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*Anniversary Of Rotary International - 1955*

*The  
Greenville Rotary Club*

Greenville, N. C.

**A BRIEF HISTORY**

1919 - 1955



Club Number 565

of

District 279

in

Rotary International

*"He Profits Most Who Serves Best"*

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***A Brief History***  
*Of*  
***The Greenville Rotary Club***  
*Commemorating*  
*The Fiftieth Anniversary of Rotary International*  
*1905-1955*  
*and*  
*The Thirty-sixth Anniversary Of*  
*The Greenville, North Carolina Rotary Club*  
*1919 - 1955*  
*Club Number 565 in District 279*  
*of*  
*Rotary International*

February 23, 1905

December 18, 1919

Prepared by Howard J. McGinnis

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## FOREWORD

The Golden Anniversary of Rotary International in the year 1955 finds more than four hundred thousand members of this great organization inspired with renewed zeal to carry forward its principles of unselfish service to all mankind in the making of a better world for all of us.

As a feature of the Golden Anniversary celebration clubs are encouraged to prepare or bring up to date their club histories and publish them in bulletin form in order to better acquaint members and the public with Rotary, and to preserve the history of the Club as a matter of record. Hence this brief story of the Greenville, North Carolina Rotary Club.

It would be impossible to encompass within these few pages the complete story of the Greenville, N. C. Rotary Club which has had thirty-six years packed full of vigorous Rotary activity and wholesome fellowship with kindred souls interested in serving their fellow-man unselfishly.

Rotary's beneficent influence will continue to spread from year to year throughout the world, tending to make it a better place for all men to live, rear their families, and enjoy the products of their labors in peace and contentment. The consummation of this objective is the ardent desire of every true Rotarian.

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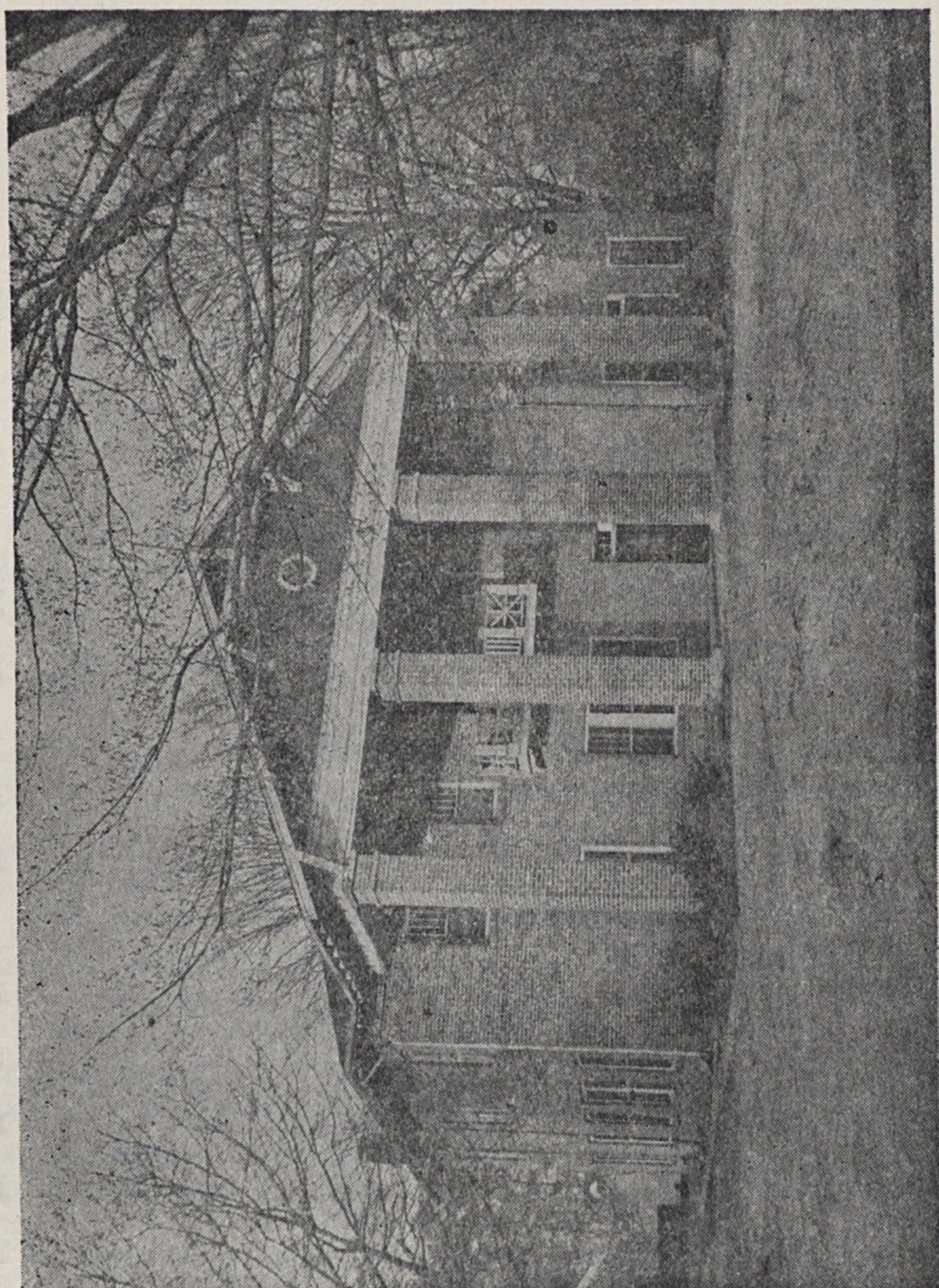
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Sept. 26, 1955 Greenville Rotary Club G

91803



Home of the Greenville Rotary Club  
Rotary Avenue and Johnston Street

This building was erected and dedicated within two years after the formation of the club. It has the distinction of being the first home ever erected by a Rotary club for the sole purpose of providing its members a convenient and satisfying meeting place.

## A NEW ROTARY CLUB IS BORN

The relationship may seem remote but the Greenville Rotary Club traces its beginning to the great American game of baseball—to a game played in Ayden in the summer of 1919 and attended by four wide-awake businessmen of Greenville. These men were J. B. Kittrell, broker, Dave Clark, lawyer, Alex Blow, insurance agent, and Paul Clodfelter, banker, all ardent baseball fans.

On the way back to Greenville from the game their conversation led around to the needs of their city, and by common agreement they said it was a men's organization for fellowship and frank, open discussion of community improvement. The four men were determined to do something about meeting this need. Though they knew little about Rotary, the word drew their thoughts like a magnet.

Paul Clodfelter had lived in Wilson and knew there was a Rotary Club in that city, so the next morning he suggested that they get in touch with Tom Pettus of the Wilson Club and inquire about the possibility of getting a club at Greenville. "Later that day," says Sky Pilot Sam Phillips who apparently became club historian, "they saw Buddy Gorman, Bill Hall, and Ernest Willard. Buddy had a new Haynes auto which he wanted to try out, and Ernest wanted to go to Wilson anyhow, so these six decided to cut out the phone and go in person to Wilson."

"In Wilson they found Tom Pettus, simultaneous Christian and Rotarian, and so full of both that they always radiated from his person. . . . After a wonderful conference, in which the six were not only thoroughly inoculated, but were made willing disciples and filled with a pep that has never yet failed, request for a charter through the Wilson Club was made."

