

GEO. R. SPENCER

# SPENCER LUMBER COMPANY

S. ELMER SPENCER

High-class dealers in lumber and manufacturers of builders supplies, are of the greatest importance to growing and progressive cities, and the fact that Gastonia can support an establishment of this character, and size of that of the Spencer Lumber Company is one of the best indications that the city is not only rapidly increasing in population, but that it is really booming. The Spencer Lumber Company is one of the largest and best equipped in this section of the Carolinas, and its trade is constantly increasing throughout the adjacent territory, as well as in the city proper. There has been a building permit issued every other day in Gastonia during the past few months, and by far the larger part of the materials used in the erection of these buildings is the product of the Spencer Company, which has during its long years of existence both as the Page Company and under its present ownership been, to a large extent, the center around which the building interests of this city and section have revolved. There have been but few

structures built in this city since it was founded in which material from the plant has not been used and always with the most satisfactory results. The yards and mills of the company are located along Falls and west Page streets, and are about 700x1,000 feet, comprising a space of about 700,000 square feet. In these yards at the present writing there are over 750,000 feet of lumber of various kinds.

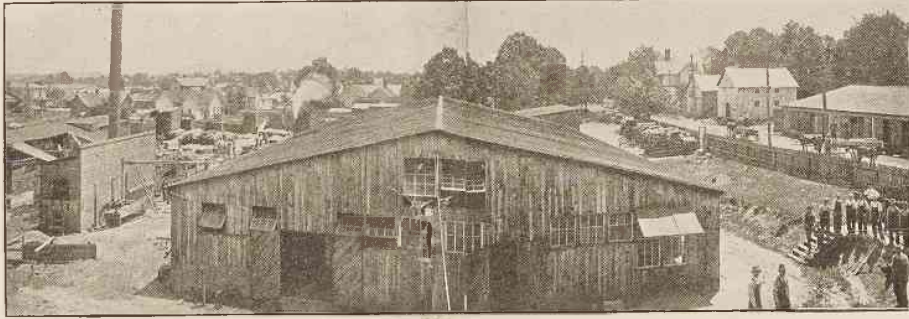
The mills and shops comprising six modern buildings equipped with the most improved wood working machinery that long experience and ample capital could assemble, have a floor space of 26,000 square feet, exclusive of the barns and sheds, and 40 men are employed in the plant in various capacities. There is nothing needed by the builder and contractor or the man who wishes to do his own work

that is made of timber that cannot be procured at the mills and in the yards of the Spencer Lumber Company, at the lowest market prices. The mills turn out in large quantities and by the most improved methods the finest grades of mouldings, sash, doors, blinds, frames, cornices, flooring, ceilings, sidings. They are also prepared to do all kinds of special contract work and the company numbers among its

patrons the most prominent contractors and builders in this section, men who know good material when they see it, and always keep in touch with the market. They furnish glass of all kinds, the company handles nothing but rough and dressed lumber, lathes, shingles and the various manufactured product of its mills which include all kinds of mantels and turned work. Its trade extends from Char-

lotte to Spartanburg, and from Chester to Lincoln, including all intermediate points. The plant now operated by the Spencer Lumber Company was for many years the property of the Page Company, of which Mr. J. E. Page was the guiding spirit. Two years ago this coming September, it was purchased by George R. Spencer and S. Elmer Spencer, the sons of the late John T. Spencer, who for many years was the leading contractor and builder of this city and section, and one of its most prominent and successful citizens. He was a native of the county, and one of the pioneers of Gastonia, having erected the first house within its boundaries, and always possessing an abiding faith in its future greatness. He lived here until his death, and both members of the firm were born in this city. Mr. George R. Spencer was, before joining his brother in purchasing the business, the superintendent of a large cotton factory at Opelika, Ala., while Mr. S. Elmer Spencer had been for five years employed in a responsible capacity by the Page Company.

Rough and Dressed Lumber  
Sash, Doors  
Blinds



EXTENSIVE PLANT OF THE SPENCER LUMBER COMPANY

Mouldings  
Turned Work  
Laths, Mantels  
Shingles, Etc.

