E. CRUTCHFIELD,
"J. W. McGEHEE,
"J. E. SMITH,
"JOHN F. SCOTT,
Commissioners"

That is the obligation pure and simple. That is what they could do and agreed to do. But is there a remote suggestion of a sale of the Electric Light Plant, real estate, buildings, dynamos, transformers, poles, wires, switchboards, etc.? Anything said about the sale of the franchise? So sudden, such a nightmare! "Honor and integrity" almost gone. Too bad, too bad!

But the board must sell to the lowest bidder. Plant, franchise, machinery and all to the lowest bidder. And who is the lowest bidder? Mr. Duke. This gentleman has had his hands on Reidsville enterprises before today. He negotiated business connection with two of Reidsville's largest enterprises years ago. His New Jersey corporation wrecked the A. H. Motley Co. and sought to destroy the Old North State Co., by the process of absorption and extinction. (Now this company, incorporated in the State of Maine, is after our Municipal Plants.) The Old North State Company sought relief from Mr. Duke through the New Jersey courts. A complete divorce with restitution and damages, and after a battle of legal Titans, court after court the relief was granted.

The book value of the Electric Plant is around \$85,000. Mr. Duke's offer is \$30,000. Mr. Talbott and his associates representing an aggregate wealth exceeding a million, according to Bradstreet or Dunn agencies, offered \$50,000.

Mr. Frank Talbott is an expert and for twenty-seven (27) years has been superintendent of the Danville Water Light and Gas plants, which he has brought to such a state of efficiency that they have attracted students from all parts of the country. In competition with Mr. Duke's Power Company, Mr. Talbott lights every depot station of the Southern Railway between Salisbury and near Lynchburg. Also he furnishes all the current for the signal service between those points. And the service is admirable. He will do as well for Reidsville.

What About the Stenographer's Notes
On the day the commissioners of Reidsville met to consider the relative merit of the bids, they did not call an expert to say which bid was best. Why? The expert did not show up. Why? Too bad, too bad. No expert shows up. The great big fellow gets the soft place and the little fellow bears the burden. Is not that so? Mr. Penn gets current at 1-10 cents per k. w. hour, Mr. John Doe at 10 cts per k. w.

Mr. Wray: "Are you willing to contract to furnish this horse power in six months?"

Mr. Talbott: "I will be in position to furnish it if needed. You can discount the big business 90 per cent. I have been in this business 27 years. You want to be reasonable and so do we. We will care for all the business of Reidsville with safe margin ahead."

Mr. Glidewell, (Who's who): "Are you making a campaign speech?"

Mr. Talbott: "I think I am answering the question of Mr. Wray, Mr. Glidewell. I am trying to keep within parliamentary lines. If I am not I hope the chairman will call me down. I do not want to do otherwise. We have submitted our proposal in good faith. We want to do everything that ought to be done and omit nothing that ought to be done. We naturally feel that we are entitled to the business. I have not had the least bit of trouble as to coal."

Mr. Scott: "You are an exception."

Mr. Talbott: "Not as to Public Utility corporations. The government recognizes their precedence."

Mr. Richardson: "I have had no trouble in getting coal, Mr. Scott."

Mr. Talbott: "To put 4,000 h. p. which is four times as much as city of Danville uses—what would you do with 4,000 horse power, Mr. Wray?"

Mr. Scott: "Do you run the street cars?"

Mr. Talbott: "No sir."

Mr. Wray: "Could you furnish 1000 horse power or 600 horse power in six or nine months?"

Mr. Talbott: "Yes sir. I would furnish it as soon as possible. In any event in nine months. Is that explicit?"

Mr. Wray: "What kind of power do you propose to furnish?"

Mr. Talbott: "Speaking in regard to dependable power, any one who is familiar with electric light and power business knows that water power from a standpoint of dependability, is not in a class with steam—that is substantiated in my own case in the city of Danville—we furnish the dependable power to the Southern Railway Company in competition with the Southern Power Company at a higher rate because their engineers said that price was not the question—dependability was what they wanted."

Mr. Wray: "What if we were in the market and wanted power within the next six months?"

Mr. Talbott: "If you say you wanted 1000 h. p. in the next six months and take it when I put it there, I will have it there. Our proposition is we would take care of the material growth of Reidsville and do it promptly."

Mr. Wray: "Would you guarantee to put in 1000 h. p. in twelve months?"

Mr. Talbott: "I would if anyone would guarantee to use it. I will have our plant in shape to supply any demand that may be made. I intend to take this plant and add to it as may be necessary."

Mr. Wray: "Without any margin?"

Mr. Talbott: "No sir; with a reasonable margin."

Mr. Wray: "When would the margin start?"

Mr. Talbott: "We would endeavor to do it from the start."

Mr. Wray: "Suppose a concern wanted 500 h. p. in three or six months?"

Mr. Talbott: "I could give him 500 h. p. if he could put himself in position to use it. We would take care of the business. The city of Danville uses an average of 700 h. p. and has a margin of 1200 h. p. in reserve."

