



THE ERWIN CHATTER

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MANAGEMENT SPEAKS

March 3, 1952

To the Employees of Erwin Mills:

Last month in his letter to you, Mr. Harris asked for better quality and production, pointing out the depressed condition of the Textile Industry. The depressed condition is even more severe now, the price of Sheets and a great many other items is far under cost, and there is little demand for textiles of any kind. We at Erwin Mills are working hard to develop more popular fabrics and patterns, some of which may be of interest to you.

In Durham, No. 6 Mill has been converted to Combed Percale Sheets and Pillow Cases. We are packaging Sheets and Pillow Cases in transparent wrappers, such as cellophane, pliofilm or polyethylene to make our put-up more attractive.

At Erwin, we are dressing up the old "stand-by" Indigo Blue Denims. Some are being printed in attractive plaid patterns and lightly napped. This "dresses" up the fabric and makes it warmer. Some are being woven with bright colors of filling, making an "irredescent" appearance to the face of the fabric, and can be napped or not, depending on the desire of the garment manufacturers.

At Cooleemee, we are adding new patterns and new fabrics in Sportswear and Suitings. These goods are being used more and more for decorative purposes in the home, such as slip covers and draperies, because they are very serviceable, attractive and inexpensive.

Crease resistant finishes on cotton fabrics are becoming more popular and at Cooleemee, we have installed equipment for doing this work. This finish gives the cloth a "sheen" and makes the finished garment "drape" better without so many small wrinkles that are common in cotton fabrics. We have also installed embossing equipment with which we can impress permanent designs in the cloth, a type of finish which is also meeting with much success.

By adding new products and improving the ones we know are desirable, we feel that we are in a better position to increase sales. Your cooperation in helping to keep Erwin quality at the top level in all of our products is more important now than ever before.

Sincerely yours,
L. C. Thomas
Asst. Secretary &
Sales for Durham, Cooleemee
& Neuse



Mr. and Mrs. James E. Sparks, Cooleemee, proud parents of a daughter, Jane Eddice Sparks, born January 18th.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Wilson, Erwin, proud parents of a son, Larry, born in Good Hope Hospital on January 13th.

Mr. and Mrs. David Bennett, Erwin, whose baby son, Thomas Bennett, was born on December 29th.

Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Weaver who announce the birth of a son, Kenneth Franklin, on January 14th at Watts Hospital. Mrs. Weaver is an



NEW MANAGER AT NEUSE PLANT—MR. L. E. GATLIN, JR., has recently taken over the job as manager of Plant No. 7 in Neuse, North Carolina. He has had practical experience in manufacturing on various types of cotton, both plain and fancy, and filament rayon goods for the underwear and outerwear trade. He has also had experience in spun rayon, nylon and various synthetic blends for dress fabrics, men's and women's suiting.

Mr. Gatlin is a graduate of Clemson College, is married and has two sons. For the past 15 months he has been employed by the Dan River Mills and has been located for the most of that time at the Riverside Division. Besides working for Dan River Mills, he has been associated with the Pacific Mills, M. Lowenstein & Sons, and Beaunit Mills.

Born in Newberry, South Carolina, Mr. Gatlin spent his first years in the industry in and around Greenville. He is now in the process of locating a house for his wife and children and hopes to find one in Wake Forest.

employee of the Cloth Room, No. 4 Mill.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Yeager, proud parents of a daughter, Donna Garis, born February 8th. Mrs. Yeager is the former Durham editor of the CHATTER. Their address is 5631 Stafford Avenue, Huntington Park, California.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Carl Gregory of 1737 Murray Street, Durham, announce the birth of a son, Ernest Carl, Jr., on February 24th at Duke Hospital. Mrs. Gregory is the former Joyce Rasberry.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Page of 1823 Eva Street, Durham, announce the birth of a son, Winfred Earl, born on January 23rd at Duke Hospital. Mrs. Page is the former Faye Rasberry.

January Payroll Saving Report

For Cooleemee, Durham,
Erwin and Neuse

No. employees saving 1,102
Total savings for
month \$17,045.61

Congress has passed a law which makes it possible, now, for your Defense Bonds to earn interest ten years longer than originally planned.

For example: a Series E Bond which cost \$18.75 in 1942 will pay \$25.00 in 1952. But if you hold it ten extra years, it will pay you \$33.33, an average of 2.9%.

And there is nothing for you to do. You simply keep your Bonds as you have been keeping them.

You may still redeem any Series E Bond at any time after you have owned it sixty days. But holding your Bonds is the smart thing.

So if you have Bonds which are

coming due this month, remember the new money-making chance your Government is giving you. Just hold onto your Bonds and they'll go on earning for you. In the meantime, keep up your regular saving with more U. S. Defense Bonds—through our Payroll Savings.

