

# WESTERN UNION SPECIAL

Form 1512

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

NUMBER 1 NI - HC 937 BLUE CNT 2 DASHES 2 PMS 4 QNS 9 COMMAS 12 PGFS

Dated FTMYERS FLO 834A APR 19 1923

To W O SHEPPARD

47 TALLAHASSEE FLO

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT A MASS MEETING AT FORTMYERS APRIL 18 TH 1923 THE MEETING BEING ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL PARTS OF LEE COUNTY AMONG THE DISTRICTS REPRESENTED BEING NAPLES BONITASPRINGS ESTERO FORTDNAUD ALVA OWANITA SANIBEL EASTFORTMYERS BUCKINGHAM EDDY AND FORTMYERS WHICH MEETING WAS CALLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXPRESSING THE RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION (AND DEEP HUMILIATION OVER THE SHAMELESS ATTITUDE OF OUR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE ( HON W H MALONE IN THE SENATE AND HON R A HENDERSON SR IN THE HOUSE ) TOWARD MORE THAN NINETY PERCENT OF THEIR CONSTITUENTS WHO HONORED AND TRUSTED THEM WHEN THEY ELECTED TO THESE HIGH AND HONORABLE POSITIONS WHEREAS, THE CREATION OF HENDRY COUNTY WAS AN ISSUE IN THE JUNE PRIMARY ELECTION YET IT IS UNDENIABLY TRUE THAT NEITHER BEFORE NOR FOR LONG AFTER THE PRIMARY WAS THERE ANY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE DISCUSSION HAD REGARDING THE CREATION OF COLLIER OR ANY OTHER COUNTY OUT OF THE SOUTHERN PART OF LEE COUNTY AND THE FACTS ARE THAT AS TO ANY QUESTION OF DIVISION THE SUM OF THE VOTES CAST IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION FOR ALL THE CANDIDATES OPPOSING THE CREATION OF ANY NEW COUNTY WERE GREATER THAN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES CAST FOR CANDIDATES FAVORING COUNTY DIVISION OF ANY KIND AND

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Dated W O SHEPPARD TALLAHASSEE FLO SHEET 2

To

WHEREAS, AFFIDAVITS ARE AVAILABLE TO SHOW THAT WHEN A FEW WEEKS BEFORE THE CONVENING OF THE LEGISLATURE RUMORS OF THE CREATION OF " COLLIER COUNTY " BECAME COMMON MR HENDERSON REPEATEDLY STATED THAT HE WOULD NOT FAVOR THE CREATION OF " COLLIER COUNTY " AND

WHEREAS, HAD THE ISSUE OF THE CREATION OF "COLLIER COUNTY " BEEN SQUARELY OR EVEN REMOTELY BEFORE THE PEOPLE IN THE PRIMARY THE VOTERS OF LEE COUNTY WOULD UNQUESTIONABLY HAVE DEFEATED COUNTY DIVISION THE TRUTH OF WHICH STATEMENT IS AMPLY PROVEN BY THE FACT THAT AT THIS TIME MORE THAN NINETY PERCENT OF MR HENDERSONS TRUSTING CONSTITUENTS ARE PRIVATELY AND PUBLICLY CONDEMNING HIS ACTION IN THIS MATTER AND ARE BEING PUT TO MUCH TROUBLE EXPENSE AND HUMILIATION IN TRYING TO GET THE REAL FACTS BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE AND

WHEREAS, SOME OF THE LARGER COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CONTEMPLATED " COLLIER COUNTY " ARE PROTESTING VIGOROUSLY AGAINST THE CREATION OF THIS NEW COUNTY FOR THE REASON AS THEY SAY THAT THEY REALIZE INCALCULABLE DANGER OF PLACING THE WELFARE OF THEIR COMMUNITIES AND THE PRICELESS RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF THEIR CHILDREN IN A POSITION WHERE THEY WOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE AUTOCRATIC WHIMS AND FANCIES OF ONE MAN BENEVOLENT THOUGH HE MIGHT BE AND MORE ESPECIALLY A MAN WHO CAN BE PROVEN BY AFFIDAVITS TO HAVE SAID THAT " IF HE COULD NOT NAME THE COUNTY OFFICERS HE DID NOT WANT ANY COUNTY " AS MR COLLIER HAS SAID AND