The Franchise

What a wealth to Reidsville there is in its franchise, worth today by careful estimates, \$100,000. The writer knows when Reidsville was a woodland cross roads. Not a building was standing within the corporate limits of today. It has all come but recently. On top of the hill whence the flood waters go to the Roanoke and Cape Fear is beautiful Reidsville. She has an efficient water and electric service. The plant has a margin of 10% horse power now. With a small outlay it can be increased to 300 horse power. No dream of any requisition more than that. But Mr. Duke knows a good thing and he wants the plant and the franchise. Twenty-five years from now the plant may have a market value of \$250,000. Will you part with it for a mess of pottage? Shade of Mr. John R. Webster, friend of Reidsville, if you could speak!

Let Mr. Duke make a contract direct with the American Tobacco Co. if need be for current. He is its largest stockholder; he is "whole of the Southern Power Co." They can make terms entirely satisfactory to each other. The Southern Utilities Co. is a "wheel within a wheel." Let them dwell together in peace.

Greensboro, High Point Thomasville
Parties who have been the victims of a contract in these progressive cities speak of their "rotten service." They seek to organize capitalization to establish plants for municipal use when their leases expire. Why should you want to be in a hurry? Why should you wish to accept the lowest bidder? Why should you accept the highest bidder? The plant has a margin now of 100 h. p. unused. By a small outlay the margin can be made 300 h. p. And there is no one to use it. Then why sell our plant?

Let a well paid attorney blow off his gas. Let him snort and talk about "honor and integrity." But people of Reidsville, that is rant, rant!

Autocracy—Who's Who?

All the world today is fighting autocracy. Do we want an autocrat in Reidsville? Mr. Duke is the largest stockholder in the American Tobacco Company. He resigned as its president for further fields of conquest. Mr. Duke is the whole thing of the Southern Power Company. The Southern Utilities Company is a by-product of the Southern Power Company. Mr. Penn is the V. P. of the A. T. Co. Mr. Wray is the business co-partner of Mr. Penn in the "Wray Co." Mr. Crutchfield is Mr. Penn's superintendent of purchasing agencies. Mr. Thompson makes a motion to "adopt." Mr. Scott seconds the motion. Mr. Smith puts a fresh cross over his legs. The vote is unanimous. And the band plays "Hail to the Chief." The procession moves on. Enter Mr. Duke. Remember the Grecian story: "While the sons of Priam slept, Troy fell."

John Doe

Poor John Doe was walking down the street and met Bill.
"How are you Bill?"
"Very tolerable, John."
"How are you going to vote for commissioners, Bill?"
"Like the other d—n f—ls. Just as I am told. It is the price of my job."

Get A Line On These New Suits and Overcoats

THEY'RE snappy in style, distinctive in cut, with that individuality about them that modern men and young men demand.

More than that, they will give you the greatest service and satisfaction your money will buy.

ADLER Collegian Clothes

Drop in and look over these attractive new Suits and Overcoats. Find one that exactly suits you, try it on, compare the style, the fit, the material, the tailoring, with other clothes for the same money—and you'll agree with us that these new Collegians are exceptional in style, quality and price.

S. S. HARRIS

was John's answer.
What will be the answer of the people October 23rd?
A. E. WALTERS
Advt.

Shoes for the Whole Family.. We have them in all styles and Qualities. Solid Leather Shoes. Good Shoes. Come and see them. Prices are right. Look at our Big Stock before buying.—S. Heiner & Co., Reidsville, N. C.

The show at the Grande will open today, Monday, as usual. Matinee at 3 o'clock, night show at 7:45. Those attending the revival services will have ample time to see a full second show.

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Good Morning Coffee, 25c lb
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The Cheerful Cripple
MADISON, N. C.

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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.

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The Review and Bryan's Commoner \$2.00 per year

Chairman Martin, of the senate appropriation committee, in a review of achievements of this session of Congress and of appropriations and contract authorizations for the fiscal year, 1918, just issued says the session breaks all records and has been marked "by a greater volume of legislation and the enactment of measures of more momentous import than have ever been considered in any similar period in the parliamentary history." Total appropriations aggregate \$16,901,966,815 which with the total appropriations for the second session of the 64th Congress and the total contract authorizations for the present fiscal year, makes a grand total of \$21,390,730,940, in appropriations and contract authorizations for the present fiscal year.

Men's and Boys Clothing.. 2,000 suits to pick from. At least 50 different styles in Latest Makes and prettiest patterns you have ever seen. You will do yourself an injustice if you fail to see our Showings before buying.—S. Heiner & Co., Reidsville, N. C.

The Soldiers' Breakfast
T. M. Arrington, of Rocky Mount, has calculated the cost of a breakfast as follows: "By the spring of 1918 it is estimated that we will have in Europe 1,500,000 soldiers. To give these men a simple breakfast consisting of beef, bread and coffee will take 500,000 pounds of beef, 2,500 barrels of flour, 90,000 gallons of coffee, 12,000 pounds of sugar, 1,250 pounds of baking powders, 30,000 pounds of lard, 7,500 pounds of salt. This is allowing only one cup of coffee to a man and one teaspoonful of sugar to the cup of coffee, and one-third of a pound of beef to the man."

We are headquarters for Ladies' Cloaks and Suits. Prices to please all pocketbooks, and styles and quality good enough for anybody. Look at our wonderful showing before buying.—S. Heiner & Co., Reidsville, N. C.

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