

**HISTORY OF THE
275th DISTRICT
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL**



1955 Golden Jubilee Edition

By
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Dedication

THIS history is dedicated to the Rotarians of the 275th District, whose friendship, loyalty, and cooperation during the year of my governorship have been a lasting inspiration to the author. Need of a ready reference for district statistics, felt by each successive governor, especially by myself, has been primarily responsible for the record herewith presented.

Appreciation

APPRECIATION is hereby expressed to Irvin Cubine and Ed Johnson for use of their genealogical charts, to past Governor Lynn C. Dickerson for his interest and enthusiasm at the inception of this history, to Phil Lovejoy, Gregory Melaven, Lester Struthers, Dwight Patterson, Harry Stewart and others of the Secretariat who have contributed desired data, to many district club officers and to C. D. Hurt of the Roanoke club for his helpful suggestions in the compilation and printing.

In preparation of this 1955 edition we especially appreciate data provided by Bob Dorsett of the Chicago office: also the valued assistance in typing by Mrs. Ann Jordan, of Pulaski.

Explanation

No attempt has been made in this history to follow up clubs which are no longer members of the 275th District. Worthy deeds of many prominent Rotarians of this District, either in World War I or in World War II, or elsewhere, are not necessarily included in this history.

HISTORY OF THE 275th DISTRICT ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

A HISTORY is a story. It should be a true story. With that thought in mind we have assembled the facts herein with as minute accuracy as could be obtained.

In the preface of many high school histories we find such introductory paragraphs as follows: "Nearly 2,000 years ago there was a brave captain whose name was Julius Cæsar," or "We do not know when man first came into possession of the earth," or "Far back on the path of time History rises and comes to meet us," or "What memory is to man, history is to the human race," or "It is hard to believe other nations ever produced a line of men as noble, generous, and patriotic as that here catalogued," or "Two things help to determine our lives, one is our heritage from the past—the other is made up of the opportunities which come our way." But the one which intrigued me most prefaced an elementary history, the author saying, "I am going to tell you the history of the most wonderful people who ever lived."

"Once upon a time" fifty years ago the first Rotary Club in the world was organized. On February 23, 1905, at the invitation of Paul P. Harris, an attorney, four men met in an office of the Unity Building in Chicago, the other three being Silvester Schiele, a coal dealer; Gustavus E. Loehr, a mining engineer, and Hiram Shorey, a merchant tailor. The following day Paul Harris asked Harry Ruggles, a printer, into the proposed club. He, in turn, interested Will Jenson, a real estate man. Schiele was the first president of the first Rotary Club. Paul Harris died January 27, 1947. All the others have passed away except Harry Ruggles, who is still a pioneer veteran member of the Rotary Club of

Chicago. The further history of this pioneer club is enchanting but must be curtailed in this story of the 275th District. The Rotary Club of Chicago was the first club of the first international order of civic clubs in the world.

In 1913, the first Rotary Club in the Rotary district of which we were a part was organized at Richmond, Va., the 69th club in Rotary. As Washington is recognized as the father of our country, so the Rotary Club of Washington, D. C., may be considered the father of the 275th District, Rotary International, having sponsored Richmond. Roanoke, the oldest club in our present 275th District, was founded by Richmond one year later, in 1914, the 123d club in Rotary. Moreover, Washington was the parent of both Richmond and Nashville, the two sons whose progeny consists of all the clubs now within the boundaries of the 275th District, except one club, as we shall see later.

Washington was the son of Minneapolis who had been parented by Chicago, so Roanoke is the great-great-grandson of Chicago.

In due time Richmond also begat Staunton and Covington-Hot Springs, while Nashville begat Johnson City. Johnson City is the next oldest club, after Roanoke, in our district, having been organized October, 1916. Lynchburg was next ushered in by Roanoke in February, 1917. Staunton has in due season assisted with the organization of Harrisonburg and Waynesboro; Johnson City has been responsible for the organization of Elizabethton, Greeneville, and Kingsport. Roanoke has the largest family in the 275th District, having sponsored in addition to Lynchburg, already mentioned, Bristol, Pulaski, Radford, Christainsburg-Blacksburg, Martinsville, Salem, Williamson Road, and Rocky Mount. Second honors for parenthood go to Harrisonburg, with four living children—Winchester, Woodstock, Luray and Bridgewater. Two clubs in our district were sponsored by clubs outside

