

## BOARD COMMISSIONERS EXPLAIN SITUATION

### County Commissioners Explain Why Money Was Spent to Defeat Bill.

The allowance and payment out of public funds of the legal expenses incurred in opposing certain proposals of local legislation at the recent session of the General Assembly is being assailed in certain quarters as an unauthorized and wrongful act on the part of the undersigned Board of County Commissioners; and this upon no less an authority than the opinion to that effect openly avowed by Hon. James J. Britt, of counsel for A. E. Hudgins in the pending controversy over the accounts and settlements of said Hudgins as Tax Collector and Treasurer of Henderson County.

Hitherto it has been the settled policy of this Board and of its legal advisers to pass without notice all and singular the multitude of misleading reports and injurious innuendoes with which an over-zealous propaganda has bombarded public opinion, to the studied prejudice of our every endeavor to secure a correct and orderly accounting for public funds and something like business efficiency in the administration of the public affairs of Henderson County. We have been content to bide our time, so that ultimately misrepresentation might be answered by achieved results. But such considerations hardly suffice when the legality of our official acts is publicly questioned by a lawyer and publicist of the rank of Mr. Britt, notwithstanding his position as the retained counsel of Mr. Hudgins necessarily impresses his opinion with an aspect of hostile partisanship. Whatever our confidence in the legality and propriety of our conduct, we recognize the opinion of Mr. Britt as imposing upon us an inescapable obligation forthwith to give the fullest publicity to all the facts, to the end that the action thus impugned may be intelligently and conscientiously judged by the people whose servants we are.

There can be no correct understanding of the questions involved without a statement of the antecedent facts which led up to the legislative proposals which the Board of Commissioners successfully opposed. As bearing upon the merits of the proposed road bill, which is hereinafter set out in full, we state the material facts, as follows:

A few months after it was inducted into office, this Board, after much urging, made sale at par to local banks of \$590,000.00 in road bonds, and for reasons which the public very well understands, the proceeds of that sale were carried on deposit until needed, in equal amounts, without interest, in the purchasing banks, namely, the First Bank and Trust Co. and the Citizens National Bank. This sale was made and the transaction carried through upon the faith of existing laws, to wit: (1) the law which gave to the popularly elected Board of Commissioners full control of the money realized by the sale of said bonds and which provided that it could only be paid out upon the orders of said Board, and (2) the law which gave all matters of the construction and improvement of the public roads of the county into the control and management of a board of three road trustees, namely, the chairman of the board of county commissioners, as an ex officio member, and two others to be appointed by said board; so that full control both of the bond money and of the results to be achieved by its expenditure was lodged in the local popularly elected government of Henderson County.

While approximately half a million dollars of this bond money was still held on deposit without interest in the banks named, the President of the First Bank and Trust Co., in his capacity as the representative of Henderson County in the State Legislature, introduced in the House of Representatives a bill which was understood to have the full support and approval of the Vice President of said bank, in his capacity as the Senator from said county, which bill is in words and figures following, that is to say: H. B. 106 Mr. Clarke.

**A Bill Entitled "An Act to Amend Henderson County Road Laws."**  
The General Assembly of North Carolina do Enact:

That whereas since the enactment of Chapter 217 of the Public Local Laws of 1919, known as the Henderson County Road Law, the State has provided for State-wide road improvement and construction under the State Highway Commission, and whereas it is essential that the roads and highways of Henderson County be so constructed as to meet with the approval and indorsement of the State Highway Commission, to the end that the county of Henderson may demand and obtain all the benefits that can accrue to said county through co-operation with the State Highway Commission:

Now, therefore be it enacted:

Section 1. That Section 22 of the public local laws of 1919 be stricken out and the following substituted in place thereof, viz:

