

French Broad Hustler

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PRICE FIVE CENT

STILL PICKING MONKEY WRENCHES OUT OF ROAD BILL

Quick Action Taken by Board of Trade on Report That Efforts are Being Made to Block Enactment. Letters and Resolution Go Forward at Once.

A called meeting of the Board of Trade last Thursday night developed the fact that monkey wrenches are still being injected into the Board's mechanism at intervals. It appears from un-official reports that M. L. Shipman, Commissioner of Labor and Printing, has received from Hendersonville parties requests to use his influence in blocking the Henderson County road bill recently worked out and sent to Raleigh for enactment, this grapevine wireless also reporting that Mr. Shipman had assured his Hendersonville letter-writers that his stand on the road bill would be the same as that taken by the French Armies on the Marne, and that it (the bill) "shall not pass."

It is not generally believed here that Mr. Shipman said anything of the kind.

However, enough importance was attached to this report by the Board of Trade to make it seem advisable to clear up this feature of the situation by placing Mr. Shipman in possession of all the facts with regard to this bill, and asking him to put his shoulder to the wheel.

To accomplish this, on motion of W. A. Smith, a committee of three, consisting of E. W. Ewbank, A. C. Tebeau and E. G. Stillwell, was appointed to draft a letter to Mr. Shipman, stating that this road law, as drafted, is what the parties want both Democratic and Republican, that it is absolutely non-political, and to urge his co-operation in its enactment by the legislature. The following letter framed by the committee and bearing the signatures listed was accordingly mailed to Mr. Shipman last Friday.

Hendersonville, N. C., Jan. 31-19.

Hon. M. L. Shipman,

Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Mr. Shipman:—

Some weeks ago, after much agitation of the matter, a large gathering of citizens representing every shade of opinion appointed a committee to draft an amended road law for this County. The committee drafted such amendments as were suggested and reported back to a full-house meeting of the Board of Trade, also consisting of every shade of political and public opinion and after much debate the recommendations of the drafting committee, with trifling modifications were adopted by the meeting and the bill as drafted directed to be sent to Raleigh for passage by the legislature.

It has been reported back here that upon the request of several persons who have written you but who took no interest in all the active work looking to the revision of the road law, that you have announced that you will see to it that the amended law does not pass the Legislature. We are of the opinion that this statement does not, in fact, represent your attitude, but that, rather, it indicates that you simply mean to say that you will not lend it your approval unless it appears to you that it is wanted by the people of this County. We are, therefore, writing you that it is our opinion that the road law ought to be a non-political issue and that the bill now pending or sent to Raleigh for passage, is one that will get the greatest general public support that can be had by the county—a condition absolutely essential to the execution of a road law. It is intended to be, a strictly non-political road law and ever in the actual administration of it should happen that the reins fall into the hands of persons of Republican faith it is our opinion that there is justification for it in that the County as a whole is largely in the majority of that faith, and it is manifestly unfair to deprive them of representation on or even absolute control of a road commission strictly a county matter.

We believe, however, that both parties will have participation on this Board with the result that we will get a more universal public opinion behind the execution of it.

We are, consequently, asking you to do what you can to facilitate the passage of the law as sent down to Raleigh and will appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Yours very truly,

C. E. Brooks,
M. M. Shepherd,
C. N. Wrenshall,
J. F. Justice,
R. M. Oates,
A. C. Tebeau,
E. W. Ewbank,
W. A. Smith,
C. F. Bland,
Clarence Latham,
T. L. Durham,
F. V. Hunter,
W. H. Bangs,
J. D. Duff,
A. H. Hawkins,
J. A. Burckmyer,
B. P. Burckmyer,
Frank Ewbank,
Dr. A. B. Drafts,
W. H. Justice,

At the same meeting, on motion of J. R. Willson, the following resolution was also framed and ordered forwarded to Mr. Shipman: "Resolved, that it is the unanimous opinion of the Henderson County Road Law prepared and unanimously adopted by the Board of Trade and sent to the General Assembly for passage is a law that ought to be enacted and that our townsman and mutual friend M. L. Shipman, now in Raleigh, be respectfully requested to aid our representatives to the extent of his ability to have said bill enacted into law without amendments."

