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NUMBER 87

FAVOR LEASE OR NOT?

Opinions Regarding Atlantic and North Carolina Matters

How the Lease Looks and Feels to Interested Parties Since Howland Improvement Company Came in Charge.

The Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad has been in the hands of the Howland Improvement Co., for four months and you have had time to reflect soberly about the change, whether it was wise or unwise to make the lease.

You remember that the year prior to the lease the road earned \$78,000; and that for \$30,000 per year less than the lease a lease was effected, with but little estimate for its enhanced value, although this section is on the eve of a wonderful development, by which the increased earnings of the road may be safely measured. Its agricultural and timber interests are but in its infancy.

Other roads have been gotten hold of by corporations for much less than their value and they now form the basis of colossal fortunes. The Wilmington and Weldon, now the Coast Line, is the foundation for an increased value of over 100 per cent, and the territory that it covers has contributed most to this road.

In less than four years hence the net earnings of the A & N C R R will reach quite a quarter of a million dollars, and yet those who put their money in it and suffered so long to save it, most content themselves with the pitiful sum of \$33,000, while those who have contributed nothing to it, get \$300,000 and the sum will go on increasing in their hands until long after your great grand children are buried and forgotten.

Take all corporations of this class, we have proof of their greed already. Freight lumber and other merchandise has been put up, and a tariff of rates will be added, all along the line, to your produce to swell the volume of profits, or pay dividends on watered stock. Your interest is entirely dependent upon the exercise of the management or the freight rate adjuster of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad.

The Legislature of North Carolina may refuse to confirm the lease; are you in favor of it or not?—what is your opinion about this matter?

Mr Geo Green, Secretary and Treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce New Bern, N. C., in an interview expresses himself as follows:

The last two Administrations of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad practically demonstrated the great and increasing value of this property when

conducted on conservative business principles.

This was especially noticeable during the last year of the administration of Mr Bryan, the net earnings of the road for that year being about \$78,000, or \$20,000 more than the annual rental at which the road was leased.

That a LEASE should have been perfected under these circumstances was at the time a matter of much comment among business men, the consensus of opinion being that the LEASE was both premature and ill-advised and at a rental far below its actual worth.

Since the LESSEES have assumed control of the road this dissatisfaction has become more pronounced, and the action of the State in permitting such a LEASE freely criticized.

We think the Legislature should look well into the matter before granting any extension of the Charter in order to meet the terms and conditions of the LEASE entered into by the Directors and Stockholders, which exceeds by about fifty years the life of the Charter.

J O McGowan, Thurman, N. C., Farmer.

"As to the lease of the A & N C railroad, I was originally opposed to it and continue so, and protest against the Legislature amending the charter as to length of life under present lease.

E W Armstrong, New Bern, N. C., Merchant.

"I am and always have been opposed to the lease of the A & N C railroad and think it against every man's interest who has any business with road

Chas. B. Hill, Chmn. Craven County Republican Ex. Com., New Bern, N. C.

"I am in favor of the Legislature affirming the lease."

C J McSorley, Democrat Alderman 3rd Ward, New Bern N. C.

"I was opposed to lease and furthermore opposed to confirmation of same by Legislature."

Henry O Whitehurst, Atty-at-law, New Bern N. C.

"I think it absolutely folly to lease the A & N C railroad and I am in opposition of confirmation of same."

J L McDaniel, Merchant, New Bern, N. C.

"For the best interest of New Bern, I was opposed to a lease and still protest against the Legislature confirming the lease."

C D Bradham, Druggist, New Bern, N. C.

"I never was in favor of a lease of the A & N C Railroad and still of the same opinion."

W T Hill, Job Printer and Dealer in Sporting Goods, New Bern N. C.

"My voice was raised against the lease of A & N C railroad and will continue so until it goes back in the proper hands in which I believe it belongs."

James B Dawson, Democrat Alderman 2nd Ward, N. W. Bern N. C.

"I am of the same opinion now as when this matter was agitated last summer. Was opposed to the lease to any of the foreign syndicates, but if the road had to be leased at all, would have favored local capitalists; people who have the interest of section at heart."

J L Hartsfield, Contractor and Builder, New Bern N. C.

"I was opposed to lease of A & N C railroad, because I couldn't see any good it would do us, on the contrary remaining in the State's hands we would derive great benefit as the road, was in a prosperous condition."

