

THE PYTHIAN MONITOR

VOL. I

GASTONIA, N. C., SEPTEMBER, 1916

No. I



FRIENDSHIP

All human service and all human progress are founded upon the idea of friendship. The friendship of Damon and Pythias shines through the ages an eternal tribute to the humanity of the past and is made the cornerstone of the order Knights of Pythias. When all the world is a world of friends humanity will have begun to work out its high destiny.

**GASTONIA
FURNITURE
COMPANY**

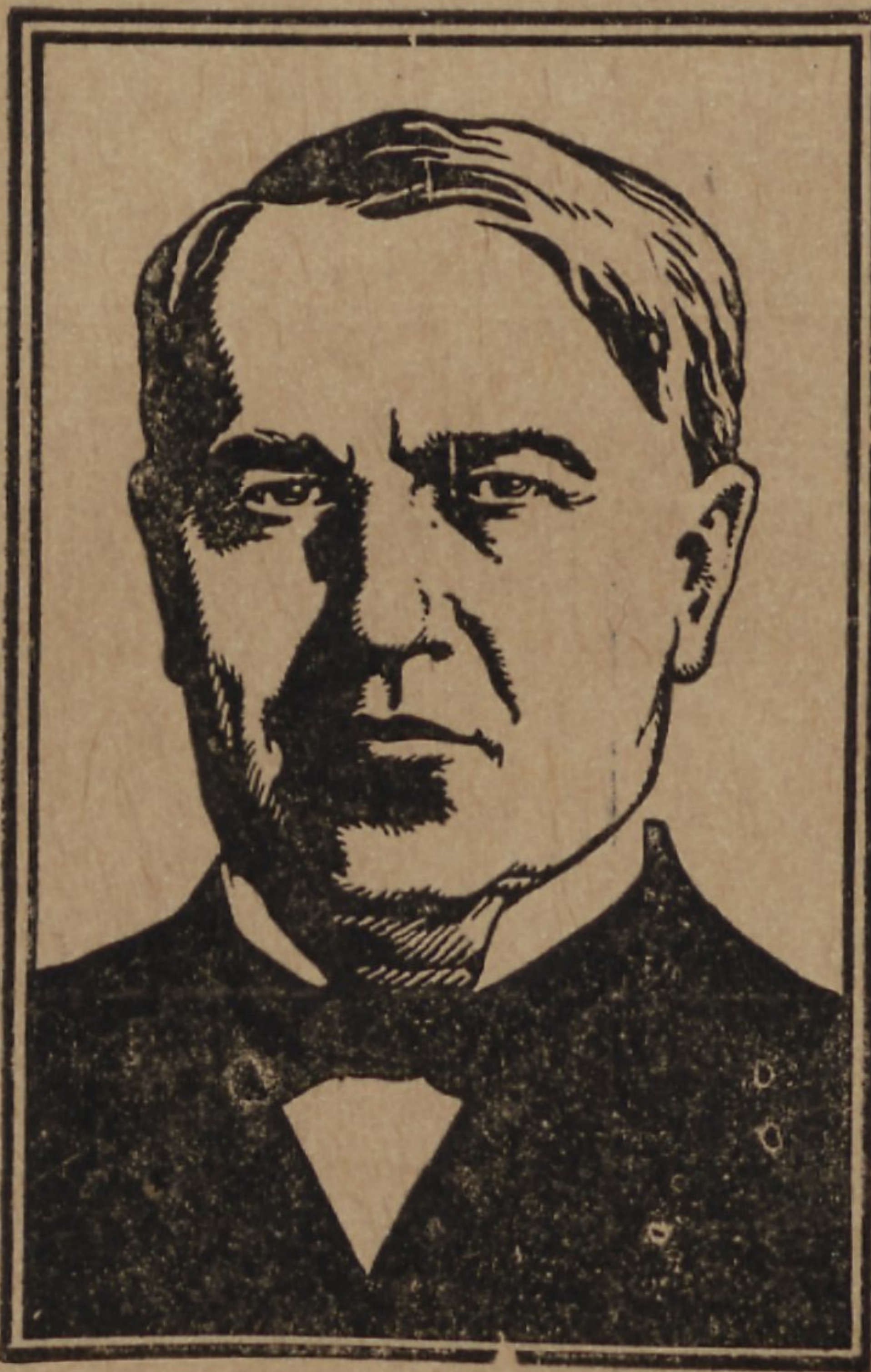
WANTS TO SEE YOU

Pure cream, the Velvet kind served here, fresh from Richmond every morning.

ADAMS DRUG CO.

CLINTON AND MORROW, Props.

Phone 25



MR. THOS. A. EDISON

Invites you, through his licensed representatives

TORRENCE-MORRIS CO.

to hear his latest invention

RE-CREATED MUSIC

FALL SHOWING

We are now showing the New Fall Styles in Men's, Ladies' and Children's Shoes.

