

Phenix Plant
Fifth Anniversary
Section

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Sixty-Second Year

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Established 1889

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Burlington Phenix Plant Celebrates 5th Anniversary

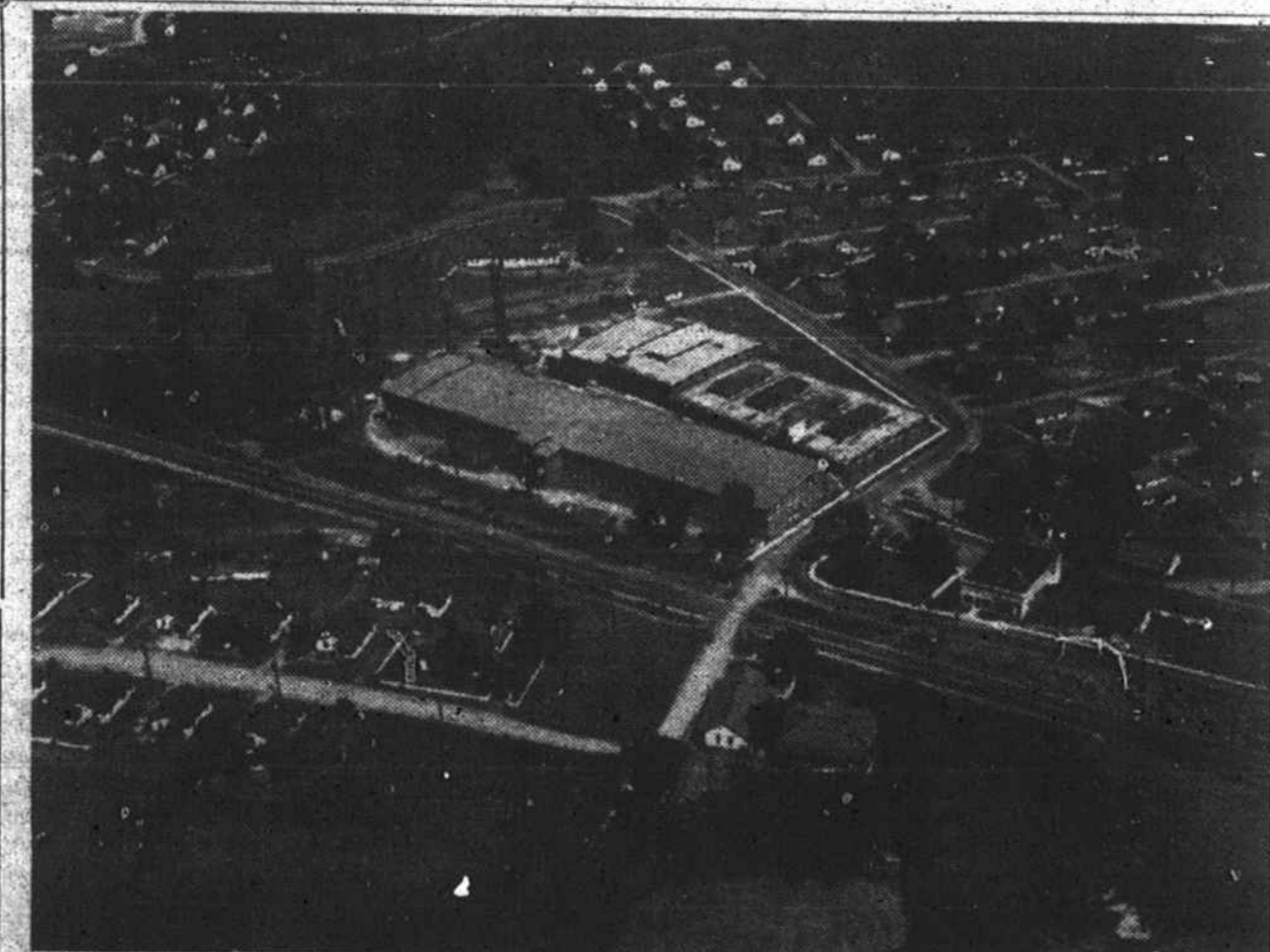
History Of Burlington Mills Reads Like Romance; Firm Began In 1923

Company Grew From Lone Unit, Now Employing 32,500 Persons

The history of Burlington Mills is an important chapter in the rayon industry and a fascinating story of planning, building, new products which have added to the comfort and well-being of the American public. It is a business romance of men who recognized the possibilities of new things from the yarns of chemistry in one of the nation's oldest industries—textiles.