"The six came home and went to work. Carefully, earnestly, and enthusiastically they sought to gather about them some charter members." They held their organizational meeting in the Farmer's Bank on Dickinson Avenue August 18, 1919. Charter night was held December 18, 1919 and charter number 565 in Rotary International was presented to the new Club by the then District Governor, Roger W. Davis. This meeting was held, significantly enough, in the showroom of Haywood Dail's automobile agency on the corner of Fifth and Reade streets, opposite the present High School, because there was in the city no other suitable place for such an assemblage.

The infant Club showed remarkable vitality for in the spring of 1920 sixteen members attended the District Conference at Greenville, S. C. and won the attendance prize. The district then was large and getting to the district assembly and the district conference, with the transportation facilities available, was quite unlike travel today—thirty-six years later when the conference will be only thirty miles away and the assembly only forty.

The Club met every two weeks for a dinner, business and fellowship. The last was fervent and sincere but the quality of the dinner and business were subject to the vagaries of change in the place of meeting. The Club met wherever it could find a congenial roof and kind hands to prepare a meal—the basement of the Christian Church, the Memorial Baptist Church, the Episcopal Church, “in the new but then unoccupied store of John Horner and Co.,” a corner in a noisy restaurant, or perhaps in a boarding house.

The inspiration of the conference in South Carolina struck fire in the charter members of this infant Club which began work on a home for the Club in the fall of 1920. A neat two story brick building was constructed at a cost of \$20,000, and it was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on March 14, 1921. The home was well equipped with a dining room, kitchen, serving room, and storage space on the first floor, and the second floor was given wholly to a well equipped gymnasium for the use of Club members and the Boy Scouts who were permitted to use it without cost to them.

Perhaps the picture should be cleared a bit by saying the Club building has approximately four thousand square feet of floor space as follows: dining room 28 x 53 feet, reception room (built in 1928) 23 x 31 feet, kitchen and serving rooms 18 x 28 feet, gymnasium 45 x 53 feet, besides ladies' powder and rest room, men's rest room and servants' rest room. Members of the Club made generous cash gifts toward the cost of the building, each agreed to retire four shares of Building and Loan stock, and a small sum was borrowed through the Building and Loan.

Thus the Greenville Rotary Club initiated one of its firsts—the owning of its meeting place with all the security, comfort and quietness this fact assured them. Another first of which even the present members are proud is the fact that soon the charter members of the Club, desiring closer fellowship with other Rotarians, promoted and held the first inter-city meeting ever held among Rotary Clubs, after getting the approval of the proper officials in Rotary International.

1954-1955

## CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT—Charles B. Bissette

VICE PRESIDENT—N. Oliver VanNortwick

SECRETARY-TREAS.—Wendell W. Smiley

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS—Lawrence A. Stroud

## Board of Directors

J. Roy Martin	Robert F. Thompson	Joseph C. Bateman
F. Harding Sugg	Elmer E. Browning	Guy C. Evans
D. Branch Armistead		F. Badger Johnson

1955-1956

## CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT—N. Oliver Van Nortwick

VICE PRESIDENT—Bancroft F. Moseley

SECRETARY-TREAS.—Wendell W. Smiley

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS—Lawrence A. Stroud

## Board of Directors

J. Roy Martin	David J. Whichard	Robert Lee Boone
F. Harding Sugg	Ernest W. Larkin	Robert E. Wilfong
Robert F. Thompson	Carl L. Adams	Charles B. Bissette

## CHARTER MEMBERS

The twenty-two charter members of the Club were a cross-section of the most progressive business and professional men of the city—men who were eminently successful in their chosen vocations and endowed with the vision to see what might be accomplished for their city through the unselfish co-operation of its citizens. These charter members were:

- \*\*Dr. C. J. (Sis) Ellen—Eye, Ear, Nose Specialist.
- \*J. E. (Jasper) Winslow—Livestock.
- \*L. A. (Lawrence) Stroud—Furniture, retail.
- P. T. (Paul) Anthony—Wholesale grocer.
- \*\*D. L. (Dave) Turnage—Fertilizer, retail.
- \*\*D. M. (Dave) Clark—Lawyer, general practice.
- \*\*T. T. (Tom) Hollingsworth—Hotel, proprietor.
- C. D. (Claude) Tunstall—Ladies clothing, retail.
- \*E. L. (Ernest) Willard—Merchant, retail.
- \*W. H. (Haywood) Dail—Automobiles, retail.
- \*\*J. C. (Claude) Gaskins—Farmer, general.
- P. L. (Paul) Clodfelter—Banking.
- \*\*W. L. (Bill) Hall—Merchant, feed and seed, retail.
- \*\*O. L. (Othos) Joyner—Real estate.
- \*\*S. B. (Sam) Underwood—Education, Supt. of County schools.
- \*J. B. (Honest John) Kittrell, Broker.
- \*\*J. E. (John) Gorman—Tobacconist, warehouse proprietor.
- R. M. (Ralph) Garrett—Tobacconist, leaf tobacco.
- \*\*A. L. (Alex) Blow, Jr.—Insurance, general.
- \*\*R. L. (Bob) Crow—Merchant, shoes retail.
- J. L. (Jim) Mayo—Newspaper publisher.
- \*\*B. S. (Burney) Warren—Druggist, retail.

\*—Still members of the Club, 5.

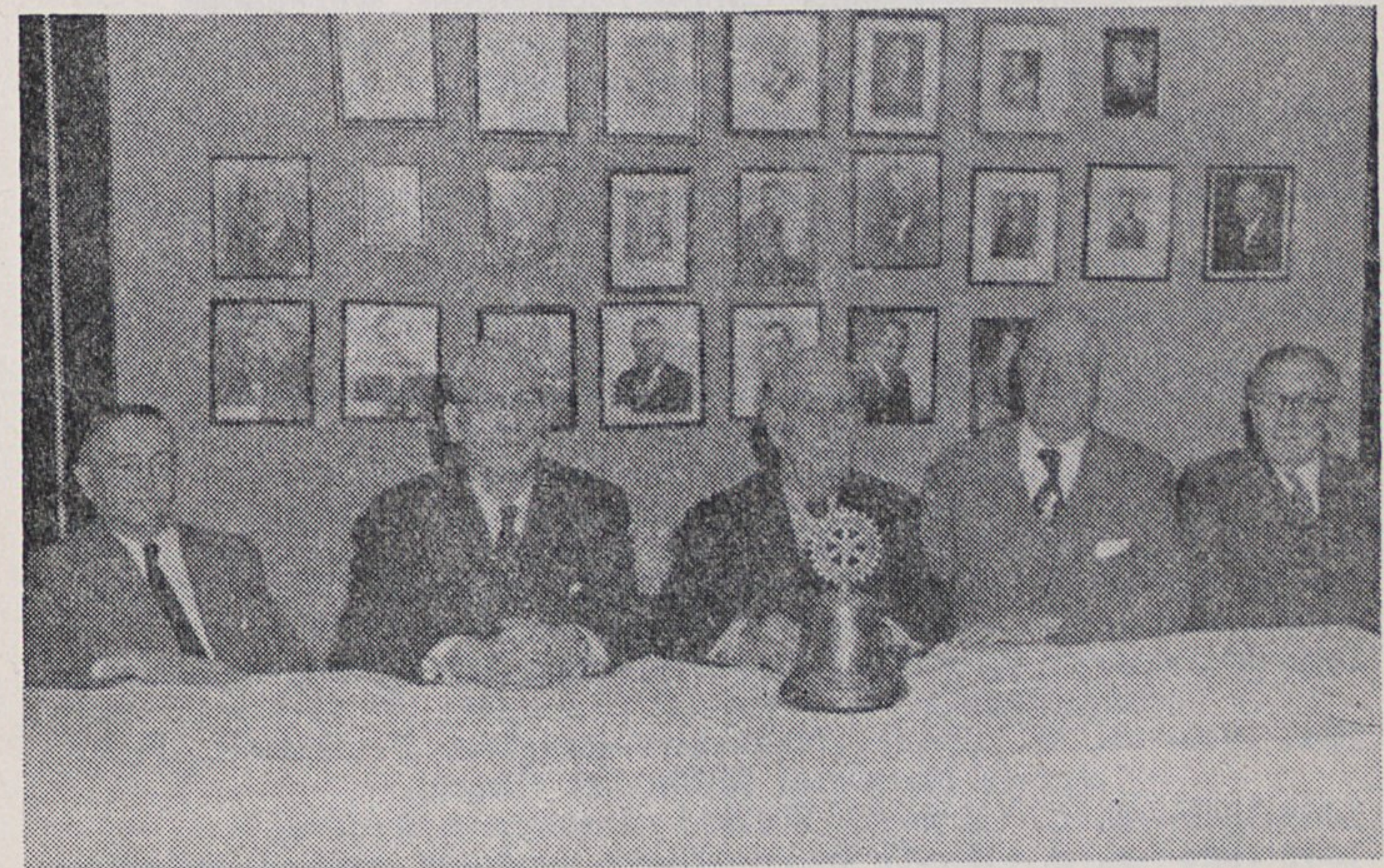
\*\*—Deceased, 12.

