

The Brattleboro Daily Reform

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BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT, MONDAY, EVENING, APRIL 17, 1916.

TWO CENTS.

VILLA'S DEATH NOT PROVED

No Confirmation of Report That Carranza Soldiers Dug Up the Body

RIOTING REPORTED IN MEXICO CITY

There Have Been No Anti-American Outbreaks There, the Trouble Being Due to the Desperate Condition of People Facing Starvation.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—War department officials announce that none of the overnight despatches or early telegrams brought any confirmation of the finding of the body of Francisco Villa.

As the hours pass without confirmation of the story of the finding of the body of Villa Washington grows more doubtful. Villa's body was to have reached Chihuahua City by special train some time last night, but American Consul Letcher has not even forwarded the rumor as to Villa's death, which must be circulating there.

The Mexican embassy here had no additional information. The last report from Consul Garcia at El Paso said he was seeking confirmation. State and war department officials refused to comment today on Gen. Pershing's report of the Parral fight, which is much different from the version transmitted by Gen. Carranza to support his suggestion that the American troops be withdrawn. The American report shows that the Carranza troops not only joined in the attack on the little detachment of Americans, but followed them several miles as they withdrew to avoid a clash. The majority of Mexicans killed are reported by Gen. Pershing to have been Carranza's soldiers, one of whom was an officer.

EL PASO, Texas, April 17.—Disappointment was freely expressed here today over the lack of any official confirmation of the death of Francisco Villa. Mexican officials here and in Juarez, while still professing confidence in the truth of the report, could offer no explanation as to the silence of Col. Carlos Carranza and the other officers and officials who were reported to have the body of the bandit in charge.

A number of newspaper correspondents and a few other Americans left here early today for Chihuahua in the hope that the story of the finding of Villa's body was true.

Several other Americans who at first had intended to go abandoned the trip, some through skepticism and others because of the rioting that was reported here to have occurred in the Mexican state capital during the last few days.

Messages received here in regard to the rioting stated there had been no anti-American outbreaks, but the trouble was due solely to the desperate condition of masses of people, facing starvation.

COLUMBUS, New Mexico, April 17.—Disturbances at Las Palomas, eight miles south of the border, followed pay day for the Carranza soldiers patrolling the international line, according to reports received here today. The 40 men were paid yesterday for the first time in two months, it was asserted, each man receiving five American dollars and \$26 in Carranza currency. Investigation showed that the disturbances were minor and caused mainly by intoxication.

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, April 17.—Unless the body reported to be that of Francisco Villa is brought to El Paso the question of identification probably will not come to the attention of the military officials, it was announced at Maj. Gen. Funston's headquarters today. Gen. Funston is without official knowledge of Villa's death. It must be established beyond any doubt that the bandit leader is dead before the military authorities will relax the campaign, it was announced.

Opium is third on the list of Greece's exports, following tobacco and currants.

In a good year France pays taxes on more than a thousand million gallons of wine.

In Odd Fellows' Temple

Monday night at 7.30—Regular meeting will be held in the banquet hall of the new temple. The initiatory degree will be conferred.

TODAY'S WAR SUMMARY

After temporarily assuming the aggressive in the Verdun battle, launching attacks in the Douaumont-Vaux regions which are declared to have gained them some ground, the French yesterday and last night held their infantry in check. There was no movement by the German infantry arms, according to this afternoon's bulletin.

Apparently a new movement of some importance is preparing to the west of the Meuse. Heavy bombardment of the French positions in the Avocourt region and along the line for some distance northeast, including the Dead Man's hill sector, has been mentioned in several recent official statements by the French war office, and similar artillery activity is again reported today.

Although Rome has reported heavy fighting on the Austro-Italian front with successes for the Italians, the current headquarters statement from Vienna mentions only small engagements, and records no changes of territory in consequence.

Riotous demonstrations occurred in Athens, when an attempt was made to break up a meeting of the adherents of former Premier Venizelos. One report says several shots were fired and a number of the former premier's followers were arrested.

CONGRESS KEEPS OUT OF FOREIGN TANGLE

Going Ahead Rapidly on Legislative Program Unimpeded by International Affairs.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Congress is going ahead rapidly on the legislative program, with its working machinery unimpeded by excitement over international affairs. Although there has been more anxiety regarding the German and Mexican situations in the last week than at any time since the session began, members of both houses have been keeping strictly to the business of legislation.

