

HENDERSON GOLD LEAF.

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State Library

NO. 2.

ROUSING BIG MASS MEETING HELD AT THE COURTHOUSE.

Citizens of Henderson Thoroughly Aroused Over Treatment This City Is Receiving at the Hands of the Seaboard Air Line.

In response to a call of the Chamber of Commerce, a largely attended mass meeting of the manufacturers, shippers, business men and representative citizens of Henderson was held in the courthouse Tuesday afternoon, beginning at 3 o'clock and lasting for more than two hours. It was the most representative assembly of manufacturers and business men that has been seen in Henderson in a long time, and the spirit of the meeting could not have been mistaken. A stranger, dropping in, could have readily discerned that there was something entirely out of the ordinary at stake. He would also have noticed that grim determination was clearly written on every face. How much more, then, could those of us who know these men and what they stand for in this community realize these things. It all proclaimed much louder than could words to the effect that a crisis has now been reached in Henderson and that our people, and more especially the business interests, are deeply sensible of the fact.

The object of this big mass meeting was to consider the general attitude, both past and present, of the Seaboard Air Line toward Henderson, but more especially with reference to the slap in the face that road, or at least some of its high officials seem determined to give this city by establishing the new terminal within fifteen miles or so of us, when there appears to be no good reason whatever why the same could not be located here to far greater advantage both to the road and to Henderson. Many ringing speeches were made by leading manufacturers, shippers and business men, protesting in mild but decided terms against the treatment Henderson is receiving in this matter. A deep and lively interest was manifested by everybody in all that was done and said. No ill-timed remarks were indulged in by any speaker, but all seemed at a perfect loss to understand why the Seaboard Air Line has so suddenly turned its heel against Henderson in view of the past friendly relations that have existed between the two for so many years.

The Gold Leaf will not undertake to tell all that was done and said at this meeting. If such a thing were otherwise possible, limited time and space would forbid it in this issue. But this paper very much regrets its inability to publish in full at least a half dozen speeches that were made by leading manufacturers and business men. It would probably do some of the officials of the Seaboard good to read them, as it most certainly would have done them good to hear them. After a lengthy and exhaustive discussion of the present situation and the proposed plans of the road for the immediate future, so far as they are known here, a committee of ten leading manufacturers and business men, representing the Chamber of Commerce, was appointed to take up these matters with the officials and directors of the road at once and present and press Henderson's claims and advantages as the logical and most suitable location for the new terminal. This committee is composed of Messrs. J. P. Taylor, D. Y. Cooper, A. C. Zollicoffer, Samuel Watkins, E. G. Davis, R. J. Corbitt, W. B. Waddill, J. H. Brodie, J. A. Kelly and F. C. Topleman.

Henderson is thoroughly aroused over this matter and is practically a unit in protesting against the treatment it is receiving at the hands of the Seaboard in this and other matters. The Seaboard, it is understood here, proposes to locate the new terminal at or near Norlina in the face of the fact that Henderson is the logical point for it and it could be put here even to much greater advantage to the road

than it could ever be at or near Norlina. In constructing the new cut off by way of Durham, the main line will run a few miles North of this place, thus cutting out Henderson altogether from the main line of the Seaboard. It is threatened to tear up the Durham and Northern road all except about five miles next to Durham. If any or all of these plans should be carried out, it will be accepted in Henderson as a declaration of war on the part of the Seaboard, and would of necessity have to be met here by the very best and most effective defensive means that Henderson could devise. However, some of our leading manufacturers and business men still hope that such an unfortunate and unpleasant situation may yet be avoided.

The Seaboard Air Line has been fattening for many years past on the freight and passenger traffic of this good town, and in all that time has done practically nothing for the town in return, except that it now proposes to give us the hardest possible slap in the face in consideration, it is supposed, of the heavy revenues it has been collecting here through all these years. The Seaboard now collects, on the general average, more than one thousand dollars a day in freight and passenger revenues in Henderson, and in the face of this fact continues to meet all requests for improved facilities and accommodations here with unfulfilled promises and much soft soap. Almost any other town the size and importance of Henderson in the State would have risen up long ago under the same circumstances and made its demands in an effective manner. It is said that there is no one in Henderson old enough to recall a time when anything and everything the Seaboard ever asked of Henderson was not readily and cheerfully granted.