the confines of the 275th District, other than Roanoke and Johnson City. Amherst in 1939 was sponsored by Blackstone, Va., which in turn was descended from Richmond. Grundy was assisted in its organization by Welch, W. Va., which is the son of Bluefield, which is the son of Huntington, which is the son of Wheeling, which is the son of Pittsburgh, Pa. So Grundy is the only club in the present 275th District not descended from Richmond or Nashville. Danville, Lexington, and Bedford were sponsored by Lynchburg. Stuart, Bassett and Fieldale were organized by Martinsville. Otherwise, no other club in the district has sponsored more than two clubs. South Boston in the neighboring 277th District was organized by Danville.

Although Johnson City was organized before Lynchburg, the latter was chartered three months before Johnson City, as sometimes has happened, due to the rush of new clubs in the hands of the Secretariat. For example, between the organization of Danville in January, 1920, and Staunton in June, 1920, 184 charters were issued to other clubs throughout Rotary International. Johnson City waited almost eight months for its charter and Pulaski four. Likewise, there are other instances of discrepancies between organization date and charter date.

In the earlier days of Rotary, extension was a much simpler matter than today when many other orders of civic clubs have come into existence, and new locations offering opportunities for the establishment of Rotary are at a premium. Big years in extension in our district, although it has changed its bounds and name during the period, were in 1920 with five new clubs organized, five in 1938, and five in 1939. More clubs in this district have been organized in April than in any other month, ten. October comes next with seven, January six, March and November five, February, May and December three, June and July two each, August one, and September none. During the period between the organization of the first club in our district, namely Roanoke and Williamson Road, it is remarkable to note that more than 7,200

clubs throughout the world were given charters. In more recent years the assigning of charter numbers has been abandoned completely by the board of directors of Rotary International, since so many clubs, particularly during the last world war, went out of existence, and in the reorganization of many the numbers became confused to such an extent that they possessed no significance. Today, as of January 1, 1955, there are 8,432 clubs in Rotary International, with a membership of 396,000. Our own district, as of January 1, 1955, shows 47 clubs and 2,503 members.

The first ten clubs in the 275th District in order of their organization, but not in order of charters received, have been Roanoke, Johnson City, Lynchburg, Bristol, Danville, Pulaski, Staunton, Greeneville, Covington-Hot Springs and Harrisonburg. In this list, in addition to the case of Johnson City and Lynchburg, Covington-Hot Springs received its charter before Greeneville, and Staunton before Pulaski. Other instances follow, such as Galax and Bedford, the former having received its charter after the latter, but was organized before Bedford. Subsequently to these instances, in busy years of extension, all organization dates and admission dates have been consecutively parallel.

It is interesting though not particularly significant to note that no clubs were organized between 1917 and 1920, none from 1928 to 1933, nor from 1939 to 1941, though every other year except 1915, 1934, 1936, 1942 and 1943 saw at least one new club added to the district. Since then 1946, 1949 and 1951 have seen Fieldale, Salem, Williamson Road, and Rocky Mount come into the fellowship of our district, making the total of 47 clubs. None has been added since Rocky Mount in August, 1951. Each governor has labored with grave concern over the subject.

Boundaries of the District—Governors

First records of geographical boundaries of our division of Rotary International show we were called the 4th District from 1915 to 1918, including the entire states of Virginia, North Caro-

lina and South Carolina. David P. Sites* of Roanoke, was governor at that time, the first governor of that territory now known as the 275th District. He as governor was succeeded by Thos. B. McAdams* of Richmond. Howard E. Rondthaler of Winston-Salem, Rogers W. Davis* of Charlotte, and Lewis W. Perrin* of Spartanburg. Joseph A. Turner*, of Hollins came next, during whose administration the district number was changed from 4th to 7th, but the boundary of the new 7th District remained intact.