## CHARTER MEMBERS STILL IN THE CLUB

Time, fate and their own zeal for Rotary has given the Club and its present members the pleasure of greeting five of the original twenty-two charter members each Monday evening by his given or nick-name as we assemble for the regular weekly meeting. Their enthusiasm, wisdom and counsel continues to give strength to the Club. They furnish the newer members examples of what a good Rotarian should be and do. All five have been faithful in attendance at meetings throughout the years and active in all the work of the Club. Five are past presidents of the Club and the fifth has been sergeant-at-arms for many years.

In the background are the past presidents of the club in Chronological order.

### Five Charter Members in the Club



Left to right: Ernest Willard, J. B. Kittrell, Haywood Dail,  
Jasper Winslow, Lawrence Stroud.

## PRESIDENTS OF THE CLUB

In its history of thirty-six years the Greenville Rotary Club has had thirty-five presidents, each of whom has led the Club onward and upward in the furtherance of Rotary ideals and Rotary accomplishment. Only one, J. B. Kittrell, has served more than one term. Here is the chronological list with years served and classifications:

- 1919-1920—C. J. (Sis) Ellen—Eye, Ear, Nose Specialist.  
 1920-1921—S. B. (Sam) Underwood—Education, Superintendent of Pitt County schools.  
 1921-1922—J. B. (J. B.) Kittrell—Broker.  
 1922-1923—J. E. (Jasper) Winslow—Livestock.  
 1923-1924—W. L. (Bill) Hall—Merchant, feed and seed, retail.  
 1924-1925—R. H. (Bob) Wright—Education, President East Carolina Teachers College.  
 1925-1926—D. L. (Dave) Turnage—Fertilizer, retail.  
 1926-1927—W. H. (Haywood) Dail—Automobiles, retail.  
 1927-1928—W. H. (Bill) Rogers—Engineer, highway.  
 1928-1929—K. B. (Karl) Pace—Medical practice, general.  
 1929-1930—F. C. (Fordy) Harding—Law, general practice.  
 1930-1931—J. H. (Herbert) Waldrop—Banking.  
 1931-1932—H. J. (Howard) McGinnis—Education, Registrar East Carolina Teachers College.  
 1932-1933—A. W. (Gus) Fleischman—Religion, Protestant, Pastor Memorial Baptist Church.  
 1933-1934—K. W. (Kinchen) Cobb—Tobacconist, warehouse.  
 1934-1935—Herbert (Herb) ReBarker—Education, Department head, East Carolina Teachers College.  
 1935-1936—W. W. (Bill) Lee—Building and Loan.  
 1936-1937—J. B. Kittrell (Second term).  
 1937-1938—T. H. (Tom) Grant—Religion, Protestant, Pastor Jarvis Memorial Methodist Church.  
 1938-1939—J. L. (John) Winstead—Medical practice, surgery.  
 1939-1940—C. L. (Carl) Adams—Education, Department Head, East Carolina Teachers College.  
 1940-1941—J. W. (Johnny) Overton—Banking, investments.  
 1941-1942—H. L. (Lyman) Ormond—Grocer, wholesale.  
 1942-1943—S. G. (Steve) Wilkerson—Funeral director.  
 1943-1944—J. G. (John) Fleming—Meat packing, distribution (Swift and Company).  
 1944-1945—J. S. (Joe) Moyer—Banking, trusts.  
 1945-1946—J. C. (John) Proctor—Accounting, C.P.A.  
 1946-1947—J. H. (Judson) Blount—General merchant, department store.  
 1947-1948—R. W. (Bob) Bradshaw—Religion, Protestant, Pastor Jarvis Memorial Methodist Church.  
 1948-1949—E. L. (Ernest) Willard—Insurance, general.  
 1949-1950—E. S. (Erce) Webb—Dairy products, milk distribution.  
 1950-1951—F. F. (Floyd) Hendrix—Farm machinery, retail.  
 1951-1952—C. A. (Charlie) White—Variety stores, retail.  
 1952-1953—J. K. (Knott) Proctor—Communication, postmaster.  
 1953-1954—F. B. (Badger) Johnson—Automobiles, retail.  
 1954-1955—C. B. (Charlie) Bissette—Chemical industry, drugs, retail.

## SECRETARIES OF THE CLUB

This Club has had eighteen secretaries to whose records this brief history is deeply indebted. On this officer rests a heavy responsibility for the effectiveness of the Club president and the success of the Club. Following is the chronological list of secretaries of the Greenville Club with their classifications:

