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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

Four Eastern Lodges Celebrate A Century of Masonic Life

Last month four of our lodges observed Centennials. Celebrating one hundredth birthdays were Wilmington Lodge 319 at Wilmington on December 8, Selma Lodge 320 at Selma on December 11, Eureka Lodge 317 at Elizabeth City on December 15, and New Lebanon Lodge 314 at South Mills on December 16. All four of them were chartered on December 3, 1872.

Previously reported in *The North Carolina Mason* was the Bicentennial Celebration of St. John's Lodge 3 in New Bern last May 13 and

the Centennial Celebration of Granite Lodge 322 in Mount Airy on October 21. This year only two lodges become one hundred years old and not until 1985—when there will be seven—will we have more Centennials than last year.

Grand Master Berl M. Kahn was featured speaker at each of the December Centennial observances. He told the more than 800 per-



Elizabeth City — Grand Master Berl M. Kahn addressing Masons and guests assembled here for Centennial Celebration of Eureka Lodge 317 on December 15.

Ladies Laden With Stats, Statutes, Status, Static

RALEIGH—The daily routine of the four young ladies who work in the Grand Lodge office building demonstrates there is more truth than alliteration in the above heading. They compile North Carolina Masonry's statistics and keep abreast of its statutes, they carefully record the status of each Mason, and certainly they catch most of the static that comes through the office.

The phone rings often at the Grand Lodge office, most callers asking to speak with Grand Secretary Charles A. Harris or with Assistant Robert P. Dudley. In many instances the caller's question can be answered only by one of those two, but in most instances the young lady answering the phone has the desired information at her fingertips and the caller could save time and phone costs by posing his question to her.

The ladies will not be able to help you with questions concerning ritual and the like, but if you need to know who was elected Junior Warden of a particular lodge, or on what date a certain brother died, or on what date a candidate's six months run out, or whether a certain petitioner has even been rejected by a North Carolina lodge, or what has happened to a request for a demit; if you ever need these or similar items of information, the ladies are your quickest bet.

Each of the four women is responsible for a designated portion of the routine workload and she is expert in the matters assigned to her. But each of the four also has a better

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sons attending the meetings that he wished the entire memberships of the four lodges could have been present to witness the successful culmination of their dreams, hopes and efforts. He cited the founding members as Masons of vision who refused to get into a rut. The Grand Master said we should use the light of the past in our attempts to build the future, stating that nothing happens until someone lights a spark. He urged the members of the four lodges to go forward into the future—re-marking that we are living in the present, planning for the future, learning from the past. Noting Masonry's great age, the Grand Master attributed the Fraternity's long life, at least in part, to the fact that Masonry has no dogmas or creeds that divide men; rather it unites them in Brotherhood and Fellowship.

At Wilmington 319 Past Master Berry A. Williams presided over the program, welcomed the guests and made the introductions. The Master, Clarence E. Hales, presented Honorary Membership to the Grand Master and 25-year awards to a number of members. Past Grand Master G. Dudley Humphrey made the introduction of the Grand Master

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Oxford — The State Historical Marker shown above was placed by the State Historical Commission in 1936 and stands just outside the main entrance to the Orphanage.

Oxford Orphanage Begins Centennial Celebration

OXFORD—Next month Oxford Orphanage will be one hundred years old and will begin almost a year-long parade of events in observance of a century of Masonic Love, dedication and achievement.

The first Centennial event will be held on February 24; a banquet in the main dining room at the Orphanage attended by the Grand Lodge family, the Governor of North Carolina and other state officials.

Other events are still in the planning stage, but of particular significance to Masons throughout the state are the series of tours which will commence on Sunday, April 29.

Superintendent A. D. Leon Gray is dividing the 383 lodges into area, or regional, groups. On succeeding Sundays Masons from each group will be invited to come to the Orphanage, to join with the children in attending religious services in the Oxford churches and to share the midday meal with the children. After the meal the group will be divided into small parties and each party will be conducted on a comprehensive tour of the campus by one of the children.

Other Sundays will be set aside for members of the Scottish Rite, the York Rite, the

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