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French Broad Hustler

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COMMISSIONERS GRANT COUNTY AGENT IN SPITE OF OPPOSITION FROM "THE RIDGE"

Request Millsaps to Send Man Here at Once

After Three Months the Commissioners Decide to Promote Interests of Farmers—Non-Partisan Measure—Praise County Officials.

The vote of the county commissioners on the question of a farm demonstrator for Henderson county last Tuesday afternoon stood:

Three, in favor.
None, against.
This ends a long and strenuous campaign for the advancement of the agricultural interests of the county. Last fall a movement was put on foot agitating the question of securing a demonstrator. In fact the matter has been in the minds of a good many prominent farmers ever since the county failed year before last to employ a demonstrator after having him for two years.

The first public meeting before the commissioners was held on the first Monday in January. At this meeting a large number of citizens and farmers filled the little court room and not a decenting voice was heard against the movement. The commissioners decided that it would be best to postpone the matter until, the people could be heard from, either in person or by petition on the first Tuesday in February.

Those who favored the demonstrator worked hard, in spite of the weather in carrying petitions all over the county. Nearly 250 citizens signed petitions in favor of the agent and several other petitions have not been turned in. Something over 150 signed petitions against the employing of a demonstrator under the present laws. The petition did not say that the signers were against the demonstration work in general.

It has been thought for sometime that the county commissioners would employ a demonstrator. They went on record at the meeting in February as being personally in favor of it and were simply waiting to hear from the people of the county.

The question of how much salary the county will pay has not been settled, but the commissioners were in favor of getting the best man obtainable and state agent E. C. Millsaps has been wired to get Henderson county the best man he can find.

The farmers are in favor of a good man, one who knows his business and will not be a burden on the county.

One of the commissioners stated at the meeting that he was in favor of getting a high price demonstrator rather than a cheap one. It is safe to say that the salary will not be less than \$1500 per year and the county will only have to pay one half of this amount.

The total taxes of Henderson county is in the neighborhood of \$96,000 to \$100,000. The actual cost of a demonstrator would hardly be over 75 cents for every \$100 in taxes. The township of Hendersonville pays over 40 per cent of the taxes and there is said to be very little opposition in that township.

It was agreed by the commissioners to begin work at once. Owing to the fact that farmers are now ready for spring planting and to get effective results a demonstrator should begin work within the next thirty days. It is said that Mr. Millsaps has a man he can locate here within the next few weeks.

The securing of an agent for Henderson county is said by some leading citizens of the county to mean more real money to the county than the securing of a \$100,000 cotton mill. This is putting it pretty strong but it is a known fact that while some did not think they had profited by the last demonstrator here others were ready to swear that he made them lots of money and they were very much disappointed that Mr. Perkins had to leave. It is a known fact that Mr. Perkins is now making one of the leading agents of the state. He has charge of the work in Burke county, just over the ridge.

When the announcement was made by the commissioners after being in short session behind closed doors the crowd in the room gave a strong demonstration of their feelings. They realized that their work had not been in vain and that a new feeling in the future of the county of prosperity and success would be felt.

As one spokesman stated, the county was the back bone of the city and so long as the farmers lag just so long would the city be a struggler. These patent factors go hand in hand and when the farmers prosper as they have every reason to feel that they will from now on, then Hendersonville will radiate the prosperity and good will of Henderson county.

The board of agriculture will begin from now with a new impetus and with a membership of fifty farmers and citizens at the present there are indications it will grow into the hundreds.

There is said to be 1500 farmers living on their farms in Henderson county. It would be impossible for a demonstrator to spend a day with each one and the government has worked out plans by which an agent can work with a group of farmers in

Hawkins To Build Modern Store At Once

The work of tearing down the Hawkins building, next to the Climax Barber Shop on Main street, preparatory to the building of a modern store, has already begun.

W. H. Hawkins & Son has leased this new building for a period of five and one-half years to G. M. Glazener. Mr. Glazener expects to move the Whitmire stock of shoes and gent's furnishings into this store when completed. The new building will be modern throughout, and Mr. Glazener expects to conduct one of the most up-to-date shoe stores ever in Hendersonville. Alf Glazener will have charge of this new store.