- 1919-1920—A. L. (Alex) Blow, Jr.—Insurance, general.  
 1920-1921—A. L. (Alex) Blow, Jr.—Insurance, general.  
 1921-1922—A. L. (Alex) Blow, Jr.—Insurance, general.  
 1922-1923—W. L. (Bill) Hall—Merchant, feed and seed, retail.  
 1923-1924—P. L. (Paul) Clodfelter—Banking.  
 1924-1925—L. A. (Lawrence) Stroud, Furniture, retail.  
 1924-1925—L. A. (Lawrence) Stroud, Furniture, retail.  
 1926-1927—J. T. (Jim) Little—Mechanical refrigeration.  
 1927-1928—J. J. (Julian) White—Building and Loan.  
 1928-1929—H. J. (Howard) McGinnis—Educ., Registrar E.C.T.C.  
 1929-1930—H. J. (Howard) McGinnis—Educ., Registrar E.C.T.C.  
 1930-1931—H. J. (Howard) McGinnis—Educ., Registrar E.C.T.C.  
 1931-1932—R. B. (Raleigh) Lee—Lawyer, general practice.  
 1932-1933—J. C. (Claude) Gaskins—Farmer, general farming.  
 1933-1934—J. C. (Claude) Gaskins—Farmer, general farming.  
 1934-1935—J. C. (Claude) Gaskins—Farmer, general farming.  
 1935-1936—J. C. (Claude) Gaskins—Farmer, general farming.  
 1936-1937—G. N. (Gerald) Mitchell—Insurance, industrial.  
 1937-1938—C. W. (Wesley) Harvey, Jr.—Refrigeration, frozen food lockers.  
 1938-1939—L. A. (Lee) Folger—Automobiles, retail.  
 1939-1940—J. C. (John) Proctor—Auditor, C.P.A.  
 1940-1941—J. C. (John) Proctor—Auditor, C.P.A.  
 1941-1942—J. C. (John) Proctor—Auditor, C.P.A.  
 1942-1943—J. C. (John) Proctor—Auditor, C.P.A.  
 1943-1944—R. A. (Robert) Darr—Finance, savings and loans.  
 1944-1945—L. M. (Buck) Buchanan—Insurance, general.  
 1945-1946—J. W. (Johnny) Overton—Banking, investments.  
 1946-1947—E. L. (Ed.) Hester—Confectionery, distribution.  
 1947-1948—W. W. (Wendell) Smiley—Education, librarian E.C.C.  
 1948-1949—W. W. (Wendell) Smiley—Education, librarian E.C.C.  
 1949-1950—W. W. (Wendell) Smiley—Education, librarian E.C.C.  
 1950-1951—W. W. (Wendell) Smiley—Education, librarian E.C.C.  
 1951-1952—W. W. (Wendell) Smiley—Education, librarian E.C.C.  
 1952-1953—W. W. (Wendell) Smiley—Education, librarian E.C.C.  
 1953-1954—W. W. (Wendell) Smiley—Education, librarian E.C.C.  
 1954-1955—W. W. (Wendell) Smiley—Education, librarian E.C.C.

**RED-LETTER DAYS IN THE GREENVILLE CLUB**

**Sept. 8, 1919** When twenty-two business and professional men of Greenville met in a local bank on Dickinson Avenue and organized a Rotary Club.

**Dec. 18, 1919** When Rotary charter number 565 was presented to the new Club in a meeting in Haywood Dail's show room on the corner of Evans and Reade streets, in the presence of their Rotary Anns and other guests.

**Spring, 1920** When sixteen of the twenty-two charter members of the Club attended the District Conference in Greenville, S. C., and were awarded the attendance prize—a handsome loving cup.

**March 14, 1921** When the new home of the Greenville Club was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. Rotarian guests came from the clubs at Norfolk, Newport News and Portsmouth, Va., and elsewhere.

**April, 1921** When 100% of the membership of our Club, with sixteen of their Rotary Anns attended the District Conference at Norfolk, Va., and earned a loving cup for this record attendance.

**June 22, 1921** When the first inter-city meeting of Rotary Clubs ever held, was promoted by and held under the auspices of the Club. On invitation of the Kinston Club the meeting was held in that city. Representatives came from the Rotary Clubs of Wilmington, Fayetteville, Wilson, Goldsboro, New Bern, Kinston, and Greenville.

**January 19, 1927** When International President Harry Rogers visited and spoke to the Club. He was accompanied by District Governor Wade Marr of Raleigh and Past District Governor Gene Newsome of Durham who later became president of Rotary International.

**March 25, 1924** When the Club entertained as guests the Rotary Clubs of Ayden and Farmville, and other guests.

**April 12-13, 1951** When the Club was host to the District Conference, attended by more than six hundred Rotarians and Rotary Anns, and a member of the Club was the District Governor.

**1920, '22, '23, '36, '37, '42** When the Greenville Rotary Club sponsored the organization of Rotary Clubs at Washington 1920, Farmville 1922, Ayden 1923, Robersonville 1936, Bethel 1937, and was joint sponsor for the Snow Hill Club 1942.

**HISTORY READ BETWEEN THE LINES OF CLUB MINUTES**

**Dec. 17, 1928** The Club voted to give \$100 to charity through the welfare office of the county.

**Feb. 18, 1929** The Club voted to contribute \$10 toward the Chamber of Commerce exhibit at the Farmville Exposition.

**July 8, 1929** The Club voted to contribute \$200 toward organizing Boy Scout work in the Greenville community.

**Jan. 30, 1930** The Board of Directors passed a resolution directing that more appetizing meals be served and that the cost be within forty cents per member.

**Oct. 6, 1930** A committee was appointed, consisting of J. B. Kittrell, Bill Rogers and Howard McGinnis, to prepare a history of the Club, assembling all data possible and making it as complete as possible.

**Oct. 30, 1930** The Rural-Urban Committee of the Club invited and had present for the meeting twenty farmers from as far away as New Bern, Grifton and Belhaven.

**Nov. 14, 1930** Observing National Child week each member was asked to bring a child to the next Club meeting as his guest.

**March 30, 1931** This was Father and Son Night at the Club. Thirty-five sons and nine daughters (a few borrowed from other parents) were guests of the Rotarians. (Five of the boys later became members of the Club.)

**Dec. 7, 1931** Twelve sons and daughters of Rotarians, students at East Carolina Teachers College were entertained at dinner with the Club. Only one was from Greenville.

**April 4, 1932** Bob Wright made a motion that the rule against card playing in the Club building be waived on the evening of the Inter-City Meeting. Motion passed.

**May 9, 1932** Motion of Herbert Waldrop that Club dues for the following year be reduced by \$2.50 a month, was passed.

**Jan. 20, 1933** The Greenville Rotary Club met with the Ayden Rotary Club, on invitation from that Club.

**Jan. 23, 1933** The Rotary and the Kiwanis Clubs of Greenville had a joint dinner meeting at the Rotary Club building.

**June 12, 1933** The Club endorsed a movement to secure a municipal swimming pool.

**June 26, 1933** The Club voted to buy twenty-five dollars worth of swimming tickets to help finance the building of a municipal swimming pool.

**Feb. 5, 1934** Karl Pace and Alfred Schultz were appointed as a com-

mittee to secure additional funds for a patient's expenses at the sanitorium.

April 2, 1934 The Club voted to have a picnic supper at the baseball park with the Kiwanians after playing a baseball game with that club.

July 23, 1934 The Club voted to contribute five dollars on the expenses of Miss Pearl Barnhill, a health contestant, in the health meeting at Raleigh.

Oct. 29, 1934 The Club voted to take Junior membership in the local music society at a fee of \$175 to help maintain the music center in Greenville.

Oct. 14, 1935 The Club voted to entertain the Englehard Rotary Club on Monday night, October 28.

Dec. 16, 1935 The Club provided thirty-eight baskets of groceries and fruit for the needy at Christmas time.

Dec. 30, 1935 The Club entertained thirty football players of Eastern North Carolina who are in training here for the New Year's game.

Jan. 20, 1936 The Club entertained the local Scout leaders and Scout executives at dinner tonight.

April 27, 1936 The Club voted to take steps to help underprivileged children of the community.

May 18, 1936 The Club voted to sponsor county (health) clinics.