In 1922-23 during the governorship of Roger Moore of Wilmington, N. C., who succeeded "Joe" Turner, the boundaries of the district were radically changed and the district became the 37th. South Carolina was taken out entirely and one county of West Virginia, namely Mercer, was brought within our bounds. In Virginia all counties east of the eastern boundaries of Tazewell, Smyth, and Washington were retained, and in North Carolina everything east of the eastern boundaries of Rockingham, Guilford, Randolph, Montgomery and Richmond Counties was left a part of the new 37th District.

The next year saw Mercer County of West Virginia removed but all else remained the same. At this time G. Franklin Lenz* of Newport News, was governor.

These years were gay periods in Rotary with large conferences and elaborate entertainment extending over several days. International conventions of Rotary drew special trainloads of Rotarians and their ladies from our district or possibly two districts combined. The "Dixie Special" traveling from Norfolk through to Los Angeles in 1922, under the leadership of Joe Turner, with coffee at Meridian, stop-offs at New Orleans, San Antonio, where hot baths were provided at the St. Anthony Hotel, El Paso, Albuquerque, where shower baths at the Y. M. C. A. were most acceptable, Grand Canyon, supper at Ashfork, and doughnuts at Barstow proved one of the memorable gay Rotary experiences of the day.

Frank Lenz was succeeded by M. Eugene Newsom* of Durham, who was followed by Charles J. Smith of Salem.

In 1926-27 another curtailment of the district was made, and its name changed to the 56th District. North Carolina was relinquished and Virginia slightly narrowed to that part of the state east of longitude 82 in Washington County. This new line left out a small part of Washington County. Frank W. Evens* of Norfolk became the first governor of the new 56th District, following Charlie Smith. Charles J. Smith and Joseph A. Turner were both members of the Roanoke Club. In 1926 a large and happy conference was held in Durham, "Gene" Newsom's home town. Many of the delegates brought home cherished souvenirs in the form of copper paper-knives, emblazoned with a blue enameled Rotary seal, which still occupy an uncontested place on our desks. Rotarians at the Petersburg conference in 1923 came home with precious dessert plates adorned with blue and gold bands, a Rotary seal in the center, long to be placed among the treasures of one's dining alcoves. These are among cherished memories of the sociable twenties in district Rotary.

The boundaries of the 56th District remained intact for ten years. Successive governors were William H. Surber of Charlottesville, John Weymouth* of Hampton, Julian A. Burruss* of Blacksburg, G. Jeter Jones of Richmond, Charles K. "Brownie" Brown* of Staunton, Ed R. Johnson of Roanoke, John E. Martin* of Suffolk, Paul D. Bowden of Warrenton, William McC. Paxton of Norfolk, and William A. "Bill" Luke, Jr.*, of Covington.

The following year, 1937-38, the district assumed its present general form and became known as the 186th, with Robert C. "Bob" Jennings of Waynesboro, now living in Melrose Park, Ill., as its first governor. The designated boundaries were that part of Virginia west of the western boundaries of the counties of Loudoun, Fauquier, Rappahannock, Madison, Greene, Albemarle, Buckingham, Charlotte, and Halifax; and that portion of Tennessee east of the western boundaries of the counties of Hancock,

Hawkins, and Greene. Following Robert C. Jennings, subsequent successive governors have been Irvin W. Cubine of Martinsville; Dave Shearer of Johnson City; Dowell J. Howard of Winchester, now in Richmond; Dr. A. Merle Showalter of Christiansburg; Raymond C. Campbell of Elizabethton, Tenn.; Hensel Eckman of Pulaski; Rev. Lynn C. Dickerson of Harrisonburg, and Curtis V. Bishop of Danville, Clem D. Johnston of Roanoke, now in Washington, Devereux D. Rice* of Johnson City, Rev. W. R. Smith, Jr., of Chatham, now of Winston-Salem, George W. Leavell of Bristol, Felix E. Edmunds, Waynesboro, Rev. Ronald S. Wilson of Winchester, now of Miami, Asa W. Reese of Radford, Garland K. "Link" Linkous of Danville, and M. Lester Carper of Martinsville. In 1944-45 a slight change in boundaries was made in Tennessee; the 186th District would include that part of the state east of the western boundaries of the counties of Sullivan and Greene. The counties of Hancock and Hawkins were transferred to the 163rd District. In 1949 our district became the 275th.