# HARRY-BABER COMPANY

Gastonia's Leading Grocery and Produce Store

As an example of the modern grocery and produce store no better example could be found anywhere than the establishment of the Harry-Baber Company, incorporated, on Main street,

in the center of the business section of Gastonia. Having the prestige that only long years of fair and square dealing can give, a stock that is unequalled in quality and quantity in this section,

the store is strictly one of high character, both as to the goods handled and the methods of doing business. The building, fronting 28 feet on the principal thoroughfare of the city and extending back a distance of 145 feet to the tracks of the Southern railroad, the establishment has over 4,000 square feet of well-lighted and ventilated floor space for the display of the enormous stock of plain and fancy groceries, canned goods, crockery and feed stuffs carried by the company. Nothing has been forgotten or left undone by the enterprising proprietors to make this a model store, and the fact that their efforts have been appreciated by the discriminating people of this city and the surrounding section is shown by the generous patronage which has been given them. The store under its present name of the Harry-Baber Company since October 1, 1909, when it was incorporated, but its origin dates back to twenty years ago when Gastonia was scarcely more than a village. It was founded by R. C. G. Love, who afterwards took his son into co-partnership, they were succeeded by J. F. Thompson & Com-

pany, and then came John F. Love, incorporated. In the meantime the concern had fully kept pace with the phenomenal growth of the city and had become a full fledged modern department store. On February 1, 1909, it was decided to divide some of the departments and the Love company was incorporated for the purpose of handling groceries, crockery and produce, while the Thompson Mercantile Company took over the dry goods, clothing, ladies and gentlemen's furnishing goods, shoes, hats and millinery. On October 1, 1911, the Harry-Baber Company was incorporated to succeed the Love Company which ceased to exist. The officers chosen were J. R. Baber, president, J. F. Thompson, vice-president and Z. B. Harry, secretary and treasurer, all of whom had for various periods been connected with the enterprise. Mr. Baber, the president, had been with the predecessors of the company for over 18 years and had by his industry and ability risen to a responsible position. He is a native of York county, S. C., and came here 25 years ago to work on the Southern railroad then under course of construc-



INTERIOR OF THE HARRY-BABER COMPANY STORE

tion. He remained with the road two years and then, after working for a time as a carpenter, entered the employ of the concern the successor of which he was destined to become president. Mr. J. F. Thompson, the vice-president of the new company was also employed by the old concern for 15 years with the exception of about 4 years when he was in business on his

own account. Z. B. Harry, the secretary and treasurer, was the bookkeeper of the old company and was with it a number of years when he took a similar position with the Love Trust Company, but afterwards returned to his old job. Mr. Harry is a native of Cleveland county and is known as an expert office man.



HARRY-BABER COMPANY

SCHNEIDERS.

Ladies' and Gentlemen's Ready-to-Wear Clothing and Furnishing Goods.

Among the leading mercantile establishments that go to make up the shopping district of Gastonia there is none which occupies such a unique place as Schneider's. For a dozen years this has been the only house in Gastonia devoted exclusively to the

plish the wardrobe of men and women in every walk of life. In the men's department he keeps such sterling goods as those made by Hart, Shaffner & Marx, easily classed among the world's most expert tailors, Stetson hats, the "Eton" shoe, and a line of gentlemen's furnishing goods it would be most difficult to duplicate. In the ladies' department there is a fine line of dry goods, dress goods, ready-to-wear garments, shoes, and

people. His prices are always reasonable and his goods just as they are represented to be. The proprietor of this up-to-date establishment, Mr. Harry Schneider, came here from Gibson, N. C., about 12 years ago, and has been actively identified with its phenomenal growth.

J. WHITE WARE

Insurance.