Aug. 10, 1936 The Club voted to sponsor a donkey baseball game. Volunteer players from the Club were named.

April 12, 1937 The Club voted to sponsor a program for the Fine Arts Festival put on by the Woman's Club.

The Club program this evening was put on by students from East Carolina Teachers College.

Oct. 11, 1937 The Club voted to sponsor a troop of Sea Scouts.

Sept. 26, 1938 The Club voted to raise its dues to \$15 per quarter. It also assessed each member \$10 to put a new roof on the Club building (at a cost of \$349.50) and make other repairs and improvements about the property.

July 10, 1939 The Club voted to sponsor and pay \$15 to send a boy to the American Legion Educational program at Chapel Hill.

Dec. 11, 1939 Twenty-five farmers were present as guests of members of the Club at the meeting tonight.

Dec. 18, 1939 The Board of Directors ordered the committee to purchase metal signs for highway approaches to the city showing time and place of Club meetings. The cost, \$42.50.

Feb. 5, 1940 The Club agreed to award a prize of \$7.50 for the best

essay by a Greenville High School student on the subject "What Does Rotary Mean to the Community?"

Feb. 12, 1940 The Club voted to pay \$21.89 on the Sea Scout uniforms.

June 24, 1940 The Club voted to donate \$15 to the Salvation Army to help send three boys to summer camp.

Oct. 21, 1940 The Club agreed to contribute \$10 monthly toward the support of a local crippled children's clinic.

Dec. 16, 1940 The Club voted to send four subscriptions of Revista Rotaria to South Americans chosen by the District Governor.

March 3, 1941 The Greenville firemen were given permission to use the Club gymnasium and its athletic equipment. (This equipment was given them later for their own gymnasium.)

May 5, 1941 A donation of \$5 was made by the Club to the cancer campaign.

August 18, 1941 On motion of Wyatt Brown the Boys' Work Committee was authorized to sponsor the Sea Scout troop.

April, 1947 Club members made personal contributions amounting to over \$3,000 for construction, repair and improvements needed at the Girl Scout camp, Camp Hardy, on the Pamlico river.

May 15, 1954 Club members made their annual contributions for the cleaning up and putting in readiness for opening the Girl Scout camp, Camp Hardy, on the Pamlico river.

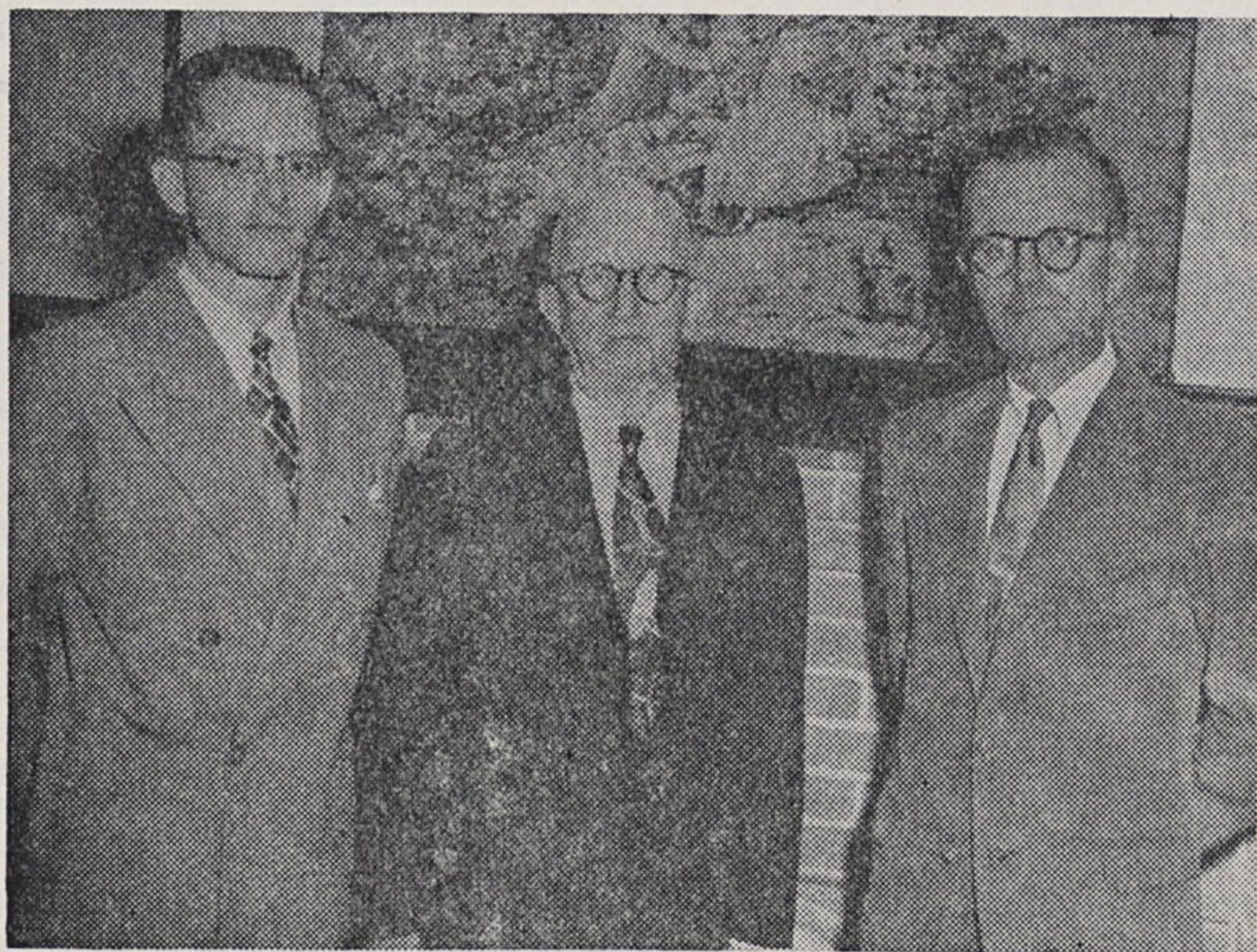
### THREE GENERATIONS

Proof of Rotary's appeal to vigorous, progressive business and professional men may be found in the fact that the Greenville Club has in its present membership three generations of men from one family—father, son and grandson. This is quite unusual but not unknown in a few other Clubs in R. I.

Sam T. White, organizer and proprietor of the White's Variety Stores, became a member of the Greenville Rotary Club in November, 1921. His son, Charles A. White who is associated with his father in the operation of their chain of variety stores became a member of the Club in March, 1936. Sam T. White II, the son of Charles and grandson of Sam, who is an optometrist in this city became a member of the Greenville Rotary Club in November, 1951.

It might be said that in several instances the Club has had father and son combinations in its membership, has two now, and the fathers of several members were Rotarians before them.

#### Father, Son and Grandson



Left to right: Dr. Sam T. White II, Sam T. White, Charles A. White.

### A FEW OF THE CLUB'S PROJECTS

#### Camp Hardy

Camp Hardy on the Pamlico river below Washington, is an elaborate camp for Girl Scouts, provided through the generosity of Mr. H. M. Hardy, recently deceased, of Norfolk, Virginia, and a native of Pitt County. Because official sponsorship by an established organization is required, the Greenville Rotary Club was asked by the Scout officers to sponsor the operation of the camp.