The 275th District, Rotary International, one of twenty-four comprising Zone 4, is geographically long and fairly narrow, occupying the mountainous and valley sections of the western part of Virginia and eastern Tennessee. A majority of the clubs is in towns and cities within or bordering the Shenandoah Valley from Winchester to Roanoke. A line drawn south from Staunton would include Amherst, Lynchburg, Altavista, and Danville which are the farthest east in that area. Gate City, Grundy, and Kingsport are perhaps the most westerly clubs of the district. From Roanoke we come to the Southwest Virginia section and the Great Smoky Mountain section of Tennessee. Greenville, Tennessee, is the most southerly of our clubs, and Winchester, the most northerly and easterly, a total distance of 397 miles between them. The author of this history has visited forty-seven of the forty-eight states to date and believes there is no more beautiful, beckoning scenery in any state than the land comprising the 275th District. Should we not be worthy of the blessings this land provides?

It may not be generally understood by the average Rotarian that the United States is distributed into five zones primarily for the nomination of five directors of Rotary International. The boundaries are changed occasionally, such as before the 1943 convention and again in May, 1946. Zone 1 comprises the Pacific and west central states in general; Zone 2, the states near the Great Lakes, including North Dakota. Zone 3 is the south central section. Zone 5, New England and most of the north Atlantic states, including eastern Pennsylvania. Our Zone 4 includes all of Maryland, except the west corner, Virginia, West Virginia, the southern half of Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Alabama. Twenty-four districts are components of the 4th Zone. Besides District 275, we are grouped with 103, 231, 232, 233, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 267, 273, 274, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, and 282. Directors from the various zones mentioned alternate in serving two years. All directors serve two years. Six come in one year, six the next. Zone 1 includes Alaska and Hawaii, Zone 4 includes Puerto Rico. The U. S. A. supplies five of the ten directors of Rotary International.

International Officers

This part of our history fills us with particular pride.

In addition to the district governors mentioned previously, the territory of the 275th District as it now stands has produced three directors of Rotary International, namely: Ed R. Johnson of Roanoke, 1936-37; E. W. Palmer* of Kingsport, 1939-40, and Irvin Cubine of Martinsville, 1945-46. Ed R. Johnson was international vice president and director in 1933-34, and international president in 1935-36. When the district was known as No. 4, W. E. Morton of Richmond was director in 1914-15, and when numbered 37, M. Eugene Newsom, of Durham, was director both in 1926-27 and in 1930-31, at the time of which latter date the district was known as 56. "Gene" Newsom was international president in 1929-30.

The following Rotarians served as governors from the 52d District at a time when that district included some of the territory now in the 275th District. Robert Yost of Bristol, was governor in 1928-29; E. W. Palmer, 1930-31, and Clarence P. Daniel* of Bristol, 1936-37. Clarence resigned in January, 1937, and his term was filled out by E. W. Palmer, so Colonel Palmer was governor twice under different circumstances.

Conferences

Previous to the formation of districts a conference of what was formerly known as the Southern Division had been scheduled to be held at New Orleans, La., in 1916. Because of this general conference, none was held in the 4th District that year. In 1917, the first conference of the 4th District was held at Charlotte, April 25; in 1918 Asheville was the host on March 8-9; in 1919 Greensboro, N. C., May 20-21; 1920 Greenville, S. C., March 15-16; 1921 Norfolk, April 12-13-14; 1922 Winston-Salem, N. C., March 21-22; 1923 Petersburg, March 6-7; 1924 Raleigh, N. C., April 3-4; 1925 Richmond, March 26-27; 1926 Durham, April 13-14; 1927 Roanoke, April 26-27; 1928 Norfolk, May 8-9; 1929 Lynchburg, May 2-3; 1930 Richmond, May 8-9; 1931 Norfolk, May 6-7-8; 1932 Danville, May 4-5-6; 1933 Newport News, May 11-12; 1934 Roanoke, May 16-17-18; 1935 Richmond, May 9-10; 1936 Lynchburg, May 21-22; 1937 Newport News, May 5-6-7; 1938 Staunton, May 5-6; 1939 Roanoke, May 4-5—this meeting was a joint conference with the 187th District; 1940 Bristol, April 25-26; 1941 Winchester, April 21-22; 1942 Danville, April 19-20-21; 1943 Roanoke, April 11-12; 1944 Roanoke, April 24-25; in 1945 no conference was held due to government wartime restrictions, voting being accomplished by mail; 1946 Johnson City, April 14-16; 1947 Roanoke, April 18-19; 1948 Bristol, April 9-10; 1949 Roanoke, April 21-23; 1950 Kingsport, April 20-21-22; 1951 Roanoke, May 3-4-5; 1952 Staunton, April 24-25-26; 1953 Johnson City, February 26-27-28; 1954 Hot Springs, March 11-12-13; 1955 Hot Springs, March 10-11-12.