Geo N Ives, Senior partner of G N Ives and Son, Fish and Oyster Dealers, New Bern, N. C.

I have seen nothing which has caused me to change my opinion in reference to the matter of lease of the A & N C Railroad, I was strongly opposed to it and it was incomprehensible to me how any business man could favor the lease, as a matter of public policy or of private business interest. The State, County and Private stockholders holding this stock for many years without getting any return and then leasing the road just as it was getting in shape to pay good dividends was something I could not understand. In my opinion the Howland Improvement Company will more than double their money on this lease, and before the second ten years of their lease expires it will pay more than six per cent on the capital stock, and would have paid it if left to State control and management.

Mr Howland and his associates know a good thing when they saw it and were quick to find a way to get control of this valuable property and that way was through some of the leading lawyers and politicians of the State, whose fees were more important to them than their interest in the State's welfare. It is absurd to think it was necessary to go out of the State to find men who were capable of managing this fine property. Each year adds to the regret of this section, that this railroad should have been confiscated as it has been.

WANTED.

A good industrious white farmer to occupy 5 rooms of my dwelling house with privilege of outbuildings. Board myself and wife, we furnish our own cooking. Fifty good farming or trucking lands for rent at a bargain. Call on at once or apply to

E. N. BELL, Cedar Point, Craven County

Edsel Dysponia Cure Shows what you need.

and confirmation of lease of A & N C Railroad by the Legislature. It has worked harm and will continue to do so under present management by increase of freight rates and other hardships.

P E Watson & Co., Wildwood, N. C. Merchants.

I am opposed to confirmation of lease of A & N C Railroad, on the grounds of increase of freight rate.

P A Willis of Gaskill Hardware and Mill Supply Co., New Bern, N. C.

My voice was raised and is raised against the lease and confirmation of A & N C Railroad, on the grounds it would have worked detriment to this section of the State, in its prosperous condition. Had it remained in the hands of the State we would have derived the benefits.

M E Whitehurst, Wholesale and Retail Groceries and Hardware Dealer.

I opposed lease of A & N C Railroad, and also oppose confirmation of lease by Legislature.

Capt D L Roberts, Wholesale Grocer, New Bern, N. C.

I am opposed to confirmation of lease of A & N C Railroad by Legislature.

A H Bangert, Democratic Alderman of 1st Ward of the City of New Bern and Capitalist.

I always thought it unwise to lease the A & N C Railroad.

B B Pavenport, Wholesale and Retail Merchant, New Bern.

As to the lease of the A & N C Railroad, in my opinion, it was unwise, and I opposed it then and now, also confirmation.

J M Harget, Chief of Police, New Bern, N. C.

My opinion is the road ought not to have been leased, I opposed it and oppose the confirmation of the lease by Legislature.

M L Hollowell, Merchant, New Bern, N. C. of O. P. Simmons and Hollowell Co.

In my opinion the lease of A & N C Railroad to any corporation, was the worst thing that could have been done against the best interests of the people of this section, and think the Legislature ought not to confirm the present lease.

J J Wolfenden, New Bern, N. C.

I have always been in favor of leasing the A & N C R R, always thought it best both for the people and its Stockholders. Since the lease to the Howland Improvement Co., have seen no reason to change my opinion. I am heartily in favor of the Legislature confirming the lease to the Howland Improvement Company, to attempt to give the many reasons for it would take up too much space, so I will content myself with saying that I favor the lease.

J M Mitchell, Dry Goods Merchant, New Bern N. C.

As to lease of the road. I was not in favor of it, because I think our people will suffer from the effects and am opposed to confirmation of lease.

J S Miller, Furniture Dealer, New Bern N. C.

For the best interest of this section, a lease in my opinion, was the worst thing that could have happened. I opposed it then and do so now, also oppose confirmation.

L G Daniel, Dealer in Horses and Mules, New Bern N. C.

