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New Bernians, as far back as they can remember, have been hearing wisecracks advising them to "Save your Confederate money, the South will rise again!" Few jokes have been as durable, especially among Yankee humorists appearing before Yankee audiences.

Perhaps it's poetic justice that, in truth, Confederate bills are steadily increasing in value, while the United States dollar declines. If you happen to have any stored away in an attic trunk, don't let a fast-talking carpet bagger of the modern variety talk you out of your treasure.

When first issued, a Confederate "Blue Back" was worth 95 cents on the dollar in gold, but by the time Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox, the valuation had collapsed to 1.6 cents. Less than a month later, when the last active trading for Confederate currency occurred, it possible to get 1,200 "Blue Backs" for one U. S. "Greenback."

Today, we are told, Confederate bills can be purchased in limited amounts at prices ranging from 50 cents to one dollar, but the market is rising as the Civil War Centennial moves along toward its nationwide observance. Already some of the rarer bills are selling for several hundred dollars apiece, and you might just happen to have one or several of this sort stuck away somewhere.

It may surprise you, as it did us, to learn that the Confederate government issued more than \$2,000,000,000 worth of paper money during the War Between the States and almost all of it was printed in small denominations. The first note was turned out in 1861, and printings were continued until 1865.

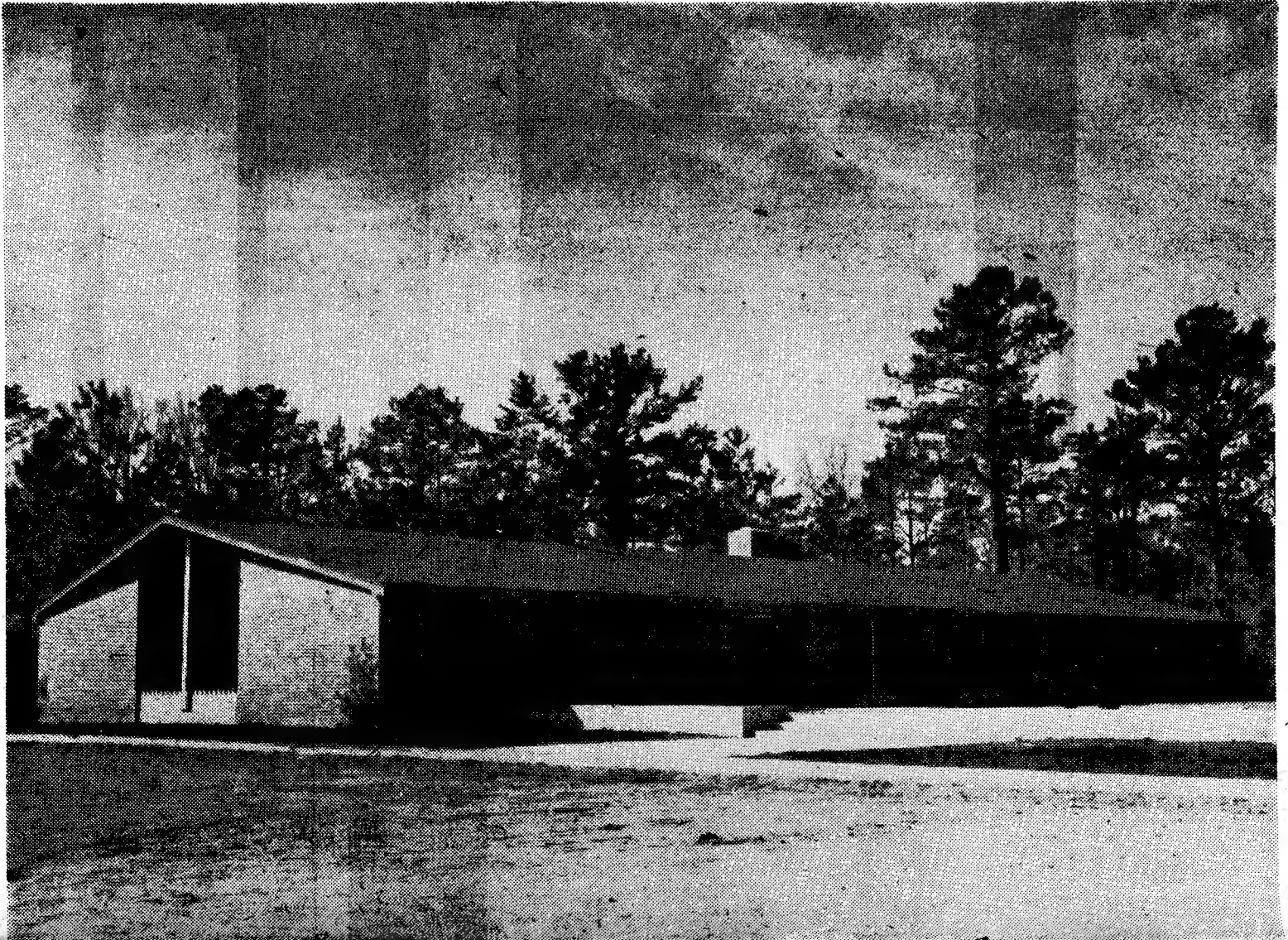
In fact, the bills were issued so rapidly and in such large numbers that a paper shortage resulted. In those days, there was no manufacturing of paper from wood pulp. It all came from linen and cotton rags, and quite a bit of the paper that went into the Confederate bills was smuggled from England and even some of the Northern states. There were presses located in several spots below the Mason-Dixon line, but the principal ones were at Richmond, Va., and Columbia, S. C.