TO BUILD A TABERNACLE

Preliminary work on the organization for the Browning tabernacle meetings to begin in Hendersonville on or about April 22nd has already taken definite shape.

The various committees have been named with the exception of a fifth member of each committee, who will be appointed just as soon as the committee meets.

The following is a report of a meeting held last Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the Wesley Adult Bible class room at the Methodist church:

The meeting was called to order by Rev. W. F. Womble who was made permanent chairman with C. S. Fullbright, secretary.

The following were present from the different churches: W. F. Dotson, L. A. Chapin, J. A. Fletcher, L. P. Carter and C. S. Fullbright, from East Hendersonville Baptist church.

Rev. T. E. Simpson, Dr. A. H. Morey, Dr. McPheeters from the Presbyterian church.

Rev. K. W. Cawthon, T. L. Durham, J. E. Shipman, R. H. Staton, Foster Bennett and S. J. Justice, First Baptist church.

Rev. W. F. Womble, F. S. Wetmur, C. F. Bland, F. E. Durfee, A. L. Gurley and Vance Norwood from the Methodists church.

On motion the following ministers and laymen were elected as the executive committee: Revs. W. F. Womble, K. W. Cawthon, T. E. Simpson, Geo. F. Wright and Rev. Mr. Davis, and Messrs. F. S. Wetmur, T. L. Durham, A. H. Morey and J. A. Fletcher.

On motion the following committees were appointed. The four named are to meet, select a fifth man and organize by naming their chairman, etc.: Building Committee—Foster Bennett, A. L. Gurley, J. R. Willson, D. S. Pace.

Finance Committee—R. H. Staton, J. O. Williams, F. E. Durfee, W. F. Dotson.

Publicity Committee—C. E. Blackstock, Dr. McPheeters, Vance Norwood, L. P. Carter.

Music Committee—Miss Gussie Dotson, Mrs. J. S. Brown, C. F. Bland, Mrs. J. A. Laughter.

Ushers Committee—S. J. Justice, A. H. Hawkins, J. Lawrence Pace, H. F. Stewart.

Decorations Committee—Mrs. Mae Matthews, Mrs. Gordon Garlington, Mrs. J. Lawrence Pace, Mrs. G. W. Brooks.

On motion it was authorized that the executive and building committee select the site and decide whether or not they erect a tabernacle.

F. S. Wetmur was instructed to communicate with Rev. Mr. Browning and ascertain from him his opinion of erecting a tabernacle or securing a top for his tent.

No other business the meeting adjourned to meet at 3:30 Sunday afternoon, March 11th at the same place.

W. F. WOMBLE, Chairman.
C. S. FULLBRIGHT, Sec'y.

HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Hospital association will be held at the residence of Mrs. C. S. Fullbright, on Main street, Thursday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

every section and thus give the same benefit almost as would be derived by a personal visit to each.

Experimental tracts will be located over the county and an office will be opened in Hendersonville where the agent will be on hand one day out of each week to answer inquiries and give out free literature and bulletins. The questions of farm marketing is now very important and the best markets will all be supplied by the agent. Commissioners John T. Staton, J. F. Stepp and S. J. Whitaker are all farmers of the county. Mr. Stepp is also in the furniture business in the city.

High Cost of Living Now Growing Higher

Local Merchants Sceptical Over Prices of Canned Goods—Eggs Only Thing Down.

Because prices for future delivery on canned goods and certain other staples are to their minds out of reason, Hendersonville grocers are hesitating about signing orders now. Some of them do not understand why certain large jobbers are unable to sell for future delivery a complete line of canned goods. It is thought by some that the manipulation of the market by men higher up is more responsible for this condition than any other single force. An effort was made the other day by a representative of the Hustler to secure through a representative source some adequate information to determine whether the "High cost of living" is still in control of the market, or is losing ground. The discovery was that prices on practically all of the staple articles for food are upward still rather than downward. With the exception of eggs the prices are higher almost day after day, but the hens are coming to the relief of egg shortage and there has been a notable decrease within the past few weeks.