I was opposed to the lease of the A & N C Railroad for several reasons and our great reason was because we, the patrons of the road could get much better accommodations while in the hands of the politicians as some called it, than we can get through a great railroad system and besides while the State operated it other roads could not oppress us along the lines of the connecting lines. For instance the Norfolk & Southern R R line by steamboat from New Bern by way of Elizabeth City to Norfolk, Va., the usual passenger rate was \$3.75 first class to Norfolk plus to what of the E O D Line now it is \$4.75 for same route, and besides the A & N C railroad rate is advanced, freight rates and besides the warehouses that were built for the benefit of patrons of said road are now rented out by small spaces at high rates that which we had free. I paid the other day \$1.25 for 6 days warehouse charges on 20 bgs of oats, which was nearly as much as the freight from Richmond. They have moved the offices already and should the lease be confirmed by the legislature it looks as if the rest will go soon and the worst of all is that according to Fred J A Bryan's report the road was leased for about twenty-five thousand less than its net earnings, so we do not only lose that amount of money, but we, the patrons, are paying for it and have shown us no favors now I believe the old mule road is worth at least two and one half million dollars and it seems foolish to give the road away to the Howland Improvement Co., or as some think the Southern Ry Co, and this is not half that I could say.

F T Patten, ex Democrat Mayor of the city of New Bern.

I do not think the lease was a good thing for New Bern, consequently I am opposed to it.

F M Hahn, New Bern N. C.

After closely following the records

from the recent changing administrator on the road I cannot help but think the lease is a very unwise and unprofitable step for the patrons of the road, stockholders and State can deal, thinking the interests of all parties materially jeopardized.

G A Barfoot of Barfoot Bros, Dry Goods New Bern, N. C.

My opinion as to lease of A & N C R R was unwise, and has worked detriment to the business interests of our city, and still oppose the confirmation of same by legislature.

G. A. BARFOOT.

O A Kafer, Merchant, New Bern N. C.

I regard the lease of the A & N C railroad bad judgment on part of State, and stockholders. It has worked harm to the business interests of our city. I think the past administration was for our best interest and oppose to confirmation of lease by legislature.

J A Jones, Horse and Mule Dealer, New Bern, N. C.

I am opposed to lease of the A & N C R R and to the confirmation by the legislature.

M Suskin, Merchant, New Bern, N. C.

I am opposed to a lease of A & N C railroad and confirmation of same by legislature.

S G Roberts, Wholesale Grocer, New Bern, N. C.

After viewing the situation of the change and lease of A and N C railroad I think it was unwise and worst thing that could have happened for the interest of our section and am not in favor of confirmation by legislature.

Edward D Bangert, Jeweler, New Bern N. C.

In my opinion as to the lease and confirmation of A and N C railroad, I oppose it on business basis.

Dr O A Caton New Bern, N. C.

I oppose the confirmation of lease for what I consider three substantial reasons. First, if I am informed correctly the road was leased for \$35,000 less than its present earning capacity. Second, this section of the State has in last few years developed wonderfully as shown by increased earnings of A and N C railroad and many other ways and still greater earnings would necessarily follow. Third, because of a strong probability of increased freight rates which might result from merging of systems.

W R Barrington, Craven County Trial Justice and County Commissioner.

I am opposed to lease of A and N C railroad, also confirmation by the legislature.

(Continued)

MUST STAND ON MERITS

Says Chairman Rollins, Republican State Chairman in regard Third Term Office Holders in North Carolina. This Section's President's Opinion:

Raleigh, Jan. 18.—Republican State Chairman Rollins was specially interviewed and was asked what would be done about third term of office-holders in North Carolina. He replied he could not say definitely. President Roosevelt having said he would adopt no definite rule as to third terms. Each applicant must stand on his merits. A certain rotation in office is necessary, yet the fitness of each applicant enters into the question. In the case of eastern postmasters, there will be in a number of places new appointments, but in some no person is known so fit as the present incumbents. There are six large Federal appointments, as to these it is not now known what will be done. It depends upon what the majority of the party leaders in the State think at the time. It is a year away before the vacancies occur in five of these positions, namely two collectors, two marshals and one district attorney. District attorney Harry Skinner has only served one term and there appears to be no reason to doubt his reappointment. There are applicants for every place, and in some cases a number of them. To be sure there are applications for all the

