

Text of Address by Dan E. Taylor at the dedication of the Sea Level Community Hospital Saturday, November 21, 1953:

Mr. Chairman, My Parents, Honored Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would like to thank Mr. Carl Goerch not only for the fine way in which he has conducted this ceremony but also for the many kind things he has said about us and our endeavors in his Sunday afternoon radio programs over WPTF RALEIGH and also his mention of the hospital in his articles in the "State Magazine"

On behalf of my family, the people of Sea Level and Eastern Carteret County, my brothers and myself, I want to express our sincere appreciation for the

presence here of Governor Umstead and all the other distinguished guests and friends who are with us today.

About 40 years ago, when I lived in this community, I did not, at that time, visualize that I would ever take part in building a hospital, but in the ensuing years fate and good fortune have been kind to my brothers and myself for which we are most thankful, enabling us to build this hospital for the people of Eastern Carteret County. I hope it will be the means of providing the people of these communities with the necessary medical care that they have so long needed.

Many changes have taken place in these past 40 years. All the land in this vicinity and the ground upon which this hospital stands was a swamp with cow

paths over which we drove our cattle. At that time, there were no roads connecting these communities and transportation was by sailboat. To make a trip to Beaufort, the County Seat, took almost a whole day- now it can be made in 30 minutes; to make a trip to New Bern required about two days- now we can make it easily in one and a half hours.

A large number of people had never seen an automobile or a train and the schools were very modest, confined mostly to the lower grades. Today these communities have the finest schools in the state, as well as all modern conveniences such as refrigerators, radios, telephones, electric lights, televisions, automobiles, and the best of roads-all indicating the

progress made during these last 40 years. This hospital, we believe, will be the means of further progress.

The architect, engineers, and contractors who have built this hospital, as well as the medical profession of the state, tell us that the hospital and its equipment is the most modern of any hospital in the country. In building this hospital, my brothers and I wanted to provide a building and equipment that would be a credit to Carteret County and the state of North Carolina - every room has been air-conditioned as well as heated, and the building has been constructed in a way that, we believe, will be modern 50 years from today.

We have chosen the name "Sea Level Community Hospital",

as it was our desire to have all the communities from Beaufort to Cedar Island represented in the operation and management of the hospital, and to this end, 21 trustees have been selected from these communities to hold, operate and manage the hospital for the benefit of the people of the community and Eastern Carteret County.

The hospital has been provided with experienced and competent personnel, and the medical staff of the hospital, comprising the doctors of Carteret County and New Bern as shown on your program, are capable and outstanding men of their profession.

We hope, as time passes, that this hospital will become one of the leading medical institutions of the State and that its

reputation and standing will be a credit to these communities, Carteret County and the State of North Carolina.

It, therefore, affords me great pleasure, on behalf of my father and mother, my brothers and myself, representing the Taylor Foundation, to present on this occasion the deed and title covering the hospital, its land and equipment to the Trustees of "Sea Level Community Hospital" through their legal representative, Mr. Claude R Wheatly, Jr.

Again, I wish to thank each of you for being with us today and participating in this ceremony. It is my hope that you will, at some future time, return to visit your friends and neighbors in these communities.

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70 Will Join Moose Lodge

At least seventy pledged members have been reported to date for the proposed Moose Lodge in Morehead City, W. J. Harris, lodge member, reported Friday.

He added that plans were made to have Institution Day Dec. 13. The charter will be given on that day to the Morehead group by a representative of the Supreme Lodge in Illinois.

The quota set by the Supreme Lodge for the Morehead City chapter is 100. Mr. Harris said that in view of the way pledged memberships have been pouring in, he feels sure that the quota will be reached.

Officers of the Morehead Lodge will be appointed for the coming year after the institution program.

The Moose hope to buy, eventually, a site for the construction of a Moose Lodge for the Morehead chapter, Mr. Harris said.

Booster meetings are being held every Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Harris Motors, 1302 Arendell St., Morehead City.

Persons interested in becoming a member of the Moose are invited by Mr. Harris to attend these meetings.