Clarence Latham, President.

Erle G. Stillwell, Acting Sec.

The road bill in question is admitted by all parties to be free of any political flavoring whatever and anyone opposed to the bill had full opportunity of stating his opposition at the meeting in which it was approved without a dissenting vote. It seems to be the general opinion that the bill is a much-needed piece of constructive legislation for Henderson County, and that it is a matter for regret that after its unanimous approval in open meeting efforts should be made to block its enactment. It is probable that, if there is an Ethiopian concealed beneath the cordwood, the friends of the bill will make enough smoke to find out about it.

Reports from Raleigh are to the effect that the bill will be dropped into the legislative hopper on the return of Representative Jackson this week. These reports also state that the objection was made to the provision placing the management of the roads in the hands of the county commissioners and that R. M. Oates was asked to ascertain on his return to Hendersonville whether the sponsors of the bill would be willing to substitute for the county commissioners a commission composed of two Democrats and one Republican, who would select a full-time supervisor. So far as can be learned no advice has been received at Raleigh from Mr. Oates, but the letter and resolution set forth above have reached Raleigh, and the suggested change will not be made at this time. The report also states that no letters or petitions opposing the bill had been received in Raleigh, and the presumption there is that it meets the approval of Henderson County people generally. Should objection be raised a hearing may be had before the Senate Committee. All communications relative to the matter should be addressed to Senator E. B. Cloud.

WRONG LOCATION FOR NEW BUILDING.

The little devil that is never absent from any feature connected with the publication of a country newspaper caused the last issue of The Hustler to state that a large addition has been made to the plant of the Hendersonville Auto Company. The item was intended to apply to the Rhodes Auto Company, which has erected a new building with a floor space of 3,000 square feet to take care of all the company's machine and repair work, the former quarters being needed in their entirety for storage space and office room.

OFFICERS AND DOGS BAFFLED BY THIEVES.

Investigation of the robbery last Thursday night of Drake & Jones Store near the Brevard Railroad ended in a lost trail by bloodhounds from Asheville.

Allie Drake, who has a store in town was coming into town early Thursday morning, and on passing the Drake & Jones building noticed that one of the large front glass had been taken out and set around by the side of the building, and telephoned Chief Otis Powers. The Chief, with Sheriff Allard Case, immediately went out to investigate, placed a guard on the burglarized premises, and called up Chief of Police Lyerly of Asheville. As a result, H. T. Dillingham, a plain clothes man of the Asheville force with the blood hounds owned by Buncombe County, arrived on the scene by auto about 9:30.

When placed in the store the dogs gave every indication of picking up somebody's warm trail at once, and followed it without any hesitation three miles out the Crab Creek road to the Connell road, along the Connell road, to the back entrance of the Haynes place, then leaving the road, trailed across a field to the old Connell barn, where all trace of a scent vanished into thin air. All efforts to find any further trail were fruitless, and Dillingham had to give it up and brought his dogs back for the return to Asheville by train.

Neither the safe or the cash drawer of the store was tampered with, the only goods known to be missing consisting of canned goods, candy and chewing gum. The thieves had effected an entrance by removing from one of the front windows the strip of boarding which held the large pane of glass in the sash. So far as known the officers have no clue.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEET

The Board of County Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting Monday with all members present. A petition was presented from Tracey Grove School District to call an election for special tax of 20 cents on the hundred dollars and 60 cents on poll for the erection of a new school building. Petition approved and election set for March 8th. Petition was received for new road from Green River Bridge to Transylvania County line, signers pledging \$600 in money and labor towards construction. Petition approved and Supervisor Patton ordered to make survey. Settlement with the county treasurer was made, and petit juries drawn for March Term of Superior Court, the jury list being printed in full in another column.

