

Western North Carolina Times

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"GOLD BRAND" AXE TO BE USED IN ASHEVILLE BY FREE-SILVER CHIEF

"Gold Brand. W. J. B." That is the inscription on the axe with which William Jennings Bryan, the silver-tongued advocate of free silver, will cut wood on the precipitous slopes of the Asheville mountains. Such is the thrilling and amazing story which an Asheville man told in Hendersonville this week. It happened thus: Hon. W. J. Bryan, late of Nebraska, but now (occasionally) of Washington, D. C., decided to come for rest and recuperation to Asheville, a town picturesquely situated in the mountains of North Carolina, about 22 miles north of Hendersonville. He wrote to engage a room at the Grove Park Inn and requested the manager to have a good axe in readiness as he expected to take some violent exercise in the woods. The manager promptly placed an order with a local hardware house for a gold brand axe, the best they could get, to be inscribed with the initials "W. J. B." The hardware man didn't know what was going to use the axe, but he ordered the best he could get, which is known as "gold brand" and bears the label. And thus it happened that, when the axe was delivered, the initials of the silver-tongued advocate of free silver appeared directly under the words "gold brand". And thus has an unkindly fate delivered the Cheerless into the hands of his enemies.

COUNTY SCHOOL FINANCES

An interesting statement filed by County Superintendent Shittle with the board of county commissioners shows the estimated school revenues of the county for the coming year and the amount necessary to run a four months school.

The estimated available funds are as follows:

20c property tax.....	\$11,100.00
From poll tax.....	3,800.00
Fines, etc.....	918.23
From \$250,000 State appropriation.....	1,900.00
Extra 5c property tax....	2,656.77
Total.....	19,875.00

The funds necessary for a four months school are as follows:

Co. Supt. salary.....	\$1,000.00
Co. School Board.....	475.00
Building, etc.....	1,500.00
Salaries teachers.....	14,300.00
Co. Treas. Commission....	500.00
Insurance, libraries, incidentals, etc.....	1,100.00
Institute.....	250.00
High schools.....	750.00
Total.....	\$19,875.00

Thus the available funds are about sufficient to provide a four months term. The various special school taxes levied in local tax districts, and the special appropriation of about \$3,700 from the State, will be used to lengthen the term.

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From our Charlotte contemporary, the Observer, we clip the following very pertinent question:

How many unwatered Carolina towns will learn this latest lesson from drought and equip themselves with the adequate water supply which they already knew they required?

There are a number of cities and towns in this State that need to learn the lesson. Postponement is apt to involve very heavy expense.

CITY MANAGER RE-ELECTED

Two applications for the position of city manager were received by the city council at last week's meeting. One was from J. H. Jordan who offered to do the work for \$2,000 and pay his assistant out of that salary. The other was from G. W. Justice, who has held the place for a year at \$1,800; he offered to take it for \$1,500, the city to pay his assistant as heretofore. His assistant gets \$600. The position was awarded to Mr. Justice. The other salaried officials were re-elected.

Miss Rose Todd from S. C. is visiting relatives in Hendersonville.

LOCAL WEATHER

Date	Max	Min	Mean	Prec'n
June 1	88	63	76	
2	86	63	74	
3	82	62	72	
4	86	59	72	0.36
5	88	57	72	0.85
6	71	61	66	0.02
7	83	58	70	0.24
8	85	62	74	0.78
9	89	63	76	
10	90	61	76	0.15

SUMMARY
Max. 90 Min. 57
Mean 73 Prec'n 1.90

To those who are not familiar with the form used by the U. S. Weather Bureau in tabulating its observations, the following information may be of interest:

The day ends at 6 p. m. The figures in the column headed "Max" give the highest temperature occurring during the twenty-four hours ending at 6 p. m. on the date indicated. The figures in the column headed "Min" give the lowest temperature occurring during the same period. The mean temperature for the twenty-four hours is assumed to be the average of the maximum and minimum.

The precipitation is given in inches and hundredths.

NEWSPAPERS AND TEACHERS

In a recent address at the University of Missouri, Charles Nagel, former Secretary of Commerce and Labor, said:

The question of to-day is not how the law is going to regulate the news papers, but how the newspapers are going to regulate the law.

Law does not consist of written sections in the statute books," he said, "for the legislatures are constantly in session, passing more laws than are needed, more than a lawyer can ever read. Many of these laws are never noticed except when they rise up in the guise of stumbling blocks to progress.