Men's Stetson Hats.

Club Bags and Suit Cases.

ROBINSON SHOE CO.

A GOOD DRUG STORE

TORRENCE DRUG CO.

"WE TAKE CARE"

SHOES FOR ALL THE FAMILY
ALL THE TIME

**HOWELL-GROVES
SHOE COMPANY**

Phone 151

THE

Citizens National Bank

ANDREW E. MOORE, President

A. G. MYERS, Vice-President

W. H. ADAMS, Cashier

JOHN A. HUNTER, Jr., Asst. Cashier

Capital and Surplus, \$140,000.00

5 Per Cent. Paid on Certificates of Deposit

Checking Accounts Welcomed

GASTONIA, - - - NORTH CAROLINA

THE PYTHIAN MONITOR

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT GASTONIA, N. C., BY GASTONIA LODGE NO. 53, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

R. G. CHERRY }
F. C. ABERNETHY } Editors
Subscription 50 Cents Per Year

GEO. B. MASON, Business Manager
Advertising Rates Furnished on Application

VOL. I

SEPTEMBER, 1916

No. I

Editorial

In the beginning, we would say, that for some time past, the members of Gastonia Lodge No. 53 Knights of Pythias have considered the feasibility of fostering a journalistic enterprise for the purpose of keeping alive interest in their own lodge and if possible through the medium of some publication to develop a spirit of community fellowship among all Pythian lodges of this immediate section. Their hopes have materialized in "THE MONITOR," the first issue of which is herewith respectfully submitted to all Pythians and the public in general. The editors of The Monitor make no pretensions to originality nor boast of editorial genius. The Monitor is to be read, not studied. Criticism and friendly suggestions are welcomed, but we would have you deal gently with our frailties, for to err is human and to forgive is divine!

—O—

Let it be understood that The Monitor is not intended in any measure to supplant The Carolina Pythian, the official publication of Pythians in North Carolina, but rather to aid, assist and arouse a new interest in and a greater loyalty to our official publication.

—O—

To neighboring lodges let it be known that The Monitor is to be sent to your Keeper of Records and Seal and distributed among the members of your roster, and we would urge some member of your lodge to contribute a letter telling of your success, progress or even failure if such be the case, and thus let The Monitor serve you as we know and purpose it shall serve us in bringing new life into your lodge and a stronger fraternal feeling among the Pythians of this vicinity. Matters which may appear to you of small conse-

quence and detail may help some staggering lodge upon its feet and put new life into some Pythian growing cold-hearted.

—O—

CLOSE YOUR RITUAL.

A resolution was unanimously passed and officially entered upon the minutes of Gastonia No. 53 that after October 1, 1916, no ritual should be allowed in open lodge. The members faithfully agree to abide by and uphold the resolution. The outgoing officers must give the officers elect all necessary information by word of mouth lesson. For the past two meeting nights not a ritual has been used. Chancellor Commander W. B. McKee, who has probably the most lengthy and detailed matter, has his work at his fingers end with absolute accurateness. Every other officer seeks to emulate his example. But, why should we or any other lodge use a ritual? Does not the grand statutes require each Page, Esquire and Knight to pass satisfactory open lodge examination. Gastonia No. 53 has a paid instructor who requires exact fulfillment of the law. We find the expense of an instructor for candidate to bring returns by way of improved work in lodge in terms which exceed in proportion the harvest of seed sown in good ground in the biblical parable.

