



DR. R. A. MARTIN DAY . . .

In spite of possibly the worst day of the winter season, hundreds of his friends came out last Thursday to honor Pell City's Dr. R. A. Martin on the completion of his first 50 years of medical service in this community.

Top a group surrounds Dr. Martin at the end of the program. They are some of the nearly ten thousand at whose birth Dr. Martin has officiated since he has been in Our Valley. Middle picture shows Dr. Martin and Mrs. Martin before taking their seats. As the couple entered the room the great crowd gave them a standing ovation that lasted several minutes. Ben Kincaid, son-in-law of Dr. Martin can be seen looking over his right shoulder, Mrs. Kincaid can be seen over the doctor's left shoulder, and Earl Martin, Guntersville, nephew of Dr. Martin who formerly practiced here, is immediately behind Mrs. Martin.

Pat Robertson, toastmaster, presenting Dr. Martin with a silver trophy emblematic of the love and esteem of his friends and fellow citizens, in bottom picture.

The inscription on the plaque was as follows; "In honor of Dr. R. A. Martin, a distinguished and progressive citizen, an able physician and surgeon, a benefactor of the unfortunate and underprivileged, commemorating 50 years of service".

It was the worst day of the year. A cold, steady rain began early in

house was on hand. A platform had been built outside the courthouse just in case the weather man smiled. It has been estimated that 3500 to 4,000 people would have been present had the weather been favorable.

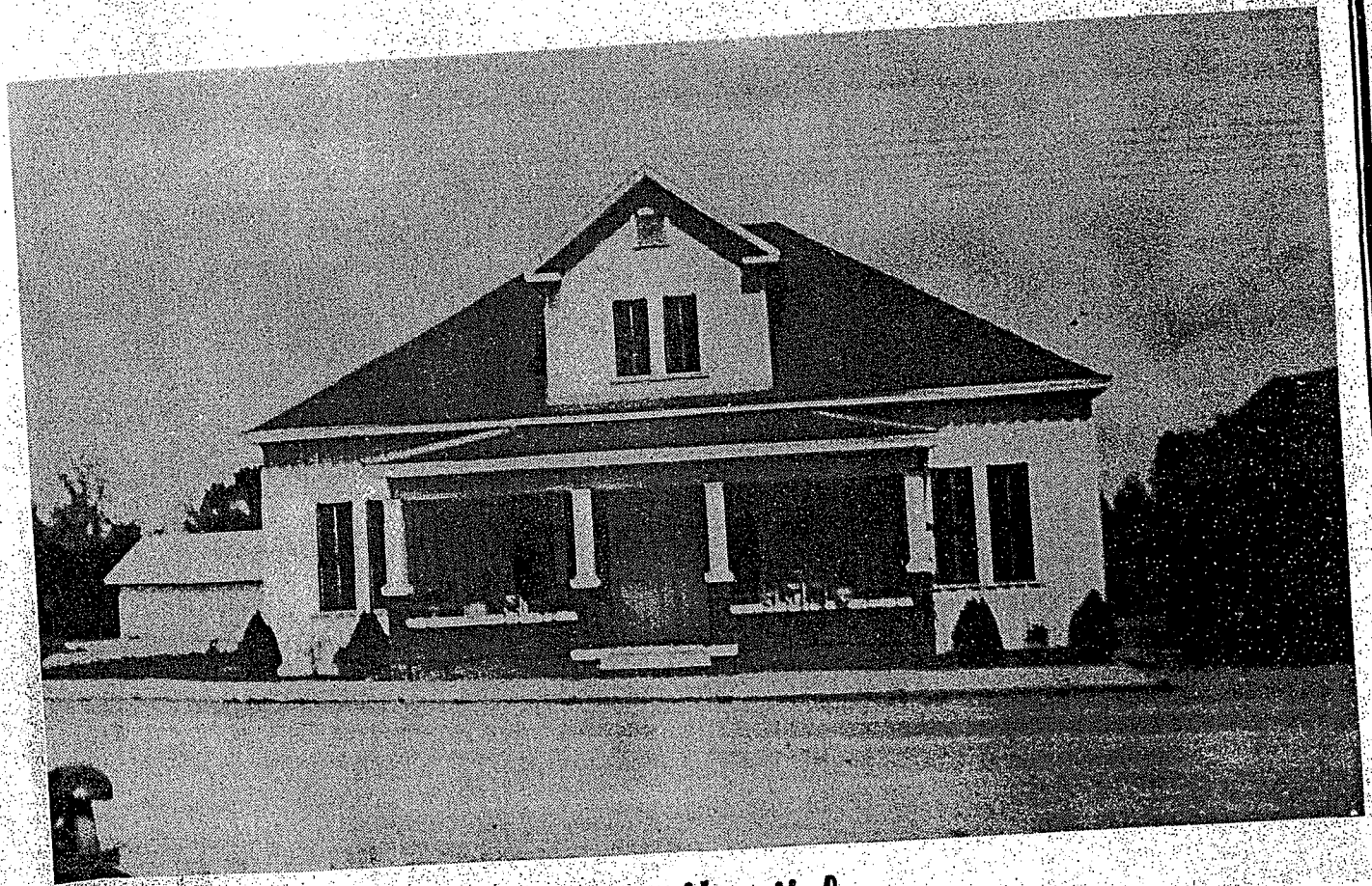
The program was opened with prayer by Rev. Marvin Heflin. Among the speakers were Dr. C. N. Carraway, a college roommate of Dr. Martin, J. Craig Smith and Hugh Comer of Avondale Mills, Dr. Jas. S. McLester, Birmingham, Dr. D. G. Gill, state medical officer, and others.

