



Directors Name Ruffin As Lewis Assumes New

Other Officers and Board of Directors Are Re-elected; Ruffin Retains Job of Treasurer

The Board of Directors of The Erwin Cotton Mills Company in annual meeting today made K. P. Lewis, Chairman of the Board, and elected Wm. H. Ruffin, to succeed him as President of the Company. Mr. Lewis of the Company. Mr. Ruffin has been President since 1932 when he succeeded the late W. A. Erwin in that office, and will continue in active service of the Company. Ruffin has served as Vice-President and Treasurer of the Company since 1942. Ruffin retained the office of Treasurer which he has held for some years.

All other officers were re-elected as follows: Carl B. Harris, Vice-President and Assistant Treasurer, Frank T. de Vyver, Vice-President, E. W. Durham, Secretary, N. A. Gregory, Assistant Secretary, and L. C. Thomas, Assistant Secretary.

It was also announced that Edwin M. Holt has been made general manager of manufacturing and assistant to Carl B. Harris, Vice-President and Assistant Treasurer of the Company. Holt served for a number of years as Manager of the Company's plants in Cooleemee, N. C., and came to Durham in July, 1947, to join the executive staff of the Company.

The following Directors were elected: John Sprunt Hill, K. P. Lewis, J. Harper Erwin, George Watts Hill, B. W. Stiles, Forrest Hyde, LeRoy Martin, A. F. Bonsal, Wm. H. Ruffin, and Carl B. Harris. Stiles, Hyde, and Bonsal are residents of New York City, Martin, of Raleigh. The other Board Members are residents of Durham.

Mr. Lewis came to work for the Erwin Mills in Durham in 1900 and soon became first assistant to the late W. A. Erwin, who founded the Company in 1892. He was made Assistant Secretary and Treasurer in 1919, Secretary and Treasurer in 1927, and succeeded Mr. Erwin as President in 1932. He is a past President of the North Carolina Cotton Manufacturers Association and of the American Cotton Manufacturers Association.

Mr. Ruffin started work with the Erwin Mills in 1919, spending two years working through various manufacturing departments. He became Secretary and Assistant Treasurer in 1932, Secretary and Treasurer, 1941, and Vice-President and Treasurer, 1942. He is a past President of the North Carolina Cotton Manufacturers Association, and is serving now as President of the North Carolina Industrial Council and as a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Manufacturers.

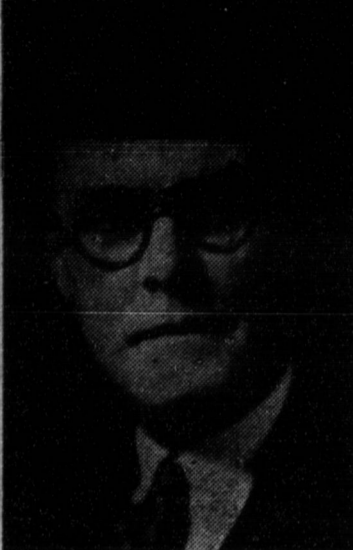
Window Display Marks National Scout Week

In celebration of the National Scout Week this month, the Methodist Church troop, Troop No. 32, displayed the J. N. Ledford Co. store window. Included in the large display is a complete showing of scout equipment consisting of tents and all camping paraphernalia. Also to be seen are a hat collection, a miniature model of a tent and plan.

The troop has given a theatre party on Tuesday night, February 10, by the Scout Committee. All boys between the ages of 12 and 15 who are not scouts will be welcomed to join the troop any Tuesday night.



WILLIAM H. RUFFIN



KEMP P. LEWIS

President Lewis Reviews History in Annual Meeting of Stockholders

(The following informal statement was made at the annual stockholders meeting here February 6 by President Kemp P. Lewis.)

Before we adjourn I have an informal statement I want to make to the stockholders which has an item of news that may be interesting.

Mr. W. A. Erwin and my father were good friends. Mr. Erwin told my father once that he understood he had several boys, and he wished Dr. Lewis would send one of the boys up to work for him. So father selected me. I arrived in West Durham on the afternoon of October 3, 1900, not knowing what I would have to do or the conditions of employment.

The first day I spent waiting at the door of the shipping room for Mr. Erwin, who said he would take me through the mill. He evidently forgot me, because I waited there all day. The next day he asked me to go through the mill and follow the course of the cotton from the bale to the finished cloth and write out a record of it. I would like very much to have that historical document, which was lost when we moved our office.

The first actual work I did was counting brick to be used in building a fire wall to a warehouse. Mr. Erwin had no definite job for me, but counted on working me into the organization. The first work I did in the office was on the payroll, and in counting the money to put in the payroll envelopes. Mr. Erwin noticed me and said he bet I could not do it without making a mistake. I thought different, and ended by making seven mistakes.

Mr. Erwin's secretary left the Company, and Mr. Erwin told me if I would learn shorthand he would take me on as his secretary, and I did so. This was the opportunity of being near to Mr. Erwin, and I acted as his secretary for some six or eight years. I learned more about the business from being close to him, and he was very helpful to me in every way.

My next job was purchasing agent, then general assistant in the Executive Department, and special assistant to Mr. Erwin. I was made Assistant Secretary and Treasurer in 1919, Secretary & Treasurer in 1927, and President in 1932.