FERTILIZER MEETING CALLED

The farmers who are interested in buying 16 per cent Acid are asked to meet at the Court House next Saturday, Feb. 8th, at 11 o'clock. By taking car load lots we can get reduced prices. It is urged that orders be placed as soon as possible.

FRANK FLEMING, County Agent.

H. PATTERSON LEAVES ON BUSINESS TRIP.

Mr. H. Patterson left yesterday for a business trip to northern and eastern points which will include Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. The purpose of the trip is not only to purchase advance styles, but also to keep in touch with the big wholesalers in the east, who are best able to forecast coming styles and in other ways to enable a department store buyer to serve his customers to the best advantage.

OLD BURGLARLY COMING TO LIGHT.

Sheriff Allard Case is in a fair way to root out the details of a crime which has been puzzling city and county police officials since last June, when the jewelry store of J. Z. Cagle was burglarized and a quantity of jewelry stolen.

In a wood shed to the rear of the old Brock house on King street was found a pasteboard box containing about \$45 worth of gold rings, seven watches and other items. Having recovered most of the plunder it is probable that the guilty parties will also be roped in shortly, and given an opportunity to try the county's hospitality and then installed as members a good standing of Ben Souther's Good Roads Club.

GEORGIA MILITARY ACADEMY COMMITTEE MAKES INSPECTION

The committee from the Georgia Military Academy arrived Saturday morning, made a close inspection of both the Osceola Lake and Highland Lake properties and left in the afternoon for Washington without announcing any decision in the matter.

The committee, which consisted of Col. and Mrs. J. C. Woodward and Capt. Rosser, were met at the station and escorted over the properties by a party of local business men including K. G. Morris, C. F. Bland, C. E. Brooks, F. A. Ewbank and A. C. Tebeau. While the attraction of these properties and of Hendersonville is very manifest in the bearing of the committee from the school, they of course realize that it is a big proposition involving a very large sum of money, and are extremely cautious as to giving any inkling of what their final decision in the matter will be. It looks as if the school is coming.

SUICIDES IN AN ATLANTA CEMETERY

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 3.—The body of Mrs. Lois Gilbert, bearing a mortal pistol wound, which was found lying across the grave of Johnny Abbott yesterday was taken to Dublin, Ga., today for burial.

Although declared a suicide by the coroner's jury and with all indications pointing to a love affair with Abbott, who was killed by his wife recently because of another woman, Harold Gilbert, husband of the dead woman declared that he doesn't believe she knew Abbott. Worry over ill health, he believes, is responsible for her suicide.—Dublin (Ga.) Courier Herald.

This item will be of interest to Hendersonville people because the father of Mrs. Gilbert is Dr. Frank Bright, proprietor of the Blue Ridge Inn, and Mrs. Gilbert spent a good part of last summer here.

FASSIFERN NEWS.

(By Evelyn Byrd Graham)

"The Amazing Interlude," a delightful moving picture given by home talent from members of the Senior and Junior classes Saturday night was a credit to the young ladies who took a part in the scenes.

Miss Dell Bernhardt cleverly originated the different scenes and the reel of fine acts held the audience in suspense all the way through.

Those taking part were: Misses Mary Lybrook Lasater, principal character a pretty little mountain belle; Erskine Jarnagin, Claudia Kelly, Marion Knight, Jean Vanlandingham, Caroline Yancey, Dell Bernhardt and Virginia Ryder.

The students of Fassifern sent a sum of \$56.00 to Balfour Orphanage Tuesday to help bear the expense there during the siege of influenza. A play is being planned for the benefit of Balfour.

