

State Masonic Home Monument to Brotherly Love

Hands That Have Erected or Made Possible This Great Institution Have Built for All Time

The Nebraska Masonic Home which Plattsmouth is pleased and honored to number among its most cherished possessions, stands amid a setting of wondrous beauty, and being a monument to the identity of the Masonic fraternity that will live for all time in the good that it has done and the comfort that it is giving to the aged and the sick and comfortless.

This building of brick and of stone shelters in its walls more than the more physical presence of a great structure. It is that invisible spirit of fraternal regard, of brotherly love.

This building is the outgrowth of the desire of Masonry to provide for the day when age might come to its membership in the then young state and for this purpose in 1834 the first steps were taken to collect and maintain a fund for the care of the widow and the orphan as yet the membership of the order was largely of youth or sunny middle age. The shadows crept on and time's advance brought age, the ailments and disappointments of life and in 1888 Hon. George W. Lininger was elected chairman of the committee and quietly and with the mission not forgotten the work was carried on and in 1903 the purchase of the site of the home was made at Plattsmouth and has successively been enlarged into the present fine buildings.

The visitor to the Home is impressed with the peace and restfulness that is so evident, the delightful view that is afforded over the sweeping reaches of the vast lawn of the main grounds, the green dotted with the artistically arranged shrubbery while great beds and groups of the bright hued flowers are to be seen in all directions, lending enchantment to the scene and which makes almost a paradise of beauty in the summer when the hand of nature is so lavish to eastern Nebraska. In the landscaping there is one nook that never fails to attract the eye and that is the pool in the southeast portion of the main grounds where the advantage of a depression has been utilized to make a large concrete pond in the center of which is found a tiny island reached by the small rustic bridge and in which Mr. Evers, the superintendent, has shown his handiness as a landscape artist in making this winsome touch to the grounds.

The buildings also have been given a number of improvements that add to the interior beauty, one of these being the redecorating of the offices and the parlors of the Home, situated in the old White mansion and here the new painting and decorating with the construction of an arched door into the office of the superintendent from the reception office, makes it very much more convenient to the visitor as well as anyone that may have business in that section of the building while new steel ceilings have been placed in the halls of the main building.

The main building where the more hale and hearty of the aged men and women reside, the various units of Masonry over the state have joined in furnishing the various rooms in a manner that gives the residents every comfort that they could find in the modern home.

Not alone in the furnishings but there is also a radio, magazines and the daily papers to help beguile the time away for the residents.

The dining room of the main building has also been redecorated in a very artistic manner that makes this spacious room a place of cheery light and comfort and where the residents can enjoy their meals in the restful



IRA C. FREET
Grand Master Nebr. Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons
York, Nebraska

and neat appearing surroundings.

Not the least important place of the Home as is the case in any home, is the kitchen and here the staff or workers are kept busy preparing the meals from the breakfast hour until the evening meal at 5:30. The inspection and arrangement of the menus give a variety of foods to the residents that they can enjoy and the changes of the meals to avoid the sameness is not the least of the problems of the superintendent and matron of the Home.

The infirmary building, the cornerstone of which was laid in 1925 by the Hon. Charles Chappell of Minden and dedicated by the Hon. John Wright of Lincoln, is the perfection in the way of comfort.

The infirmary is one of the most modern buildings of its kind in the state and has every convenience for the patients as well as the employees. On entering the building one is impressed by the neat and carefully cared for appearance of the building and entering an automatic operated electric elevator the visitor is guided to the second floor where the reception room, furnished and arranged by the grand chapter of the Eastern Star makes a beautiful and restful spot. Here as on the other two floors the corridors leading from the reception room carries one through the sections occupied by the patients where each room is as well equipped as any hospital in the state. There are also offices for the nurse on each floor of the building, well arranged diet kitchens where the patients have their foods carefully arranged according to the demands of their case.

The large radio on the second floor located in the reception room, is connected by loud speakers to the floors above so that the patients may enjoy the programs if they wish.

The third floor of the building has a very cozy reception and lounging room arranged especially for the men of the infirmary and which was furnished and presented to the Home by Hon. John R. Webster and wife. On this floor also is located the operating room (a snowy white tiled room with modern equipment and which is the gift of Mt. Zion Commandery Knights Templar of this city to the Home.

Throughout the infirmary the beds in use for the patients are of the Simmons adjustable type, with dress-

ers and wardrobes of the dark mahogany finish while every aid that might add to the comfort of the patient is provided.

Each floor of the building has large bath and toilet rooms that are the last word in equipment, and throughout the utmost effort is apparent to give the rest and comfort that is so necessary to the well being of the patients.

