

Reuben Robertson Tells C. Of C. Group Of Canton's History And Growth

Reuben B. Robertson, president of Champion Paper and Fibre Company, was the principal speaker Saturday night at the Canton-Clyde-Bethel Chamber of Commerce banquet held Saturday night at Camp Hope. The executive talked of the early days of Champion's plant in Haywood and the early history of Canton.

His address was as follows:

"I happen to be among the few remaining ones who participated in early Champion operations back in 1906. It is said that after a person has been a half century in a particular activity, if he is not in his dotage, he is almost sure to be in his anecdote—so, I hope you will bear with me if I dwell somewhat heavily on anecdotes of the past.

"In these 50 years we have run the whole gamut of human experience. We have enjoyed the sunny skies of prosperity, endured the cloudy days of adversity. We have survived floods, financial disturbances, epidemics, two world wars, a host of political campaigns, and, more recently, the aggressive advance of world communism. But, through it all, there has developed here in Haywood County a balanced relationship between industry, agriculture and other activities that have placed our County among the top counties of the State having the highest standard of living.

"They say the mistake that some oldsters make is to believe they are still as good men as they never were! I try not to make that mistake—

"Our County has come through

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PART OF the head table at the annual Canton-Clyde-Bethel Chamber of Commerce banquet held Saturday night at Camp Hope. Seated here, left to right, Mrs. Reuben B. Robertson, Mr. Robertson, Mrs. F. E. Shull, Mr. Shull, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Roberts, and Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Greeley.

(Photo by J. M. Deaton).

its years of trial and has maintained progress largely through the fine character, the stability, the earnestness and the Christian spirit of our native mountain folk.

"Thinking of the past, there come to mind, the names of many fine old Haywood citizens, whom I knew, but who have passed on to greener fields. They were Captain W. S. Terrell, J. E. (Doc) Wilson and G. S. Burnett of the Bethel section. The big four of Canton—Pop Hampton, Squire Mease, Turner Sharp and Charlie Wells—and, in Clyde, the Morgans and Smathers families all made their imprint on community life and character. Of course there were many others, but time will not permit me to mention them all.

"Champion came to Canton only a few years after its name had been

changed from Pigeon River to Canton. Its population had been about 100 but it had experienced something of a boom. The city fathers expected that very soon it would have a population of more than 200 souls. They figured that the name—Pigeon River—lacked dignity for a town of such great promise. However, the city fathers could not agree on what name would really be appropriate. As sometimes happens, a heated argument developed, and it is said that one member of the council (Cash Mingsus by name) stepped out to cool off and to consider the problems more quietly. He walked down to the bridge over the Pigeon and, as he looked up, he saw in large letters on a cast iron plate attached to the bridge structure, the word "CANTON," followed by the words—Iron Works, Canton, Ohio (the builders of the bridge).

"Seeking a compromise to the stalemate, he went back to the council room, suggested the name CANTON and found a ready acceptance, as no one could suggest anything better. We have that iron plate carefully preserved in our Canton office as an historical memento of this early incident. What a surprise the old timers, who participated in that debate, would get if they could see, today, the comfortable and prosperous little city of 7000 which now proudly carries the name which they adopted?

"I am reminded, too, of the discussions which Peter G. Thomson had with Canton's big four when Canton was being considered as a site for the new pulp mill. Mr. Thomson asked whether the town could be helpful in providing bet-

Draft Board Explains Change In Classifications

In compliance with current Selective Service regulations and procedure, registrants who have been separated from active duty in the armed forces are no longer eligible for Class I-C, according to Selective Service Board 45.

Only those registrants on active duty, enlisted or inducted, will have the prefix I-C to their classifications. A registrant who has served honorably on active duty after September 16, 1940 for a period of not less than one year in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or the Coast Guard will be eligible for Class 4-A.

A registrant who subsequent to Sept. 16, 1940 was discharged for the convenience of the Government after having served honorably on active duty for a period of not less than six months will be eligible for Class 4-A.

ter streets and housing facilities for the workers who would be needed. The "Big Four" replied that they would like to be helpful, but, at the time, were overwhelmed with debt and could not take on additional obligations. Further inquiry by Mr. Thomson developed the fact that the overwhelming debt referred to amounted to the astonishing sum, believe it or not, of five hundred dollars! We must remember, however, that at that time we were dealing with dollars of a far different net value than prevails today. Wages ran from 75c to \$1 per day for a ten-hour day. Good lodging, including meals, could be had for \$1.50 per day, eggs 10c a dozen, milk a nickle a quart, and so on.

"After construction of the mill got underway, great difficulty was experienced in getting a working force adequate for the job in hand. Very few of the men, native to the

Canton Lions Club To Elect Officers At Dinner Meeting

The Canton Lions Club will hold their annual election at a stag dinner meeting Tuesday, May 8, at Stone's lodge, above Lake Logan.