big ones, and for every postmastership, with very few exceptions. There are at least fifty presidential appointments of postmasters, not a great number, because there are so many fourth class postmasters in North Carolina—more than anywhere else save in Pennsylvania and Texas. Chairman Rollins was next asked about the condition of the Republican party in North Carolina and said it was healthier than ever before and that this fact had been emphatically shown by the result of the last election, the party having made gains of over thirty three and a third per cent here, while in no other Southern State were gains made, Missouri not being really a Southern State. He says there is a good county organization in every county and that in every one there was a county ticket. In each there will be a county ticket in the next election. The fight is to begin now for the next campaign and the plans will be laid for activity. Chairman Rollins thinks that with proper organization his party can carry the State in two or four years, if no mistakes are made. He says the party is divided on the temperance question and is not solid for liquor, but opposes the Wats bill on the grounds that it is class legislation, not giving all equal privileges. He thinks that if the Democrats favor the removal of liquor they ought to put in a sweeping bill covering the entire State, but he could not say what would be the attitude of his own party on such a matter. He has heard talk of such a sweeping act this session. To him it appears that the dispensary will be established at Asheville. He came here to discuss with the republican members of the Legislature, local legislation for various counties, some of it personal, and told the members to be guided by the wishes of local republicans. The republicans will introduce a bill to amend the election law by giving that party representation on election boards, there being now 1800 democratic registrars. He thinks there ought to be an equal division of registrars between the parties. The constitutional amendment, he said was framed to put out the negro. Now the negro is out and there is not the least disposition on the part of the Republicans to upset the constitutional amendment. He concluded by saying: "As a party policy we oppose the amendment, but we have accepted the will of the people as absolutely final and there is no disposition among our leaders to upset it. We are going before the people of the State on live political issues, hoping to divide the white people. The Republican leaders believe the amendment is a stronger card for us than for the Democrats, for the negro question kept out many whites from our party. We have made a great gain in four years while the democrats lost in that period 51,000 votes."

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Guion Will be With the Goods.

Raleigh Post.

Speaker Guion is carrying himself well in the harness. The trying times, when the supreme test is to be made, have not come yet, but he's training up splendidly and will be equal to the emergency. The legislature has every reason to be proud of his choice of a presiding officer.

If you cannot eat, sleep or work, feel mean, cross and ugly, take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea this month. A tonic for the sick. There is no remedy equal to it. 25 cents, Tea or Tablets. F S Duffy.

DIED.

At Kingston N. C., January 17th, 1905 after a lingering illness in the eighty-third year of her age, Mrs Sarah Jackson widow of the late Shade Jackson of Kingston and sister of Nelson Whitford, deceased of this city.

Mrs Jackson was a native of Craven County and spent most of her life in New Bern where she had warm relatives and friends.

LEGISLATURE HONORS LEE

By Adjournment. Col. F. M. Parker's Memory Honored by Resolution.

Some Bills Introduced.

Special to Journal.

Raleigh, Jan. 19.—In the Senate bills were introduced, today, to disburse military appropriations equally per capita among National Guard and Naval Militia; to establish a department of immigration; to authorize Winston-Salem to issue bonds on electric railway to High Point; to provide a department of osteopathy; Stringfield offered a resolution for adjournment in memory of Robert E Lee. On motion of Thorne of Halifax, the name of Col Francis M Parker, of Enfield, Colonel of the 88th regiment who died yesterday, was included in the resolution, which was adopted by a rising vote. The Senate immediately adjourned.

A petition from 2,500 citizens of Richmond County for prohibition was introduced. A bill was tabled authorizing appointment of women as notaries public. Bills were introduced to abolish tenancies by entitles, and make them tenants in common; to regulate freight rates; to protect telephone messages by punishing willful or mischievous listeners; to prevent running of freight trains on Sunday, to regulate dealing in futures.

McGill offered a resolution for adjournment in honor of Genl. Lee and Col. Parker. Speaker Guion called Laughinghouse of Pitt to the chair. Laughinghouse entered the army at 16 years of age and was the youngest captain in the service, having been promoted to that position before he was 17. Speeches were made by Gantham of Granville, Meekins, Warburton, Cunningham, Powers, Winbourn, Wood of Randolph, and McIninch, and the resolution was adopted by a rising vote.

HOLD COTTON 12 MONTHS.

So Says Report From Texas. Observed Lee's Birthday. Anti-Saloon People Meet.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 19.—A Convention of the officers of the First Regiment is ordered to be held at Charlotte, Monday, January 30th, to elect a successor to General Thomas K. Robertson as Colonel.