That to make more effectual the operation of this Statute and promote the co-operation of the County authorities with the State Highway Commission, there shall be constituted

ed a board of five trustees consisting of J. O. Bell, C. E. Brooks, Frank Staton, F. S. Wetmur and Harry M. Roberts, whose term of office shall commence by the meeting and organization of said board immediately after the ratification of this Act. And their term of office shall expire on the 1st day of March, 1925, with the right in said board to fill by appointment any and all vacancies that may occur by resignation, removal or other cause, and at the termination of the office of any member or members of said board as prescribed above, said office or offices shall be filled by the Legislature from parties of the same political affiliations. This board shall be known as the Board of County Road Trustees of Henderson County. Under this name, they are hereby constituted a body corporate with all the rights of corporations to sue and be sued and to act in general for the best interest of all the public highways and roads in Henderson County, and shall have ultimate control and supervision of all the other road officers in said County. The said board shall hold regular monthly meetings at the Court House in Henderson County on days to be fixed by said board, and at such other times and places as the interest of the public shall by them be deemed necessary.

Section 2. That Section 26 of said Chapter shall be amended by striking out in Line 16, the words "iron bridge across French Broad River at Horse Shoe", and insert in lieu thereof "the Transylvania County line at Blantyre."

Section 3. Amend Section 28 of said Chapter by striking out in Line 6 the word "before", and insert in lieu thereof the words "which shall be."

Section 4. Amend Section 29 of said Chapter by inserting between the word "power" and the word "if" in Line 9 of said Section the words "and are required."

Section 5. This Act shall be in effect from and after its ratification.

Section 6. All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

As to the personnel of the board of road trustees proposed to be created and appointed by said bill, it will be noted that J. O. Bell is a director of the First Bank and Trust Co., that Mr. Frank Staton is a brother of a director who is also vice-president of the same bank, that F. S. Wetmur also is a director of said First Bank and Trust Co., and that C. E. Brooks is a director, and active vice-president of the Citizens National Bank, leaving only one non-bank member, Harry M. Roberts. And it will be noted further that said board was authorized itself to fill such vacancies as might occur in its own body, and that at the expiration of the terms of office of the members of said board their successors should be appointed by the Legislature. It will thus be seen that the most careful provision was made to set aside and perpetually disallow any manner of control of said half-million dollar road fund or of the general road affairs of Henderson County by the voters or by the locally elected officers of said county.

In connection with the road bill above set out, Bank-President and Representative Clarke introduced another bill which likewise was understood to have the full support and approval of Bank-Vice-President and Senator Oates, which latter bill is in words and figures following, that is to say:

**H. B. 106 by Mr. Clarke.**  
**A Bill Entitled "An Act Appointing Board of Audit and Finance for Henderson County."**

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

1st. There shall be and is hereby and herein under the constitution Article 14, Section 14 of the Constitution of North Carolina appointed a board of finance and audit consisting of: J. O. Bell, C. E. Brooks, F. S. Wetmur, Frank Staton and Harry M. Roberts.

2nd. That said Board shall constitute a body politic and corporate with full powers to carry out, manage and perform the duties of a board of audit and finance generally and particularly to discharge the duties herein specified, said Board to be known as the Board of Audit and Finance of Henderson County, with powers to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded as a municipal corporation, whose term of office shall expire on the 1st day of March, 1925.

3rd. That it shall be the duty of said Board of Audit and Finance to take general control of and to direct the Board of Commissioners of Henderson County as to what taxes and rate and amount thereof shall be levied for all the several purposes authorized by law.

4th. That the said Board of Audit and Finance shall meet and organize immediately after the ratification of this act and provide for the institution of a correct system of book-keeping in all the offices of Henderson County, and see that said system is rigidly carried out to the extent that definite information can be had at all times as to the true financial status as appertaining to each office, and said Board shall immediately inaugurate a method by which all accounts

## ADDITIONS TO WILSON FUND

Times Receives Substantial Contributions to Woodrow Wilson Foundation Fund.