—O—

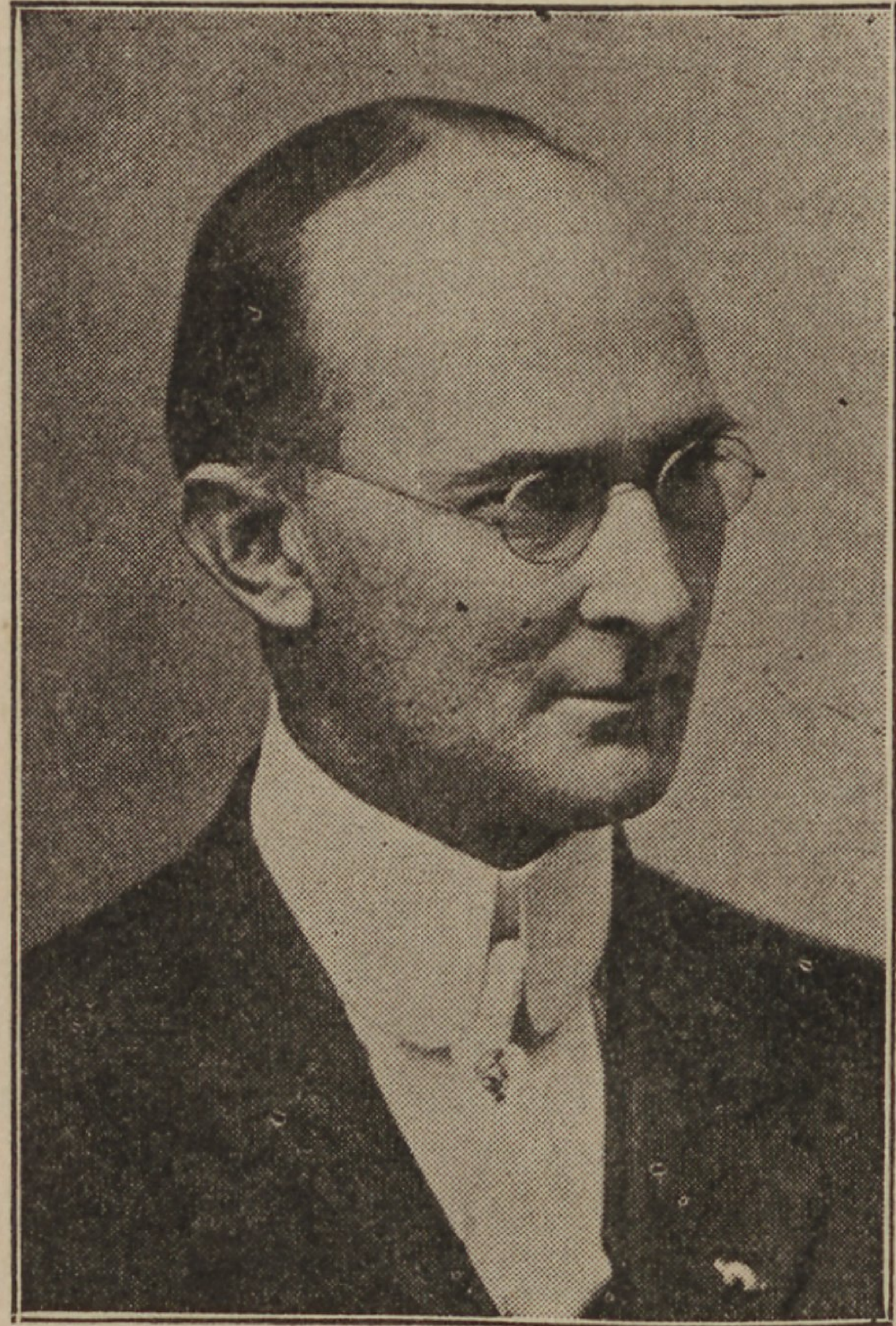
"SOMETHING DOIN'."

"Something doing all the time" is the watchword and slogan of Gastonia Lodge No. 53. The phrase may not grace the King's English, and even border on slang, but the sentiment is good. If there be any doubting brethren, we only ask that you work your way into the Gastonia Pythian hall some Monday evening, and let us prove to you "the truth of boasted valor". You will find your cup of welcome heaped and running over, a veritable fulfillment of all the law

and prophets in things Pythian. Every moment of your time will be interesting. Special music by our Pythian Orchestra, composed of Messrs. Kenneth Todd, Fred D. Barkley, R. S. McLean and Hunter Morrow will not allow a hiatus to occur in your merriment. There is united and concerted effort to make each convention of the lodge move forward with a whoop. Come out, put your shoulder against the big wheel of progress, and like the bumblebee that backed up against the good man's eye, PUSH!

—O—

Brother R. B. Babington, the founder of the North Carolina Orthopaedic Hospital, is a Past Chancellor of Gastonia Lodge No. 53, and who is at the present time our Lodge Deputy is a loyal and whole-hearted Pythian. He is an enthusiastic supporter of the Drum Corps and speaks high praise for the work of the Third Rank Team. The co-operation of such men is what gives inspiration to the younger members and keeps the order dear to all.



R. B. BABINGTON

FIVE DAYS OF FUN EDUCATION AND AMUSEMENT

AT GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7th, 1916

GASTON COUNTY'S SECOND ANNUAL FAIR

One Of The

*BIGGEST AND BEST FAIRS IN THE
CAROLINAS*

For Further Information Write,

J. M. HOLLAND, Secretary
GASTONIA, : : : : : NORTH CAROLINA

Shots From the Monitor

The future of a member in the order is often fixed by the first evening's experience in the Castle Hall. It is the first impression of the order that fixes the candidate's opinion of Pythianism. What impression does the stranger receive when he first enters your Castle Hall? He should be made to feel that he is welcome, and that there is a real fraternal spirit existing among the members of the order and to be impressed with their earnestness. When he enters the room for initiation he should be given the work in a manner that will impress him with the purpose of the ritual and a real lesson carried to his mind. Then, when he has reached the summit and stands among us a Pythian Knight, his recollections of his journey will be such as to give him a grander view of life, a more extended conception of its duties and responsibilities, and he will be made to realize that the purpose of the order is to promote the happiness, the elevation, the betterment of mankind.