State Secretary J. B. Parker of the North Carolina Farmer's Alliance hears from Calvert, Texas, that arrangements are made to hold every bale of cotton west of the Mississippi river, for twelve months, if necessary, no matter what the manipulators may do to beat down prices. This information comes from President Peters of the Texas Cotton Growers Association. Mr. Peters confirms the news which your correspondent gave in a letter from Texas a day or two ago, that the farmers there are all holding cotton, and that no sales are being made. New York manipulators are sending out the news that the Texas growers are weakening. A letter to your correspondent from his son at Waco, says this is untrue, and President Peters pronounces it absolutely false.

State Superintendent Joyner is confined to his home here by a quite severe attack of grippe. There has been but little grippe so far this season, but the worst time for it is now beginning. Lee's birthday, a State holiday, was observed here today, the legislature adjourned as a mark of respect. Special services were held at the home of Mrs. Joseph Daniels, the Daughters of the Confederacy meeting with her, and Crosses of Honor being presented to a number of veterans. All the ex-Confederate members of the Legislature were present and one of them, Senator Thomas W. Mason, delivered an address. Refreshments were served and the occasion was made particularly agreeable.

The executive committee of the State Association of City Superintendents of public schools calls the association to meet here January 26-27. There will be discussions led by D. Matt Thompson of Statesville; E. C. Brooks of Goldsboro, and others. One day will be devoted entirely to the report of the committee on the course of study. T. R. Foast is President and Charles L. Coon, Secretary.

The annual convention of the North

Carolina Anti-Saloon League was called to order at noon here today by Chairman Josiah William Bailey, in city hall. He made his annual report to chairman of the campaign committee, showing that within two years the number counties licensing saloons has been decreased from 50 to 18. A wonderful amount of work has been done. Among the speakers today were Heriot Clark of Charlotte, Rev. J. A. Oates of Fayetteville, Rev. Dr. A. H. Moment of Raleigh, Joseph Daniels, Henry A. Page, Rev. R. C. Beaman, H. A. London, and W. A. Dunn of Scotland Neck.

Governor Glenn today commissioned Fred J. Cox, a member of the Legislature from Anson, as assistant adjutant general of the staff.

Ex-Associated Justice Walter A. Montgomery left today for Warrenton, to appear for Mr. Rodwell, who contends that he is a lawful Clerk of the Superior Court of Warren, his case being against the man appointed by Judge Peebles.

The Hand Book of North Carolina which the Secretary of State will give to the Legislature will be ready in a few days, the printing having been completed. It will be twice as large as the one published two years ago, and will be of very great value.

SHOTS AT CZAR'S PALACE

Bullets Enter Window Above Heads of Spectators. No One Injured.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 19.—While the czar was blessing the waters of the Neva and during the ceremony, several shots were fired from across the Neva. The bullets entered the windows of the winter palace, Nobody was hurt. The incident caused considerable alarm. One bullet cut a clean hole two inches in diameter through the double upper windows of Nicholas hall immediately above the window from which a group of correspondents and officers were viewing the ceremony. Electric lamps opposite the side hall was smashed and fell to the ground with a clatter. An officer picked up a bullet which was of iron and resembled a shrapnel ball. The imperial procession soon afterward reentered the palace. The emperor had been already informed of the occurrence and as the procession passed in an officer pointed out the holes in the windows but his majesty was quite unmoved and hardly glanced at the place indicated.

If taken this month, keeps your well all summer. It makes the little ones eat sleep and grow. A spring tonic for the whole family. Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. 25 cents, Tea or Tablets. F S Duffy.

CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL OFFERS THE FOLLOWING COURSES FOR 1905

1. Preparation for College.

2. Teachers' Normal Training.

3. General High School Course.

4. Instruction in Music and Elocution.

EXPENSES:

Board, \$8.00 Per Month.

Tuition, \$2.00 to \$3.00 Per Month.

For detailed information write for Catalogue.

D. L. ELLIS, Principal, Clayton, N. C.

NEW BERN PRODUCE MARKET

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Eggs, per dozen..... 2 1/2
Chickens, old per pair..... 65
" young, per pr..... 40 & 50
Pork, per lb..... 7 & 8
Live Hogs..... 5 & 6
Beef, "..... 6 & 7
Hides, green, per lb..... 6 & 7
" dry, "..... 8 & 10
Beeswax, "..... 20 to 25
Corn, per bush..... 75c
Oats, "..... 57c
Peanuts..... 35
Potatoes, Yams..... 70
Bahamas..... 60

Local Grain Market.

Corn, per bu..... \$1.00 60c
Oats