

# Industrial Life In Finland And U.S. Contrasted By Visiting Textile Man



C. Tanner      Kalervo Miettinen  
 . . . . . Visitor from Finland . . . . .

"Americans are a very kind and generous people", Kalervo Miettinen, a young textile man from Finland, said recently during his visit to Fieldcrest Mills where he toured many of the plants and gave particular attention to our quality testing system which he described as the best he had seen anywhere.

Mr. Miettinen, who is associated with Suomen Trikoo OY/AB in Tampere, Finland, is spending six months in the United States on a scholarship from a Finnish technical foundation, an agency of the government.

The visiting mill man said Suomen Trikoo is a tricot knitting firm making 100 per cent of the knit goods in Finland. The "OY/AB" following the name means the company is incorporated, he explained. Suomen Trikoo produces full fashioned hosiery, bathing suits, underwear, sweaters and other fine knitted fabrics.

Mr. Miettinen has visited the various textile centers of the United States including the New England and Philadelphia areas as well as the mills in the South. He has visited Lowell Textile Institute, Lowell, Mass., the Rhode Island School of Design, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass., North Carolina State College and Emerson College in addition to his visit to the leading textile companies.

In commenting on his first trip to America, Mr. Miettinen said he was greatly impressed with the up-to-date modern textile machinery of this country and with the excellent employee relations in the industry. The standard

of living here, he said, is unusually high as compared to the whole of Europe.

In Finland, he said, very few people own automobiles. Of his company's 3,000 employees only about 20 have cars. Mr. Miettinen's father, a mill superintendent, rides a bicycle to work. Bicycles are popular in Finland even on long trips. A tremendous parking rack for bicycles is maintained at mills, Mr. Miettinen said.

He said few American cars are used in Finland, most autos being of English or German make. These are of relatively low power, he said, in order to provide better gasoline mileage. He said gasoline was expensive and was a factor in the small degree of auto ownership in his native country.

## National Magazines (Continued from page one)

and LIVING FOR YOUNG HOME-MAKERS for June contain ads on our solid-color towels showing all 13 colors.

Karastan's national advertising includes pattern No. 779 featured in full-page colored ads in the April HOUSE BEAUTIFUL, and the May HOUSE & GARDEN. Karastan pattern No. 781 is advertised in a full-page colored ad in BETTER HOMES & GARDENS for April and HOUSE & GARDEN for May.

# Report Shows Men Stay Active After Age Of 65

Contrary to the general impression that age 65 usually marks the end of productive life, a relatively large proportion of American men past that age are still actively at work, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's statisticians report.

Of all men at ages 65 to 69, fully three-fifths are gainfully employed, and at ages 70 to 74 the proportion is about two-fifths, according to estimates derived from Census Bureau data. Even among those at 75 and over, one in five is still working.

A larger proportion of those working after 65 are self-employed than is the case at the younger ages, and the proportions employed as farmers and farm managers, in executive positions in business, or as service workers likewise are greater than for the years prior to age 65. This increase in the proportion of service workers reflects the tendency of older men to take such lighter jobs as watchmen and guards.

It is noted that about one-fifth of those working at the advanced ages are in part-time employment, and that about one-sixth of those employed after age 65 do not prefer or cannot accept full-time work.

"The chances of survival to the older ages have increased markedly, and to make adequate provision for this period calls for a program of careful planning and savings during the productive years," the statisticians comment.



**1926 DRAPER TEAM**—The picture above was loaned to the Mill Whistle by Mrs. Walter Braswell of Blanket Spooling and shows the Draper baseball team in 1926. Seated left to right are: the catcher, Walter Braswell, who died in 1953; J. U. Newman, Jr., Noel Shelton; Tootsie Swift; Lem Shelton; George Holland.

Standing: Bill Jones, Leonard Stultz, Clarence Combs, Howard Sheppard, Fred Hall, Furman Holland.