The Club has been sponsor of this excellent project for the training and the building of young womanhood for many years. Annually, in the spring, the Club members either go themselves in a body on a given day and clean up the grounds and buildings in preparation for the opening of the camp, or they provide the funds for that work. The Club and its members have also given several thousand dollars, over the years, to construct and to build quarters and provide certain services at the camp.

### SCOUTING

#### The Boy Scouts

The Greenville Rotary Club building has been at the services of the Boy Scouts ever since Scouting was established in the city. Troops meet for conference and instruction in the reception room, and for games and other activities they have free use of the gymnasium on the second floor. Rotarian Bill Drum has been Scout Leader for many years and has rendered outstanding service to the boys and to the Club in his work with the Scouts.

#### The Girl Scouts

Local Girl Scout units have also had the use of the Club's facilities for their regular weekly meetings. Under the guidance of Mrs. J. Knott Proctor, trained Girl Scout Executive, Mrs. E. L. Henderson, Camp Supervisor, and Mrs. Sherman Parks, Scout Leader, the units have grown and have been very active for a long period of years. To make their meeting place in the gymnasium attractive and warm in the winter, the Club ceiled the gymnasium and installed a large oil heater. For their further convenience and enjoyment a piano is provided and shelves and cabinets provided for equipment.

#### The Sea Scouts

In 1941 the Club authorized the Boys' Work Committee to take over the duties of looking after the Sea Scout unit which the Club had voted to sponsor. Rotarian J. B. Newman was leader of the unit and steps were taken soon to secure a suitable craft for the training of the boys. From the Roanoke Rapids unit a suitable craft was secured and put into operation after considerable repairs had been made. The Sea Scout unit has been active now for fourteen years and has shown steady growth in numbers and much vigor in its activities. Its ship, named "TAU-O-LINA," has carried them on many trips on the Pamlico, the Roanoke, the Pamlico Sound and the Core Sound. The Club has been generous in providing funds for the ship's conditioning and improvement.

### Orthopedic Clinic

In October, 1940, the Greenville Rotary Club assumed as one of its permanent projects the sponsorship of an Orthopedic Clinic in connection with the Pitt County Health Department. These clinics have been held once a month in the Pitt County Health Department Building, and the work has consisted of free examinations by a visiting orthopedic surgeon from Raleigh, North Carolina. The examinations include both children and adults, and are followed by appropriate corrective treatment, surgery or other measures, in order to correct the bone or joint defects which have been found.

The visiting orthopedist gives his professional services free of charge, but his travel stipend has been paid by this Club. The number of patients seen in this clinic has grown gradually with the years, and in the last several years the number of patients has increased from 444 in 1951 to 788 in 1954. In addition to this, the Rotary Club has paid the expenses of sending one child with an orthopedic condition for rehabilitation to the Coastal Plains Convalescent Camp near Washington, N. C. This additional project has been in effect for the past three years. Certain essential drugs needed for the treatment of these crippled children have been paid for also by the Rotary Club.

Many children who have been crippled from birth, and who have no hope of ever walking again, have been improved immensely by treatments originating at this clinic. They are now normal healthy boys and girls who are able to run and play with other children of their ages. They will become happy citizens of this community and will be able to earn a living and enjoy life with their fellow men.

### The Student Loan Fund

The Greenville Rotary Club began to build a Student Loan Fund a good many years ago by donations and fines of members for late arrival at meetings. The fund now in hand, though not large, has been of help to students who have found themselves in need of funds to continue their studies in the local college.

The Club has also contributed to the Rotary Foundation Fund which was founded several years ago as a memorial to the founder of Rotary, Paul Harris. Last year our Club had a candidate for one of the Rotary Fellowships under this Foundation, Ruel W. Tyson, Jr., son of Sheriff and Mrs. Tyson, but in the seven-way contest the award went to Miss Nancy Lee Smith, the candidate from the Washington, N. C., Club.

### Christmas Baskets

It has been the practice of the Greenville Rotary Club, down through the years, to provide as much Christmas cheer as possible, for the needy of our community. To this end we have cooperated with the welfare department of the city, with the churches and with the Salvation Army in providing baskets of food, fruit, candy and toys to help lighten the hearts of the less fortunate. Many members of the Club volunteer in the assembling and the distribution of these tokens of good will.

### The Club Building as a Community House

Lacking a community house in the city, the Rotary building has served very largely in that capacity ever since it was constructed in 1920. It has been used for a wide variety of gatherings and as a

meeting place for several other organizations in the city. The Kiwanis Club, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Sea Scouts and other groups have had the advantage of its facilities from time to time. The charge for its use, when any is made, is only enough to cover the expense of operation which is moderate.

### The Club Meetings

The Greenville Rotary Club is noted for the warmth and cordiality of its fellowship and the hearty handclasp given to visitors. It is an unusual club meeting when there are not several visitors present—members of other Rotary Clubs making up meetings, business or professional guests of club members, and sons and daughters of members who like to visit the Club with their fathers.

And it is known as a singing Club. Under the leadership of any one of several members who are excellent leaders the voices ring out in strong musical harmony. While a few favorite songs are used frequently, the Club does equally well on a large number found in the official song book.

One of the most enjoyable parts of a club meeting is the live, friendly discussion that takes place during the regular evening meal before the beginning of the program. This discussion is so enjoyable and vigorous sometimes that the president must give the gong a second stroke to secure quiet in order to begin the formal part of the program.

It is the practice of the Club to give at least twenty minutes to the formal program which may be an address or talk, a forum, music, a novelty number, an observance of Christmas, Thanksgiving or other holiday, a program by high school, college or other students, or other appropriate kind. Club members give a large proportion of the programs.

In general the Club attendance is good, usually running in the high eighties in percentage. Many members are faithful in making up a meeting that must be missed at home.

### Entertaining Regional Meetings

It has been the pleasure of the Greenville Club to entertain the District Conference only once. That was in April, 1951 when one of its members, Howard McGinnis, was the District Governor. The Club made every effort to do its part in entertaining the visitors and help to put on an outstanding conference. It received many compliments on its efforts, for which we are appreciative.

The Club has entertained inter-city Rotary meetings several times. Probably the largest and one of the best was held here in the spring of 1932 when about three hundred Rotarians gathered in the North Dining Hall of the college for an evening of fellowship, song, good food and Rotary inspiration. Rabbi Israel L. Freund of Goldsboro was the speaker for the occasion.

In the summer of 1951 the Greenville Rotary Club was host to a district forum, suggested by Rotary International. Past President of Rotary International, Donald Adams, was leader of the forum and all present agreed that it was a highly informative and inspirational meeting.