In 1923 some local businessmen in Burlington, North Carolina, joined J. Spencer Love, a young World War I veteran, in building a small cotton textile mill employing about 200 persons. As a tribute to the community in which it was founded, the company was named, "Burlington Mills." The first plant manager was Mr. Love, who continues as chief executive of the organization in which capacity he has served for the past 26 years.

Seeing the possibilities of rayon in 1925, the management of this new enterprise began a program of expansion in order to develop fabrics from this revolutionary manufactured fiber. Working with rayon first as a decorative yarn, these textile pioneers were fascinated with this material and saw in it the answer to the age-old search for inexpensive high quality fabrics. The first plant to produce rayon dress goods was constructed in 1927. As the producers of rayon yarn improved their product, early problems of stiffness, shiny finish and mottled dyeing were solved. Soft, pliant, dull-finish fabrics easy to drape and tailor were developed. Rayon soon merged from the category of a



RECENT PHOTO OF PHENIX PLANT—Here is a recent aerial photo of the Burlington Mills Phenix Plant, yarn spinning mill and one of BurMil's 77 manufacturing plants. Phenix, employing 350 persons, is celebrating its fifth anniversary as a member of the big Burlington family.

cheap bargain basement substitute for silk in to a beautiful fabric in its own right and at prices attractive to the general public. Production was expanded into the drapery and upholstery field, rayon dress crepes, acetate tafetas, novelty dress fabrics, and rayon sheens. The depression

years of the early thirties failed to halt the Company's steady growth. Closed cotton mills were purchased and modernized for rayon and new plants were built, greatly increasing production and providing employment for many idle textile workers.

Decentralization

With its success in industrial growth, Burlington Mills also established a new pattern of industrial progress by decentralization of its plants in smaller cities where both plants and employees could fully enjoy the benefits of small town and rural surroundings. Local citizens frequently joined with the Company to help finance the building or purchasing of a plant in order to start a new venture which would add its productive strength to the community.

With the physical growth of the plants went an employee relations program which never lost sight of the Company's human resources and which has maintained for it a position of leadership in constructive wage and em-

(Cont'd on page five)

69 Employees Of Phenix Plant Get Five-Year Service Pins

Feature of the open house program for Burlington Mills Phenix Plant employees held Thursday night at the Masonic Dining Hall was the awarding of five-year service pins to employees. A total of 69 employees have completed five years of service with Burlington. They are:

- Frank A. Adams.
- Fred Anthony.
- Lucy D. Anthony.
- George Paris Aldridge.
- Mollie Ray Adams.
- William K. Bess.
- Raleigh Brown.
- Oscar Bollinger.
- Virgie T. Barber.
- Beatrice Bell.
- Virgie Blackwell.
- Mary Ruth Baity.
- Addie Mae Baity.
- Ida Bennett.
- Edward Boone.
- Catherine Bell.
- Floyd Baity.
- Ralph Conner.
- Fred Champion.
- Callie Cook.
- Doctor C. Champion.
- Bessie M. Davis.
- Andy Dover.
- Edward Dover.
- Frank Davis.
- Clarence L. Elgin.
- William F. Fleming.
- William Ford.
- James Fletcher.
- John Guiton.
- Gladys Green.
- Eunice Holcomb.
- Eddie Hill.
- John Hamm.
- Margaret Huffstetler.
- Ethel Hale.
- Bertie Hamm.
- A. R. Hawkins.
- Fannie Johnson.
- Bonnie Kennedy.
- Calvin Lingerfelt.
- Will Means.
- Baxter Melton.
- Charlie Matthews.
- Marcelline Owens.
- Benny Owensby.
- Emma Jane Pearson.
- James W. Ramey.
- Gertie Roper.
- Paul Lee Ruppe.
- Dewey Rathbone.
- Carol D. Rathbone.
- James W. Reinhardt.
- Fred Spencer.
- Manuel Smith.
- Theoda B. Scruggs.
- Mildred Sheppard.
- Chapel Sutherland.
- Warren B. Smith.
- Edna Tessenier.
- Ray Tomlin.
- Mark Taylor.
- William F. Upchurch.
- Howard R. Whitaker.
- Zeb Waters, Jr.
- Walter H. Wilson.
- Gerry Ward.
- Jonas Wright.
- Helen Waters.