Several leading citizens have signified their intention of discontinuing eating of Irish potatoes until the price is reduced. They are selling around 70c per peck and some predict that they will reach \$1.00 before any relief is given. Sugar is holding her high price with a slight increase each week. Rice remains about the cheapest food on the market. Lard refuses to stop rising. Butter can be had, but is short about two days out of the week, with the exception of creamery butter, which is always higher than the country butter.

Many citizens of county are hoping and trusting that spring trucking will be a success. Home gardens are being planned and planted, with the hope of materially reducing the high cost of living. Should Hendersonville have a banner season this summer, thousands of dollars will have to be spent out of the county for the very things which could be cultivated here, in order to feed the visitors.

Ottaray Canning Resumes Operation

Farmers to Contract for Surplus Crops at Fair Prices—May Relieve Canned Goods Market.

The Ottaray canning company has been leased by T. L. Durham and Jonathan Case, and will resume operation on or before June 1st, according to a statement from the new concern by T. L. Durham.

This well known enterprise was started several years ago by J. Case and C. F. and M. C. Toms, of this city. An investment of nearly \$10,000 was made including all modern machinery, and fire proof buildings.

At normal seasons the factory employs seventy five people, of which ninety per cent are women. The capacity of the factory is in the neighborhood of 25,000 cases of canned goods, representing an outlay of \$75,000. This means sixty car loads of tomatoes, fruits and vegetables to be manufactured in Henderson county a year, provided a normal season can be had.

In talking of the new enterprise, Messrs. Durham and Case, were enthusiastic over the prospect of a banner season. They wish to impress upon the farmers of Henderson county that by producing vegetables on a large scale, and contracting with the canner for their surplus crops, that it will be of great financial profit to them. It is not the purpose of the new concern to contract for the entire vegetable crop of any one farmer, or any group of farmers. They believe that it is best for all concerned to allow the farmers to sell as much of their crop as they desire in the local market, especially the early crop, for which they receive a better price.

The new concern is now ready to make contracts with the farmers for their farm products, such as apples, string beans, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, black berries, peaches, etc. The management has ample capital to carry on this business and is now contracting for a season's supply of cans and the necessary new equipment.

T. L. Durham will have charge of the financial end and the executive office, while Jonathan Case will devote his entire time to superintending the plant out at Dana, N. C. The new duties will not interfere with Mr. Durham's position as manager of the Slayden-Fakes & Co., wholesale grocers. The present extreme prices of canned goods and the uncertainty of future deliveries caused Mr. Durham to enter

FIRE FRIDAY AT FLAT ROCK

Damage to the Place to Extent of \$2,000—Partly Insured.

TO REBUILD AT ONCE.

What came near being a very disastrous fire occurred last Friday afternoon at "Flat Rock," the country place at Flat rock, of Mrs. A. T. Smythe, of Charleston, S. C. Five houses, including two four roomed servants houses with all furnishings, smoke house with over one hundred and fifty dollars worth of meat, wood house and chicken house were totally destroyed, and it was with an effort that the other buildings were saved from the flames. The fire originated in the smoke house where Mr. Jones, the headkeeper, was smoking meat and it was well under the flames before it was discovered. All of the buildings burned were huddled together at the rear of the big house occupied by the Smythe family in summer, and there was no saving the five destroyed. And only the rainy day and absence of wind prevented the handsome home, barns, offices and other building on this big estate going down in ashes too. Mr. Jones states that the loss was something over \$3,000. He says that insurance was carried and that the Smythes have already signified their intention of rebuilding before they come up in May.

BUILDING AND LOAN REPORT.

The Hustler is publishing this week the annual report of the Laborer's Building and Loan Association which will be read with interest. This Association now has seven series in operation, with three series already matured. The assets of the Association are nearly \$64,000 and profits over \$10,000. There were 1,386 shares in force at the beginning of the year, and 1,451 shares at the end of the year. The Association has 151 white members.