**CLUB ROSTER**

February 1, 1955

Member	Entered Rotary	Rotary Ann
Carl L. Adams	Feb. 1929	Lyda May
Branch Armistead	March 1946	Dorothy
Alton Barrett	March 1949	Helen
Joseph C. Bateman	March 1946	Ruth
Charles B. Bissette	May 1940	Ola Day
Judson H. Blount	Nov. 1921	Clyde
Robert Lee Boone	Aug. 1952	Joyce
J. Frances Bowen	Sept. 1945	Dorothy
Morris Brody	Oct. 1953	Lorraine
Larry Brown	April 1935	Sybil
Wyatt Brown	Feb. 1934	Tricey
Elmer E. Browning	Sept. 1933	Marie
L. M. Buchanan	Jan. 1942	Elizabeth
James W. Butler	Aug. 1937	Gloria
Henry E. Coleman	Jan. 1954	Mildred
Wm. Haywood Dail	Sept. 1919	.....
Wm. A. Darden	Feb. 1943	Mildred
F. D. Duncan	Jan. 1950	Elizabeth
W. Connor Eagles	Nov. 1948	Elizabeth
Guy C. Evans	Feb. 1944	Charlotte
James L. Fleming	Nov. 1945	Ellen
Fitzhugh L. Gammon	July 1926	Helen
Philip L. Goodson	July 1926	Hortense
Ken G. Harris	Jan. 1954	Katherine
Floyd F. Hendrix	March 1938	Dorothy
Robert Lee Humber	Sept. 1946	Lucie
William M. Howard	Feb. 1941	Ada
C. Fred Irons	Jan. 1946	Malene
F. Badger Johnson	Aug. 1937	Jean
B. McK. Johnson	March 1946	Sara
Alton R. Johnston	Jan. 1948	.....
J. B. Kittrell, Sr.	Sept. 1919	Elizabeth
J. B. Kittrell, Jr.	April 1948	Betty
Wm. T. Kyzer	May 1921	Winifred
Ernest W. Larkin, Jr.	Dec. 1951	Frances
J. Roy Martin	Nov. 1938	Lillian
Howard J. McGinnis	May 1924	Nellie
Bancroft F. Moseley	Sept. 1938	Helen
Joseph S. Moyer	April 1936	Elizabeth
James B. Newman	Dec. 1950	Esther
Lyman H. Ormond	Jan. 1933	Dorothy
Johnathan W. Overton	Sept. 1931	Nina Elizabeth
Karl B. Pace	Nov. 1921	Lida
Sherman M. Parks	March 1946	Lillie
Willie M. Pate	March 1947	Grace
W. Reid Perkins	Feb. 1943	Virginia
J. Knott Proctor	Sept. 1922	Ada Gray
John C. Proctor	Jan. 1938	Carolyn
E. Leon Roebuck, Jr.	June 1946	Nell
Junius H. Rose	Nov. 1921	Lenna Elizabeth
Wendell W. Smiley	Nov. 1945	Elva
A. B. Stallworth	April 1946	Dorothy
Lawrence A. Stroud	Sept. 1919	Maggie
F. Harding Sugg	Oct. 1951	Anna Belle
Martin Swartz	May 1926	Flonnie
Charles Terpenning	Nov. 1954	Stella
Harold L. Thomas	Feb. 1948	Carolyn

J. H. Thomas	Nov. 1932	Rosabelle
Robert F. Thompson	May 1930	Virginia
Earl G. Trevethan	Dec. 1954	Ruth
Ruel W. Tyson	Dec. 1943	Annie
Samuel B. Underwood	Feb. 1932	Alma
N. O. VanNortwick, Sr.	Jan. 1932	Lida
N. O. VanNortwick, Jr.	July 1935	Ramona
Tyrus I. Wagner	Oct. 1937	Rosamond
J. Herbert Waldrop	March 1927	Lois
T. Y. Walker	Sept. 1930	Thelma
John B. Webb, Jr.	May 1936	.....
Ercell S. Webb	Feb. 1946	Sara
David J. Whichard III	Feb. 1951	Kathryn
Sam T. White	Nov. 1921	Helen
Charles A. White	March 1936	Nancy
Sam T. White II	Nov. 1951	Colleen
Robert E. Wilfong	Nov. 1953	Miriam
S. Lindsey Wilkerson	Nov. 1944	Pauline
Ernest L. Willard	Sept. 1919	Mary Kathryn
Hugh C. Winslow	March 1936	Mary Rachel
Jasper E. Winslow	Sept. 1919	Effie
John L. Winstead	Sept. 1930	Margaret

**HONORARY MEMBER**

F. C. (Fordy) Harding	Oct. 18, 1926	Annie
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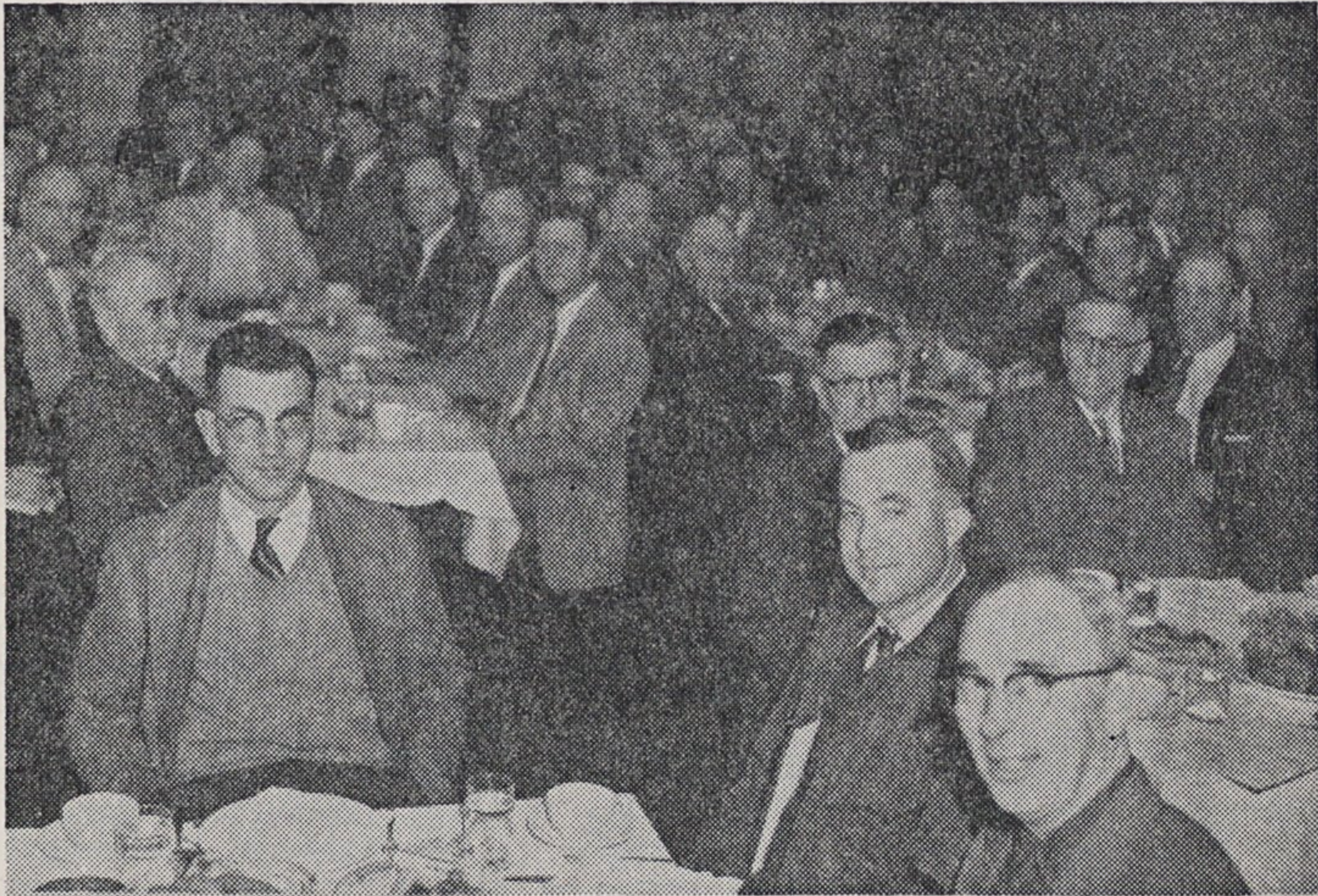
Fordy is a loyal, enthusiastic member of the Club and a strong devotee of Rotary. A past president of the Club (1929-1930), many years on the Board of Directors and having served effectively on most of the Club committees, he has rendered a distinct service to the Club, to Rotary and to his community.