It is interesting to note that the first Confederate money issued at Montgomery, Ala., in 1861, was engraved and printed in New York City by the National Bank Note company. There were a lot of Southern sympathizers in Yankee-land, and they helped the cause along.

Unlike the United States dollar, as we know it today, a Confederate bill was intended to be interest bearing. If you happen to have a Confederate note, it probably bears an inscription promising that it will be redeemed six months of two years "after the ratification of a treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States of America." Such a treaty of peace was never signed.

The bills carried a wide variety of illustration. Yours may have pictured Confederate President Jefferson Davis, Vice-President Alexander H. Stephens, or a couple of cabinet members, Judah P. Benjamin and R. M. T. Hunter. And it's also possible that the engraving features a likeness of George Washington, Andrew Jackson, John C. Calhoun, Ceres (goddess of vegetation), some other mythological character, or a cotton field.

Following the War Between the States, there were thousands of Confederate "Blue Backs" scattered in homes and businesses around New Bern. How many remain in existence is anybody's guess. Because they were plentiful, and worthless, many of them were dis-



NEW HOUSE OF WORSHIP—Pictured here is the Orina Garber Education Building, first unit of the Garber Methodist Church that is being erected in Trent Woods on the Country Club Road. The church has been named in honor

of Bishop Paul N. Garber, and the Education Building is a memorial to his wife, who died some time ago.—Photo by Wray Studio.

Sunday Will Bring Opening Of Garber Methodist Church

New Bern, long known as a city of lovely churches, will see another spiritual milestone reached Sunday morning, when opening services are held in the Orina Kidd Garber education building of Garber Methodist church, in Trent Woods on the Country Club road.

First unit of an attractive edifice to be erected at a cost of \$250,000, the structure already completed, along with the land purchased, involved an outlay of \$70,000. It was beautifully designed by two local architects, Robert H. Stephens and Aldo Cardelli.

Among the distinguished Methodists who will be here for the occasion are Bishop Paul N. Garber and Governor Terry Sanford. The edifice is named for Bishop Garber, in recognition of an extension program he has promoted in North Carolina that brought into being 72 new churches in seven years. Governor Sanford comes to New

Bern in this instance not as the State's Chief Executive but as a Methodist lay leader whose religious efforts are well known in his home town of Fayetteville. Others who will be on hand are the Rev. O. L. Hathaway, who heads the Mission Board of the North Carolina Conference, and Dr. A. J. Hobbs, who is superintendent of the New Bern district.

Erected as a memorial to Bishop Garber's wife, who didn't live to see the church that is to be dedicated to her husband built, the education building now completed is to be used as the sanctuary until the church is completed. It seats 200, has six Sunday school rooms, a pastor's study and a kitchen. The church edifice itself will seat 350, when built.

The present unit has central heating and is air-conditioned. It is ideally situated on three acres of land. The first organizational service for the proposed church was held on November 8, 1959, after a pastor had been assigned by the North Carolina Conference when it met at Wilmington in June. The assigned pastor, Lewis Dillman, who had served at Trenton and was held in high regard there, began holding services in private homes in August.

Later, through the courtesy of Pollock Funeral Home here, services were held in the firm's chapel, and on June 12, 1960, the ground breaking for the church was held. There are now 68 members of the church, and 60 enrolled in the church school.

Named on the board of trustees, and also serving as the building committee, were Robert M. Boyd as chairman, Dr. Charles T. Barker, and Ralph T. Morris. They were ably assisted in pushing the build-

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—Photo by Wray Studio.

REV. LEWIS DILLMAN
Pastor at Garber.

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