—O—

A careful study of our ritual brings forth expressions, sentiments, lessons and teachings that will prove of real benefit in our daily transactions of life. It represents a gospel that leads to the open door of decent thoughts, a righteous wholesomeness and clean living. The three Ranks are most inspiring and are worthy of your careful consideration.

—O—

The benefits of Pythianism are reaped only by those who come to know that the order gives back in rewards just what we put into it in endeavor.

—O—

Many Pythians believe, when they have been knighted and keep their dues paid up, that they are in good standing. Brethren, you are wrong. You are just beginning. It is not sufficient to be just a Pythian, it is necessary that you put into practice the teachings of Pythianism; attend the conventions of your lodge regularly; bring another brother

with you; remain until the lodge has closed, and better still boost your lodge; then you will feel better.

—O—

The Chancellor Commander should, on the night of his installation, appoint a permanent committee on delinquents, and no member who is in arrears should be suspended until he has been interviewed by a member of this committee. We believe there will be fewer suspensions if this plan is followed.

Hold conventions regularly. Note the absent ones. Appoint some brother who is present to call upon him and learn why he was absent. Tell him that the Lodge missed him. If he misses a second time, send two members to see him, a third time, three members and if necessary the entire lodge. Convince him that the "boys" miss him and you have gained your point.

—O—

Don't let your convention drag, Chancellor Commander; one who does is a stumbling block in the path of a successful meeting.

A Keeper of Records and Seal who dawdles and consumes time is a wet blanket.

A Master of Finance who allows members to become in arrears for dues throws a wrench into the wheels of progress.

The officers of a lodge are elected to hum the wheels of activity. Activity is what men want.

"Something doing" is the word, and constant at that.

Thought plus action equals attendance.

Memorize the ritual, have frequent rehearsals. Confer the ranks properly. Better ritualistic work means increased attendance, more propositions and fewer suspensions.

There is no reason why a lodge should not open at exactly the time prescribed in the by-laws, with every officer in his proper station.

—O—

Too Much for Bill.

"I dunno how Bill's a-goin' to vote in this election," said the campaign worker. "I've hearn tell he's on the fence."

"He wuz thar," replied the neighbor; "but one o' the candedates let fall a dollar on the off side o' the fence, and Bill got dizzy an' fell over."—Christian Register.

Locals

OUR LODGE.

Gastonia Lodge No. 53, was instituted June 24, 1894, with the following charter members: Jas. P. Culp, J. Flem Johnson, Edgar Love, J. Lee Robinson, W. Y. Warren, Dr. J. M. Sloan, J. L. Falls, Dr. F. G. Wilson, A. C. Williamson, J. H. Gallant, L. E. Rankin, Rev. C. M. Campbell, T. C. Pegram, R. C. Warren, Thos. W. Wilson, J. E. Curry, E. L. Glenn, and has grown into one of the best lodges in the domain of North Carolina. There are now 150 members upon its roster. It made the greatest progress of any lodge in North Carolina during the past year. The Ranks are conferred without the use of the rituals and has Rank work every Monday night. Has an orchestra under the direction of Bro. Kenneth Todd, which adds greatly to the entertainment of the members, as well as in conferring the Ranks.

At our meeting on Monday, September 4, the Rank of Knight was conferred upon Judge Arthur C. Jones, of the Gastonia Municipal Court, and R. Grady Rankin. There were present at this meeting 60 of our local members and five visitors from Cherryville.

We are always glad to have our visiting brothers with us.

The Pythian Lodges situate in Cherryville, Bessemer City, Mount Holly, Shelby, Kings Mountain, Lincolnton, Charlotte and Gastonia form a circle whose diameter does not exceed 25 miles. Why not co-operate and with a united effort to make a Pythian community such as to reflect honor on ourselves and do credit to our order. If the entire membership of the lodges just mentioned should unite with a common purpose to do their Pythian duty immeasurable good would result, and we would render service to our weaker lodges and by rendering such service receive great good ourselves.

Gastonia Lodge No. 53 has a Third Rank Team equipped with new paraphernalia, which confers the work in amplified form without use of rituals, and we are only too glad to have any lodge bring candidates to Gastonia and have us confer the work; or better still we will at our own expense come

to your lodge and confer the work should you so desire.

Misses Lucile, Louise and Mary Todd and Master Lester Todd, Gastonia children who are now in the Pythian Home at Clayton, have been spending a part of the summer with their uncle, Brother W. E. Todd, of Gastonia. These children were placed in the Pythian Home by Gastonia Lodge No. 53 and for the past two years the lodge has made special donation toward their support. Every member should avail himself of the opportunity to meet and know these children. Their acquaintance should inspire every Pythian of Gastonia with a new zeal and help him to renew his allegiance to his lodge and the principles of Pythianism.

DRUM CORPS.

Gastonia Lodge No. 53 has a record in Pythian circles all over North Carolina for doing things and the latest achievement of which she proudly boasts is the organization of the Gastonia Pythian Drum Corps. Although the drum corps has been in existence only about eight months, a remarkable record has already been made and its work has been nothing short of marvelous. That the organization is a success is attested to by hundreds of prominent Pythians over the State.