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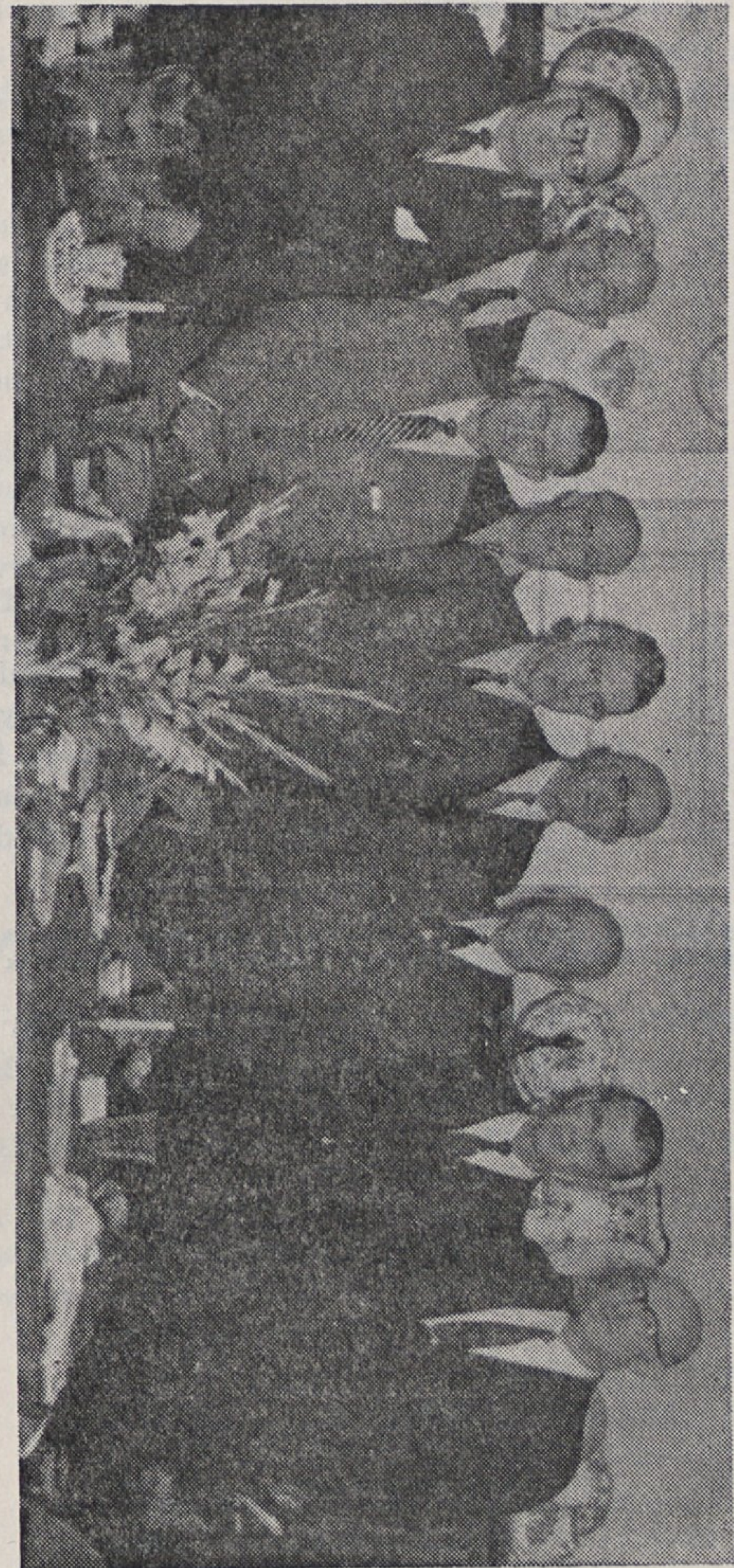
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## THE CLUB DINING ROOM

Our Club members take a great deal of pride in the convenience, comfort and attractiveness of the Club building, and we are especially pleased with the dining room which is attractive. Over the president's head hangs a plaque indicating the date of the dedication of the building—March 14, 1920. To the right of it hangs a picture of Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary. On each of the side walls to the right and to the left of the president hangs a mounted sail fish. They are trophies presented to the Club by two of its members who caught the fish in the Gulf Stream and had them mounted. It has been the practice of the Club to mount the picture of its past presidents in order by years on the north wall of the dining room. Other equipment is a piano, trophy case, telechone clock for the benefit of long-winded speakers, and an American flag.



Eight of the governors, past and present, who have served the Greenville Rotary Club and District 279 and the nominee for 1955. Left to right: Jim Butler '46, Edmund Harding '36, Charlie McCullers '53, Howard McGinnis '50, Irvin Morgan '38, Frank Ruble nominee '55, Maynard Fletcher '30, Jean Booth '48, and Ralph Wellons '54.



GOVERNORS OF DISTRICT 279

## ROTARY'S GROWTH

Rotary International has had a phenomenal growth during the past fifty years. The officers, through the Secretariat at Chicago, keep a close check and record of changes in the number of clubs and members; but because reports to the Secretariat are likely to be as much as a month after the addition or reduction of a club or of a member, it is not possible to pinpoint the exact number of clubs or of members on a given date. Hence the estimated figures below.

Year	Estimated No. Clubs	Estimated No. Members	Landmarks
1955	8,400	400,000	Golden Jubilee
1950	7,000	341,000	Over 200 Rotary districts
1945	5,400	247,000	U. N. Charter week set up
1940	5,000	213,000	Rotary Relief Fund established
1935	3,800	162,000	Went into Tunisia
1930	3,300	153,000	Past Service Memberships formed
1925	2,000	108,000	Four more countries entered
1920	750	56,000	First Boy's Week
1915	160	20,000	Code of Ethics adopted
1910	16	18,000	Nat'l Ass'n formed
1905	1	22	First Club formed

## FIRST ROTARY CLUBS IN N. C.

The Greenville club, formed in 1919, was the sixth to be formed in North Carolina. Clubs preceding it were Raleigh 1914, Wilmington and Asheville 1915, Charlotte 1916, and Wilson 1917. Then next in order came Washington, New Bern, Kinston and Fayetteville in 1920.

Due to the great increase in the number of clubs, this district, which originally included all of eastern North Carolina and part of Virginia, has been divided several times and has carried six numbers viz:

Seventh 1914-1922, inc.

Thirty-seventh 1923-1925, inc.

Fifty-seventh 1926-1936

One hundred eighty-ninth 1937-1945, inc.

One hundred eighty-eighth 1945-1947, inc.

Two hundred seventy-ninth 1948-1955

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