*deceased.

I. CLUB STATISTICS

CHARTER NUMBER	CLUB	ORGANIZATION	ADMISSION	SPONSOR
123	Roanoke, Va.,	1914, April 17	1914, June 1	Richmond
298	Johnson City, Tenn.	1916, October 20	1917, June 1	Nashville
280	Lynchburg, Va.	1917, February 3	1917, March 1	Roanoke
328	Bristol, Va.-Tenn.	1917, August 13	1917, October 1	Roanoke
611	Danville, Va.	1920, January 20	1920, February 1	Lynchburg
765	Pulaski, Va.	1920, May 1	1920, September 1	Roanoke
759	Staunton, Va.	1920, June 11	1920, August 1	Richmond
797	Greeneville, Tenn.	1920, October 12	1920, December 1	Johnson City
793	Covington-Hot Springs, Va.	1920, November 12	1920, December 1	Richmond
890	Harrisonburg, Va.	1921, March 21	1921, April 1	Staunton
1012	Winchester, Va.	1921, October 13	1921, November 1	Harrisonburg
1062	Lexington, Va.	1921, November 1	1922, February 1	Lynchburg
1191	Buena Vista, Va.	1922, April 28	1922, May 1	Lexington
1377	Radford, Va.	1923, January 26	1923, March 14	Roanoke
1410	Christiansburg-Blacksburg, Va.	1923, April 9	1923, April 23	Roanoke
1547	Kingsport, Tenn.	1923, October 17	1923, November 6	Johnson City
1558	Abingdon, Va.	1923, October 18	1923, November 23	Bristol
1785	Galax, Va.	1924, April 21	1924, May 24	Pulaski
1761	Bedford, Va.	1924, April 29	1924, May 10	Lynchburg
1892	Waynesboro, Va.	1924, December 12	1925, January 20	Staunton
1888	Wytheville, Va.	1924, December 31	1925, January 15	Pulaski
1918	Woodstock, Va.	1925, January 28	1925, February 20	Harrisonburg
2242	Elizabethhton, Tenn.	1926, January 19	1926, February 6	Johnson City
2266	Luray, Va.	1926, January 25	1926, March 4	Harrisonburg
2329	Front Royal, Va.	1926, March 30	1926, April 16	Winchester

2531	New Market, Va.....	1927, March 17	Woodstock
2595	Tazewell, Va.....	1927, April 12	Abingdon
2851	Marion, Va.....	1928, April 3	Abingdon
2903	Martinsville, Va.....	1928, May 2	Roanoke
576	Strasburg, Va.....	1933, April 21	Winchester
3783	Richlands, Va.....	1935, March 5	Tazewell
4318	Gate City, Va.....	1937, June 10	Kingsport
4755	Bridgewater, Va.....	1938, May 26	Harrisonburg
4808	Hillsville, Va.....	1938, July 21	Galax
4859	Mountain City, Tenn.....	1938, October 17	Elizabethhton
4873	Buchanan, Va.....	1938, October 28	Lexington
4886	Stuart, Va.....	1938, November 2	Martinsville
4941	Shenandoah-Elkton, Va.....	1939, February 8	Luray
4975	Chatham, Va.....	1939, March 2	Danville
5005	Altavista, Va.....	1939, April 6	Lynchburg
5021	Amherst, Va.....	1939, April 17	Blackstone
5461	Grundy, Va.....	1941, December 8	Welch, W. Va.
5575	Bassett, Va.....	1943, January 7	Martinsville
6191	Fieldale, Va.....	1946, February 11	Martinsville
7399	Salem, Va.....	1949, November 11	Roanoke
7401	Williamson Road, Roanoke, Va.....	1949, November 17	Roanoke
None	Rocky Mount, Va.....	1951, July 9	Roanoke
		1927, April 3	Woodstock
		1927, May 21	Abingdon
		1928, April 24	Abingdon
		1928, June 8	Roanoke
		1933, May 11	Winchester
		1935, March 27	Tazewell
		1937, June 16	Kingsport
		1938, June 13	Harrisonburg
		1938, August 8	Galax
		1938, October 24	Elizabethhton
		1938, November 7	Lexington
		1938, November 21	Martinsville
		1939, February 17	Luray
		1939, March 15	Danville
		1939, April 11	Lynchburg
		1939, May 1	Blackstone
		1942, January 5	Welch, W. Va.
		1943, January 14	Martinsville
		1946, February 25	Martinsville
		1949, December 5	Roanoke
		1949, December 5	Roanoke
		1951, August 9	Roanoke