While the drum corps is a separate and distinct organization within itself it is being maintained by the members of Gastonia Lodge No. 53. Every member of the corps is a Knight of Pythias, holding membership with the Gastonia lodge. In organizing the drum corps much labor and money has been expended by the young men who make up its personnel, and its existence was for the purpose of boosting the cause of Pythianism in North Carolina. To its director, Mr. Robert C. Simpson, is due the lion's share of the credit for the excellent showing that the corps has made.

Such a remarkable showing was made by the corps at the big celebration in Charlotte on May 20, 1916, that the officers of Suez Temple No. 73, Dramatic Order Knights of Khorasson, immediately took steps to have the corps participate in its ceremonials. At Waynesville, in June, at a joint meeting of the Grand Lodge and the summer ceremonial

of the D. O. K. K., the corps led the dress parade of the two orders through the streets followed by about 500 members and candidates from all sections of the State. Since that time the corps has appeared several times on dress parade and has featured at every occasion.

The officers of the corps are as follows: President, R. G. Cherry; vice-president, Kenneth Todd; secretary and treasurer, F. C. Abernethy; drum major, J. Holland Morrow; director, R. C. Simpson; press agent, M. D. Abernethy.

—O—

Were you among the sixty-six members and some dozen or more visitors, who without reward or hope of reward, or even the promise of refreshments, gathered in the Castle Hall on Monday evening, September 4th? How unfortunate if you were absent, you surely missed a treat. Ask some brother about it, and remember that the same thing occurs every Monday night, and should you be absent in the future "upon you, and you alone will rest the burden of the blame."

—O—

And speaking of the wonderful increase in attendance of members upon regular sessions of the lodge, it is certainly gratifying to see the older members begin to attend more regularly. There is always a reason, and in this particular a large measure of success must be accredited to Brother J. H. Kennedy. He is a Pythian Knight of the "Old School" but one that has kept up with the procession and the Damonites, young and old, prick up their ears when Jim Kennedy gets to norating around among the brethren.

—O—

"In Every Tear a Rainbow Sleeps."

It would add much to our happiness if we had a firm faith in the providence that rules in all the affairs of our life. There is infinitely more mercy than misery in the world, more pleasure than pain, more white than black. Then, even the things that seem adverse have hidden in them a secret of blessing. "All things work together for good to them that love God." In every tear a raindrop sleeps.

—O—

Woman is a mystery. "The mystery deepens, the tyrant cannot solve it."—Selected.

**Our Store Is The Best Place
To Get The Best In
ICE CREAM, CANDY,
SODA and FRUITS**

Sweetland Confectionary

Phone 197 - - 113 W. Main Ave.

HOME FURNISHINGS

Headquarters for everything
in Furniture, Stoves, Ranges,
Mantels, Rugs, Matting and
all Home Furnishings.

Call and see us before buying.

Rankin-Armstrong Co.

DRINK

Coca-Cola
TRADE MARK
REGISTERED

**DELICIOUS
and
REFRESHING**

In Bottles 5 Cents

Drum Corps

Drum Major J. Holland Morrow, who makes it his business to talk-up the Gastonia Pythian Drum Corps at the least or no provocation, recently engaged in friendly conversation our good brother and public-spirited mayor of Gastonia, Col. C. B. Armstrong. During the trend of their conversation, Col. Armstrong expressed regret that he was unable to attend the Mayor's Convention at Wrightsville Beach during the past August, at which convention the Drum Corps was present and covered itself with glory and won high favor with all present. "But," says Col. Armstrong, "the Mayor's Convention of the South Atlantic States will meet next year in Charleston, S. C., and I will take the entire Drum Corps to Charleston as my guests during the convention." Major Morrow, who is by no means an invalid in weight, gave an extra low Chesterfieldian bow and assured the "Colonel" that the entire Corps would accept his invitation with grateful hearts. Colonel