The Times acting as treasurer for the Wilson foundation fund takes pleasure in acknowledging through these columns the following contributions received since the campaign was started. The time will be extended another week and we shall be glad to receive and report any further contributions to this fund. There are two or three names omitted from this list, these being names reported as cash. Should any person's name be left out of this report who wishes it to appear in The Times next week, please notify us and we will gladly attend to this promptly. The list of contributors is as follows:

- Fassfern (Miss Shipp) \$ 20.00
- Blue Ridge School for Boys (J. R. Sandifer) 5.00
- Mrs. A. M. Trenholm 5.00
- W. H. Hawkins 2.50
- Mrs. W. H. Hawkins 2.50
- F. S. Rozier 1.00
- Miss Lillian Padgett 1.00
- W. L. Petty 1.00
- V. E. Davenport 1.00
- J. W. Beal 1.00
- Mrs. S. E. Greenwood 1.00
- Jos. McDowell chapter, D. A. R. 5.00
- A. A. McCall 2.00
- E. L. Ewbank 1.00
- F. A. Ewbank 2.50
- H. H. Ewbank 2.50
- Frank Bright 2.00
- Pete Gianakos 1.00
- V. C. V. Shepherd 1.00
- A. W. Walker 5.00
- A. G. Thompson 1.00
- Chas. Rozelle 2.50
- W. E. Tilley 1.00
- M. C. Letson 1.00
- R. L. Whitmire 1.00
- Herman Potts 1.00
- O. R. Ruth 1.00
- J. E. Shipman 1.00
- P. L. Wright 1.00
- D. M. Bussell 1.00
- G. W. Brooks 1.00
- Mrs. N. B. Sandifer 1.00
- J. D. Duff 2.00
- Michael Schenck 2.50
- A. Y. Arledge 1.00
- W. A. Smith 5.00
- Chester Glenn 1.00
- Henry King 2.00
- G. W. Justice 2.00
- Miss Marie Lane 1.00
- C. P. Rogers 5.00
- Dr. J. L. Egerton 5.00
- Chas. Hobbs 25.00
- Otis Powers 1.00
- W. P. Bowling 1.00
- A. Cannon 5.00
- C. E. Brooks 5.00
- J. Allen Rhodes 1.00
- Frank Smith 1.00
- Rector Publishing Co. 5.00
- W. G. McGraw 1.00
- J. F. Brockmyer 1.00
- J. F. Brooks 1.00
- Glover T. Orr 1.00
- Thos. Shepherd 2.00
- R. M. Oates 10.00
- W. M. Guell 1.00
- H. A. Stepp 1.00
- Frank Edwards 2.50
- T. L. Durham 2.50
- C. F. Bland 5.00
- Ernest Thompson 1.00
- A. H. Hawkins 2.00
- E. W. Ewbank 5.00
- Florence S. Ewbank 2.00
- E. W. Ewbank, Jr. 1.00
- Mary M. Ewbank 1.00
- Virginia B. Ewbank 1.00
- S. Y. Bryson 1.00
- Cameron Shipp 1.00
- W. P. Whitmire 1.00
- Cash 6.00
- Total \$197.00

## CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS

The United States civil service commission announces two open competitive examinations for the positions of fireman-laborer and laborer in the postoffice at Hendersonville, N. C., on February 21, 1921.

Applicants for fireman-laborer must have had at least six months' experience as fireman of a steam plant. No credit will be given for experience acquired in the course of firing a private ordinary household heating plant. This position pays a salary of \$660 per year. The laborer receives \$600 per year.

For application blanks or information apply to the secretary of the board of civil service examiners at the postoffice.

J. A. MASON, Local Secretary.

## DR. KIRK WILL BEGIN BUILDING AT ONCE

A few months ago we gave our readers a description of the new corner building which Dr. Kirk had under consideration for building a little later. Last Saturday he informed us that he expected to begin the erection of the building early in February. When the work gets under way we will have something more to say about it.

## BIRTHDAY DINNER

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. McCall gave a family dinner Sunday in honor of the fifth birthday of their son, Alfred. The little boy's grand-parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. McCall and his cousin, Miss Louise Perry, were the chief guests present. A lovely, white cake with the proper number of candles adorning it, was the center of attraction on the well-filled table.