II. DISTRICT GOVERNORS

YEAR	NAME AND RESIDENCE	DISTRICT
1915-16	David P. Sites*, Roanoke, Va.....	4th
1916-18	Thomas B. McAdams*, Richmond, Va.....	
1918-19	Howard E. Rondthaler, Winston-Salem, N. C.....	7th
1919-20	Rogers W. Davis*, Charlotte, N. C.....	
1920-21	Lewis W. Perrin*, Spartanburg, S. C.....	
1921-22	Joseph A. Turner*, Hollins, Va.....	
1922-23	Roger Moore, Wilmington, N. C.....	37th
1923-24	G. Franklin Lenz*, Newport News, Va.....	
1924-25	M. Eugene Newsom*, Durham, N. C.....	
1925-26	Charles J. Smith, Salem, Va.....	
1926-27	Frank W. Evens*, Norfolk, Va.....	56th
1927-28	Will H. Surber, Charlottesville, Va.....	
1928-29	John Weymouth*, Hampton, Va.....	
1929-30	Julian A. Burruss*, Blacksburg, Va.....	
1930-31	G. Jeter Jones, Richmond, Va.....	
1931-32	Charles K. Brown*, Staunton, Va.....	
1932-33	Edward R. Johnson, Roanoke, Va.....	
1933-34	John E. Martin*, Suffolk, Va.....	
1934-35	Paul D. Bowden, Warrenton, Va.....	
1935-36	William Paxton, Norfolk, Va.....	
1936-37	William A. Luke*, Covington, Va.....	
1937-38	Robert C. Jennings, Waynesboro, Va.....	186th
1938-39	Irvin W. Cubine, Martinsville, Va.....	
1939-40	Dave Shearer, Johnson City, Tenn.....	
1940-41	Dowell J. Howard, Winchester, Va.....	
1941-42	A. Merle Showalter, Christiansburg, Va.....	
1942-43	Raymond C. Campbell, Elizabethton, Tenn.....	
1943-44	Hensel Eckman, Pulaski, Va.....	
1944-45	Lynn C. Dickerson, Harrisonburg, Va.....	
1945-46	Curtis V. Bishop, Danville, Va.....	
1946-47	Clem D. Johnston, Roanoke, Va.....	
1947-48	Devereux D. Rice*, Johnson City, Tenn.....	
1948-49	W. R. Smith, Jr., Chatham, Va.....	
1949-50	Geo. W. Leavell, Bristol, Va.-Tenn.....	275th
1950-51	Fe'ix E. Edmunds, Waynesboro, Va.....	
1951-52	Ronald S. Wilson, Winchester, Va.....	
1952-53	Asa W. Reese, Radford, Va.....	
1953-54	Garland K. "Link" Linkous, Danville, Va.....	
1954-55	M. Lester Carper, Martinsville, Va.....	

Robert Yost, of Bristol, Va.-Tenn., was governor 1928-29 when that part of the present territory of the 275th District was known as the 52d. E. W. Palmer* was similarly governor 1930-31, and Clarence P. Daniel*, of Bristol, Va.-Tenn., 1936-37, until January, 1937, when Colonel Palmer filled out his term. The unexpired term of Devereux D. Rice*, who died in office, was filled by Raymond C. Campbell.

III. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

YEAR	HOST CITY	REGISTRATION
1910	Chicago, Ill.	60
1911	Portland, Ore.	149
1912	Duluth, Minn.	598
1913	Buffalo, N. Y.	930
1914	Houston, Tex.	1,288
1915	San Francisco, Cal.	1,988
1916	Cincinnati, Ohio	3,828
1917	Atlanta, Ga.	2,654
1918	Kansas City, Mo.	4,034
1919	Salt Lake City, Utah	3,038
1920	Atlantic City, N. J.	7,213
1921	Edinburgh, Scotland	2,302
1922	Los Angeles, Cal.	5,858
1923	St. Louis, Mo.	6,817
1924	Toronto, Ont., Canada	9,187
1925	Cleveland, Ohio	10,233
1926	Denver, Colo.	8,890
1927	Ostend, Belgium	6,550
1928	Minneapolis, Minn.	9,448
1929	Dallas, Tex.	9,526
1930	Chicago	11,019
1931	Vienna, Austria	4,288
1932	Seattle, Wash.	5,159
1933	Boston, Mass.	8,456
1934	Detroit, Mich.	7,390
1935	Mexico City, Mexico	5,332
1936	Atlantic City	9,914
1937	Nice, France	5,790
1938	San Francisco	10,409
1939	Cleveland	9,237
1940	Havana, Cuba	3,719
1941	Denver	8,956
1942	Toronto	6,671
1943	St. Louis	3,872
1944	Chicago	403
1945	Chicago	141
1946	Atlantic City	10,958
1947	San Francisco	14,678
1948	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	7,511
1949	New York, N. Y.	15,971
1950	Detroit (Ltd.)	6,939
1951	Atlantic City	8,453
1952	Mexico (Ltd.)	6,804
1953	Paris	10,107
1954	Seattle (Ltd.)	8,015
1955	Chicago
1956	Philadelphia, Pa. (Ltd.)
1957	Lucerne, Switzerland

IV. CONFERENCES

YEAR	CONFERENCE CITY	DATE	DISTRICT
1916	New Orleans, La. (Southern Division Conference)		
1917	Charlotte, N. C.	April 25	4
1918	Asheville, N. C.	March 8-9	...
1919	Greensboro, N. C.	May 20-21	7
1920	Greenville, S. C.	March 15-16	...
1921	Norfolk, Va.	April 12-13-14	...
1922	Winston-Salem, N. C.	March 21-22	...
1923	Petersburg, Va.	March 6-7	37
1924	Raleigh, N. C.	April 3-4	...
1925	Richmond, Va.	March 26-27	...
1926	Durham, N. C.	April 13-14	...
1927	Roanoke, Va.	April 26-27	56
1928	Norfolk	May 8-9	...
1929	Lynchburg, Va.	May 2-3	...
1930	Richmond	May 8-9	...
1931	Norfolk	May 6-7-8	...
1932	Danville, Va.	May 4-5-6	...
1933	Newport News, Va.	May 11-12	...
1934	Roanoke	May 16-17-18	...
1935	Richmond	May 9-10	...
1936	Lynchburg	May 21-22	...
1937	Newport News	May 5-6-7	...
1938	Staunton, Va.	May 5-6	186
1939	Roanoke (Joint Conference with 187th)	May 4-5	...
1940	Bristol, Va.-Tenn.	April 25-26	...
1941	Winchester, Va.	April 21-22	...
1942	Danville	April 19-20-21	...
1943	Roanoke	April 11-12	...
1944	Roanoke	April 24-25	...
1945	No Conference		
1946	Johnson City, Tenn.	April 14-15-16	...
1947	Roanoke	April 18-19	...
1948	Bristol	April 9-10	...
1949	Roanoke	April 21-22-23	...
1950	Kingsport, Tenn.	April 20-21-22	275
1951	Roanoke	May 3-4-5	...
1952	Staunton	April 24-25-26	...
1953	Johnson City	February 26-27-28	...
1954	Hot Springs, Va.	March 11-12-13	...
1955	Hot Springs	March 10-11-12	...

