



Industry first came to Transylvania county around the turn of the century when Joseph S. Silversteen established a tannery and lumber company at Rosman. The community today is pictured at the top in an aerial photo. (1) is the French Broad River (2) the Southern Railway line (3) Highway 64 (4) Pickens Highway (5) Rosman Main street where an alternate highway route is planned (6) the big curve (7) upper business district (8) Gloucester Lumber company (9) Rosman schools. In the lower photo on the left is HARRY MORGAN, president of the Rosman chamber of commerce, and MAYOR HARLOW MASON is on the right. (Aerial photo by Austin; Others Times Staff Photos)

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★ SECTION TWO ★

Rosman Community Played Important Role In Early History Of This County

SILVERSTEEN WAS PIONEER INDUSTRIALIST

Brief Account Of Activities Given. Railway Line Established In 1902

By STAFF WRITER

When Transylvania observes its 100th birthday anniversary in 1961, one of the most important chapters in the county's history during the past century will be the story of Rosman and upper Transylvania.

And the history of Rosman will center primarily around the activities of one man, Joseph S. Silversteen, pioneer industrialist of the Western Carolinas.

In a condensed manner, the history of Rosman follows:

The latter part of 1900, or the early part of 1901, J. Frank Hayes from Pittsburgh, Pa., visited Transylvania county. On his first visit he was particularly interested in mining. A little later he became interested in the forest resources, the pure water and the beautiful scenery in the section now known as Toxaway. Mr. Hayes succeeded in interesting a number of wealthy gentlemen from and around Pittsburgh, Pa., they buying a large section of land in both Transylvania and Jackson county. There being no railroad beyond Brevard, they promoted the construction of a railroad from Brevard to what was known as Eastatoo Ford, and now known as Rosman.

In order to have a location for the end of the railroad which was then known as the "Transylvania Railroad company" they organized the Toxaway company, with the idea of developing some of the timber, and also the idea of a resort section.

Formed In 1902

The latter part of 1901, Mr. Silversteen was looking for a site for locating a tannery, and after looking over a considerable section of the South and finding a potential supply of bark for tannin and pure water necessary in the making of leather, in Transylvania and Jackson county, organized the Toxaway Tanning company in 1902, with a capital of \$100,000.00, entirely subscribed and paid in by Mr. Silversteen and his associates.

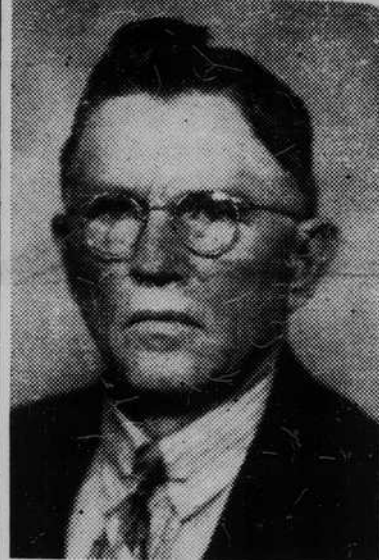
When the railroad finally came to what is now known as Rosman, the name of the station was "Toxaway."

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Came To Rosman Over 50 Years Ago



JOSEPH S. SILVERSTEEN, top, pioneer industrialist of the Western Carolinas, came to Rosman right after the turn of the century and established a tannery and lumber company there. The history of the entire upper section of Transylvania centers chiefly around the activities of the president of the Silversteen Industries, A. M. WHITE, at the left, who was employed by Mr. Silversteen for nearly 50 years, served as Rosman's mayor for nearly 40 years. Mr. White has retired, and now spends much of his time overseeing the farm of his son-in-law, Gil Coan.



COMMERCE GROUP IS BUSY TODAY, PROJECTS GIVEN

Officials Looking For New Industry. Sites And Labor Available

By STAFF WRITER

With the ultimate aim being "To Build a bigger and better Rosman community," the Rosman chamber of commerce has been a busy organization during the past year, and all indications point to an expanded program during the coming months.

The more than 75 members can point with pride to the accomplishments of the organization in 1953 and early '54, but instead they are looking forward to greater achievements in the days ahead.

Harry Morgan, the soft-spoken and able president, issues a cordial invitation to friends all over the county to assist them in their work and become a member of the Rosman organization. He explains that any progress that might be made in Rosman is certainly a step toward a more progressive Transylvania county.

It would be extremely difficult to list the accomplishments of the body during the past year, since many of the projects are carried over from year to year, but certainly one goal of achievement is the installation of dial telephones in Rosman.

Goals Achieved

At the present time this modern equipment is being installed in the new building near Zion church, and the cut-over date is scheduled during the next few weeks. The Citizens Telephone company is now accepting applications for telephones in Rosman, and before the year is out, more Rosmanites than ever before will have phones in their homes.

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Roger Brock Is In Operation Of USN At Iwo Jima

While serving aboard heavy cruiser USS Rochester, Roger L. Brock, fireman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Millard I. Brock, of Route 2, Brevard, participated in Operation Flag Hoist, an amphibious training exercise on the island of Iwo Jima.

The operation which involved thousands of navy and marine corps personnel, was designed to promote the combat efficiency of all participating units. It afforded training in the planning and execution of an amphibious landing under realistic combat conditions.

The training exercise took place nine years after the capture of the small Pacific island. Japanese resistance ended March 16, 1945.

Dunn's Rock Lodge No. 267 A. F. & A. M.

Stated communication of Dunn's Rock Masonic Lodge will be held Thursday night at 8 p. m. in the Masonic Temple, 211-215 East Main street. All members are urged to attend and an invitation is extended to visiting Masons.

Briscoe Whitmire, Master
Henry Henderson, P.M., Sec.

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