BIRTHDAY PARTY

Mrs. F. A. Ewbank entertained with a Birthday Party on Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 4th, from 4 to 6 o'clock in honor of her daughter, Winona Hill. The invited guests were: Minnie and Barnes Bland, Michael Schenck, Sarah Erickman, Ellen and Wadsworth Farnum, Helen Grimes, Louis Tebeau, Martha Wrenshall, Jane Truex, Hazel L. Harry H. Ewbank, Jr., Mary, Virginia and Ernest W. Ewbank, Jr., and Frank Ewbank. After playing games awhile, the dining room doors were opened. Each little guest had been given a paper cap which they wore into the dining room. The color scheme was effectively carried out in yellow. The procession of animal crackers stuck on Nabisco wafers and the birthday cake, which was lighted with six candles, formed the decorations for the table. These decorations afforded the children lots of fun. Favors at each plate, were yellow baskets filled with candy. Refreshments consisting of ice cream, the birthday cake and fruit were served. Mrs. Ewbank proved a charming hostess and the little folks were loathe to say good-bye.

NIVA KEISLER

Niva, the little daughter of Mrs. Henry Keisler, who lives at Flat Rock, died at Paton Memorial Hospital on Thursday, Jan. 30. She had influenza and other complications. The burial was at Refuge Church.

COTTON MILL OWNER WANTS TO ABOLISH SHIPMAN

Bill by Lincoln County Spinner to Do Away with Department of Labor and Printing. Retaliation for Shipman Child Labor Bill,

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 3, 1919.—The lull in legislative activities took a lively turn last week when the Department of Labor and Printing proposed a new child labor law—and machinery for its enforcement—in lieu of the make-shift now on the statute book. The cotton manufacturers were holding a meeting here at the time and assumed their usual attitude towards legislation of this character. The News and Observer carried this story of the incident on Wednesday:

"Like a thunderbolt from a clear sky yesterday came a bill in the House of Representatives from Representative Love, of Lincoln, president of the Saxony Spinning Company, to abolish the office of Commissioner of Labor and Printing, and to place the duties of that department under the direction of the State Auditor. Following on the heels of the publication of Commissioner Shipman's proposed child labor bill, and in the midst of a meeting of the North Carolina Cotton Manufacturers' Association, the bill, unostentatiously presented, amused the House. A faint applause on its introduction was quickly silenced for fear that it would be taken as approval rather than of ridicule.

"The bill is very short, providing only that 'the office of Commissioner of Labor and Printing be and the same is hereby abolished.' A second section would put the duties now devolving upon the commissioner within the jurisdiction of the State Auditor without any additional help. Reference by the speaker was to the committee on Manufacturing of which Love is chairman.

"I am more interested in the protection of the kiddies than in holding any State office," said Commissioner Shipman yesterday afternoon commenting on the measure aimed at him. "If the General Assembly will enact law protecting innocent childhood, I am perfectly willing to be consigned to political oblivion."

Sanders Critiques Sharply. Representative Saunders, of the committee, declared last night that the bill was one calculated "to make recalcitrant North Carolinians hot in the collar."

"I have had a rising temperature ever since I saw the blamed thing this morning," continued the Pasquotank member. "There may be some argument in favor of abolishing Shipman and his office, but it comes with a bad face from a cotton mill representative on the heels of Commissioner Shipman's recommendation of a bill to put an end to the employment of child labor in North Carolina. Everybody knows that cotton mills violate every child labor law on the statute books and maintain a lobby in every Legislature to block child labor legislation. Their latest move, though, is the rawest thing I have ever seen.

Should Act as Boomerang. "Mr. Love's bill should act as a boomerang," Mr. Saunders thinks. "North Carolinians will resent so bold an effort to behead an honest man just because he attacks an evil which has been a source of profit to the more powerful manufacturing interests in the State," he said.

"The menace of Bolshevism," added Mr. Saunders, "is abroad in the land today just because of the arbitrary spirit of capitalism. If I thought the sovereign people of North Carolina were to be run over by the cotton mill interests in any such way as indicated by the Love bill, I think I would bolt the Democratic party myself and enlist under the red flag."