Dr. W. B. W. Howe, who has been on an extended visit among friends in Georgia, returned to Hendersonville

## WOMEN TO HAVE BANQUET FEB. 9

Women's Organizations Plan Get-together Banquet; Unique Menu Arranged.

(Mrs. W. P. Whitmire)

What promises to be the biggest event of the season is the woman's banquet to be given next Thursday evening, Feb. 9th, in the spacious dining hall of the Kentucky Home. In the movement all the local women's organizations are represented and indeed, it is hoped that every individual woman in the city may consider herself as vitally important to the entire and final success of the party. It is to be a real get-together and talk-it-over occasion for the women of the town. Addresses on the various topics pertaining to women's activities and toasts will be heard and responses made thereto. An especially elaborate musical program has been arranged as well as other interesting features provided. It is the very first time in the annals of Hendersonville's history when the women of the town have had such a wonderful opportunity to come together in their mutual pleasures and interests and no woman in the city can afford to miss it.

The tickets are \$1.00 each and may be had of any club woman in the city, or reservation may be made by phoning Mrs. John S. Forest. These arrangements should be completed by Tuesday, Feb. 7th, but may be made later. It is probably useless to state that the \$1.00 ticket charge is made simply to defray the actual expense of the banquet, no money being used for other purposes.

The menu, as arranged by Mrs. Frank Ewbank, is unique and gives one a "taste" of the evening's pleasures. As follows:

- "He-an'-you"
- "Hen-okra soup"
- Hendersonville chicken "Wings" with "Brown" "Grey" "vy"
- "Bell" peppers "Mack" aroni "Lila" beans Rice-a-la-"Whitmire"
- "Bailey" bread
- "Waldrop" salad "Fan"-cy crackers
- "Mabel" ice cream "Josephine" cake
- "McMillan" fillings, "Rose" (flavoring)
- Coffee (Special "Blend")
- Pure "Brook" water
- "Col-T"
- "Martin"-i-cocktail
- "For-rest" of menu you will have to put on your "Gladys" rags and come to the banquet. "Ewbank" on getting "Morey" "Ward" (and being "Stillwell" but not "Hollowell") for \$1.00 than you ever did before. We want a "Lott" of pep so we'll be "Mattie" glad to have you."

## MAKE AUTO DRIVER DEFENDANT IN SUIT

(Asheville Citizen)  
P. W. English, driver of the automobile which struck and fatally injured Miss Kathleen Wyatt, 18 years old, on Biltmore avenue several weeks ago, was made defendant in a suit for \$15,000 damages in the superior court, Tuesday by J. A. Wyatt, administrator of the estate of the deceased.

The plaintiff alleges on the night of the fatal accident, Mr. English was driving at a fast rate of speed and the brakes on his machine were defective and would not stop the car. A copy of the city ordinance governing the operation of automobiles on the city's thoroughfares is attached to the proceedings.

Mr. English, who is a resident of Hendersonville, took the injured girl to the Biltmore hospital, immediately after the accident. Death came a short time later and the driver of the machine reported the matter to the police.

It is further alleged Mr. English was driving in a dangerous and reckless manner. At the hearing in the police court, Mr. English was bound over on the charge of manslaughter.

## NEW POULTRY FARM HERE

A new poultry farm, known as the Overlynder Poultry Farm was recently started on Mrs. Wheelright's property, Rosemont, on Ninth avenue, by enterprising young business men of this city. The owners of the farm are D. D. Martin, president and manager and James P. Grey, Jr., vice president.

The new farm will make a specialty of fine egg-producing, single comb white leghorn chickens, baby chicks, eggs for table use, and fresh sterile eggs for table use.

At present all the buildings have not been completed, but unless the weather interferes, they will be completed the latter part of this week.

It is understood that the new concern will start business with five or six hundred hens and a large number of baby chicks.

## WOMAN'S AUXILIARY WILL MEET MONDAY

The Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion will meet Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the legion rooms over Patterson's Department store. There are several important business matters to attend to at this meeting and a full attendance is urgently requested.