The buildings and the lawns are not all the Home features as they have a small farm equipment in connection with the Home and last year the net profit on the products of the Home was \$1,237.15. The Home has a very large garden plot at the north end of the Home grounds and also a large tract on the east side of John R. Webster boulevard and where hundreds of bushels of potatoes, tomatoes, cabbage and other vegetables are raised that goes into the maintaining of the Home food supply. There is also a flock of some 450 White Rock chickens rearing the fryer age and which will also add to the Home menu in the future months. The chickens are under the personal supervision of Phillip Sauter, one of the residents of the Home and who has great pride in the successful rearing of the chicks. The Home also raises a large number of hogs each year and make a nice profit for the year in the supply of food.

MT. ZION COMMANDERY NO. 5

The Mt. Zion commandery No. 5 of the Knights Templar, located at Plattsmouth, has won a high place among the commanderies of the state for their efficiency and the splendid organization that has been built up here and which was recognized when the grand commandery of the state was held here in 1925. The officers of the Mt. Zion commandery comprise the following:

- Commander—L. W. Niel.
- Generalissimo—A. H. Duxbury.
- Captain General—W. F. Evers.
- Treasurer—Philip Thierolf.
- Recorder—John E. Schutz.
- Prelate—Raymond C. Cook.
- Senior Warden—H. F. Nolting.
- Junior Warden—Charles Carlson.
- Standard Bearer—Frank A. Cloidt.
- Sword Bearer—Lester W. Meisinger.
- Warder—H. L. Gayer.
- Sentinel—Ward Whelan.

Residents of Masonic Home from All Sections

Splendid Men and Women Found At the Home Come From Many Sections Over the State

The men and women who are residents at the Nebraska Masonic Home come from many sections of the state and are representatives of the fine pioneer stock of the west. The Home residents with their homes and lodges and date of entry and age are given below.

The men residents are:
Antrim, Alfred, Washington Lodge No. 21, Blair, Jan. 10, 1925—78.
Baker, Albert E., Oliver Lodge No. 33, Seward, Jan. 15, 1929—87.
Barr, John W., Silver Cord Lodge No. 224, Ainsworth, Feb. 19, 1929—76.
Baum, David, Menard Lodge No. 55, Norfolk, Dec. 14, 1925—89.
Christensen, Jerren P., Bee Hive Lodge No. 184, Omaha, May 17, 1929—86.
Caldwell, Clarence A., Crete Lodge No. 37, Crete, Feb. 19, 1917—79.
Cassiday, Wm. J., St. John's Lodge No. 25, Omaha, June 12, 1922—78.
Comstock, Lucius G., Lone Tree Lodge No. 35, Central City, Feb. 12, 1929—70.
Craig, Lenn, Pilot Lodge No. 240, Lyons, July 20, 1928—35.
Currah, Robert E., Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 57, Syracuse, Feb. 8, 1928—84.
Davis, Lyman E., St. John's Lodge No. 25, Omaha, Sept. 15, 1927—63.
Despain, Christopher C., Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6, Plattsmouth, Sept. 12, 1924—91.
Fullagar, Edwin, East Lincoln Lodge No. 210, Lincoln, Jan. 6, 1927—82.
Goddard, Oliver G., Covert Lodge No. 11, Omaha, March 17, 1930—82.
Geyer, Lemuel R., Minnekadusa Lodge No. 192, Valentine, Oct. 25, 1927—46.
Hartwell, John C., Omaha Lodge No. 288, Omaha, May 6, 1926—82.
Hildum, Albert L., North Bend Lodge No. 119, North Bend, Aug. 21, 1929—67.
Hill, Howard J., Harlan Lodge No. 116, Alma, May 1, 1929—66.
Howard, Wm. A., Lincoln Lodge No. 19, Lincoln, Jan. 7, 1928—81.
Johnson, Harry, Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6, Plattsmouth, April 18, 1929—79.
Johnson, Henry H., Pilot Lodge No. 240, Lyons, May 19, 1926—69.
Lafin, George O., Wynmore Lodge No. 104, Wynmore, April 20, 1928—71.
Nichols, Wm. F., Melrose Lodge No. 60, Orleans, Nov. 10, 1925—56.
Nordenson, Charles J., Covert Lodge No. 11, Omaha, Sept. 18, 1908—70.
Osborne, Julian, Trowel Lodge No. 71, Neligh, June 2, 1926—87.
Peares, George B., Naphthall Lodge No. 208, Diller, Aug. 19, 1929—85.
Peterson, Oscar, Covert Lodge No. 11, Omaha, May, 6, 1926—79.
Ribble, Curtis W., Lancaster Lodge No. 54, Lincoln, May 14, 1930—74.
Rich, George R., Clay Center Lodge No. 138, Clay Center, April 10, 1929—74.
Reynish, David J., Rob Morris Lodge No. 46, Kearney, July 14, 1925—74.
Riecken, August, Waterloo Lodge No. 102, Waterloo, June 19, 1922—84.
Saunders, Charles E., Oak Leaf Lodge No. 312, Lynch, Dec. 9, 1926—88.
Saunders, Frank M., Minden Lodge No. 127, Minden, Oct. 10, 1917—85.
Sauter, Phillip, St. John's Lodge No. 25, Omaha, Nov. 26, 1926—73.
Sears, Wm. J., Creighton Lodge No. 100, Creighton, Dec. 18, 1928—73.
Stewart, Robert C., York Lodge No. 56, York, Sept. 16, 1929—72.
Stitt, Charles, Fremont Lodge No. 15, Fremont, July 15, 1929—62.
Taylor, John C., St. John's Lodge No. 25, Omaha, Aug. 8, 1929—79.