The American people are pursued by the fallacy that passing a law improves society or makes regulation of business or society easier. Passing a law is of no avail if public opinion does not sanction the law and does not demand its enforcement, for without the endorsement of public opinion the law remains a dead letter, as if it had never been passed.

What creates public opinion? Preachers and merchants and doctors and lawyers and teachers. The teachers have not been properly valued for their work is done when the mind of the pupil is young and plastic. The seed is sown. The child becomes a voter and the work is done almost before the politician and public men are aware of what has been done. And last, the newspapers, and this is the greatest of all, for newspapers make and unmake public men, political parties, governmental policies and governments themselves, for they appeal to the masses, and if their appeal is sound, the masses respond to the suggestion and carry it out into action.

If a bad law is passed and the press turns the searchlight on that law it must be erased. It cannot stand in the naked glare of exposure. The newspaper is not a business enterprise only though it is that partly, for the public duties of the newspapers and its public responsibility make the newspaper man a professional man as truly as the lawyer, the doctor or teacher is a professional man. That is the only possible view to take of the newspapers.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

We are requested to announce that Rev. J. L. McCarron will preach at Golden Hill Baptist church Blue Ridge township, on the 3rd Sunday in June, and that everybody in the community is invited to attend.

The Erson Orchestra will give a dance at the St. John hotel at 10 o'clock Thursday night of this week.

W. F. Ostendorf returned last week from Summerville, S. C., to spend the summer in Hendersonville.

Mrs. F. Valentine left Monday for Cleveland, Ohio, on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. DeVis.

Mrs. Frank Coxe was in town Monday on her way from Polk County to Asheville.

Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Mullinax of Spartanburg, S. C. are visiting in Hendersonville for a few days. Mrs. Mullinax before her marriage was Miss Arra Guice.

W. I. Hawthorne of Philadelphia arrived Sunday to spend a while with his wife and son. Mrs. Hawthorne has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Garren for some time.

Miss Annie Justus returned Tuesday from Danville, Ky., where she spent the winter with her sister, Mrs. John Wofford.

The Farmers Union at Dana will give an open reception Saturday, June 13, at 3 p. m. Everybody is invited to come and listen to some able speakers, on Farmers' Union.

Hon. W. D. Bryan of Taft, S. C., returned this week to Hendersonville. The attractive residence which Allard Case is building for him on Sixth avenue is nearing completion. Mrs. Bryan is expected to arrive next week.

Lawrence J. Pace has sold his interest in the grocery business which has been run under the name and style of W. F. Case. The purchaser is W. F. Case who thus becomes sole owner. The business will be continued at the same stand under the same name.

P. F. Patton county road supervisor, has reported to the Board of County Commissioners, that he has gone over, laid out and staked a road leading from the Rhett Mill road to a point on the Henderson and Polk county line north of Saluda, known as the Spartanburg road. The road has been built as far as the East Flat Rock depot. The remainder is still to be constructed. It will open up some valuable country in Henderson county through which there is at present practically no road and will be a link in the Hendersonville and Spartanburg highway.

Complaint is made that the ditch on North Buncombe street is being used as a dumping ground for trash. As that ditch contains a water course, the dumping of trash means the accumulation of stagnant water, and that means sickness. The attention of the sanitary inspector, if there is one,—and if not, of the city manager,—is hereby called to this complaint.

L. L. Hyder, of Dana, while out hunting the other day, killed one of the largest rattle-snakes ever known to have been killed in Western North Carolina. The snake was found on Bradley mountain six miles east of Hendersonville and was four and one-half feet long and 12 inches around, having 9 rattles and a button and weighed 10 pounds—some snake.

Rev. M. B. Stokes, a Methodist missionary to Korea, is holding revival meetings at the Hendersonville Methodist church every day at 9:45 a. m. and 8:30 p. m. Everybody is invited to attend.