Silence in congress, however, by no means indicates a lack of interest in international affairs. In fact the quiet is ominous, particularly with regard to the submarine issue. Senate and house leaders of the foreign relations committee are daily expecting a call to the White House or Secretary Lansing's office, where they are to be informed what the Administration proposes to do as soon as the plan of action is determined.

The same is true of the Mexican question, although congress already understands and, so far, the majority approve, the determination of the executive to keep American troops on the trail in Mexico while negotiations are undertaken with Carranza regarding his suggestion for their withdrawal from Mexican territory. Republicans pretty generally oppose withdrawing the troops at this time, and some Democrats are against recalling the soldiers until there is more definite information regarding the fate of Villa.

AMERICAN INJURED BY AUSTRIANS' FIRE

Gustav Olson Is Now in a Hospital in Barcelona, Suffering from Shrapnel Wounds.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—One of two Americans aboard the Russian bark Imperator, from Gulfport, Miss., for Marseilles, France, was wounded when the vessel was fired upon without warning by an Austrian submarine, according to officials' advice to the state department today. The American injured was Gustav Olson, whose father is bandmaster at Fort Warren, Boston. The other American who was aboard was Auer Swensson, whose brother is foreman of a Minneapolis furniture factory.

The state department's information came from the American consulate at Barcelona, Spain. He said the ship was fired upon without warning on April 11. Three shots were fired, one taking effect. The vessel was set afire by the submarine. Olson was reported to be in a hospital at Barcelona, suffering from shrapnel wounds.

SUIT OVER WAR ORDERS.

Harvey Wheeler Contends That He Should Have Share of Profits.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., April 17.—Profits on war orders figured in the bill in equity for \$100,000 filed against Richard H. Long and the Framingham Shoe company, of which he is president, by Harvey Wheeler of Concord, Mass., today. The plaintiff contends that an accounting and share of profits is due him on a large number of infantry sets made by the company for the British army on sub-contracts which Wheeler claims to be responsible for obtaining.

ALLEGED MONOPOLY OF SISAL.

Federal Trades Commission Asked to Superintend Sale in Yucatan.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Senator Ransdell, chairman of the committee investigating an alleged monopoly to control the output of sisal, announced today that the federal trades commission would be asked to superintend the disposal of the 125,000 bales now in Yucatan in order to insure a sufficient supply of binder twine for the American harvest.

SUSSEX CASE ONLY A LINK

Chain of Evidence to Show That Germany Has Disregarded Promises

PRESIDENT'S NOTE IS VERY POSITIVE

Officials Believe That Only Prompt Acquiescence in Position Taken by United States Can Prevent Break in Diplomatic Relations.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Announcement was made at the White House today that President Wilson had virtually completed consideration of the forthcoming communication to Germany and it was indicated that it probably will go forward to Berlin late today or tomorrow.

President Wilson, it is said, has been steadily engaged on the note for two days. He did not go to church yesterday, but worked virtually all day examining evidence submitted by the state department. The documents, officials said, will press the submarine issue to a decision. It was reiterated that the Sussex case would form only a link in the chain of evidence the United States will present to Germany to show that her promises have not been fulfilled.

The document was characterized by officials as being very positive in tone and they believe only a prompt acquiescence by Germany in the position taken by the United States can prevent a break in diplomatic relations.

TWO VESSELS SUNK.

Glendon, a Norwegian Ship, was Destroyed by Gunfire.

LONDON, April 17.—The sinking of a neutral ship and a British steamship was reported by Lloyds today. The Norwegian ship Glendon was sunk by gunfire. The lost British steamship was the Harrovian, which was unarmored. The Glendon was sailing from Chile to Calais. Her gross tonnage was 1,900. The Harrovian sailed from New York April 2 for Havre. She was of 4,300 tons gross.

THE WEATHER.

Probably Local Showers Tonight and Tuesday—Cooler Tomorrow.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The weather forecast: Probably local showers tonight and Tuesday. Somewhat cooler in interior Tuesday. Fresh south winds.

GUILFORD.

