

# The NORTH CAROLINA MASON

Official Publication of The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons of North Carolina

VOL. XCVIII, No. 8

Oxford, North Carolina 27565, August, 1973

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

## A. D. Leon Gray Retiring After 27 Years at Oxford

OXFORD—After more than a quarter-century at the head of North Carolina Masonry's Oxford Orphanage the Reverend A. D. Leon Gray



**Rev. A. D. Leon Gray**  
Orphanage  
Superintendent

will leave the superintendent's post on September 30 to make his retirement home in Beaufort. He leaves as the Orphanage is marking its one-hundredth anniversary and a significant portion of his final year's work here has been planning and carrying out the various programs celebrating this event.

During Oxford Orphanage's century of child care its several superintendents have been alternately elevated by times of great joy and crushed by times of great crisis. Gray's career as superintendent has been no exception—certainly Oxford Orphanage has given him twenty-seven years of varied emotions. What all of this has meant to Leon Gray is best expressed in his own words and the full text of his recent statement follows:

*Somewhere in living I discovered an axiom: A man is lucky who has a wife who loves him, friends who trust him, children who admire him, a God who guides him, and a job so large*

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## District Meetings Move West Third of Schedule Completed

### DeMolay 50th Anniversary Conclave Held in Charlotte



**Deputy Grand Master  
William L. Mills, Jr.**  
addresses DeMolay  
Conclave at Charlotte



**Howard Pickett,**  
DeMolay's new State  
Master Councilor

CHARLOTTE—For a half-century the Order of DeMolay has been functioning in North Carolina and hundreds of its members, advisors, and sweethearts converged upon this city on July 19, 20, 21 to hold their fiftieth Annual Conclave. The Steele Creek and Charlotte Chapters were hosts and they had scheduled a full round of activities for the big weekend.

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Grand Master Nathaniel C. Dean and his district meeting team were at Bakersville lodge 357 in Bakersville on July 25 and at Cliffside Lodge 460 in Cliffside on July 26, and at the end of July one-third of the 1973 schedule had been completed. The



**Grand Master  
Nathaniel C. Dean**  
addresses District  
Meeting

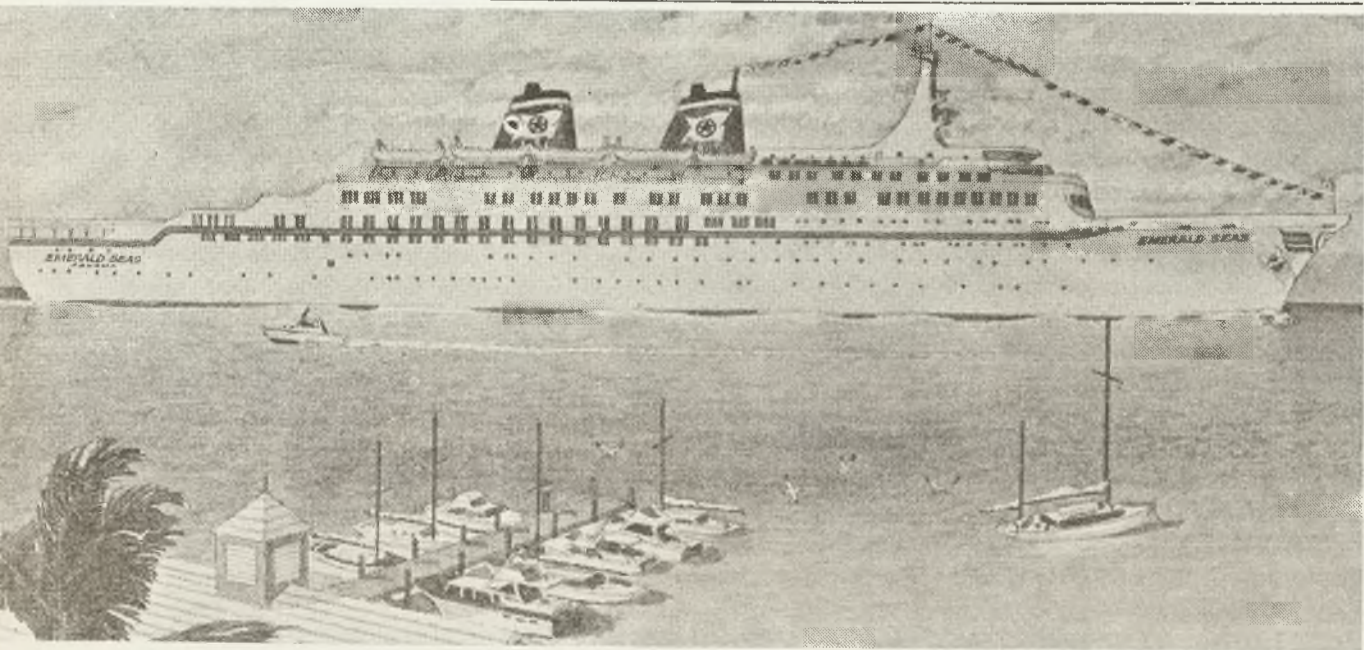
meetings will continue through August, September, October, and the first part of November; terminating with the meeting of District 38 on November 9 at Pee Dee Lodge 150 in Norwood (Grand Master Dean's home lodge and district). The remaining schedule appears elsewhere in this issue.

The meeting at Bakersville was for District 58 with District Deputy LeRoy D. Riddle presiding, and District Deputy Joseph G. Pyatt presided over the District 59 meeting at Cliffside. Attendance was good at each meeting.

The Grand Master is adhering to his program at each meeting, all districts receive identical treatment and attention. After the lodge is opened, and after the District Deputy and then the Grand Master have been received with private Grand Honors, Grand Secretarial Assistant Pete Dudley calls the roll of the lodges in the district to obtain an attendance count. Superintendent Troy Robbins speaks on behalf of the Home and Assistant Superintendent Henry Flowers speaks for the Orphanage. Dudley offers remarks, distinguished visitors are recognized, and the Grand Master delivers his address.

In his address, entitled "The Majesty of Masonry in North Carolina," Grand Master Dean notes that 110 of our 384 lodges—almost one in three—each have 200 or more members, and he observed that the large lodges experience smaller attendance percentage than do the smaller lodges. It is his belief he says, that it is easier to get the feeling of being needed

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The cruise ship EMERALD SEAS, pictured above, will depart Miami November 12 on a "Masonic Cruise" to ports in the Bahamas. For further information read the article appearing on another page of this issue.