COTTON CROP LOOKS GOOD

Washington, D. C., June 8.—President Harrison, of the Southern Railway Company, speaking of the outlook for this year's cotton crop, said:

"The government cotton report issued on June 1 indicates a substantially better condition in the states traversed by Southern Railway lines than on the corresponding date last year. This bears out information received from our agents. Some uneasiness has been caused by reports of drought in the cotton states east of the Mississippi River, but, generally speaking, weather conditions along our lines have been most favorable for giving the crop a good start. Wet weather during the early part of the season results in the plant developing a spreading superficial root system which is incapable of drawing a sufficient amount of moisture from the deeper soil during dry periods later in the season and, most of the roots being being just below the surface, they are liable to be seriously injured in the cultivation of the crop. On the other hand, a dry May means the development of a good tap root and a deep root system which will insure better growth in the event of unfavorable conditions later in the season.

"The deep breaking of the land and better preparation of the seed bed more generally practiced in accordance with the advice of the Southern Railway Department of Farm Improvement Work are most favorable. Deep breaking not only enables the soil to retain more moisture but makes possible the development of the deep root system. The lack of excessive rains has facilitated the cultivation of the crop and reports from the territory along Southern Railway lines indicate that it is usually free from grass and weeds.

"Reports from the territory into which the cotton boll weevil had spread last year indicate that this insect will probably be found in fields in all that territory this year but the farmers know more about combating the weevil and will generally make a determined fight against it. With reasonably favorable weather conditions for the remainder of the season, therefore, a good yield of cotton may be expected in the states east of the Mississippi River".

SPECIAL TAX

A special tax election was held Monday in a new school district in Edneyville township. The new district was formed by the consolidation of DeWitt and Reedy Patch and smaller slices of other districts. The election was carried by a large majority. The official returns made by the poll holders show a registration of 49, with 43 votes cast in favor of the special tax and none cast against it.

The North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners will meet in Hendersonville on Monday June 22. The Board of Examiners will require fifty patients for whom exhibit or examination fillings will be inserted by the applicants before the Board.

Those who desire to avail themselves of this opportunity will make the necessary arrangements by call on Dr. W. F. Nickel who is the local committee in Hendersonville.

Dr. F. L. Hart, Sec., N. C. State Board of Dental Examiners.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Hart arrived Saturday from Florida, where they had been spending the winter.

DON'T KILL VALUABLE INDUSTRY

In revising the revenue laws of this city the council made a five-fold increase in the tax on junk shops. This action was apparently taken without a full knowledge of the facts in the case; and, as protests have been made, it has been decided to leave the matter in abeyance until this week's meeting of the council.

In the opinion of The Times, the original tax was adequate and any increase would be a very serious mistake, as it would probably deprive Hendersonville of an establishment which is of very great benefit to the city.

Littlefield's junk shop means a net profit to this community of about \$8,000 a year. Something like half of that amount comes to our people from the sale of junk; this junk would otherwise be absolutely worthless, and worse than worthless, for it would litter up the streets and yards. The remainder of the \$8,000 represents wages paid in Hendersonville; the junk shop provides employment for some of our people who would otherwise be out of a job.

Mr. Littlefield's profits on the local business are, as we understand, very small. His main profits come from an outside custom which he has built up and which will follow him if he moves to Biltmore, Waynesville, Marion or elsewhere. His staying here means a heap more to Hendersonville than it does to him. Other places want his junk shop and are offering him inducements to move. He is not asking Hendersonville for any bonus; he is not asking us to do what Waynesville has offered,—namely, to give him land and a ten-year exemption from taxes. He only asks that the tax be allowed to remain as it has hitherto been.

The Times hopes that the city will apply the "rule of reason", and not make any increase in the tax. A business that brings this community \$8,000 a year clear profit is a good thing to keep here.

TRUSTEES OF CITY SCHOOL

At last week's meeting of the city council six men were elected to the board of trustees of the Hendersonville graded school, five of them succeeding themselves. There are eight trustees, the terms of two expiring each year. No action having been taken in 1912 or 1913, there were six instead of two to be elected this year. The following were elected each for a four year term beginning at the date set down opposite their names:

U. G. Staton, R. C. Clarke, from June 1, 1912.

C. E. Brooks, J. E. Shipman, from June 1, 1913.

K. G. Morris, T. W. Valentine, from June 1, 1914.

The two hold-overs are S. J. Justice and A. F. P. King, whose original terms expire June 1, 1915.

The regular meeting of the Greater Hendersonville Club will be held at 8:30 Friday evening June 12, at the city hall. A large attendance is desired.

Charles E. Moore and family from St. Petersburg, Fla., are here for the summer.

The death trap at the depot is still in full force and effect.

Money's Voice. Money talks; but some have an impact in their income.—Ashley