

news - 2-6-51

Leadership of U. S. Is Based On Trust, Legueux Tells Club

Arthur Legueux, Rotary International president, said that the position of world leadership now occupied by the United States is the result of "character, not power," as he addressed the Rotarians at the Hotel De Soto yesterday.

Mr. Legueux said:

"The United States leads because her people are trusted. The Philippines were promised freedom, and on the due date of the contract, the people there were freed.

"Do you think the Asian peoples have a shorter memory than others? Do you think the Chinese don't know the score, don't remember their treatment over many decades from the Americans and from others?

"The United States is in a position of leadership on account of its record. Maybe that explains, too, its wealth and power. But the record of characterfulness is what counts. . ."

In discussing the role played by Rotary in this international leadership, Mr. Legueux said, "the strength of Rotary is in its recognition of the fact that the idealistic way is essentially practical."

Business, he said "can be competitive without being mean. Men can seek money payment for work done without being sordid. Ambition can be exercised without its being turned into vainglory."

Rotarians need "a clear view of what we do," he continued. "We recognize the call and importance of business, because in our very association we organize ourselves by business and professional affiliation."

"But," he added, "we carry on and move forward, not to see what we can get from one another, but to see what we can do for one another."

In explaining the important contribution expected of Rotary in these times of stress, Mr. Legueux said, "Rotary's tools are in every man's hands. They require no immense organization; no great sums for underwriting. What are they? Friendship and service. Only these."

J. Phil Schenck presided at the weekly luncheon meeting. Reginald Maxwell of Augusta, governor of District 241 of Rotary, introduced the international president, and Porter Carswell, a past district governor, was praised by Mr. Legueux as a "good will ambassador of Georgia."

George Hill, who is leaving the club for active duty with the Navy was presented a cigarette lighter.

Many guests, including several representatives of Rotary throughout Georgia, were present at the meeting.