SUPERIOR COURT CONVENE

JUDGE LANE PRESIDING MONDAY.

Mr. J. W. Crum of Criminal Court Begins With Large Crowd at Court House.

Judge Henry F. Lane, judge of superior court, began a two weeks' term of criminal and civil court. There are quite a number of minor cases in court. A full list of the verdicts will be published later.

Important Meeting of Board of Trade Held

One of the best meetings of the Board of Trade held this year, took place at the city hall Tuesday night. A large number of members were present.

R. M. Oates reported from his recent visit to Raleigh, in which he stated that a law had been passed permitting cities to buy property outside the city limits for a golf course. The golf course committee was instructed to confer with the city commissioners in reference to calling a bond issue election.

Mr. Oates also reported as chairman of the cotton mill committee, that work would begin at once on securing stock subscriptions to the amount of \$50,000. The committee desires to purchase a site near Hendersonville of about one hundred acres.

F. A. Ewbank, chairman of the advertising committee reported that the city was already receiving direct results of the \$250 spent for advertising in Florida newspapers and moving picture slides.

Secretary A. S. Truex, reported that he was receiving daily a large volume of inquiries through this campaign.

Mr. Truex read a letter from W. A. Smith, offering Laurel Park to the city free as a pleasure ground this summer, to the visitors. A vote of thanks was passed by the board to Mr. Smith, and a committee will be appointed to confer with him in planning various amusements in the park this summer.

The question of supplying necessary music this summer was discussed by various members, and a committee was appointed to arrange for at least one band concert every week, and to select a suitable site for a band stand on Main street.

It was decided owing to the unusual amount of work before the Board of Trade at this season, two meetings a month will be held from now on.

The next meeting of the board will be held Tuesday night, March 20th.

RE-ORGANIZE BUGGY & WAGON CO

L. R. Geiger, Buys D. S. Pace Interests and is Elected Secretary and Treasurer—New Stand.

The Hendersonville Buggy & Wagon company was re-organized last week and began business March 3 with new officers. Leland R. Geiger, formerly of Brickton has taken stock in the concern and is secretary and treasurer. W. A. Keith, is president; O. Roy Keith is vice president. The offices and show room of the company will be in the store room formerly occupied by the Southern Supply company adjoining the store of O. Roy Keith, merchandise broker.

The concern handles the following wagons, Geo. E. Nissen, Thornhill, Mitchell, Hickory and White Hickory, also the following buggies, Rock Hill, Parry, Columbus, Hughes.

TO BUILD ESMERALDA INN.

Tom Turner of Chimney Rock States That Work Has Already Begun. Convicts for Road Secured.

Thomas Turner, owner and manager of the famous Esmeralda which was recently burned to the ground, was a visitor in Hendersonville Tuesday. Mr. Turner states that work has already begun on rebuilding this hotel by next summer. He states that the plans call for a modern structure, the tower and a cottage near Esmeralda Inn are now crowded with guests. In fact Mr. Turner was called here Tuesday to receive a party who desired to stop with him.

In speaking of the recent story published in the Hustler of the coming of a moving picture group here to produce "The Rise and Fall of the Confederacy," Mr. Turner said, "Hendersonville is fortunate in securing such a mammoth picture. You have ideal scenery for such a picture. We, in Chimney Rock, do not have the level country and most of the pictures made in our section are of the rough kind; which many of the moving picture directors have told me is the finest to be had east of the Rocky Mountains. Those picture people certainly do not mind spending money. You will find that they will leave a big bunch of cash in Hendersonville."

Mr. Turner had just heard of the act of the Legislature by which Chimney Rock and Bat Cave sections will receive seventy-five convicts for a period of four months to rebuild the roads. He is highly delighted and stated that this road complete, Chimney Rock will have more attractions than ever before for the tourists. He told of one of the largest forges made by the recent flood, having been named Borne gorge, after Billy Borne, the famous cartoonist of the Asheville Citizen, who has been a frequent visitor in this section before and after the flood of 1916.

BIG LAND SALE.