Taylor, Lewis J., Frank Welch Lodge No. 75, Sidney, Jan. 29, 1929—74.
Tester, Maurice, Friendship Lodge No. 239, Chapman, July 29, 1918—92.

Tremble, James R., Nebraska Lodge No. 1, Omaha, Oct. 10, 1929—68.

Tully, Alonzo, Crescent Lodge No. 143, Primrose, Dec. 28, 1926—80.

Ueckles, Edward, Friend Lodge No. 73, Friend, June 9, 1928—82.

Wall, Coleman L., Huntley Lodge No. 279, Huntley, Feb. 3, 1930—67.

Walton, Chauncey B., Ord Lodge No. 103, Ord, Feb. 14, 1918—81.

Wells, Joseph, Israel Lodge No. 187, Ulysses, March 18, 1924—79.

Wolf, Israel M., Crete Lodge No. 37, Crete, Aug. 15, 1914—91.

The women residents are:
Ackerman, Mica, Cotner Lodge No. 197, Bethany, Dec. 17, 1929—69.
Aldrich, Lucretia, Western Lodge No. 2, Nebraska City, Dec. 23, 1926—69.

Bare, Margaret E., Silver Cord Lodge No. 224, Ainsworth, Feb. 19, 1929—79.

Beche, Lorenna M., Vesta Chapter No. 6, O. E. S., Omaha, April 6, 1929—59.

Butler, Margaret E., Diamond Lodge No. 291, Orchard, July 19, 1929—68.

Cepeland, Rosetta, Aurora Lodge No. 58, Aurora, March 27, 1930—64.

Cooley, Venice A., Curtis Lodge No. 168, Curtis, Feb. 15, 1925—34.

Cornack, Lucy A., Mitchell Lodge No. 263, Mitchell, March 26, 1928—75.

Coykendall, Alice, Vesta Chapter No. 6, O. E. S., Omaha, Sept. 13, 1927—72.

Cross, Nancy D., Table Rock Lodge No. 108, Table Rock, April 2, 1926—90.

Custer, Louis J., Capitol Lodge No. 246, Omaha, June 12, 1925—74.

Fallagar, Anna B., East Lincoln Lodge No. 210, Lincoln, Jan. 4, 1927—75.

Geyer, Hattie L., Minnehaha Chapter No. 246, O. E. S., Valentine, Oct. 25, 1927—49.

Goodspeed, Mary M., Fremont Lodge No. 15, Fremont, Nov. 9, 1924—84.

Hadley, Dora B., Peru Lodge No. 14, Peru, July 19, 1929—68.

Harnish, Evangeline, Grand Chapter of Nebraska, O. E. S., March 7, 1929—77.

Hedges, Elvira J., Bee Hive Lodge No. 184, Omaha, July 5, 1928—81.

Hill, Paulina A., Ashlar Lodge No. 33, Grand Island, Dec. 6, 1928—88.

Hough, Mary C., Hooper Lodge No. 72, Hooper, Feb. 27, 1928—87.

Jackson, Cella, Landmark Lodge No. 242, Herman, May 20, 1930—72.

Lawrence, Emma J., Falls City Chapter No. 225, O. E. S., Falls City, Jan. 16, 1929—72.

Lewis, Sarah J., George Washington Lodge No. 250, Havelock, Nov. 8, 1925—87.

Mayfield, Emeline, Bee Hive Lodge No. 184, Omaha, May 15, 1927—96.

Miller, Emerette, Minden Lodge No. 127, Minden, April 9, 1926—76.

