

THE NORTH CAROLINA MASON

Published once a month by the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of North Carolina. Successor to The Orphans' Friend and Masonic Journal.

Second class postage paid at Oxford, N. C. 27565
POSTMASTER: Please send P.O. FORM 3579 to:

THE NORTH CAROLINA MASON
 Oxford Orphanage Printing Department
 Oxford, North Carolina 27565

BOARD OF PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA MASON

WILLIAM E. FULMER, P.M., Chairman
 ALFRED A. KAUFER, JR., P.G.M.
 ROBERT L. PUGH, P.G.M., Managing Director
 SAM A. HENNIS, JR., P.G.M.
 J. EARL WATSON, Grand Marshal

REYNOLD S. DAVENPORT, Editor
 P. O. Box 17602
 Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

News items, pictures, inquiries, comments, and other correspondence should be addressed to:

REYNOLD S. DAVENPORT, Editor
 P. O. Box 17602
 Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

Please enclose \$7.50 with each picture submitted or publication. Pictures should be taken in black and white and should be of quality suitable for reproduction.

Address changes should be addressed to:

THE NORTH CAROLINA MASON
 Oxford Orphanage Printing Department
 Oxford, North Carolina 27565

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF NORTH CAROLINA

BERL M. KAHN.....Grand Master
 Box 780, Goldsboro 27530
 NATHANIEL C. DEAN.....Deputy Grand Master
 Box 351, Norwood 28128
 WILLIAM L. MILLS, JR.....Senior Grand Warden
 Box 368, Concord 28025
 S. FRANK NOBLE, JR.....Junior Grand Warden
 310 Ave. A, New Bern 28560
 JAMES W. BREWER.....Grand Treasurer
 P. O. Box 1666, Greenville 27834
 CHARLES A. HARRIS.....Grand Secretary
 P. O. Box 6506, Raleigh 27608
 HIRAM J. CASEBOLT.....Senior Grand Deacon
 107 Longview Lake Drive, Raleigh 27610
 LESLIE H. GARNER.....Junior Grand Deacon
 P. O. Box 1446, Greenville 27834
 J. EARL WATSON.....Grand Marshal
 P. O. Box 588, Mt. Airy 27030
 JACOB C. GOODMAN, JR.....Grand Steward
 3808 Flowerfield Rd., Charlotte 28210
 WILLIAM B. BELLOIS.....Grand Steward
 P. O. Box 1024, Wilmington 28401
 FRED F. HARDING.....Grand Tyler
 2707 Barmettler Street, Raleigh 27607
 JAMES E. SPICER, C.L.....Grand Lecturer
 Box 1111, N. Wilkesboro 28659
 JAMES I. REYNOLDS.....Grand Orator
 P. O. Box 853, Clinton 28328
 WILLIAM T. HATCH.....Judge Advocate
 327 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh
 I. BOYD HOPKINS.....Grand Chaplain
 Rt. 3, Box 57-A, Mt. Airy 27030
 JAMES G. JOHNSTON.....Grand Historian
 7609 Glencannon Dr., Charlotte 28212

BILL PRICE

William Knox Price, Sr. will soon be stepping down from his post as business manager and secretary-treasurer of Masonic and Eastern Star Home. Because he is who he is, that is about all he will be stepping down from.

Bill Price serves Masonry exceedingly well in various capacities, he has always done so, and he can be depended upon to continue his high service. In fact, the increased free time brought about by his retirement from the Home will likely signal increasing activity in various Masonic areas.

Bill is unique. He always comports himself with a dignity and reserve that inspire respect and admiration by all who meet him, and yet those fine qualities never obstruct the free flow of the warmth and true Brotherhood which have endeared him to all who know him. He is one of those of whom ill is never spoken.

Certainly it is a little saddening to realize that the pleasure of future visits to the Home will not be heightened by the opportunity to have a few moments with Bill Price; but it is cheering to know that this fine Mason remains available for continued service to the Craft.

Bill Price is a Mason's Mason.

Onslow York Rite Bodies Honor Marion W. Eubank

By GERALD W. RINGLER, *Secretary-Recorder*

At a Stated Convocation of the Onslow York Rite Masons held recently Marion Wilson Eubank, Past Presiding Officer of the Onslow York Rite Masons was elected to receive the York Rite Merit Award for exceptional service to York Rite Masonry. This award is recognized throughout the state of North Carolina and is to honor their distinguished members of the York Rite who have rendered such exceptional and devoted service to Masonry in general and to the Onslow York Rite in particular. The award is to be presented at a Ladies Night banquet to be held in the near future.