Announcement is made in this issue of the Hustler of a big real estate auction sale of the Lemoir Terrace, at Tryon, N. C., which property is composed of three hundred acres of magnificent farming land, situated on the state line, lying in both Carolinas. Mrs. A. J. Lemor and children will in the future reside in Hendersonville, she having purchased the new Maxwell residence on Fifth avenue. She expects to move within the next few weeks.

SIGNS OF PROGRESS

Indications Are Fine for Approaching Season—New Enterprises Contemplated.

CIT YREACHING BOOM STAGE.

Every day sees some new improvements or building operation for Hendersonville. Business circles are taking on new life and activities in Hendersonville closely resemble those of large cities. Some of the many improvements and changes recently and those contemplated are: \$10,000 now being spent by the Southern railroad company on the passenger station. It is announced that vitrified brick will be laid on the street facing the station and for a short distance down the track. A new shed is proposed for the freight depot over the loading and unloading platform.

The Ottaray canning plant, a \$10,000 enterprise at Dana, N. C., will resume full operation within a few weeks, under new management.

W. F. Case and J. Boling have purchased the up-town store of the Southern Supply Co., and greatly increased the stock of goods.

As result of the newspaper advertising campaign conducted by Hendersonville in all the leading papers of Florida, there are quite an number of visitors here now. These visitors have admitted that the advertisements they read in Florida papers brought them to Hendersonville.

A chair factory, formally located on the French Broad river near Asheville, and was washed away during the recent flood, wishes to locate in Hendersonville, and a committee is now conferring with the owners and are offering a free sight in Hendersonville. This enterprise represents a capital of \$15,000.

James M. Gudger, Jr., made the statement that eventually a modern hotel would be located on the Hawkins property, and that he was planning the second story of the large store building for H. Patterson as a wing for this contemplated hotel.

The Women's Club will no doubt take advantage of the offer from several property owners of the vacant lot on Main street, to beautify the same to be used as parks this season for the convenience of this summer visitors.

J. B. STEEDMAN DEAD.

Aged Citizen Died Monday Night After Lingering Illness—Was Confederate Veteran—Leaves Daughter.

J. B. Steedman, a former resident of Camden, S. C., 72 years old died at the home of his daughter Miss Bessie Steedman last Monday night. Mr. Steedman has been in feeble health for several years. He has divided his time here and in Camden for a number of years.

The deceased was a good citizen and while in Hendersonville made many friends. He was a valiant soldier and served throughout the war between the states in a South Carolina cavalry company. He was born in Charleston, S. C. Out of a large family Mr. Steedman is survived by only one daughter, Mrs. Steedman died here last year.

The funeral services were conducted by Rev. R. N. Wilcox. The floral tributes sent by relatives and friends in Camden, S. C., were unusually beautiful.

"HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED."

Southern's Handsome Flyer Describes Railroad Conditions as They Were in 1854.

"How Times Have Changed" is the title of a handsome flyer gotten out by the Southern Railway reproducing an advertisement of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad in 1854 in comparison with a view on the same line now, part of the Southern's Washington division, showing one of the Southern's limited passenger trains on modern double track protected by the electric automatic clock signal system.

The old advertisement shows a picture of the antiquated wood-burning engine, baggage car and one coach, making up a passenger train omnibus leaving Washington at 6 a. m. "on arrival of cars from Baltimore" will put them in Alexander in time for "breakfast and take the cars" and that by transferring at Gordonsville they can reach Richmond at 2:30 p. m. in time "to connect with all lines going South and West."

Large black letters display the slogans, "Only Safe and Certain Line" and "No Detention from Ice," having reference to the fact that to take the trains of the rival line it was necessary to travel by boat from Washington to Asquia Creek Va., and thence to Richmond, then the gateway for all travel between Washington and the South.

COUNTY TEACHERS' MEETING.

A meeting of the County Teachers' Association will be held Saturday morning at 11:00 in the graded school building. A full attendance is urged as the various features of the County Commencement will be discussed.

Hickory will vote on the question of a Carnegie library on Monday April 2.