



# Fieldcrest MILL WHISTLE



## Steam Whistles Are Discontinued At All Mills In Tri-Cities

### Familiar Sounds Outmoded By Radio And Modern Timekeeping Devices

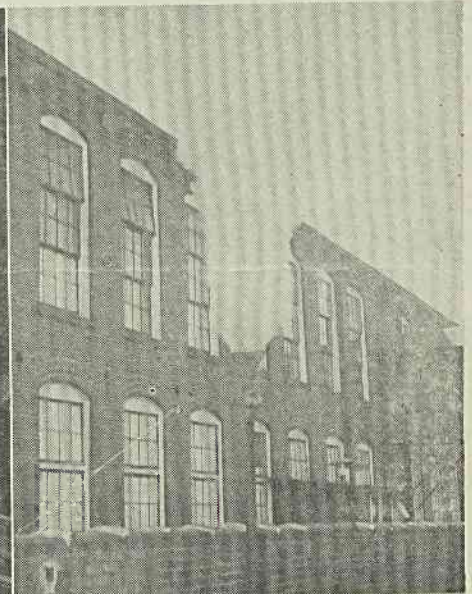
The closing of an era was marked Friday, October 12, when a final long blast silenced the steam whistle at the Finishing Mill. The traditional blowing of the whistle gave way to progress and their familiar, deep-toned sounds will be heard no more throughout the countryside. The steam whistle at Draper was discontinued on the same day. Other textile mills in the Tri-Cities already had stopped blowing their whistles.

A symbol of the almost-forgotten past when people awoke, worked and ate by their blasts, the whistles were found to be unnecessary in these days of radio time signals and modern clocks and watches. Progressive industries are fast abandoning steam whistles as serving no useful purpose.

Steam whistles were discontinued at the Bedsread and Karstan Mills many years ago. Quieter and more efficient electrical sirens are strategically placed throughout the departments to signal starting and stopping times. Also, for a long time, workers in some mills have not been able to hear the steam whistles because of the noise of machinery and consequently the flashing of lights inside the plants indicates the beginning and ending of shifts.

## Membership Campaign Closes At Girls Club

Mrs. Jack Washburn of the Rayon Cloth Department won first place and a cash prize of \$20.00 in the annual membership campaign at the Girl's Club. In second place was Mrs. Lance Agee who received a Caro-Nome cosmetic set given by Spray Drug Company. Miss Della Hawkins of the Fieldcrest Training Department, in third place, received a basket of groceries, gift of Edwards Super Market. In fourth place was Mrs. Juanita Glens who won an aluminum clothes dryer given by Burke's Ben Franklin Store. Miss Cornelia Jones, in fifth place, received a refrigerator water bottle donated by C. P. Smith Department Store.



LAST BLAST FROM WHISTLE—Picture at right shows the steam whistle atop the Finishing Mill Machine Shop which has served for many years and now has been silenced. At left, Dan Aheron, who blew the whistle for many years, prepares to pull the cord sounding the final blast. Looking on, left to right, are Frank T. Suttentfield, Bleachery and Finishing Mill superintendent; John W. Arnall, assistant superintendent, Finishing Mill; and M. W. Hayden, master mechanic.

## 34 Persons Complete First Aid Training

Two first aid training classes in which 34 persons participated came to a close Friday, September 28, after having met five times a week for two weeks. The class was taught by O. Franklin Griffith, senior safety instructor for the North Carolina Industrial Commission. Red Cross first aid certificates were awarded to those successfully completing the course. The classes met in the central YMCA gymnasium, the morning class meeting from 11 a. m. until 1 p. m. and the evening class from 7 p. m. until 9 p. m.

Sponsored by Fieldcrest Mills the standard Red Cross first aid course with civil defense supplement was taught. H. E. Williams, safety director at Fieldcrest, said it is hoped that members of the group will be encouraged to study further and to become first aid instructors. He said plans are under discussion concerning classes in February to train instructors in first aid. With civil defense activities being accelerated, there are indications more persons would like to take first aid training.

## New Coffee Vending Machines Installed At Bedsread Mill

As a convenience to employees, the Company has installed coffee and Coca Cola dispensing machines at the Bedsread Mill. The devices were first put into use, Monday, September 24. In announcing the new service to Bedsread employees, E. W. Medbery, production manager, stated that the machines were installed on a trial basis. If the system works out satisfactorily, it will be continued in the Bedsread Mill and consideration will be given to placing similar machines in the other plants, Mr. Medbery said.

The machines are of the newest type and are equipped with automatic change makers. The coffee machine dispenses the drink any way that is preferred—with or without cream or sugar. The price for a "Coke" or cup of coffee is a nickel.

The canteen service at Bedsread is being continued on regular schedule. Except for Coca Cola, the usual drinks are served from the canteen wagon. Operation of the new dispensers is being handled by the Y.M.C.A. Canteen.