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Even if you aren't a baseball fan, this newspaper account of New Bern's victory over Raleigh in 1874, for the State championship is a journalistic gem. It was written on the scene of battle in the Capital City, and the clipping included in a scrapbook of the late Miss Mary Roberts.

Join us, as we turn back the pages of Time to a golden yesterday:

The match game of baseball between the Athletics of Raleigh and Elm City of Newbern came off on the grounds of the State Fair, in the vicinity of Raleigh last Thursday, in the presence of thousands assembled from all parts of this and adjoining states, to witness the many interesting incidents occurring on the occasion of the State Fair.

And though at the time the game was being played, several very important, as well as exciting, races were being performed on the course nearby, yet an almost intense interest was manifested in the contest between these two rival clubs for the championship of the state.

People were seen running hither and thither amid the greatest excitement, anxiously inquiring how the game stood, and at the close of each inning as one club retired to the field and the other came in to the bat, the interest became so intensified that the spectators became almost wild with excitement, and the pressure of the crowd as they impetuously gathered around the scorer's stand became so great as to render it almost impossible to accurately score the game.

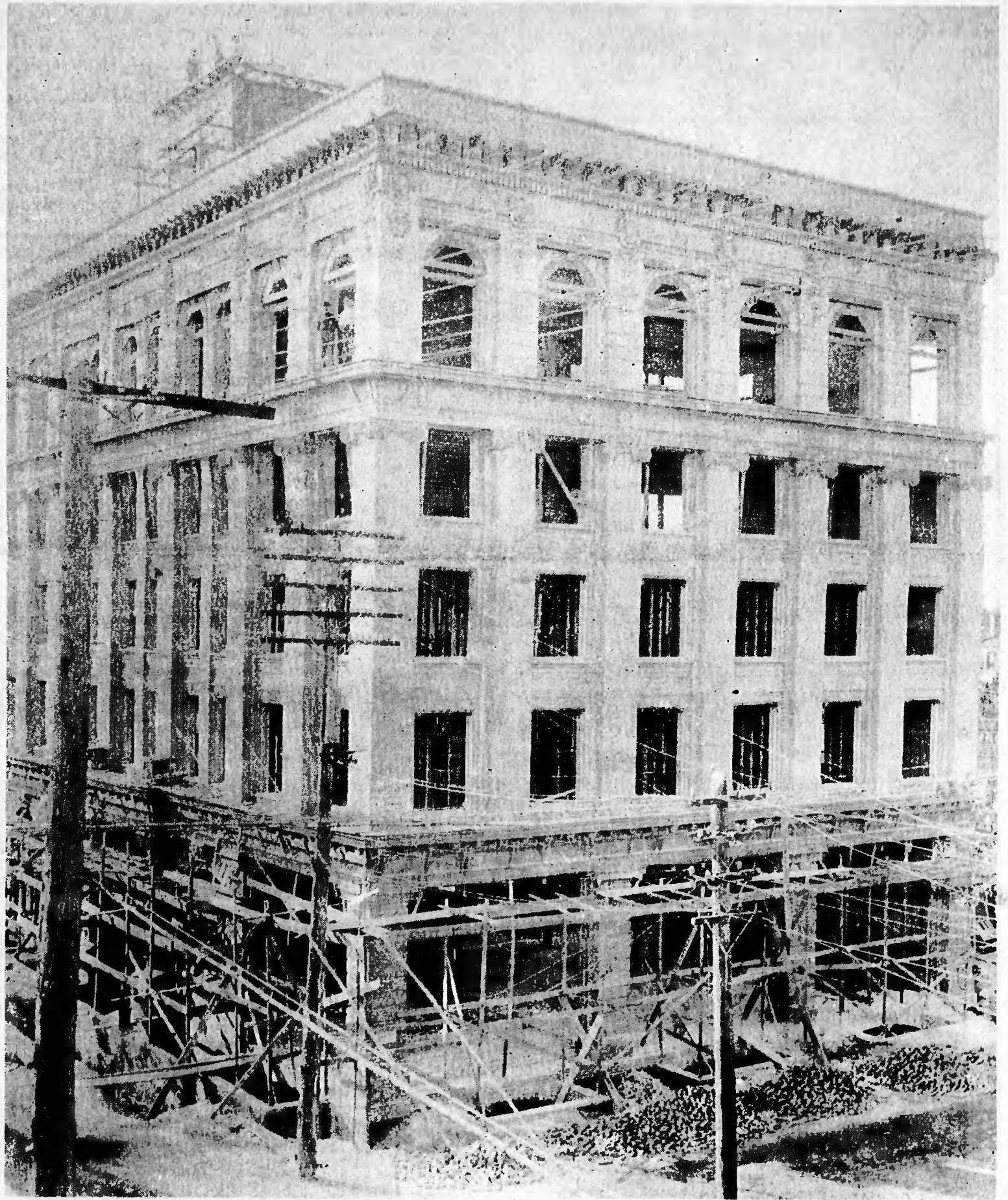
Almost everybody present, who had a sufficient knowledge of the game, kept a score of their own, and so anxious were they of the result, that they frequently interrupted the scorers in their duties, by repeated inquiries respecting the progress of the game.

We think it is the popular sentiment and the great interest manifested is an indubitable proof of it, that the game was one of the most attractive and principal features of the fair. Judges, laymen, clergymen, merchants, mechanics, tradesmen and men of every profession or occupation seemed alike interested in the game, and especially the result.

Then what a tumult of excitement ensued, immediately subsequent to the close of the game, as the spectators irresistable thronged around the scorer's stand impatiently awaiting the announcement of the contest; then everybody became almost frenzied with enthusiasm, and amid repeated and tremendous applause of the assembly, the "Elm City's" were declared the victors and the champions of the state.

The young ladies from Newbern, (God bless them) who were present to witness the game, and though less in numbers were none the less beautiful or attractive than the more numerous delegations

(Continued on page 8.)



ONCE UPON A TIME—New Bern's senior citizens will have to reach back 65 years, in order to recall when the Elks Temple building at Middle and Pollock was under construction. At long last our town was getting an honest to goodness skyscraper, and just as in New York, watching the action proved popular with loitering pedestrians. The brick structure, taller than most five story buildings, would be completed in 1908. Then as now, lodge rooms would be on the top

floor, and rented offices on other upper floors. Ed Clark, destined to serve as New Bern's Mayor, was going to have a soda shop on the first floor, and it became quite a gathering place for old and young alike. Floyd Gaskins would eventually buy out Clark, and finally it would become Dixon's. Our thanks to Billy Benners, Sr., who came up with this rare picture.