

# Merry Christmas

## THE MILL WHISTLE

*Fieldcrest*

FASHIONS FOR BED AND BATH



*Karastan*

AMERICA'S FINEST POWER-LOOMED RUG

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### All Plants, Offices To Close For Holidays

For the Christmas holiday, all mills will close at 11 p.m. Friday, December 20 and resume operations at 11 p.m., Wednesday, December 25. Payroll checks for the week ending December 22 will be distributed Friday, December 27.

Straight-time pay for an eight-hour workday will be paid to each hourly-paid employee for Christmas day provided his name appears on the active payroll for the week including the holiday and he worked his last scheduled workday before and his first scheduled workday after the holiday.

Pay for Christmas day will be included in the regular pay check for the week ending January 19, 1958.

#### New Year's Holiday

For the New Year's holiday, all mills will close at 11 p.m. Tuesday, December 31 and will resume operations at 11 p.m., Wednesday, January 1. Employees needed for inventory work will be notified in advance by the supervisors.

Payroll checks for the week ending December 29 will be distributed Friday, January 3.

Because of favorable experience this year, it will be possible to waive group insurance premiums for the weeks ending December 22 and December 29.

Employees affected will be notified of any change in the above schedules.

All offices will be closed for the Christmas holidays Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25. The offices will be closed for the New Year's holiday Wednesday, January 1.

### Holiday Schedule Given For Employees Store

The Employees Store will remain open until 12 o'clock noon on Christmas Eve, December 24.

The Store will be closed from noon Tuesday, December 24, through Wednesday, January 1 for inventory and the New Year's holiday, re-opening on regular schedule Thursday, January 2.

### A Christmas Message

#### FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The Christmas season is here again, and next week people all over the Christian world will pause from their daily tasks in remembrance of the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem nearly two thousand years ago. Families and children and friends will visit and relax together in that wonderful spirit of good fellowship and love which seems so strong and widespread at this particular season. We call it "The Christmas Spirit." May it touch all of us in Fieldcrest with its warmth and friendly glow.

As the year draws to a close, it is natural to look back and review our accomplishments for the last 12 months. Once again I am pleased to report that your Company has made substantial progress during 1957. As you know, all our mills have run steadily with a great amount of overtime until the last few weeks when we have had some curtailment and short time in some mills—for the first time in three years. Our sales volume for the year, however, will show a substantial increase over 1956 and will be the highest in our history. This is contrary to the general trend in the textile industry.

We have continued to improve our plants and our equipment in a substantial way. We acquired the St. Marys Woolen Manufacturing Company, of St. Marys, Ohio, October 1. Our new office building, which will combine all of our staff departments and general office functions under one roof for the first time, is nearing completion. We were forced to liquidate our Synthetic Fabrics Mill last spring and I am pleased to tell you that practically all of those employees who were displaced by that decision have been re-employed elsewhere in our other mills. Our Fieldcrest Shop program has made great progress in the best stores in the country and will continue to expand in the year ahead. Your generosity and magnificent morale made an outstanding success of the Tri-City Hospital campaign fund. It is a great honor and privilege to head such a wonderful organization!

Business is not good at the moment. I have no crystal ball to foresee the future. I can only tell you that both our Fieldcrest and Karastan sales organizations are working hard and doing their best to bring in the orders and keep our looms running. I think they are the best in the business and that we will get our share, and more, of whatever business is available. We will, of course, be affected by general business conditions in spite of anything we do for ourselves.

In behalf of our stockholders, our directors, and all of my associates in our management group, I thank you for your good work during the past year and extend our sincere best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of you and your families.

*H. W. Whitcomb*

President