Death of Walter Earl White.

Walter Earl White, 81, died at his home in the south part of the town Sunday morning, after an illness which dated from March, 1915, when he suffered a shock of paralysis. During the last weeks he was a great sufferer.

He was born in Dedham, Mass., April 5, 1835, the oldest of the three sons of Walter Earl and Mehitabel (Holmes) White. His younger days were spent in that town, where for more than 40 years he was one of the best-known engineers on the old Boston & Providence railroad, now the New York, New Haven & Hartford road, coming to the farm in this town in 1889, which he had owned for several years and where he has been active and interested in all the affairs of life.

He was honest, original, congenial, warm hearted and kindly, and had a wide circle of friends, many of whom came from a distance to visit him in his illness.

Mr. White was a musician of much ability. His voice was of rarely excellent quality and was preserved to him until his last illness. He was a member and organizer of the first Dedham band and for 14 years was the choir leader in the East Dedham Baptist church.

He married in Roxbury, Mass., Dec. 13, 1860, Miss Nancy F. Bell, who survives. They celebrated their silver wedding anniversary in Dedham in 1885 and their golden wedding anniversary at the Guilford home in 1910.

Five children were born to them in Dedham. Walter P., who lives at home, Herbert E. of this town, Warren A., who died in childhood, Bell H., wife of Edwin Porter of Leaden, Mass., and Harry W. of Yonkers, N. Y. He leaves also one brother, John Warren White of Dedham, Mass.

The funeral will be held in the home Wednesday at 2 p. m. and the burial will take place in the Beaver Meadow cemetery in Leaden.

The world's record sugar plantation contains 13,000 acres, 30 miles of railway and employs 1,500 people.

Aluminum can be rolled into sheets one two-thousandths of an inch in thickness that are as strong as tin foil.

PLEDGE TO JEWS IS MADE BY THE POPE

In a Public Letter Says He Will Reprove All Violations of Their Natural Rights.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—A pledge to reprove violations of the natural rights of the Jews is made by Pope Benedict, through Cardinal Gasparri, papal secretary of state, in his reply to the appeal sent to him by a committee of prominent American Jews, urging that he intercede in alleviating the persecution to which members of their race have been subjected in various parts of the world.

The letter from the Vatican, made public here yesterday, says:—

"The Supreme Pontiff is unable to express himself concerning the special facts referred to in the memorandum submitted with your letter, but in principle, as the head of the Catholic Church which, faithful in its Divine doctrine and to its most glorious traditions, considers all men as brethren and teaches them to love one another, he will not cease to inculcate the observance among individuals as among nations of the principles of natural right, and to reprove every violation of them. This right should be observed and respected in relation to the children of Israel, as it should be as to all men, for it would not conform to justice and to religion itself to derogate therefrom solely because of a difference of religious faith.

"Moreover, in his paternal heart, pained by the spectacle of the existing horrible war, the Supreme Pontiff feels in this moment more deeply than ever the necessity that all men shall recollect that they are brothers and that their salvation lies in the return to the law and love, which is the law of the gospels. He also desires to interest to this end all who, especially by reason of the special attributes of your great country, are able to bring efficient aid to the important result.

"In the mean time, His Holiness rejoices in the unity which in civil matters exists in the United States of America among the members of different faiths, and which contributes so powerfully to the peaceful prosperity of your great country. He prays to God that peace may at length appear for the happiness of that humanity of which you truly say the Holy Father is the guardian."

WANT ROBT. COOMBS ADJUDGED BANKRUPT

Manley Brothers, Lovell & Brown and A. W. Drury File Petition with Clerk Pratt in Rutland.

Manley Brothers and Lovell & Brown of Brattleboro and A. W. Drury of Dummerston have filed a petition in the office of Clerk F. S. Platt of the United States court in Rutland, asking that Robert G. Coombs of Guilford be adjudged bankrupt. Manley Brothers claim an account against him for \$280, Lovell & Brown for \$344.47 and Drury for \$193.37. They allege that Mr. Coombs committed an act of bankruptcy in March by transferring to the A. I. Root company of Medina, Ohio, property in this state to the value of over \$3,800 and that in the present month he gave Earl S. Nichols of Colrain, Mass., preference over other creditors by mortgaging property to him. Chase & Chase are attorneys for the petitioners.

