

## 'The City With A Future'

—from page 3

cited for its community and public service features.

### Face of History Changed At Ramsour's Mill

A few blocks north of town, a monument under some oak trees reminds the traveler that on a meadow here was fought the strangest battle of the American Revolution. In the bloody engagement of Ramsour's Mill on June 20, 1780, not a British troop was present. The battle of Whigs and Tories pitted relatives and friends against each other.

Some historians contend that the Whig victory directly set the stage for British defeat at Kings Mountain a few months later,

and subsequent surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

On the battlesite, Lincolnton people in recent years produced and staged a drama titled, "Thunder Over Carolina".

Ramsour's Mill battleground is but one of many historical treasures in and around Lincolnton. Other outstanding ones are: A jail built in 1730; Schenck-Warlick Cotton Mill site—first textile mill south of the Potomac; Woodside, birthplace of James P. Henderson, first governor of Texas; Old Vesuvius Iron Furnace.

### More than History In Town, County

Residents would have you know that their town and county are not for the historically-minded only. There is something for everyone to enjoy.

Golf, swimming, boating, hunting, fishing, and all organized sports are fare for residents and visitors. A well-organized recreation program for youngsters is conducted by the city. The Country Club has a 9-hole golf course and a swimming pool.

The city runs two swimming pools in summer, and in one of the city's parks is a wading pool for the kiddies.

A future dam on the Catawba River promises to open a vast new playground for Lincolnton and Lincoln County.



OLD MILL SITE—Mrs. W. G. Hall and son Charles Ray examine some plant life in a shaded ravine near the site of the Schenck-Warlick mill, erected before 1816 two miles from Lincolnton. Equipment for America's first cotton mill south of the Potomac River was hauled by oxcart from New England. The mill was burned during the Civil War.

## Sosebees Live In Gastonia

Mr. and Mrs. David Vance Sosebee are at home at 29 Overman avenue, after their July 31 wedding at First Christian Church in Gastonia.

Mrs. Sosebee, the former Carolyn Sims, is a graduate of

Ashley High School and Carolina Business College, Charlotte. She is employed by a local travel agency. Her mother, Mrs. Emory Johnson, works in the Cloth Room at Firestone.

Mr. Sosebee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Homer V. Sosebee, attended Gastonia public schools. He is employed in a local textile plant.

## Five Added To 15-Year Roster

Addition of five names to the 15-year service roster brought the total number in that category to 625 as of July. Those who received their lapel pins on the occasion of their 15th work anniversary at Firestone are:

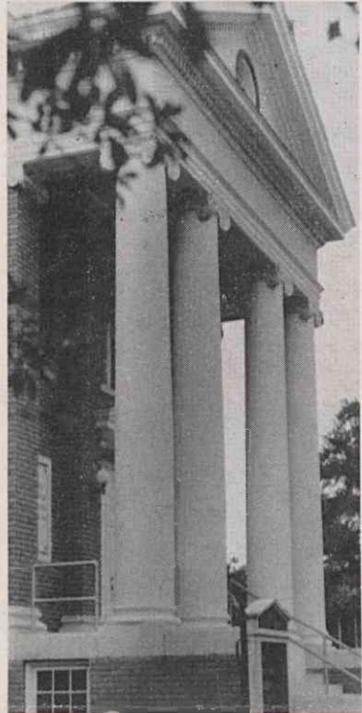
Opal Bradley, Carding; Eunice W. Jacobs, Jack E. Tino and Alden H. Hass, Twisting (synthetics); Beatrice McCarter, Main Office. **Ten Years**

Romulus L. Richburg, Hubert G. Taylor, Cordie S. Hardin and Fred E. Elkins, Twisting (synthetics); Mae Massey Jones, Weaving (cotton); Grady C. Johnson, Shop. **Five Years**

Harvey W. Burch, Fred D. Thompson, Annie D. Humphrey and Walter Irving, Twisting (synthetics); Clarence L. Jolly, Nylon Treating; Mae B. Foster, Spooling.

The number of employees with 20 or more years of service stands at 321. Lloyd Lewis, plant protection officer, was the last added to that list in June.

□□□ When God writes "opportunity" on one side of the door, He writes "responsibility" on the other side.



CHURCHES—The many churches of Lincolnton and Lincoln County are lasting monuments to the deep religious faith of the area's pioneer home-makers. Here are the pillars of First Baptist Church on East Main street.

### HELP THE MAINTENANCE CREWS FOR YOUR SAFETY



Maintenance jobs are nearly always in process somewhere in the plant. You can help the maintenance crews maintain a good safety record by staying out of roped off areas; not bothering them or getting in their way; leaving their equipment alone; and keeping out from under ladders and scaffolds (where objects aloft can be dislodged and fall). Don't start equipment on which they are working.