## FANNIE HECK CIRCLE TO MEET

The Fannie Heck circle of the Baptist Women's Missionary Union will meet next Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. J. P. Rogers as guest.

## CITIZENS ORGANIZE FOR JEWISH RELIEF WORK

### STATON & RECTOR FIRM IS DISSOLVED

After The Times had gone to press last week we learned that the law firm composed of W. C. Rector and R. H. Staton and the real estate, composed of B. F. and R. H. Staton and W. C. Rector had by mutual consent dissolved partnership, the transaction being completed on January 27.

Since R. H. Staton's appointment as postmaster at Hendersonville, S. G. Staton, a nephew of B. F. and R. H. Staton, has been employed in the real estate office and will assist B. F. Staton in the management of the business, R. H. Staton devoting his time to the work in the postoffice.

The law firm of Staton & Rector was formed about 20 years ago and has always been regarded as an able firm in their profession, their advice and counsel being sought in many important suits both civil and criminal, these cases always being handled with legal skill on a high professional plane, free from the methods to which men of less force and character than Staton & Rector have often resorted in order to win.

Mr. Staton says the relation between himself and Mr. Rector has always been most pleasant and his good opinion of Mr. Rector's nobility of character and his unshaken stand for the right in any business transaction has always been of the highest type.

The name of the new firm will be the Staton Realty company and will continue to do business at the office in the First Bank & Trust company's building where it has been located for a long time.

### REV. J. P. ROGERS DEAD

Rev. J. P. Rogers who directed the raising of \$180,000 fund for pensioning worn out Methodist preachers, died at his home in Salisbury, Tuesday night.

Mr. Rogers' last work as a member of the Western North Carolina Conference was in the capacity of presiding elder of the Waynesville district.

### MR. AND MRS. WETMUR AND MR. AND MRS. MILLER IN FLA.

Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Wetmur and Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Miller went to St. Petersburg, Fla., last week, making the trip by motor.

Word has been received from them that the journey was completed without accident and all reached their destination in the best of health and on schedule time.

It is reported that Mr. Miller, after eating a square meal of fish, oyster soup, apple pie, grape fruit, oranges, sliced bananas, strawberries and cream, proceeded to the barnyard golf court and in less than a day cleaned up every expert horse-shoe pitcher living in St. Petersburg, then started in on the tourists who are spending the winter in that city, and the next day had them all on the map. The latest reports are that "Dad" was sitting under a big palm tree, waiting for another company of tourists to arrive so he could renew the game.

Mr. and Mrs. Wetmur and Mrs. Miller were doing the rooting for Mr. Miller.

### MISSIONARY SOCIETY MEETS

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist church met Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. Siler, at the parsonage. The officers for the coming year were installed after which a short devotional service, led by Mrs. Siler, was conducted. A reading by Miss Elizabeth Hook and the signing of pledge cards were features of the exercises.

### BLUE RIDGE SCHOOL FOR BOYS

At a meeting of the football squad some days ago, Fred Byers, star half back on the team the past fall, was elected captain of the team that will represent Blue Ridge on the gridiron next season. At this angle, the prospects for a winning football team next fall appear bright, as five or six letter men and a majority of scrub team are expected to return. In all probability light spring practice will be held for the purpose of acquainting some of the new material with the rudiments of the game.

Under the supervision of Messrs. Magwood and Anders the two literary societies are doing splendid work. Unusual interest on the part of the members is being taken in the weekly meetings held Monday mornings when a carefully planned program is carried out.

On Thursday morning the Rev. A. I. Justice conducted the devotional exercises in the school auditorium. The students listened with keen interest to his exposition of certain parts of the fifteenth chapter of Proverbs.

Basement rooms in the new annex have been fitted up for reading and game rooms, which afford the boys much enjoyment when the weather is too inclement for outdoor play. Indoor tennis, crokinole, caroms, checkers and pool are the more popular games. The reading table is supplied with the leading national magazines and periodicals.