Harrie B. Chase of the firm of Chase & Chase says there is no claim that Mr. Coombs has taken away anything with him but that there are conditions existing in his business affairs which make the course through the bankruptcy court the only method to straighten them out.

The efforts of Mr. Coombs' relatives and friends to obtain some definite trace of him since he left Guilford last week have been fruitless to date. Several places where it was believed he might go have been inquired of with no result.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR CHILDREN

Annual Woman's Club Event Tomorrow in Princess Theater—Alice in Wonderland to Be Shown.

Woman's club members are reminded that the meeting this week will be held at 4.10 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at the Princess. It is the annual entertainment for children and the moving picture film to be presented is the old favorite of children, Alice in Wonderland.

The members of the club, their children, the free kindergarten and pupils of the Austine school will be admitted free. Any club member wishing to take friends may do so by paying the usual Princess theatre fee.

Members are especially requested to remember that the time for the special performance for the club is 4.10.

STRIKE IN GARDNER, MASS.

Two Hundred Reed Chair Makers Demand Increase in Wages.

GARDNER, Mass., April 17.—Two hundred employees of the Heywood Brothers & Wakefield company struck today to enforce demands for 25 per cent increase in wages. The men were employed in the reed chair department.

Mrs. Ada Patterson, who spent the past year in Exeter, N. H., was in town yesterday on her way to Townshend, where she will be employed at the Townshend Inn.

TRACK MEN MAY STRIKE

Have Authorized Their General Officers to Act Against B. & M.

WANT SHORTER HOURS AND MORE PAY

Several Strikes on Fitchburg Followed the Taking of the Vote. But They Were Not Sanctioned—About 4,000 Men in the Organization.

BOSTON, April 17.—The track men of the Boston & Maine railroad system have voted to authorize their general officers to declare a strike at any time in furtherance of the demands for reduced working hours and advanced wages, it was learned today. Several strikes on the Fitchburg division of the road followed the vote, but officers of the union stated today they were unsanctioned and that general action would be withheld pending a conference with the railroad officials and possibly the result of the "Big Four" brotherhood demands on railroads of the country. About 4,000 men are included in the trackmen's organization.

FISHERMEN GET SMALL STRINGS

Most of the Brooks Rolly and High on Opening Days of Trout Season—Much Patience Required.

Generally speaking the fishermen who tried their luck either Saturday or yesterday, the opening days of the trout season, caught only small strings. Most of them found the brooks high and the water roily, and more than the ordinary amount of patience was required to get even a few.

Dr. George F. Barber, his son, Lawrence K., and Elijah Stebbins, a guest in the home of Dr. Barber, caught 43 on a Newfane brook. Dr. C. R. Aldrich and Ernest E. Perry returned with 30, which they took in Vernon. Fred Cressy brought in a string of eight from Marlboro, while E. Wales secured a small but select quantity in Townshend.

PERSONAL

Ray Howe has returned from a visit with relatives in Chester.

Miss Eva Burge of Alstead, N. H., is a guest of Mrs. A. F. Schwenk.

Frank Holiday of Belows Falls spent the week-end in town with his family.

G. W. Prouty of Western avenue is ill at his home with sciatic rheumatism.

Graydon Wells has taken a position as clerk in the Brooks House pharmacy.

Mrs. J. Harry Estey and Miss Amy Hines went to New York yesterday afternoon.

Louis C. Stiff is in New York this week on business for the Estey Organ company.

Dr. Herman A. Osgeod of Boston is a guest of Dr. Henry D. Holton for several days.

Miss Zoe S. Richardson and Miss Ida L. Abbott of Chester are visiting Mrs. Ada L. Howe.

Floyd Johnson of Springfield (Vt.) spent the week-end at his home on Western avenue.

Miss Margaret Fleming began work this morning in the office of the Dunham Brothers company.

Mrs. William H. Sarbent of Springfield, Mass., is visiting in town with her sister, Mrs. H. D. Miller.

Miss Madelena Kimball spent Saturday and Sunday at her home in Belows Falls, returning this morning.

John R. Ryder returned yesterday from a trip to the Pacific coast in the interests of the Brattleboro Trust Co.