Officers recommended by the nominating committee and accepted without opposition by members are as follows: president, W. J. Brooks; 1st vice president, J. L. Sprinkle; 2nd vice president, Love Coman, Jr.; 3rd vice president, Guy Roberts; secretary-treasurer, Allen Angel; tall twister, B. Burress; assistant tall twister, W. Hudson; lion tamer, C. Johnson; directors (two years) T. Reeves and L. Matthews; (one year), J. Morgan and J. Powell, Jr.

Officers will be installed at the last meeting in May, with Deputy District Governor Ed Michaels the installing officer and speaker.

community, had, up to that time, engaged in what they called "public works". They were accustomed to working as free agents and naturally felt a bit uneasy working under a boss.

"The building contractor found it necessary to maintain three crews—one coming, one doing, one at work—but even this arrangement threatened delay in completion of the job. At that time, immigration laws permitted admission of far more men of foreign origin than are allowed to come in today. Italians and Bulgarians were available, so, in desperation, the contractor engaged a large crew of these foreigners who were brought to Canton and housed in a camp located close to the mill pump house. With their large out-door, plastered ovens constructed to produce their favorite brand of bread, European style, they made quite a unique and somewhat colorful addition to the community life.

"Many of you will remember
(Continued on Page 3)

U. S. District Attorney Yet To Lose First Case For Income Tax Evasion

"Convictions of persons charged with income tax irregularities are 100 per cent," District Attorney James Bailey told Rotarians here Friday.

"We are getting more income tax cases than ever before, and thus far every case that has come up has been convicted," he pointed out.

"This, we think, is largely due to the thorough inspection and checking which is done prior to a trial. We do not go into such cases in a haphazard manner," the district attorney went on to explain.

Attorney Bailey explained some of the duties of his office, and some of the changes in policies made by the department, which he described as a "field arm of the Department of Justice".

District attorneys must spend full time at their jobs; and all pardons, parole and tax compromises must be made public. Defendants are now tried in the district of their residence, and all tax cases can be decided by the judge.

Another feature of the office is the inventory of all cases, which means no case is ever lost or forgotten.

Attorney Bailey went on, "We are happy that we are well up to date with our cases for the 29-county district, which runs from Charlotte-Statesville west." He has two assistants, one in Charlotte and another in Asheville.

The Asheville office was 23rd of the 94 in the nation as to the volume of work handled last year.

"We do an immense amount of civil work for the government, and lately it seems we have become a collecting agency. We handle a large variety of claims for collection, and last year collected \$2.96 for every dollar the department cost," he explained.

As to criminal cases, the major part of them deal with the revenue act—even liquor, where the government charges a person with selling, making or transporting non-tax paid liquor.

Many of the income tax cases take two or three weeks to try, he explained, and often income tax evasion cases lead to uncovering

organized crime.

The Federal Courts try more auto theft cases than all other courts combined, the speaker explained, since the FBI can follow a stolen car across the country, and the trial be held in any one of the places where there is a federal court, without having to bring defendants back across the nation.

"The alarming thing is that 57 per cent of all auto violations are committed by youths 18 years of age and under," he went on to say.

90 Agricultural Workers To Visit Jule Boyd Farm

Approximately 90 agricultural workers from a number of Mid-western and Western States will visit the Jule Boyd farm at Jonathan Creek Tuesday, May 22, on a tour sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

On the TVA tour, which starts at Asheville, will be county agents, agricultural economists, faculty members of agricultural colleges, and other officials—all of whom are charged with supervision of TVA assistance in their particular areas.

They will visit the Boyd farm to observe the beef cattle operations there.

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The Lanning Rest Home is of brick and concrete construction, and is as near "fire-proof" as is possible. In addition to being fire proof, the Home is within 300 yards of the Fire Station, and has a direct signal system from the Home to the Fire Station, which enables the Siren to be blown by throwing a switch located within the Home. All Fire Alarms are sounded from this location; as 24 hour nursing service is rendered and someone is always on duty to answer and sound the alarm.

The Home maintains a Staff of six experienced personnel in addition to Mrs. Lanning, the owner, who is a licensed Practical Nurse.

The Home is heated in winter by a large oil furnace which is switched over to an air-conditioning unit during the summer months.

The building has six outside doors which is a definite asset in case of an emergency.

Each floor is equipped with Fire Extinguishers, both Foam and Acid.

100 feet of hose is attached to water system at all times.

When looking for a place to keep your loved ones, be sure there is ample "Fire Protection" and 24 hour nursing care provided. Any fire is bad enough, but if one occurs where old and feeble people are involved, it might result in a tragedy that could never be lived down by those responsible.

The public is cordially invited to inspect the Lanning Rest Home, located in Clyde, at any time.

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