### ASK WITHDRAWAL OF MARINES

Cuban officials have asked the U. S. government to withdraw their marines from Canekey, where a ranchman was recently killed by a

### Five Groups Canvass City to Raise Funds for Jewish Relief in Europe.

At a meeting of the Jewish relief movement at the city hall Tuesday night for the purpose of organizing an association and collecting funds for the relief of the stricken Jews of Europe, five squads or companies were appointed to canvass Hendersonville, take subscriptions and collect funds.

Mrs. R. L. Edwards is chairman of group number one and Mesdames A. M. Trenholm, N. E. Feaman, R. P. Freeze, C. J. Valley are her co-workers. A. Kantrowitz is chairman of group number two and his co-workers are Rev. Frank Siler, C. E. Brooks and J. Mack Rhodes. H. Patterson is chairman of group number three and his co-workers are Frank Ewbank, R. P. Freeze and Mrs. W. E. Kirk. N. Brenner is chairman of group number four and his co-workers are R. L. Edwards, Rev. E. E. Roman and Chas. Rozelle. A. Lewis is chairman of group number five and his co-workers are H. H. Ewbank, C. F. Bland, Rev. J. F. Ligon.

Each of the five groups will take a certain section of the city in which to work, the territory being divided to correspond with the number of groups and the work will begin at once.

The following subscriptions were vouchered for at the meeting Tuesday night and gives the work a good start in Hendersonville:

- H. Patterson \$ 50.00
- Mrs. Patterson 10.00
- A. Lewis 50.00
- Mrs. E. Lewis 10.00
- N. Brenner 25.00
- A. Kantrowitz 25.00
- Mrs. Kantrowitz 10.00
- J. Harkins 30.00
- M. Fred 15.00
- Jakie Fred 5.00
- Copley Bros. 10.00
- Alex Patterson 15.00
- R. L. Edwards 10.00
- Mrs. Edwards 10.00
- Alex Rubenstein 5.00
- N. M. Hollowell 5.00
- Mr. Stansell 5.00
- Geo. Lazarus 5.00
- Rector Publishing Co. 10.00
- Rev. E. E. Roman 10.00
- Nathan Fred 10.00

Total \$335.00

The Times endorses and supports this organization and feels sure our friends will not be found wanting when an occasion of this kind is to be met.

## HIGH SCHOOL NOTES

A meeting of the junior class was called Tuesday afternoon by the president, Miss Edna Byers, for the purpose of completing the plans for the purpose of completing the plans for the junior-senior reception which will be given on the evening of February the 10th. It was decided that this shall be a masquerade affair, and as it is one of the most important social functions of the entire session it is hoped that it will be very enjoyable.

The girls' varsity team of Hendersonville high won a decisive victory over the Grove Park quintet by a score of 34 to 20 on the latter's court Saturday at 4 p. m.

Miss Jennings caged most of the goals for the local team while Miss Hunt played an excellent game as right guard for the Grove Park constituent. The high school team used both the substitute guards and center throughout this game and they proved themselves equal to the best players on the court.

The following line-up was used:  
H'ville (34) Position Grove Park (20)

Jennings (29) Forward Colway (10)  
Lancaster (5) Forward Cline (8)  
Anders Center Whetson  
Allen Guard Cline  
Barnwall Guard Hunt

Score by periods:  
Grove Park 9 11-20  
Hendersonville 24 10-34  
Substitutions: Hendersonville, Redden for Anders; Grove Park, Williamson for Hunt.

Referee, Miss Ethel Boyte.

## DAMP IN MONTANA

According to the New York Times, the city sewers in Butte, Montana, are blocked in large deposits of moon-shine mash, including prune seeds, barley, rice and corn.

## EARTH LEARNS SHIMMY

Seismographs in eastern laboratories have been put out of commission by very violent earthquake shocks, some where in the Pacific. The shocks were felt from British Columbia to San Francisco.

## "FLU" CASES MILD

The New York Times of Feb. 1 reports 212 new cases of influenza and 185 of pneumonia. Health Commissioner Copeland states that the condition is an epidemic but that the disease is of a milder form than in 1918.

The straight and narrow path is wide enough for its traffic.

Clothes set to music.