Attitude of Superintendents. "Both Superintendent Brooks and former Superintendent of Public Instruction Joyner favor the administration of the child labor law by the Commissioner of Labor. The present statute makes the truancy provision of the law a part of their duty but, more properly they insist, it belongs to the department of the Commissioner of Labor and Printing. The proposed bill of Mr. Shipman would strengthen the law and provide inspectors to enforce it.

Retaliation in the lobbies last night was largely on whether or no

the Love bill would get to the floor of the House. Although he is chairman of the committee to which it was referred, the number of manufacturers on it are less than six and that doesn't imply that this number will support the Love Bill."

Nothing further has been heard of the Love bill at this writing. The purpose of it was so apparent that nobody appears to have taken it seriously.

The child labor bill was introduced in the House by Representative Saunders and in the Senate by Senator Connor. No hearing has yet been had on it. If it does not pass in original form some of its provisions will be incorporated in the compulsory school law.

By a vote of 27 to 8 the Senate on Friday passed the bill providing for increases of the salaries of Superior and Supreme Court judges, and Supreme court reporter and the Assistant Attorney General. Under this bill judges of the Superior Court will receive a straight salary of \$4,000 and a sum not exceeding \$1,500 for traveling expenses. Judges of the Supreme Court will "pull down" \$5,000, instead of \$4,000 as at present. The salary of the Supreme Court Reporter is advanced from \$1,500 to \$2,250 and that of the Assistant Attorney General from \$1,500 to \$2,500. It is believed that the bill will meet with formidable opposition in the House, in its present form. The Senate is now debating the question of additional compensation for State officers, clerks and other employees.

Representative Brownlow Jackson, of Henderson County succeeds Representative Everett, of Richmond, as chairman of the House Committee on Internal Improvements, the latter having resigned to accept the Chairmanship of the Suffrage Committee recently created. Mr. Jackson is the first Republican to be thus honored by a democratic speaker in many a day, due largely to his good behavior as a minority member. Accompanied by Mrs. Jackson and their little son, the Henderson Representative left here Thursday to spend the week-end in Hendersonville.

Ex-Senator W. E. Broese, of Brevard, has been here recently in the interest of local legislation for Transylvania. He is especially desirous of some plan being devised by the drainage of the farming lands in the upper French Broad Valley. Mr. Broese was returning from Washington where he conferred with Senators Simmons and Overman in the hope of securing government aid, but was informed that little if anything could be expected from the present session of Congress for purposes of this character.

PETIT JURY

March Term Superior Court

First Week, Commencing March 3rd.

J. W. Ward, J. W. Smathers, T. K. Kuykendall, H. C. Lance, J. S. Jackson, Mark King, G. M. Gilbert, M. F. Anderson, M. D. Stepp, W. S. Young, W. D. McCarron, T. D. Burgin, J. A. Stepp, S. M. McCall, M. S. Livingston, Fred Allen, Miller Stepp, Sr., J. H. Capps, D. F. Lanning, K. M. Osteen, W. T. Smith, W. W. Ward, L. J. Youngblood, J. R. Hood, M. A. Redmon, T. B. McCall, W. P. Blackwell, W. J. Drake, James A. Ward, S. Y. Souther, B. M. Lanning, J. G. Walker, A. P. Elliott, J. M. King, H. K. Laughter, S. M. King.

Second Week, Commencing March 10.

J. D. Williams, G. C. Connell, J. B. Middleton, R. J. Taylor, W. H. Lance, E. A. Barnwell, L. G. Newmon, J. H. Merrill, C. C. Huggins, J. G. King, E. L. Clark, J. J. Slatery, P. T. Carson, J. A. Warlick, J. R. Liveritt, T. W. Clark, C. G. Mace, L. M. nders.

APPRECIATION

We wish to express our heart-felt thanks for the loving sympathy and many deeds of service rendered us in the recent loss of our wife and mother. John T. Wilkins and Family.