Daugherty Is Head Of Phenix Operation

Black Mountain Native Began Textile Work 18 Years Ago

Fred Daugherty, a native North Carolina mountaineer, is superintendent of Burlington Mills Corporation's Phenix plant, and a graduate of the school of experience in textile production and management.

Mr. Daugherty, a native of Black Mountain, began his textile apprenticeship at Gastonia's Firestone mill in 1933. There followed subsequently textile employment in various capacities at Riverside Mill in Danville, Va., at a U. S. Rubber Company plant in Virginia, and at Hardin Manufacturing Company, Rock Hill, S. C.

In 1947, Mr. Daugherty joined the Burlington company at its Lakedale Plant, at Fayetteville.

On February 1, 1949, he became superintendent of the Phenix Plant and moved into the white frame superintendent's home on the hill which overlooks the Burlington plant.

Superintendent Daugherty devotes a full working day (sometimes more so) to the business of getting high-grade BurMil yarn off the Phenix spindles, including the sometimes innumerable duties connected with the principal end result. In addition, he finds time to be an active member of the Kings Mountain Lions club and the Central Methodist church.

He and Mrs. Daugherty have one son, appropriately named



SUPERINTENDENT — Fred Daugherty, native of Black Mountain, who started his textile apprenticeship in 1933, is superintendent of Burlington Mills Phenix Plant.

Fred Daugherty, Jr., Superintendent Daugherty's proud of his plant and proud of his Phenix Plant team. One of his frequent remarks is, "Come down to the plant and we'll show you how we make good yarn."

Burlington Mill Lists Milestones

- 1923—Company founded.
- 1924—106 pounds of rayon used - 200 employees.
- 1927—First plant to produce rayon dress goods started. Sales \$1,800,000.
- 1932—Rayon consumption 10,000,000 pounds—12 plants in North Carolina — Sales \$15,000,000.

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Company Takes Formal Note Of Birthday In Ceremonies

Burlington Mills Corporation's Phenix Plant, one of 77 plants in the far-flung Burlington operation, took official note of its fifth anniversary in Kings Mountain Thursday with special ceremonies.

The Phenix Plant held open house Thursday night at the Masonic Dining Hall, honoring 70 employees who have been with the company since it began operating in Kings Mountain five years ago.

The ceremonies, presided over by Superintendent Fred Daugherty, was attended by a number of Burlington officials.

Since its purchase of the Phenix Plant, Burlington Mills has renovated the properties and greatly modernized the equipment to enable the production of more and better cotton yarn and to produce it more cheaply.

This plant numbers 350 persons on its employee records and has an annual payroll of about \$750,000.

Since buying the property, formerly the Dilling Mills Company later Phenix Mills, Inc., Burlington has sold the majority of the houses in the villages to its employees. In most instances, payments on the houses are less than rent.

Like most progressive firms, Burlington thinks its just getting started on the job of rebuilding the local plant for maximum efficiency. "We've still a lot more to do," an official remarked recently.

The first shipment of a new 60 gauge 20 denier stocking produced by Burlington Mills left this week by air, accompanied by Carolyn Edwards of Leaksville, Miss North Carolina of 1950, for a world premiere of the hosiery at Columbus, Ohio.

Congratulations

to the
Management and Employees
of

Burlington Mills

PHENIX PLANT

on their

5th ANNIVERSARY

We wish for each continued prosperity and success in the manufacture of high quality yarns.

PLONK'S

Serving Kings Mountain Since 1899

OUR CONGRATULATIONS

to

Burlington Mills

and to its

Phenix Plant Employees'

on their

5th ANNIVERSARY

in

Kings Mountain

KINGS MOUNTAIN

DRUG COMPANY

PHONE 41 & 51 THE CITY'S MODERN STORE

We Salute . . .

The Management and Employees of Burlington Mills' Phenix Plant on their Fifth Anniversary in Kings Mountain.

We Wish . . .

this company continued success in its Kings Mountain operations.

Baird Furniture

Phone 59—New Morrison Bldg.