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W O SHEPPARD TALLAHASSEE FLO SHEET 3

To

WHEREAS, BARRON G COLLIER DID APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEE COUNTY IN DECEMBER 1922 AND DID THEN AGREE TO PURCHASE \$ 50,000 WORTH OF TIME WARRANTS HERETOFORE AUTHORIZED FOR THE TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION OF THE TAMiami TRAIL BUT UP TO THE PRESENT TIME HE HAS NOT PURCHASED THEM AND

WHEREAS, AT THE SAME TIME AND PLACE MR COLLIER DID AGREE TO PURCHASE THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$ 150,000 WORTH OF TIME WARRANTS TO BE ISSUED BY LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPLETING THE TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION OF THE TAMiami TRAIL AND HE ( MR COLLIER ) HAS SINCE NOTIFIED THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEE COUNTY THAT HE WILL NOT PURCHASE SAID AMOUNT OF \$ 150,000 IN TIME WARRANTS AND

WHEREAS, THE ULTIMATE COMPLETION OF THE TAMiami TRAIL AS A PERMANENT HARD SURFACED ROAD IS NOT DEPENDENT UPON THE CREATION OF COLLIER COUNTY FOR THE REASON THAT IT IS NOW AN ACCEPTED PROJECT OF THE STATE ROAD DEPARTMENT AS A STATE ROAD AND HAS RECENTLY BEEN ACCEPTED AS A FEDERAL AID PROJECT BY THE BUREAU OF GOOD ROADS AT WASHINGTON AND FOR THE FURTHER REASON THAT THE NECESSARY TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION IS MORE SAFE AND ALSO EASIER TO FINANCE IF BACKED BY ALL THE RESOURCES OF AN UNDIVIDED LEE COUNTY THAN IF THE TERRITORY THROUGH WHICH IT PASSES IS TAKEN OUT OF LEE COUNTY AND THE FINANCING OF THE PROJECT LEFT TO THE CAPRICES OF ONE MAN AND THE TAXABLE ASSETS OF COLLIER COUNTY AND

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To  
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PEOPLE FROM ALL PARTS OF LEE COUNTY IN MASS MEETING ASSEMBLED THAT WE DO SOLEMNLY AND INDIGNANTLY PROTEST AGAINST THE SHAMELESS ATTEMPT ON THE PART OF OUR REPRESENTATIVES BOTH IN THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE TO BETRAY THEIR CONSTITUENTS BY ADVOCATING A BILL FOR THE CREATION OF COLLIER COUNTY WHEN THEY HAVE EVERY REASON TO KNOW THAT NINETY PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE OF LEE COUNTY INCLUDING LARGE COMMUNITIES IN THE PROPOSED COLLIER COUNTY ARE UNALTERABLY OPPOSED TO SUCH A MEASURE

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT WE DO URGENTLY AND PATHETICALLY APPEAL TO THE SENSE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND JUSTICE IN THE HEARTS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO WAIVE THE USUALLY APPLICABLE LEGISLATIVE OR SENATORIAL COURTESY AND SAVE US FROM THIS GREAT WRONG

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT IT IS THE SENSE OF THIS MEETING THAT NO NEW COUNTY SHOULD BE CREATED UNTIL THE PEOPLE BY THEIR VOTES HAVE APPROVED ITS CREATION AND THE BOUNDARY LINES THEREOF

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THESE RESOLUTIONS BE GIVEN TO THE PRESS AND COPIES SENT TO EACH MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE BOTH HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE

NOT SIGNED

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