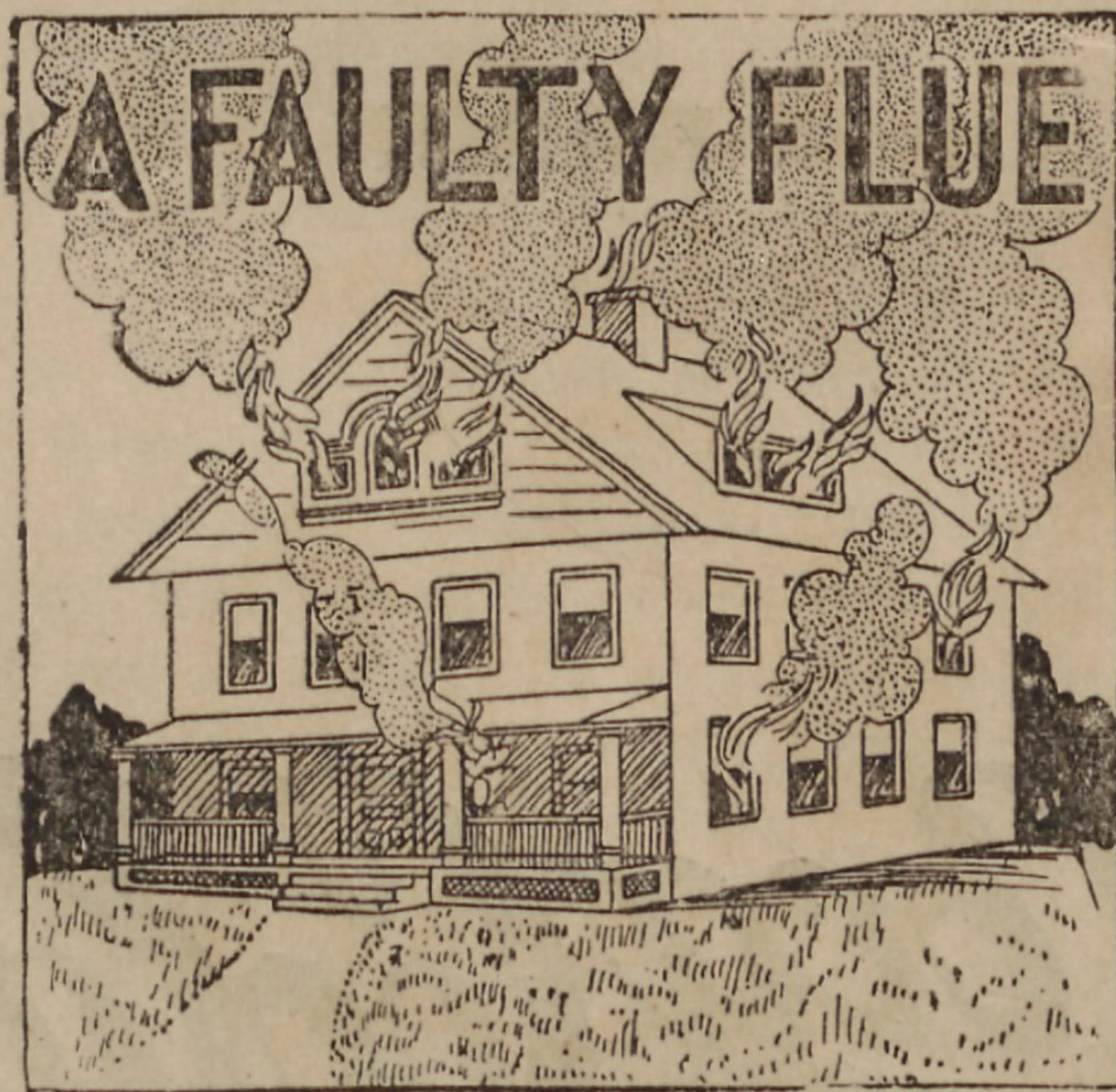
Armstrong means what he says, the contract is complete, the trade is made. The Drum Corps will go to Charleston next Spring as the guest of our distinguished mayor and duplicate the successful performance at Wrightsville.

—O—

But the half has not yet been told. In Washington next March 4th, a president will be inaugurated and the Drum Corps wants a place in the inaugural parade. Many of the public-spirited citizens of Gastonia have pledged themselves to give sufficient backing to make the trip a reality.

—O—

To those who do not know the mission of the Gastonia Pythian Drum Corps, it can be said: That the Gastonia Pythian Drum Corps is the best advertisement and the most public-spirited voluntary organization that has ever represented Gastonia to the outside world. Barring and forgetting the fact that the Corps in every city in which they give exhibitions have given entertainment which would do credit to a much older and more experienced organization, what does it mean



Soon you will be starting the furnace to heat your home so we take this chance to bring to your notice the fact that numerous fires are caused by DEFECTIVE FLUES.

See us NOW therefore about the ADDITIONAL FIRE INSURANCE you may need—or, if you aren't insured have us place your risk in one of our companies, all of which are strong and first-class.

J. WHITE WARE

CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

GENERAL INSURANCE

Fire, Life, Health, Accident, Steam Boiler, Liability, Automobile, Live Stock

Notary Public

Telephone No. 201

to send twenty-eight respectable citizens of your town to a neighboring or distant community? They have always conducted themselves as gentlemen should, they come from representative families of Gastonia, they represent in personnel nearly every industry Gastonia has and in their every act and upon every breath they boost and talk Gastonia. One trip of the Drum Corps helps to put Gastonia before more people and in a more impressive and lasting manner than five hundred dollars spent in an advertising campaign. The highest ambition of the Drum Corps is to boost Gastonia, and every member is bubbling over with this booster spirit of the finest type. The work of the Drum Corps in advertising Gastonia surpasses the so-called rotary-booster club and circulating advertising campaign in such measure as to make comparisons odious.