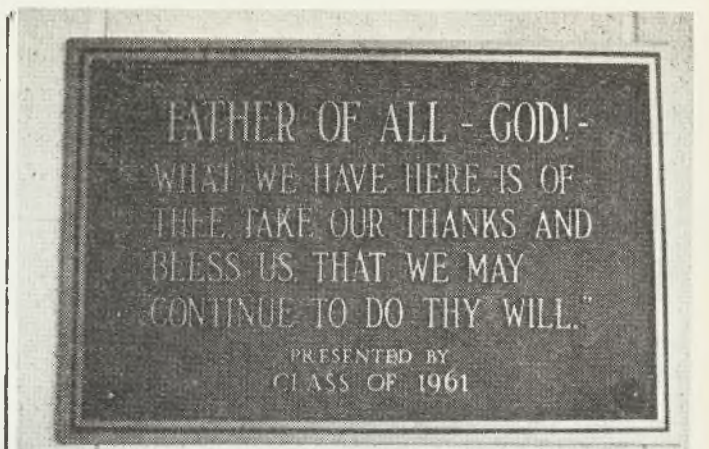
Many a man on the road to success fails because he gets off at the wrong station.

History of N. C. Masonry

Editor's Note: In the *Proceedings* of 1938 Grand Historian Alexander Atkinson presented *The Beginning and Early History of Freemasonry in North Carolina*. We will print that history in its entirety, by sections, in this and succeeding issues. The portion appearing in this issue deals with the earliest known Masonic activity in the state. The next portion to be published will list the lodges known to have existed in North Carolina prior to the establishment of the Grand Lodge.

There are certain things which all Masons long to know. We are told that one of those things was lost, and we are taught to look forward to the time when it shall be found. I am reminded of that very forcibly when I try to write of Freemasonry in North Carolina from its beginning. The early history of the Craft is clouded in mystery and hazed in uncertainty, due to the lack of records, to the incompleteness of records, and to the actual loss of some records. We, in North Carolina, are not alone in this state of affairs, for the histories of practically all other jurisdictions are spotted with the same expressions of doubt and uncertainty of their earlier life.

In this sketch I shall deal mostly with the early history of the Fraternity in this State. The beginning of Freemasonry in North Carolina dates back more than two hundred years, for we find some evidence of Masonry in North Carolina immediately after the Colony of Carolina was divided into North Carolina and South Carolina, in 1729. It is stated by Marshall DeLancy Haywood in his history, written in 1906 that, "the Craft was actively at work in North Carolina prior to 1735, for in that year enough Masons had assembled in the Cape Fear settlement, near the present city of Wilmington, to form a lodge. This was Solomon Lodge, chartered by Thomas Thynne, second Viscount Weymouth, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England. In the *History of Freemasonry and Concordant Orders*, it is stated that application was made for charters for Solomon Lodge at Cape Fear in North Carolina, and Solomon Lodge at Charleston, South Carolina, at the same time. Solomon Lodge at Cape Fear was duly entered on the roll of the Grand Lodge in England, but by some oversight, Solomon Lodge at Charleston was omitted. Some years later, however, this injustice to the Lodge in South Carolina was



The prayer on the plaque pictured above is spoken by the boys, girls and adults at Oxford Orphanage three times each day, before each meal. The plaque, presented by the Class of 1961, is attached to the wall in the main dining room at Oxford. This prayer was taken from "Ben Hur" and we have not been able to determine when it first came to be used at Oxford. Miss Nettie Bemis, writing in "Life At Oxford", says the prayer was being used when she first arrived on the campus in August of 1897, so we know it has been a part of Oxford life for more than seventy-five years. Perhaps some reader can shed further light. Memorize the prayer and you will be able to ask the blessing along with the children when you visit the Orphanage this year.

remedied, and it was properly enrolled with precedence from 1735." Two years later, 1737, South Carolina must have organized its Grand Lodge, for in 1937 it held its 200th Annual Communication. I am not concerned with South Carolina's Grand Lodge history, but let me digress to say that in the *Proceedings* of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina for 1912, I find a review of other grand jurisdictions, and the *Proceedings* of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina of 1910 is headed with these words: "134th Annual." If that Grand Lodge was 134 years old in 1910, then in 1937, 27 years later, it must have been (134 plus 27) 161 years old. But the *Proceedings* of 1937 were written for the 200th Annual Communication. We, in North Carolina, today say that we are holding the 150th Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge, and some of our historians have said, and some records show, that our Grand Lodge was formed in 1787, and that a communication was held that year. If that be true then we are today holding our 152nd Annual Communication instead of the 150th. But let us get back to the earlier history and come up to that a little later.

On St. John's Day, June 24th, 1789, in an historical address before St. John's Lodge, now Lodge No. 3, of New Bern, Francois Xavier Martin, jurist and a great historian, said this about Masonry's coming to the Colonies: "Masons crossed the Atlantic with the first settlers of the British Colonies in America, and, soon after, the Grand Master of England appointed Provincial Grand Masters and Constituted regular Lodges in the new world. The Carolinas, whose settlement is of later date, had no Provincial Grand Master until 1736 (A. L. 5736), when the Earl of Loudoun appointed John Hammerton, Esquire, to that dignity. From him a regular succession can be traced to Joseph Montfort, Esquire, who was appointed by the Duke of Beaufort." I have quoted the above from that part of Gould's History, dealing with North Carolina as written by Past Grand Master, F. D. Winston. The same extract from Judge Martin's address as quoted by Winston, is given in the North Carolina's Masonic Code of 1892, and is also quoted by Marshall DeLancy Haywood (Continued on Page Six)