Every owner of property whether his holdings are large or small, cannot help but recognize the tremendous value, indeed the almost absolute necessity of insurance, for his own protection, just as he recognizes it as his duty to insure his life for the protection of his family, if they are dependent upon him. Nearly every one carries insurance to a certain extent but there is a numerous class who could, and should, carry more for a better investment could possibly be made. Why this large class of property owners should take half-way measures in such an important matter is a mystery to the well-insured man who rests content in the knowledge that the property he has worked so hard to accumulate is safe from the ravages of fire, lightning or tornado, and that his dear ones are well provided for should he take the long sleep. Having decided to insure or to increase insurance already held, the next important question is the selection of the company in which to place the risk. The plan pursued by the great majority of shrewd business men, is to leave this

matter to experienced agents, representing companies of the highest standard and character. Located in Gastonia are the insurance offices of Mr. J. White Ware, in the Citizen's Bank building on Main street. Mr. Ware represents some of the strongest and most reliable companies in the world, backed by assets aggregating millions of dollars, and he has as his patrons some of the most discriminating property holders of this section, who rely entirely on his judgment in placing their insurance. There are no better fire insurance companies in existence than the London, Liverpool and Globe, the Home Insurance Company, Continental New Hampshire, St. Paul Fire and Marine, German Alliance, Hamburg Bremen, and the Royal Exchange Assurance, all of which are represented here by Mr. Ware. He also represents the Greensboro Life Insurance Co., and the Hartford Steam Boiler Insurance Co., besides writing health, liability, accident and automobile insurance. In connection with his insurance business Mr. Ware is also one of the most extensive dealers in real estate in this section, and although he handles city property, he pays special attention to the sale of some of the choicest farms in both North and South Carolina, and those contemplating settling in this section will make no mistake in communicating with him. He has made a study of land values in this section where he has always lived, and no one is more familiar with real estate conditions.

Mr. Ware is a native of King's Mountain where one of the greatest battles of the Revolution was fought and won by the American troops. He has been living in Gastonia off and on, for the past 25 years, and is thoroughly identified with its interests. Mr. Ware was formerly in the cotton brokerage business and is one of Gastonia's public spirited men.

F. D. BARKLEY & COMPANY.

Flour, Grain, Hay, Cotton Seed Meal, Fruits, Produce, and Provisions.

There is no city in this section of North Carolina with perhaps a single exception, that can compete with Gastonia as a center for the handling, by wholesale, of flour, grain, hay, cotton seed meal, hulls, fruits, produce, and provisions. Surrounded as it is by a number of smaller towns and a rich and productive agricultural country, together with the fact that its shipping facilities are of the best, have brought this condition about. There are a number of firms engaged in the business, and among those having a

place in the very front rank is that of F. D. Barkley & Company, whose offices and warehouses are located at the corner of Main and York streets. Fronting on the principal thoroughfare 30 feet, the establishment of the concern extends back to the tracks of the Southern railway, providing most excellent shipping facilities for the handling of heavy goods. Although he has only been in business for about four years on his own account, Mr. Barkley has built up a large business in the two Carolinas which is constantly increasing, pushed by his energy and enterprise. He has had long experience in the business, having at one time been connected with the wholesale grocery firm of J. K. Morrison Grocery & Produce Company of Statesville, N. C., and later having an interest in the firm of J. Flem Johnson & Company, of this city. He is a native of Statesville, N. C., and is a self-made man in the best sense that the term implies. Mr. Barkley takes a great interest in military affairs and is an officer of the National Guard of the state.



STORE OF H. SCHNEIDER

complete outfitting of both ladies' and gentlemen. Nothing else is handled except things to wear, and devoting himself entirely to this single line of merchandising, Mr. Schneider has made his establishment at 122 Main street, the headquarters of the best dressed men and women. He occupies the entire floor of the building owned by him at 122 Main street, and carries an immense stock of ready-to-wear garments, boots, shoes, hats, umbrellas, trunks, valises, furnishing goods and everything needed to re-

everything needed by the most fastidious women, all fresh from the best manufacturers and in the latest style. The millinery department on the second floor is in charge of expert milliners, and is patronized by the most discriminating and best dressed women within a radius of many miles. Mr. Schneider has certainly given Gastonia a store that would be a credit to any city many times its size, and the fact that his enterprise is appreciated is evidenced by the generous patronage he receives from the



ST. MICHAEL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



STORE OF F. D. BARKLEY & COMPANY