—O—

NEIGHBORS.

Some one just remarked: "What about Mount Holly Lodge No. 68?" Mount Holly has a lodge of fine personnel, excellent equipment and at one time abundant enthusiasm. Who, that was present, has forgotten the sumptuous supper and royal good time had at the District Meeting over there not so long since? What's become of the Messrs. Holland, Rhyne, Tucker, Cathey, et als? Catch the Interurban and come over to Gastonia No. 53 some Monday evening, we will be glad to have you visit us, and will entertain you as best we can. Better still, if you will get a candidate and say "Supper", we will pack up our paraphernalia, crank-off our "Jew-Packards" and come over to your good town and do the work for you!

—O—

Unfortunately for the Pythian order in general and especially for the local Pythians, we understand that Whetstone Lodge No. 103, of Bessemer City, is inactive. Why not get together, rise up and shake off the grave clothes and mount upon the stepping stones of past inactivity to a renewed enthusiasm and greater success. The red-blooded Pythians of Bessemer City have the essential qualities to give their lodge new push and vigor. Action is what you need. Draw on Gastonia No. 53, we are bubbling over with enthusiasm and are willing and ready to co-operate with you toward reviving your lodge and your membership.

"Gastonia's Leading Clothiers"

**Sellers of the better
kinds of men's and
boy's wear**

Clothing, Furnishings, Hats, Etc.

SWAN-SLATER CO.