Erwin Mills, in Durham, Erwin and Cooleemee are listed by the Treasury Department as having conducted outstanding Payroll Savings Drives during the year 1951. If you are not already buying them, sign up for Bonds today.

Letter From Japan

February 6, 1952
An Air Base in Japan

Erwin Mills, Inc.
Erwin, North Carolina

Dear Sirs:

I've just had a brainstorm and also I have a bit of news to pass along to you, so here goes.

The news: Two Erwin boys were brought together at an Air Base in Japan. The boys are S/Sgt. Bill Wilkerson and S/Sgt. Elbert Jackson. Sgt. Wilkerson is the son of Bob Wilkerson of No. 5 Spinning Room, and Sgt. Jackson is the son of Puny Jackson of No. 5 Weave Room.

Now for the brainstorm: Maybe this has been thought of before but has been found to be impractical. I, and I think I speak for all boys in the service, would like to keep up with the happenings of dear old Erwin. Would it be possible for the sons of Erwin Mills employees who are in the service to get a subscription to the Erwin CHATTER?

Guess that's about it for now but if I get some more news that's Erwin, I'll pass it along. So until then,

Sincerely,
S/Sgt. E. G. Jackson

An Open Letter to S/Sgt. Jackson from the Editors of the Erwin Chatter

Dear Sgt. Jackson:

We all thank you for sending in the news of Erwin boys in the service and hope that you will continue writing us.

Your brainstorm is a good one and something that everyone of our readers should know about. We would like the names and addresses of all relatives of Erwin Mills employees who are in the service so that copies of the Erwin CHATTER can be sent to them each month. We are currently sending out several hundred copies of the CHATTER to men in the service, but we want to be sure that everyone who wants a copy, gets one. It's up to us, now that you have had your brainstorm, and I hope we won't let you down. Employees in Erwin should turn in the names and addresses to Miss Olive McKown at the Employment Office; in Cooleemee, to Dick Pierce at the Recreation Center; and in Durham, to Mrs. Jane Corbitt at the CHATTER office.

Thanks again for your grand letter and the best of luck to you.

Sincerely,
The Editors of the
Erwin CHATTER

School Days For Erwin Employees

School days never come to an end for the person who is eager to learn. It's a healthy sign when adults enroll in classes designed to help them get ahead in their jobs, and that's exactly what is happening now at the Erwin Auditorium in Durham. The Vocational Education Department of the Durham City Schools is conducting a Loom Fixers' School here with the cooperation of Erwin Mills. In the basement of the Auditorium, bowling alleys were ripped out, a new floor laid, and classes are being held in this well-lighted, clean, comfortable classroom. The desks, blackboard, instructors and lights are furnished by the Durham City School's Vocational Education Division, and Erwin Mills furnishes the text books, the classroom, three looms and most important of all, the students.

After the word got around that classes in Loom Fixing would be available, it didn't take long for the roll books to be completed. Employees on the first shift attend classes from 3:30 to 5:30 P.M. on Monday and Thursday of each week under the instruction of William C. Dodson, Jr., Assistant Overseer in No. 4 Weave Room. Second shift students have classes with Malcolm Blackmon, Assistant Overseer in No. 1 Weave Room, from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. on Mondays and Wednesdays. The third shift employees attend classes from 6:30 to 8:30 A.M. Mondays and Thursdays. Their instructor is William H. Keller, Assistant Overseer in No. 1 Weave Room. All in all, there are 53 employees who attend these classes regularly and will finish their instruction in loom fixing about the last week in May after completing 60 hours as prescribed by the State of North Carolina Vocational Education Department.

Each of the three classes has its own loom to work on in the classroom and the lessons are carefully planned by the instructors to explain all motions and parts of the loom and enable the students to meet any problems they might face on the job in repairing a loom out of fix.

It is hoped that the Loom Fixers' classes at the Auditorium will be the beginning of an expanded training program for Erwin Mills employees available through the Vocational Education Department of the State of North Carolina in Durham, Cooleemee and Erwin.



LEARNING TO FIX LOOMS—Practical work in loom fixing is one of the main advantages to the new Loom Fixing Classes now in session at Erwin Auditorium. In one of the early sessions, George Ryals and Earl Hockaday dismantle a spring type Pittman arm under the watchful eyes of the instructor, W. C. Dodson, Jr. These members of the first shift class are, left to right with backs to camera; Clarence Harward, Jesse Bumpass, A. E. Barefoot, Osborne Ashley, Marion Bumpass, Dodson and Rubert Byrd. Those identified facing camera are Vernon Porter, Clyde McKellar and Lewis Smith.