Probably no railroad in all of North Carolina ever reaped more real benefit from the undivided friendship and patronage of a town the size of Henderson than has been the case with the Seaboard Air Line in this town. Possibly this fact furnishes us with at least a clue to the chief cause of our present troubles with that road and for its seeking to ignore us completely at this time. Our friendship and decided preference for the Seaboard through all these years may have led it to the conclusion that Henderson belongs to it anyway and it can therefore treat us just as it pleases. It will be a good day for Henderson when its subserviency to the Seaboard Air Line ceases to exist, and when the varied manufacturing and business interests of this city begin to make a more liberal and equal division of their friendship and patronage with the Seaboard's competitor, the Southern Railway. Wise business men are coming to see the utter folly of the past in this matter, and have already about arrived at the conclusion that a more equal division of freights between the two systems will be the only means of securing the rights and advantages to which we are justly entitled.

Special Committee Meeting.

The special committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce at its big mass meeting held at the courthouse Tuesday afternoon to take up the matter of securing for Henderson the Seaboard Air Line terminal met immediately after the adjournment of the big meeting at the courthouse and took up the matter in hand. After some discussion plans were outlined looking to the acquirement of tracts of land not only for the terminal, should it be located here, but also for the purpose of providing modern and conveniently located homes and building sites for the train crews and for the shop and clerical forces, all of whom the people of Henderson would most heartily welcome into their midst. These houses would be rented at reasonable rates or sold to the railroad employes at a moderate cost.

Even a man who is good for nothing is apt to look good to some woman.

A WINNER OF MANY PRIZES.

Barred Plymouth Rock Hen Belonging to Mr. A. J. Cheek Carries Off \$5.00 Cash Prize at Greensboro.

Henderson can boast of some of the most successful and noted poultrymen in the State, who raise some of the very finest chickens and other fowls in the land. But more especially is this true of fine breeds of chickens. At almost every big poultry show in either North Carolina or Virginia for several years past Henderson poultrymen have walked off with some of the very best prizes. To such an extent is this true that Henderson has come to be known far and near as a winner of fine poultry.

Among this number of successful and noted poultrymen, Mr. A. J. Cheek stands squarely to the front. In fact he has come to be known and recognized far and wide as one of the most successful breeders of fine chickens in the South and receives numerous orders and inquiries from many different States both North and South. Everywhere his fowls have been placed on exhibition, they have not only won some of the best prizes, but the admiration as well of all lovers of fine poultry.

At the big poultry show at Greensboro last week, given under the auspices of the Guilford Poultry Association, a fine barred Plymouth Rock hen raised by Mr. Cheek won a \$5.00 cash prize. One of his roosters of the same breed took first prize at the State Fair last fall. At the Asheville show one of his barred Plymouth cockerels took second prize in a class of ninety-nine of the same class, and the same one took the special club ribbon for the best male chicken in the show.

The fact that Mr. Cheek has won out so frequently against such odds proves that his chickens are no ordinary fowls. Besides the above, he has also won many other valuable prizes from time to time and at various places.

4,000,000 Christmas Trees Used.

New York City used nearly half a million Christmas trees this year, and the "ultimate" consumer paid for them \$250,000, or an average of 50 cents a tree. "There appears to be no falling off in the demand for trees, said a dealer, who handles thirty or forty thousand of them in New York every winter. "On the contrary, their popularity is increasing so that already there is a shortage in the supply. It takes from ten to fifteen years to raise a tree big enough for use, and those in the more accessible forests are fast being cut out. It is estimated that the whole country uses about 4,000,000 trees every Christmas. The chief item in the retail cost of a Christmas tree is handling and transportation. They take a lot of room, even when packed close. For the small trees you buy on the street for 25 cents, the farmer who cuts it gets only about 5 cents or less if he sells the trees standing. The larger trees used by Sunday schools and institutions come as high as \$3 or \$4. For a tree above the average size, costing at retail \$1, the farmer probably receives 10 cents.

