

Sew It Seams

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EMPLOYEES OF
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HIGH POINT, N. C.

Editors EMPLOYEES

AN ASPIRATION

Out of the upward — reaching heart of man have grown dreams and visions and ideals. Often man has used his skill to make his dreams come true. But however close to them he has approached, his heart has gone on dreaming of things higher still.

We know that perfection is a goal that runs swiftly before us, but always evades us. While we struggle to grow, we live in imperfection. Our aspirations, though never attained gauge and measure the quality of the soul more than all its mistakes or failures.

Hence, to look out upon the astonishing universe with eyes unblinking and face unblanched; to ignore no truth and fear no facts; to build high hopes upon a firm foundation; to forgive without demanding apology; to keep affection in spite of misunderstanding; to set our thought upon the things of value, and spend our strength in the fulfilling of noble purposes, to reverence the good intentions of others rather than censure their errors; to be alert to nature's pageantry, though we dwell amid the city's clamor; to get the most out of life by right living, and give the most we can back to the world; to be sincere, faithful to responsibility, cherishing honor above indulgence, and service above gain; to be guided in our conduct by the shining of faith in God, and not by the gaunt spectre of fear; to approach our last hour with the calm of a philosopher and the gentleness of a saint; to leave the world enriched by a treasury of kind deeds and a memory of love — this is an aspiration; this is an ideal.

KNOW YOUR ORGANIZATION

*The First Principle of Happy Working Relations Is
To Understand What the Others About You Do
And the Responsibilities They Share*

By R. C. KIRCHOFER

It was shortly before May 1, 1947, that I became first interested in High Point Overall Company and the manufacture of ANVIL BRAND products. I like, however, to look upon May first as the official date upon which transfer of management took place. That marked the end of one era; the beginning of another.

Although it has been impossible for me to personally meet and talk with each of you in our Organization, I have, through the help of our Executive Staff, become generally familiar with what each person is doing as it relates to production and office procedure. The thing which impresses me, and has from the start, is the splendid spirit of interest and cooperation within our Organization; this, may I tell you, was a dominant factor in my becoming identified with High Point Overall Company.

Through the columns of *Sew It Seams*, I have followed news as it concerns many of you. And I'd now like to see these columns occasionally devoted to a still wider coverage of the work and performance of all individuals in the various divisions of the business.

Since May 1, 1947, a great deal of progress has been made in readapting the production and sales facilities of High Point Overall Company to changing times and conditions. It is not only important for us to remain alert to competition which will be encountered in the sale of our products; we have to plan ahead as to production and fabric needs so as to assure as full a schedule of work as possible. Little is gained as to our future plans if we allow any uncertainty to creep in as to a maximum work schedule in all departments in our business. A person productively engaged all the time is much happier — not only because of the effective contributions being made to our business but in providing more fully for family needs and plans.

Evidence of some of the progress we have made since May first is noted in the alignment of our Executive Staff. This group has certain responsibilities of its own in helping to keep the wheels turning. Sales without such executive facilities, as you can readily see, would make it just as impossible to operate as though there were sales but no factory production. It's a matter of team-work. Each person in our Organization is of high functional importance. That is why I should like, as my first contribution to *Sew It Seams*, to introduce this group to you. They know of you and they want you to know them. It helps all of us to better understand the different phases of our business and something of the responsibilities which each person has assumed:

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SOCIAL SECURITY IN REVIEW

The Old-Age and Survivors Insurance program is part of the Federal System of social insurance established under the Social Security Act. This is the program which most of us call "Social Security."

Both the employee and his employer share in financing the program. By that we mean that the worker pays one percent of his wages into the system and his employer pays an equal amount.

The purpose of Social Security is to provide a measure of financial security to the aged worker, or to the family of the worker when he dies regardless of his age. The number of people benefited by social security has increased steadily and rapidly. From a modest beginning in January 1940, which was the first time that monthly benefits were paid under the system, the number of men, women, and children on the social security rolls has increased to 2,000,000 for the entire country.

The increase in the number of people receiving social security benefits has also improved the lot of many persons in our community. For instance, in the area serviced by the High Point Social Security Office, which includes Davidson and Randolph counties, there are now 2,000 men, women and children receiving monthly social security benefits. Of these, 840 live in High Point and Jamestown. About \$350,000 was paid out last year to the 2,000 persons in this area and about \$150,000 was paid out to the 840 persons living in High Point and Jamestown. In breaking this down a little further it is found that one person in about every 50 to 60 men, women and children living in High Point is now receiving a monthly social security payment.

The persons who might qualify for social security benefits and the conditions of payment are outlined below.

Monthly Retirement Benefits are payable to:

1. The worker when he is 65 or older and is not working.
2. His wife when she is 65.
3. His unmarried dependent children under 18.

Monthly Survivor Benefits are payable to:

1. The worker's unmarried children under age 18.
2. His widow under age 65 when she has a child in her care who is entitled to benefits, as long as she does not remarry.
3. His widow when she reaches age 65 if she has not remarried.
4. His dependent parents when they reach 65, if the worker leaves no widow or child who could ever become entitled to monthly benefits.

Lump-Sum Payments:

A lump-sum death benefit is payable when there is no survivor immediately eligible for a monthly payment at the time of the worker's death. The lump-sum payment may go to the widow or widower, or the person who paid the burial expenses.