Dr. Frank E. Haskins of Boston visited over Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hiland Haskins of Frost street.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Gilman and Mrs. F. A. Woodbury went to Boston yesterday by automobile to remain until Friday.

Morgan Sherman went to Springfield, Mass., yesterday afternoon, returning with a new Overland runabout for Mosher & Tucker.

Miss Grace Warren has finished work in the office of the Dunham Brothers company. She will go to her home in Waterbury, Conn.

Mrs. Louis C. Stiff, who had been employed in the reed department of the Estey Organ Co's factory, finished work there Saturday.

Miss Frances Barrett, Miss Mary Reardon and Miss Mary Healy of Belows Falls were guests yesterday of Miss Elizabeth Moran.

Miss Ida Wilder of Springfield, Mass., who had been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Wilder, returned to that city yesterday.

Miss Marie Gauvin, who had been spending two weeks in town at the homes of W. O. Young and P. Ratte, returned to Boston yesterday.

STRANGER FOOLS GARAGE OWNERS

Secures Free Transportation by Eluding Drivers—May Have Escaped from Institution.

A man thought by the Athol, Mass., police to be a patient escaping from some New Hampshire institution has been making game of garage owners in New Hampshire and Massachusetts the past week, and as a result has traveled by automobile from Winchester, N. H., at least as far as Windsor, Conn., by way of Athol, Greenfield and Springfield. The man at different times has represented himself as a buyer for a Boston creamery house, a member of the state police, and merely as a detective. His method has been to ask for the best car in the garage, and then to elude the driver a few towns farther on. The suspicion that he might have escaped from the Brattleboro Retreat, proves to be unfounded, upon inquiry of that institution.

The man is described as tall and slim, about 30 to 35 years of age. He wears eyeglasses and when seen in Athol had on a worn coonskin coat and a light hat. William Hodgman of Winchester, N. H., who drives the jitney bus between Winchester and Brattleboro, is the first man who is known to have provided free transportation to the stranger. Mr. Hodgman drove him from Winchester to Athol and was told to report at a certain restaurant in Athol in half an hour. He reported, but his passenger did not.

The man instead went direct to the Cass garage in Athol, where he said he was a member of the state police and requisitioned a car to take him to Springfield by way of Greenfield. At Greenfield the machine needed oil and the passenger had some charged to the Greenfield police department at a garage there. The man parted company with the Athol car in Springfield by the simple expedient of walking in a building by one door and immediately out another.

His escape from the car he "hired" in Springfield was the nearest any reported so far. When he got just below Windsor, Conn., he told the driver to turn around and drive back slowly while he examined the road for traces of a missing automobile. The driver got interested in that mythical automobile and watched the road for traces so intently that he didn't hear his passenger jump out of the back seat to the ground. The local police have notified the authorities to the south to warn all garage men against the peculiar stranger with the mystic goggles and a penchant for the speediest thing on four wheels in the shop.

The quality was not first class especially in the valley towns, and much disappointment was expressed. Then came the snow storm of about a foot on Saturday and Sunday, April 8 and 9, and the effect was magical. Sap run in largely increased volume and the quality of the product was greatly improved.

BUSY IN OFFICE OF TOWN CLERK

Taxpayers, Lovers, Fishermen and Hunters Kept Clerk and Listers Hustling Saturday.

In the volume of business transacted the town clerk's office Saturday was about the busiest place in town. The listers kept open house all day until 10 o'clock at night, and during that time they obtained nearly 300 filed inventories.

Besides their work and the number of persons with whom they did business about 30 were in the office during the day to obtain fishing or combination fishing and hunting licenses, which brings the total of these licenses issued to date to 144 combination fishing and hunting licenses and 61 fishing licenses.

In addition to this business four couples appeared during the day to obtain marriage licenses and two of them were examined by the coronaries performed by the town clerk.

The listers expect that practically all of the lists will be in by 9 o'clock Thursday evening, the time limit for filing them, and prophesy that the person who does not file his list with them by that time will be in an admirable position to hear something drop.

READINGS MUCH ENJOYED.

Audience Responsive to Work of Miss Agnes Hersey.