Mr. John A. Fleming, a well known and very prominent citizen of this county, died Monday afternoon about 3 o'clock at his home near Middleburg. Mr. Fleming was for a number of years chairman of the board of county commissioners of this county, and he was a loyal member of Middleburg Baptist church. The remains were buried Tuesday in the family cemetery near his home. Rev. E. R. Nelson, assisted by Dr. W. R. Cullen, of Wake Forest, conducted the funeral services.

Lot's Surprise.

"Well, I declare," said Lot, as he realized that his wife had been turned into a pillar of salt. "That's a strange phenomenon. I always thought the old lady was largely pepper."

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL ITEMS.

Prominent People Whom You Know and In Whom You Are Interested.

Mr. J. W. Burroughs has moved his family from Manson to Warrenton.

Miss Bettie Tunstall visited her grandfather, Mr. Sam Currin, at Oxford last week.

Misses Viola and Berta Fleming have returned home from a visit to friends at High Point.

Miss Lillie Grissom has returned home from a visit, to her sister, Mrs. W. R. Garner, at Oxford.

Mr. John Benton, of Rocky Mount, is spending this week with his daughter, Miss Kathleen Benton.

Capt. S. Y. Britt, of Arkadelphia, Ark., is spending a few days with his mother, Mrs. E. R. Benton.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wall, of South Hill, are visiting Mrs. Wall's mother, Mrs. Cora Gregory, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ayscue, of Franklin county, are visiting Miss Dora Ayscue and sisters on Andrews avenue.

Miss Mary Smitherman, who is attending the Henderson graded school this year, is visiting her people at Troy.

Miss Belle Hicks, who is teaching at Salisbury, is spending Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Hicks.

Mr. Samuel Watkins, Jr., of Apex, has been spending part of this week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Watkins.

Miss Lillian Goodrich, who is teaching at Bethel, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Goodrich.

Mr. Allison Cooper, who is a student in the Warrenton High School, is spending the holidays in Henderson with his people.

Mr. Preston Creedmore is at home out on Trinity College to spend this week with his mother, Mrs. S. J. Kilpatrick.

Judge W. M. Gummere and General Bryan, of Newark, N. J., were the guests of Mr. C. D. Riggan, at Drewry, last week.

Miss Ester Royster is at home from Oxford College spending the holidays with her parents, Sheriff and Mrs. J. S. Royster.

Mr. Earl Watkins, who is attending Davidson College, is spending this week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Watkins.

Mr. A. J. Harris, Jr., who is attending the Wake Forest Law School, is spending Christmas at home with his father, Mr. A. J. Harris.

Miss Ethel Harris, of the faculty of the State Normal College, is spending this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Harris.

Prof. W. F. Gill, of the faculty of Trinity College, is spending this week with his father, Dr. R. J. Gill, and his sister, Mrs. I. J. Young.

Miss May Sue Atwood is at home from King's Business College at Raleigh, spending the week with her people in North Henderson.

Miss Hattie Cooper, who is a student at Meredith College, is spending the holidays at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Cooper.

Mr. John Rose, who is a student in the Warrenton High School, is spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Rose.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Gooch, of Oxford, and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Loyd, of Wake Forest, have been visiting Mrs. H. L. Dunn and family this week.

Miss Elizabeth Watkins, who is a student in Converse College at Spartanburg, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Watkins.

James, the little sixteen-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. James Parrish, of South Henderson, died Monday and was buried Tuesday at Liberty church.

Miss Marion Grace Milne, who is employed in the Census Department at Washington, D. C., is spending the holidays with her mother at 520 Andrews avenue.

LESS THAN THREE MORE WEEKS OF CONTEST.

Our Big Free Vote Offer Repeated. Do Not Let This Opportunity to Pile Up Votes Escape You.

Owing to the fact that the inclement weather of the past week prevented the contestants from taking advantage of our bonus offer and in order to give every one an opportunity to secure a large number of free votes, we have decided to repeat this offer this week, and for this week only. Remember the offer only lasts six days and will be your best chance to secure votes.