From this you will see that I have been with the Company nearly forty-seven and one-half years, and President of it for sixteen years. It is rather an unusual experience for a man to have had only one job connection in forty-seven and one-half years.

When I first came to West Durham there was only the No. 1 Mill, making Denim—the first Denim made in the South. I saw the whole business develop from that beginning until today we really have eight plants. No. 2 Mill was built in 1904; No. 3 Mill was bought from the Cooleemee Cot-

ton Mills in 1906; No. 4 Mill was built in 1910; No. 5 Mill was built in 1925; and No. 6 Mill was bought in 1932. Our other two plants, both very large ones, are finishing plants in West Durham and Cooleemee. We had 25,000 spindles in 1900, and have 192,000 now. We have broadened our operations from making Denim to cover Sheets and Pillow Cases, Cantons, Suitings, Drills, Jeans, Outings, Interlining Flannels, Sport Denim, Drapery, and Luggage Fabrics.

I have always been proud of my association with The Erwin Cotton Mills Company. It has had a reputation for character in which I take great pride, and the Company has always had the most excellent credit in financial circles. It was established and has been maintained on a foundation of honor and faithfulness to high principles. My experience with the Company has been a very happy one. I believe it has a good future, and the stockholders should be pleased with its standing.

I have decided to recommend to the Directors, who will meet just after the close of this meeting, to change the official set-up of the Company and establish the office of Chairman of the Board, and I am going to do something I have never done before, and that is ask for a job. I believe that the Directors will look favorably upon choosing me as Chairman of the Board, and I hope

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Attendance Record

(Week Ending January 18, 1948)

Plant No. 3	
Warehouse	87.50%
Dyehouse	98.97%
Outside	83.56%
Machine Shop	99.69%
Carding	94.55%
Spinning	84.44%
Warping	92.90%
Weaving	91.19%
AVERAGE FOR PLANT	90.80%

Finishing Plant No. 3

Cloth Room	92.41%
Shipping	89.33%
Napping	92.24%
Piece Dye	97.28%
Bleachery	89.61%
AVERAGE FOR PLANT	92.58%

AVERAGE FOR COOLEEMEE	91.20%
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Company Offers Rowan Lots to Home Builders

The Company is offering to the employees, 100 x 200 foot lots just across the river on the Rowan side for the purpose of building dwelling houses. As soon as each house is completed the company will deed the land to the owner for \$1.00. There are 17 tracts set off for this purpose. Anyone interested can get further information from the Main Office.

Cooleemee High Now Member State Athletic Assoc.

Cooleemee High School athletics advanced another step this month when the North Carolina High School Athletic Association accepted C. H. S. The first step was made the past fall when Coach Ralph Sinclair began football in earnest.

As a result of the new association membership, the local basketball boys' basketball team will play in the State Class B tournament at the Reynolds High Gymnasium on March 1. In the event the team comes out a winner, it will then be eligible to proceed to the state finals at Chapel Hill.

This Spring the baseball team will take part in the Round Robin play composed of teams from Yadkinville, West Yadkin, Courtney and Boonville. The winner of this divisional play is to compete with other divisional winners for State honors.

This new step forward for local high school athletics make Cooleemee the first Class B school in this section of the state to advance to state-wide competition.

Early in the nineteenth century a machine was widely used in the South which by the operation of a single crank ginned, carded, and spun simultaneously six threads of cotton.

Greater Funds Needed to Maintain Red Cross Program

The 1948 fund campaign of the American Red Cross reminds the public that "this year greater sums are needed for an equal job." To estimate a campaign goal takes a lot of figuring, based in part on statistics of the past, in part on unpredictable needs of the coming year, and, most important, on definite plans for community well-being.

In its steadily increasing emphasis on a peacetime program, the Red Cross is expanding its work for veterans and their dependents, while at the same time maintaining its traditional services to the armed forces and to civilians.

Red Cross beneficiaries in 1947 were legion. Nearly 100,000 persons received emergency help and rehabilitation following disasters of the past fiscal year. In the first 10 months of 1947 alone, Red Cross disaster relief appropriations were approximately \$9,500,000. Financial assistance to veterans, servicemen, and their dependents totaled \$11,944,365 for the year. Numberless persons were served by Volunteer Special Services workers, who gave 25,000,000 hours of their time.

Benefits from Red Cross services are two-way. Instruction in water safety and first aid not only provides skills that prevent many accidents from occurring to the individual but also provides a knowledge of what to do for others when accidents do occur. Since the Red Cross in 1914 began its program to "waterproof" America, the nation's drowning rate has been cut in half. Similarly, the 11,230,000 certificates issued since the first aid program was instituted in 1910 are impressive evidence of the number of beneficiaries of these services.

The National Blood Program when fully established will make whole blood and its derivatives available without cost to all people of our nation. Its beneficiaries carry in their very veins a token of neighborly service.

Events of the year 1948 are uncertain and unpredictable. Yet standing by, ready for any emergency, is the Red Cross with millions of organized workers to carry on its manifold services.

Remember—this year more funds are needed for an equal job.



BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM above has won seven games and lost only one at deadline time. Basketball is going well at the high school and the team will play soon in Winston-Salem in the State High School Athletic Association's Class B tournament. Members of the squad are left to right, front row—Joe Chinnell, Louis Beck, Sonny Foster, Hayden Benson, Bob Jordan and J. W. McClannou; second row—David Page, Bud McClannock, Richard Beck and Sonny Miller.