V. ASSEMBLIES

YEAR	ASSEMBLY CITY	DATE	DISTRICT
1916}	No record until 1919.		
1917}			
1918}			
1919		Raleigh, N. C.	October 16
1920	Greensboro, N. C.	September 23	...
1921	Lynchburg, Va.	September 27	...
1922	Durham, N. C.	September 14	37
1923	Hot Springs, Va.	August 20-21	...
1924	Rocky Mount, N. C.	September 4-5	...
1925	Fredericksburg, Va.	August 27-28	...
1926	Charlottesville, Va.	August 24-25	56
1927	Suffolk, Va.	August 24-25	...
1928	Danville, Va.	August 7-8	...
1929	Staunton, Va.	July 17-18-19	...
1930	Winchester, Va.	July 17-18	...
1931	Charlottesville.	August 5-6	...
1932	Luray, Va.	July 27-28-29	...
1933	Newport News, Va.	May 10	...
1934	Roanoke, Va.	May 16	...
1935	Harrisonburg, Va.	July 25-26	...
1936	South Hill, Va.	July 23-24	...
1937	Martinsville, Va.	July 28-29	186
1938	Wytheville, Va.	July 28-29	...
1939	Blacksburg, Va.	August 17-18	...
1940	Lexington, Va.	July 23-24	...
1941	Roanoke.	July 24-25	...
1942	Pulaski, Va.	July 17-18	...
1943	Natural Bridge, Va.	June 29	...
1944	Natural Bridge.	June 25-26	...
1945	Marion and Staunton, Va.	July 15-16; 17-18	...
1946	Natural Bridge.	July 12-13	...
1947	Natural Bridge.	July 11-12	...
1948	Natural Bridge.	July 9-10	...
1949	Natural Bridge.	July 8-9	275
1950	Natural Bridge.	July 13-14	...
1951	Natural Bridge.	June 21-22	...
1952	Natural Bridge.	June 27-28	...
1953	Natural Bridge.	April 10-11	...
1954	Natural Bridge.	April 23-24	...
1955	Natural Bridge.	April 22-23	...

VI. FIRST CLUB PRESIDENTS

Abingdon.....	George L. Penn*
Altavista.....	Pete Brawley
Amherst.....	John S. Wellford
Bassett.....	Rev. Ralph L. Haga
Bedford.....	J. Allie Clark*
Bridgewater.....	Frank P. Cline
Bristol.....	R. S. Reynolds
Buchanan.....	Joseph C. Lawrence
Buena Vista.....	Roy B. Embree*
Chatham.....	Edd V. Brush
Christiansburg- Blacksburg.....	Rev. T. P. Johnson
Covington- Hot Springs.....	Col. Richard C. Stokes*
Danville.....	Dr. Henry Wade DuBose
Elizabethhton.....	E. R. Lingerfelt
Fieldale.....	Anthony Pollard
Front Royal.....	Ed West*
Galax.....	Charles L. Baumgardner*
Gate City.....	Roy V. Wolfe
Greeneville.....	Col. George W. Doughty*
Grundy.....	John McCoy
Harrisonburg.....	Edward C. Martz*
Hillsville.....	Byrum Perry Goad
Johnson City.....	Bert S. Pouders*
Kingsport.....	Dr. O. S. Hauk
Lexington.....	Thomas J. Farrar*
Luray.....	Rev. Dennis Whittle
Lynchburg.....	Fred Harper*
Marion.....	B. F. Buchanan*
Martinsville.....	Rev. Beverly Boyd
Mountain City.....	Joe C. Muse
New Market.....	John G. Miller
Pulaski.....	Jno. S. Draper
Radford.....	Rev. Lynn C. Dickerson
Richlands.....	Dr. William Reece Williams*
Roanoke.....	D. P. Sites*
Rocky Mount.....	Harold W. Ramsey
Salem.....	Virgil L. Frantz
Shenandoah-Elkton.....	Dr. J. E. (Pappy) Hatfield
Staunton.....	Dr. Marshall J. Payne*
Strasburg.....	Fred D. Maphis

VI. FIRST CLUB PRESIDENTS—Continued

Stuart	John D. Hooker
Tazewell	Lacy A. Tynes*
Waynesboro	Col. Morgan H. Hudgins
Williamson Road	Temple C. Moore
Winchester	Fred E. Clark
Woodstock	Col. Howard J. Benchoff
Wytheville	Roy W. Sexton*

*deceased.