CONTEST CLOSES JANUARY 16TH.

This contest will come to a close January 16th, so there is less than three weeks for contestants to work. Make every minute count from now until the close. Take advantage of our splendid bonus offer and determine to be a winner at the close.

ALL PRIZES ARE HERE.

After being delayed enroute for several weeks, the fine bed room suit of quartered oak furniture is here, completing our list of prizes. This bed room suit, our second prize, is handsome furniture and can be seen at the Gold Leaf office by any one interested in the contest.

A WORD TO CONTESTANTS.

Hereafter contestants will make their reports privately to the contest manager, one at a time, and others will be given no opportunity whatever to ascertain what any contestant has accomplished until it is announced in the paper. This is for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of each and all the contestants.

OUR BIG FREE VOTE OFFER FOR THIS WEEK.

For every \$15 turned in on this contest between now and Wednesday evening, December 27th, at 6 o'clock, we will give 25,000 free votes. Under this splendid offer \$30 will secure 50,000 free votes, and \$45 75,000 free votes, and so on. We do not limit you to any amount you may turn in. The more the better for your cause. But we propose to give you 25,000 free votes for every \$15 you turn in, and proportionate votes for all over that amount.

THIS WILL BE YOUR BEST OPPORTUNITY.

Positively this is the largest offer of bonus votes that will be made during this contest, and we guarantee the fulfillment of this promise. This offer is made to contestants in consideration of the fact that this is the Christmas season and as a special inducement to them and their friends to work during the holidays. We hope every contestant will take full advantage of this great opportunity to pile up votes against the final day of the contest, which is now not very far off.

The contest manager or anyone in the Gold Leaf office will take pleasure in explaining this offer fully to any contestant who might not understand it or any particular feature about it.

RELATIVE STANDING OF CONTESTANTS THIS WEEK.

	BOBBITT.	
Miss Clara Young	214	950
	WATKINS.	
Miss Kate Bobbitt	203	250
	RIDGEWAY.	
Miss Helen Moore	284	550
	HENDERSON.	
Miss Miriam Smaw	225	300
Mrs. J. C. Champion	375	750
	HENDERSON R. F. D. NO. 1.	
Miss Ada Daniel	379	925
	HENDERSON R. F. D. NO. 3.	
Miss Rosa K. Parham	332	700
	KITTRELL.	
Miss Florence Stone	85	250
	TOWNSVILLE.	
Miss Hazeltine Harris	288	875

Kittrell News Notes.

Mr. Rivers McNeil has returned to Chicago.

Mr. J. L. Hunt is at home from West Durham.

Miss Kate Blacknall is visiting friends at Williamston.

Mr. Buck Debnam, of Birmingham, Ala., visited Mrs. I. T. Hunt recently.

Mr. Robert Kittrell, of Tarboro, spent the holidays here with his parents.

Mr. Cullen Capehart, of Charlotte, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Capehart.

Mr. P. B. Green, of the University of North Carolina, spent the holidays with his aunt, Mrs. O. W. Blacknall.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harris and children, of Atlanta, are spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Williams.

The Sunday school of St. James church enjoyed a Christmas tree last evening at the residence of the superintendent, Mr. G. A. Kittrell.

You could lend money to everybody you know and yet find it all the harder to borrow if you had to.

Not All Shows Are Rotten.

"The Thief," which appeared at the opera house last week, was in every respect a high-grade performance. The acting was all good, but that of the "Thief" was superb. For dramatic force the second act could not easily be surpassed. The effect of the play was marred by the apparent cutting of the third act, done, we supposed, to escape more quickly the miserable discomforts of the unheated building. (N. B.—Such exposure in a church building would mean pneumonia for an entire congregation.)

The play presented with startling distinctness an evil that is eating at the heart of half the American homes—the emulation of fashion, with the consequent stress, and the almost inevitable ruin. The lesson might be conned with profit by the young people all over the land.

In this connection it might be noted again that the friends of decency can render the most effective service in the work of cleaning up the theatre by helping to insure the financial success of such plays as the above. It is still true that there is no way to overcome evil except displace it with good. J. W. MORGAN.