The Home of Good Clothes

Patronize the Genuine

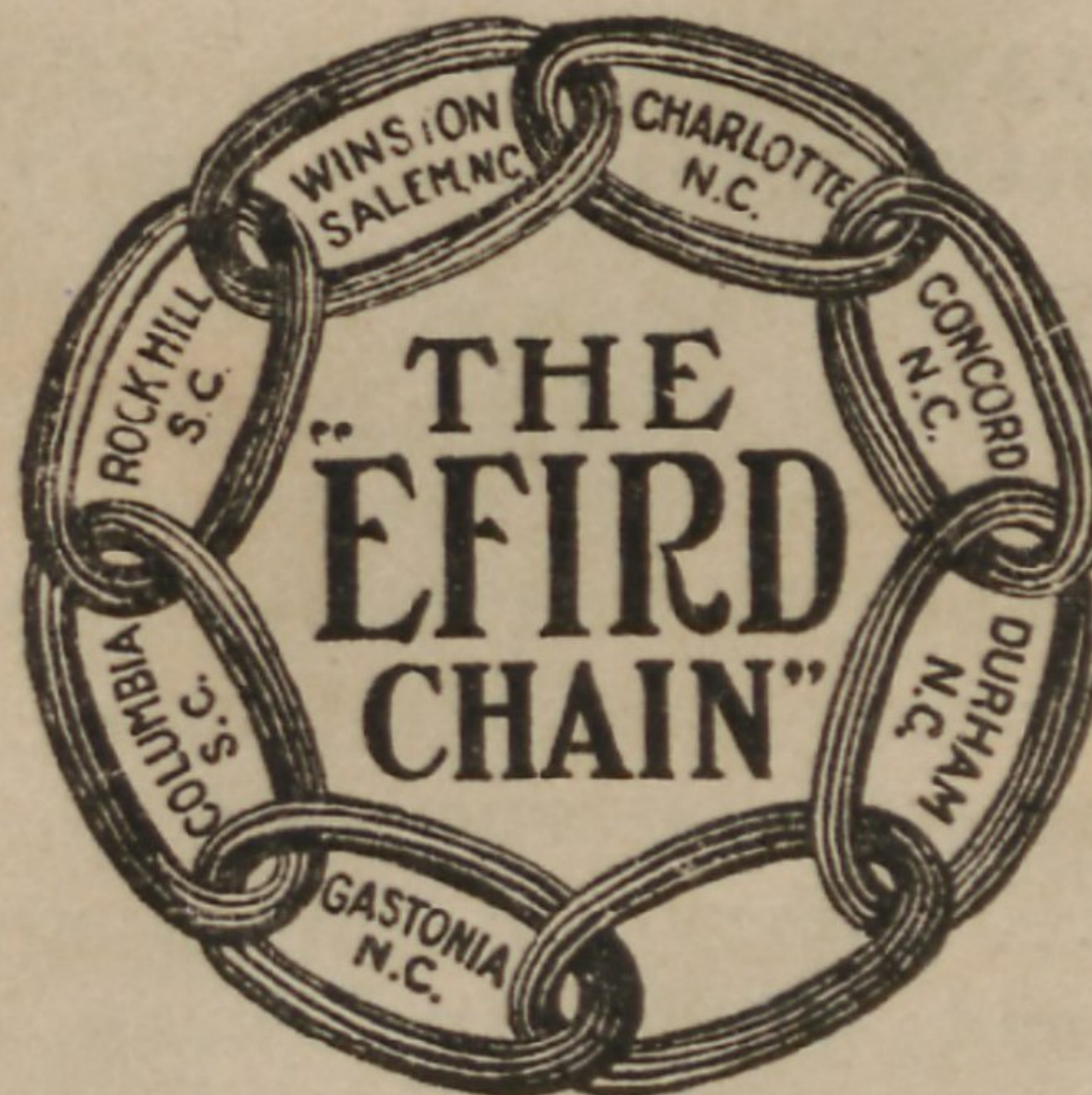
J. L. Adams Drug Store

Opposite Post Office and

Just As Reliable

Phone 15

Efird's Department Store
The Store That Sells
It For Less



New goods received daily. Don't be afraid to look. It is a pleasure for us to show goods. Let us prove it to you.

Wholesale and Retail

GET IT AT EFIRD'S

106 Main St.

Gastonia, N. C.

DIRECTORY.**Gastonia Lodge No. 53.**

Meets every Monday night, Armory Building, Long Ave.

W. B. McKee, Chancellor Commander.
R. G. Cherry, Vice Chancellor.
F. C. Abernethy, Prelate.
Wm. McArver, Master at Arms.
J. C. Loughridge, Master of Work.
G. L. Rawlings, Keeper of Records and Seal.

Chas Ford, Master of Finance.
J. Lee Robinson, Master of Exchequer.
Fay Lavender, Inner Guard.
R. L. Spencer, Outer Guard.
Kenneth Todd, Director of Music.
F. C. Abernethy, Captain of Ranks.

Trustees:

C. B. Armstrong, J. H. Kennedy, T. L. Craig.

Committee on Relief:

G. B. Mason, W. B. McKee, R. G. Cherry, J. Lee Robinson, M. D. Abernethy, Kenneth Todd, J. W. Atkins.

Committee on Supervision:

R. B. Babington, H. B. Moore, W. Y. Warren.

Committee on Burial.

W. E. Todd, F. C. Abernethy, R. G. Cherry.

Committee on Finance.

E. N. Pegram, Fay Lavender, S. A. Robinson.

—O—

GASTONIA'S THIRD RANK TEAM WILL GO TO CHERRYVILLE ON THURSDAY 21.

The Pythian Lodge at Cherryville has invited the Third Rank Team of Gastonia Lodge No. 53 to visit their lodge on Thursday, September 21, and confer Third Rank in Amplified Form. Gastonia will go up in full force, twenty-five strong, and do justice to the work. Cherryville Lodge always does herself proud; she is wide awake, and Gastonia is only too glad to co-operate with her in making greater success.

—O—

NEW LODGES.

It comes to the ear of The Monitor that Dallas and Belmont want Pythian lodges. Both are good towns and each has a number of stray Pythians and abundant new material that might be Knighted and do honor to our order. Gastonia No. 53 will be glad to start you going.

OWNERS OF

“Chesterplace”

**Gastonia Insurance
& Realty Co.**

J. M. BELK CO.

We Want Your Business

You will find that we carry a large and well selected stock of Men's Clothing, Furnishing Goods, Shoes and Hats, All the new style Caps and Neckwear at the very lowest prices.

Come To See Us

J. M. BELK CO.

**CALL
JNO. L. BEAL
FOR**

**Lime, Cement, Plaster, Laths,
Shingles, Brick etc.**

Gastonia, N. C. Phone 142

**“At
the
Corner
on
the
Square”**

Kum to our store always—
Every time that you
Need drug store goods.
Number of our phone is
Eighty-four. It is for you
Don't come unless it suits
You. Phone us your wants.
Soon as your order's ready 'twill be
Down to you post haste.
Rush is our delivery password
Up-to-date is our record.
Goods of the best quality is our motto
Service is our long suit
To please is our ambition
Our desire is to win your patronage
Rexall business is our specialty
Every one gets his money's worth.

**Phone
84**

**Cleaning, Pressing and Altering
Club Rates \$1.00 Per Month**

Saunders Tailoring Co.
Phone 222

***Gaston Loan
& Trust Co.***

**“Where your savings are
safe”**

Solicits your banking business



**There should be a Telephone in
every home**

“BACKING IT UP”

**with its dependability, against emergen-
cies, against loneliness, against fear.**

**When sickness strikes, the Telephone summons the doctor quickest.
When thieves break in to steal it summons the police—at once. When
fires break out it puts you in immediate touch with the fire department.**

Home, Possessions, Lives Are Saved

**Truly—the Telephone is the guardian of the home. Don't delay
putting a Telephone in your home. It means so much. Costs so little.**

PIEDMONT TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH CO.
GASTONIA, N. C.

Capital \$150,000.00

Surplus \$100,000.00

Undivided Profits \$80,000.00



TOTAL RESOURCES MORE THAN ONE AND A HALF MILLION DOLLARS