Dr. Martin came to Pell City on January 8, 1903. He began the general practice of medicine, later headed the staff at Avondale Hospital here and started building his own hospital with a small clinic. Now his Pell City Infirmary is known as one of the most modern

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Coosa Valley Telephone exchange building is now located, you are exactly right...
...The old Pell City High School, which later became the old Pell City Grammar School,
which later became the new City Hall, and many are the men and women who will look at
that one with fond memories...
...The Chevrolet building, which in 1935 became Lawley Chevrolet Co., owned by the
late Millard Lawley, and is now the Hank Harmon building which has in recent years
housed Bargain Town USA, Emory's and now Valu-Mart...
...Ah, sweet reminiscences! Sweet, that is until one realizes that he can remember
everyone of these landmarks, and isn't getting any younger day by day. Anyway, happy
Bicentennial celebration...



Martin Hospital

Jan 15 1953

ST. CLAIR NEWS - AEGIS

DR. R. A. MARTIN

It is our opinion that a cold rain that had the feel of sleet and pneumonia kept Pell City's biggest crowd from being here last Thursday on the occasion of Dr. Martin Day.

Even so every inch of the courthouse was covered with humanity who came to pay tribute to 'their doctor'. It was a great spontaneous outpouring and the reason more was not in the courthouse was because there simply was not any more room. Crowds were on the streets, under store awnings, inside offices and parked around the courthouse square in their automobiles, hearing the program as best they could.

It was a simple, but none-the-less sincere tribute of hundreds of people to a man they all have come to recognize as a friend. It was a mark of love and respect and admiration who has in one way and

another touched the lives of multiple thousands of his neighbors.

It was the kind of thing that must have made Dr. Martin realize that in lowering his bucket in Our Valley half a hundred years ago, he had made no mistake, and that given but a half a chance, thousands were eager to seize this opportunity to say 'Thanks' to him for living among us.

It is the kind of sincere ovation that makes one, looking on, wonder perhaps if he can make himself worthy of the friendship of so many fine people.

It makes one know that no matter how high we may pile our worldly possessions it is the inner man, the devotion to duty and to his fellow citizens, and earnest determination to be of unselfish, high type service, that makes a man who will leave an indelible footprint on the sands of time.

McLane Tilton, Jr.
Pell City, Ala.

Banking
Insurance
Law Office

June 26/14

It is understood & agreed by me
that the Pell City Realty Company
with its assigns has a half
interest in the West Wall
of the Brick Building now
being erected on Lot 13 Block
46 of Pell City, Ala.

Lot 13
Block 46

R. A. Martin