

# APRIL HAPPENINGS OF THE PAST

**1889:** C. E. Goodale has reopened his fruit stand near Tuller's Corner. This is a sure indication of Spring!

**1904:** A mouthpiece containing disinfectants is a new invention for use in public telephones. One has been placed on the phone in the Darrow House. There was a mad rush to the street in Jordanville when the toot of the trolley car was heard in the distance. It made us feel as if, after being buried in the snow the past six months, that we were once more in a civilized country. Richard Montgomery is having the Elias Weatherbee Mansion wired for electric lights. The house is being remodeled in colonial style and will have great fireplaces and 110 electric lights.

**1905:** W. G. Tunnicliff took over management of the Majestic Hotel. The band came out and serenaded him and he served a lunch to everyone. About 90 applications have been received by the Board of Education for the job of principal of the local high school. There are plenty of teachers available.

**1906:** A stock company of local capitalists is being organized to manufacture the shoe brush recently patented by Rocco Curcio. Among the companies recently incorporated at Albany was the New York Flying Airship Company of Richfield Springs. The directors named are J. N. Ely and C. L. Ely of Richfield and F. R. Zoller of Middleville. A Carpenter's Union has been formed in Richfield with 21 members. The wage scale calls for \$2.50 per day for nine hours work.

**1907:** Application has been made for RFD route #4 out of this village post office. The new route would go to Columbia and Orendorf Corners back to Exeter township and returning on the West Lake Road. The material for the construction of a walk around the bath house has arrived and will be built before the season opens.

**1910:** Postmaster Bronner has received notice of the discontinuance of the post office at Columbia Center. The Buchanan Hardware Co. has already taken possession of the stores in the First National Bank block. The new Tungsten lamps have been installed there by the Electric Light Company and the lights are very satisfactory. C. M. Woolver's new incubator plant is now rushed to its full capacity. A remarkable record was made on a lot of 100 chicks he sent to Texas with only one chick killed during the trip.

**1914:** A Curfew Law was written into the By-Laws and Ordinances of the Village at the most recent meeting. 'No person under 16 years of age shall be or remain in or upon the streets, alleys or public places in the village at night after the hour of 9 o'clock in the evening from April 1 to November 1 and from November 1 to April 1 after 8 o'clock unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.'



**1915:** Dr. Aston has opened a new institution in Richfield to be known as The Aston School of Chiropody.

**1916:** A force of workmen is already on the job to finish the State road between here and Jordanville.

**1917:** Ganowauges Chapter DAR celebrated its 5th birthday.

**1919:** The Music Club will sing in the Proctor Memorial Room the opera H. M. S. Pinafore. Each member of the club has been privileged to invite one guest.

**1920:** The Town of Richfield will have a Linn tractor for use on its roads. The tractor will do the work of several teams. The deep cut at Pray Hill has been literally filled with snow this winter. At latest report, the snow was still six feet deep there but the work of shoveling it out has commenced.

**1924:** The Richfield Springs Lodge of Masons have bought the Elk Opera House block from Mrs. William McCredy.

**1925:** Prohibition agents from Albany swooped down on the New Charles and the Genesee securing a quantity of gin and cider in the New Charles and whiskey, gin, beer and cider in the Genesee.

**1926:** In opening the State road between Richfield Springs and Paines Hollow, Commissioner Herbert Welden encountered drifts 18 feet deep.

*Submitted by Village of Richfield Springs Historian Harriett Geywits*