A small audience enjoyed a treat Saturday evening in the First Baptist church, when Miss Agnes Hersey, a graduate of the Emerson school of oratory in Boston, gave a series of readings. She was assisted by Frederic C. Adams and Miss Mary Banc, who were heard in solos and in a duet. Miss Jessie L. Hawley was at the piano.

Miss Hersey's selections ranged from The Madonna of the Tubs to her concluding number, Bringing up Children, by Josiah Allen's wife, in which she appeared in costume. Lovers of elocution found much to enjoy in the work of Miss Hersey and generous applause was her portion after each number. She was generous in responding to eulogies, and her responses, like her principal numbers, were new to many of the audience and had not been given in Brattleboro.

An electrically driven machine has been invented for splitting kindling wood.

Between them, Australia and Argentina pasture one-third of the world's sheep.

Cars have been designed for an electric railroad in Ireland to be run by gasoline electric generators.

A new telephone receiver is so small that it can be inserted into the ear instead of being held against it.

MAPLE SUGAR SEASON WANES

Budding of Trees Followed by Gathering of Sap Buckets

SAP CONTINUES TO FLOW IN HILL TOWNS

Snow There Keeps Ground Cool and Retards Budding—Price for No. 1 Quality 25 Cents Higher than That of Last Year.

The maple sugar season is on its last lap, in fact in some localities it already is over. Conditions vary so much in different places that the season does not end at the same time everywhere, but the general rule that applies is that sap ceases to run when the trees from which it is secured begin to bud. In the valleys where the snow has disappeared many of the trees have begun to bud, and in those sections the sugar season is practically ended. In the hill towns where there is still deep snow the ground is cold and the budding of trees is retarded and there sugar-making operations are still going on. There was a good run of sap in some of the hill towns yesterday, and in some places sap will continue to run a few days more, but it is probable that practically all the buckets will be gathered by the middle of the coming week.

There was deep snow and cold weather when the season ordinarily would have started this year, which delayed the beginning of operations. Sugar bush owners found it impossible in many cases to get into their orchards with teams, and the weather was so cold that had they been able to do so the sap would have run but little. Then came sudden warm weather and thaws, and sugar makers were put to it to keep up with the run.

The quality was not first class especially in the valley towns, and much disappointment was expressed. Then came the snow storm of about a foot on Saturday and Sunday, April 8 and 9, and the effect was magical. Sap run in largely increased volume and the quality of the product was greatly improved.

In quantity the season's output will be somewhat less than that of last season, but not so much less as was expected previous to the last heavy snow storm. The price for first quality maple syrup and maple sugar averages about 25 cents a gallon or box, as the case may be, higher than it was last year, being \$1.50 this season. Different persons disagree as to what maple products are of No. 1 quality, and often makers who think their goods are first class but who cannot induce the dealers to think likewise take it upon themselves to peddle their cut output.

FALSE FIRE ALARM SUNDAY MORNING

Rounds in Night from Box 12 Caused Anxiety Among Persons Having Friends in Memorial Hospital.

At 12.29 o'clock Sunday morning a false alarm was sounded from box 12 on Canal street, near the corner of Oak Grove avenue, and the combination automobile truck made the run of a mile with five men in less than three minutes. Residents of the neighborhood did not see anyone in the vicinity and the firemen have no clue to the person who sounded the alarm. The box is the one that would be sounded for a fire in the Memorial hospital and caused considerable anxiety to many people in town who had relatives and friends in the institution.

BRATTLEBORO LOCAL.

A youth who was one of 100 or more boys and men at the corner of Main and Elliot streets last evening during the Salvation Army service threw an empty cigarette box from the steps down on the bus track which was on the ground. Other discourtesies had been shown, and the leader of the service administered a deserved rebuke.

It was considered possible this afternoon that an agreement might be reached between counsel for Lisle M. Carpenter and the Central Vermont railroad and that the third trial of the case in county court might not be necessary. Conferences were held yesterday, but no agreement was reached. At the time of going to press the court was considering the matter of a continuance of the case.

Your Easter Hair Cut

Cut by the most expert of workmen in an artistic manner. No danger of scalp diseases in this shop of perfect sanitation.

5 Expert Workmen 5 Brooks House Sanitary Barber Shop A REAL SHINE ARTIST