Morse, Mary, Capitol Lodge No. 3, Omaha, April 6, 1927—70.

Niekum, Minnie, Narcissus Chapter No. 269, O. E. S., Omaha, Sept. 5, 1928—72.

Oliver, Isabella, Nebraska Lodge No. 1, Omaha, Aug. 6, 1928—82.

Perkins, Sarah V., Winifred Chapter No. 292, O. E. S., Mullen Dec. 28, 1928—76.

Ribble, Margaret O., Lancaster Lodge No. 54, Lincoln, May 14, 1930—73.

Rich, Alice R., Evening Star Chapter No. 217, Clay Center, April 19, 1930—74.

Ross, Martha Ellen, Fairmont Lodge No. 48, Fairmont, March 11, 1929—77.

Riekman, Christine, Samaritan Lodge No. 158, Chadron, April 9, 1929—73.

Robertson, Marian, Vesta Chapter No. 6, O. E. S., Omaha, Oct. 4, 1923—79.

Robinson, Mary, Ashlar Lodge No. 33, Grand Island, Oct. 4, 1923—79.

Rosa, Geraldine, Hildreth Lodge No. 252, Hildreth, July 15, 1916—44.

Elk, Frederecka C., East Lincoln Lodge No. 210, Lincoln, May 23, 1928—82.

Sauter, Martha E., Liberty Chapter No. 273, O. E. S., Omaha, Nov. 26, 1926—72.

Stevenson, Marletta, Western Star Lodge No. 2, Nebraska City, March 14, 1923—85.

Stewart, Sarah J., York Lodge No. 56, York, Sept. 16, 1929—76.

Stoney, Agnes, Covert Lodge No. 11, Omaha, June 21, 1926—80.

Tramp, Jennie, Vesta Chapter No. 6, O. E. S., Omaha, Jan. 11, 1929—80.

Walton, Ida, Vashit Chapter No. 64, O. E. S., Fairbury, April 7, 1922—76.

HAVE HISTORIC RELIC

One of the most interesting relics at the Masonic Home is a large hewn log from the old Merrill mission, located west of La Platte. This log comes from the ruins of what was the first Protestant mission in the state and is in a wonderful state of preservation, as well preserved as when it was placed by the pioneers in the building that was used as the headquarters of Stephen Merrill, a Presbyterian missionary among the Indians of the Nebraska plains in the early forties.

This log has a place of honor in the room at the infirmary used as the men's lounging and smoking room and will complete the large and spacious fireplace that is a part of the decorations. The room was furnished by Mr. and Mrs. John R. Webster of Omaha for the infirmary as a place of comfort.

Mr. Evers, the superintendent of the Home obtained this relic together with an old pewter cup used in the Communion services.

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LEWIS E. SMITH
Grand Secretary Nebraska A. F. & A. M.
Omaha, Nebraska

Jas. M. Robertson Loved Resident of County

President of Nebraska Masonic Home Association Has Distinguished Record in State

There have been few men that have retained the warm affection of high esteem of the residents of the community here as James M. Robertson. Mr. Robertson has been for years a leading and active figure in all of the branches of Masonry in the state and has occupied the various positions in the local Masonic branches, having been high priest of Nebraska Chapter No. 3, R. A. M., as well as commander of the Mt. Zion Commandery No. 5, Knights Templar.

Fifty-three years ago James M. Robertson first entered into Masonry, being raised to the rank of a Master Mason in Lincoln lodge No. 19, where he has continuously retained membership. At that time Mr. Robertson was a young man just recently arrived from his home in the highlands of Scotland and was engaged in supporting the stone work on the state penitentiary at Lincoln.

Later Mr. Robertson moved to Cass county and resided at Weeping Water and Louisville where he was engaged in the stone and sand business. In the year 1895 the people of Cass county called Mr. Robertson from the pursuits of his private business interests to serve them in the capacity of county clerk and for two terms he was retained in this office, later serving as deputy for a short time until he was again called upon to serve the people of the county, this time in the office of the clerk of the district court which he filled for some eighteen years. The service of Mr. Robertson in public life is one that he can look back upon with pleasure as a record of faithfulness to the trust imposed in him and in which all Cass county acknowledges as being one of the most efficient records that any official has ever made. In his service there was no task too severe for "Jim" as he was affectionately known, to undertake for those who had business in his office and political affiliation or creed had no place in the fairness with which he discharged the duties of his office.

When Mr. Robertson came to Plattsmouth he found the opportunity he had long wished for, advancement in Masonry and received the degrees in the Royal Arch Masons and later entered on the work of the Knights Templar, in both of these he was honored with the highest offices in the gift of the local organizations.

