

NORTH CAROLINA

With 297 delegates and visitors registered, the members of Wilmington Lodge No. 532 had the largest Convention in the history of the North Carolina State Elks Assn. to take care of June 27th and 28th. It might be added here that they managed it beautifully. During the session members and their wives enjoyed boat rides on the Cape Fear River and bathing and fishing at Wrightsville and Carolina beaches.

Representatives from 24 of the 27 member lodges heard State Secy. Ed. W. Davis, chairman of a committee to raise \$9,000 to retire the mortgage on the fine N. C. Elks Boys' Camp near Hendersonville, disclose the fact that the campaign had netted \$8,097.10 and was being continued.

The host lodge gave a banquet the opening night at which Past Grand Exalted Ruler David Sholtz presented Elks War Commission awards to those lodges which cooperated 100% during the war years, and Chairman Howard R. Davis of the Grand Lodge State Associations Committee delivered an eloquent address. Dancing was enjoyed later.

The Chairman of the Camp's Board of Governors, B. A. Whitmire, a member of the Grand Lodge State Associations Committee, gave a report on the first year of the Camp. He reported that 251 children stayed there in 1945 and that arrangements had been completed to take care of 300 this year. Secy. Davis announced that the lodges had expended \$43,970.07 in charitable activities and that since the last Convention six new lodges had been instituted, with the State's total membership more than 6,000.

The new officers for the Association are: Pres., B. A. Whitmire, Hendersonville; Vice-Pres.-at-Large, Sheriff C. David Jones, Wilmington; Vice-Pres.'s: East, John W. Glover, Greenville; Central, J. Fred Richardson, Winston, and West, Karl C. Miller, Charlotte; Secy., Ed. W. Davis, Wilson, and Treas., J. M. Underwood, Gastonia. Retiring State President Thad Eure, Raleigh, was

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elected Trustee for three years and J. Max Rawlins, Greensboro, was elected Trustee to fill the unexpired term of Sheriff Jones. Past State Pres., Dr. W. A. Sams, Asheville, is the Association's third Trustee. The new President, Mr. Whitmire, then named 31 members to the nine busy committees of the Association.

The Wilmington Elks served a buffet luncheon the closing day, after the delegates had chosen Charlotte Lodge No. 392 to be host for the 1947 session and Winston (Winston-Salem) Lodge No. 449, whose team won the annual Ritualistic Contest, was awarded the Fall business meeting.

TEXAS

San Antonio Lodge No. 216 was extremely busy June 20th, 21st and 22nd when 500 delegates registered for the 1946 meeting of the State Elks Association, representing 33 of the 35 Texas lodges.

Past Grand Exalted Ruler Dr. Robert South Barrett of Alexandria, Va., addressed the Convention on the 21st and a big feature of the session was the inspection trip made to Ottine, where the Texas Elks have completed the first unit, at a cost of \$300,000, of their Crippled Children's Hospital for the treatment of polio victims. The Hospital will be dedicated officially in the Fall, but a brief ceremony took place that day. M. A. deBettencourt, Chairman of the Texas Elks Crippled Children's Institution Committee, presided and Dr. Barrett, Past Grand Est. Loyal Knight George W. Loudermilk, and Mrs. N. C. Wilcox, daughter of Secretary-Treasurer Walter G. Jones of the Institution Committee, and many others attended. Mrs. Wilcox made a special