Remember while their work may be inconvenient to you at the moment, it is necessary, resulting in a safer and better place for you to work.

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Education is not a requirement for the production of ideas. Think of Thomas A. Edison who went to school only one day in his life. His ideas made him America's greatest inventor.

## OUR RED RIVALS

# 'We Will Overtake You'

In Russia you marvel that Communism has taken free enterprise's strongest drives—competition and incentive—and put them to work on an individual and group basis to an extent never dared by free enterprise.

"I see you are making great use of competition," you ask a guide.

"We have no competition," he replies.

Then you discover there are two different words for competition: one means rivalry with a capitalist connotation—a bad word in Russia. But the word they use means "emulation." This they approve.

### Collective Discipline in Industry

Incentives in this socialist competition are negative as well as positive. You talk with the woman editor of the plant paper. It is employee-run but generally sponsored by the trade union. She explains the paper's purpose: "To criticize the work of workers and engineers, so they may be ashamed of their work and improve; to criticize the chiefs if they are not fair; to publish production plans and new ideas; to tell about the best workers in the factory so others can emulate them."

Criticism by name in the plant paper is only part of the grim process of collective discipline. First step is reprimanding the individual before his friends. A later step—when necessary—is bringing him before a public opinion court. Removal to a lesser job, or "in rare cases" dismissal, may follow.

The union head explains that the union is as anxious as the management, or "administration" as they call it, to bring forward production. The union is closely knit with the Party, which set the objectives in the first place.

Union membership is voluntary, but 99 and 9/10 per cent belong. Strikes are prohibited by law.

### Yearly Outline of Production Plans

In the director's office of the plant you are visiting, there is a portrait of V. I. Lenin. The deputy director in charge of this particular meeting explains that the

plant director works under an administration, under the district economic council. He takes his plans there for approval, but he has the responsibility for buying his own materials, hiring his people, and negotiating the sale of his products. He is expected to meet the production plan that is established for the year, and to make a profit.

He explains that most of the workers are paid by the piece, not the hour. Their pay ranges from 600 to 1,820 rubles per month. On the average they make 930 rubles per month. This would be \$93 at 10 rubles to the dollar.

The deputy director says his own pay is 3,000 rubles, plus bonuses earned for "exceeding the plan."

"How did you get the job?" asks a member of your party. The deputy director says he was graduated from an institute, went into the technologists' department, worked up to chief engineer, then this.

Employee wages are established in an annual agreement with the trade union. Someone asks: "Do you ever wish you didn't have a union to deal with?"

"Unions are helpful," he says.

"But what if union and management disagree?"

The government interpreter looks around indulgently and explains: "They don't disagree."

### Productivity and Wage Increases

"What is the basis of wage increases?" another asks.

"Productivity. Advancement is on personal ability. General wages go up as productivity goes up.

The same system prevails in other plants you visit. Production pays the wages, they tell you.

Third in a series of articles by Harold Mansfield, author of *Vision and The Challenge (United Kingdom)*, who recently visited the USSR with a delegation sponsored by the International Council of Industrial Editors. Before going, the author learned the Russian language, so he could better make a first-hand evaluation of Soviet efforts to outdo America industrially. Copyright Harold Mansfield.

You have heard management in the United States make the same case that labor is making in a country where labor wears the hat. Why aren't the workers complaining about wages, you wonder, until you remember the phrase "social obligation".

Russians believe that they are working not just for themselves; they are working together for a goal: The building of Russia. "We work half for the present and half for the future," they say. Half to build their own standard of living, half to make the red star the great light of the world. To do this, they know they must surpass America in all things—but most of all, in industry.

"Do you think Russia can match America in production?" you ask in Moscow, Kiev, Kharkov, Leningrad.

"We fall behind you now," says a laboratory technician, "but our tempo is greater. We will overtake you."

### 'We'll Reach Your Standard of Living'

A professor: "Already we are nearly up to you in output of some things like milk, woolen cloth. We'll reach your standard of living in 10 to 15 years—maybe sooner." Other citizens share similar opinions.

On a flight between Minsk and Kiev, you sit beside a young jet pilot of the Soviet Air Force, relaxed in a gray leisure jacket made of Kapron, the Russian nylon.

"Will your scientists get a rocket to the moon before the United States does?" you ask.

"Sooner," he says. "Russia will put a man on the moon in 10 years—even before that. And Russian industry will produce as much as America in five or 10 years."

Then you think of the great contrast between Russian living and American. It is inconceivable that they could build up their total economy in five or 10 years. It will be good for Russia, if she can do it.

But you know, too, that it will also pose a problem for America—in the world market.