In 1924 he was named as the grand high priest of the grand chapter of the Royal Arch Masons for Nebraska. And in 1926 he was elected

Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Nebraska, and for several years has been and is now Grand Treasurer of the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Nebraska.

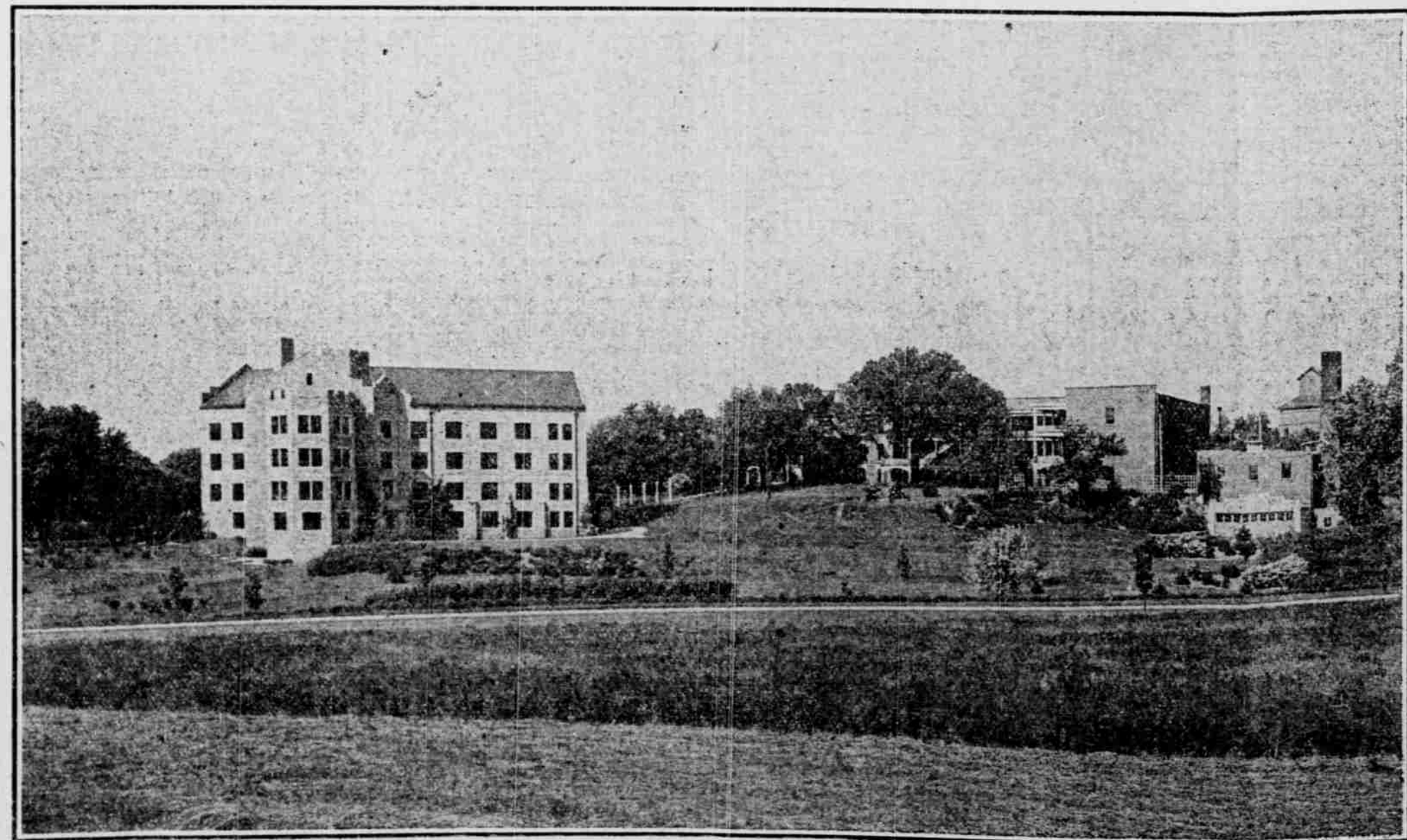
Mr. Robertson has been a member of the Masonic Home Board for many years and for the past ten years has been President of the Board.



W. F. EVERS
Supt. Nebr. Masonic Home
at Plattsmouth



HON. JOHN R. WEBSTER
Faithful and devoted friend of Nebraska Masonic Home, in whose honor city has named John R. Webster Boulevard, that part of U. S. Highway 75 which passes through the Home grounds.



COMPOSITE VIEW OF HOME GROUNDS SHOWING INFIRMARY AND MAIN BUILDING