

## The Chatham Blanketeer

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## If I Were A Worker

If I were a worker I'd remember that my employer is glad to pay all he can in wages because more wages mean more purchasing power for the goods he makes. But I would not forget that the only money my employer has to pay wages is the money he gets for the blankets he sells.

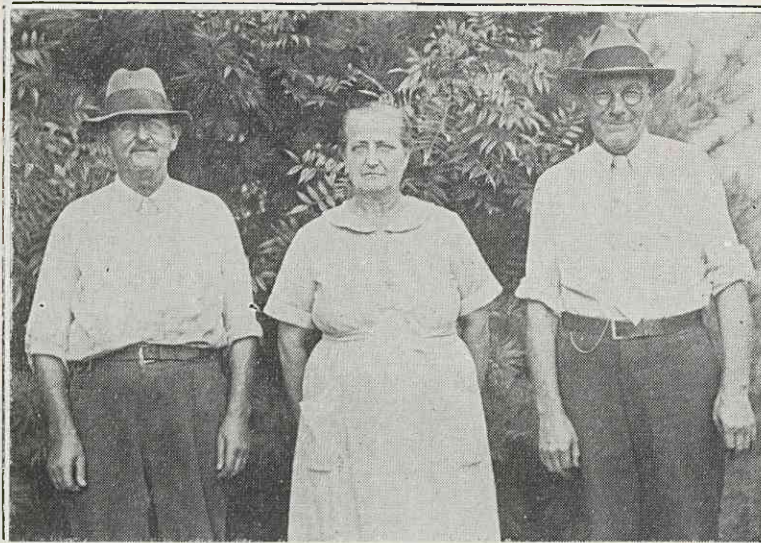
So I would help all I could to make as much first-quality fabric as I could. I would try to make as much cloth in 40 hours as in 48 hours because the more blankets I produce the more money there is for wages. The more blankets my employer has to sell the easier it is for him to employ regularly. So I would do all I can to increase my production.

I would look at my job just as if I were in business for myself. If I owned a farm I would know that the more cotton and more vegetables I could raise and sell, the more money I could make. I would remember that the same is true on a job—the more I can produce the more money I can make, so I would do as much work as I could because the more blankets my mill makes and sells the more regular my job and my wages.

If I were a worker, I would remember that business is a great game—a game that takes teamwork and co-operation. I would say to myself: here I am on a team, if I make an error, if I waste my time or a teammate's time, our team is going to lose. And if any of my teammates spend so much time "crabbing" and complaining that he cannot do a full day's work we are all going to lose. So I would discourage "grouching."

I would remember that the mill owners the superintendents, the bosses and all my fellow-workers ought to get their share of the value of the blankets the mill makes and sells—and that

## Three Oldest Employees



Pictured above, reading from left to right, are Mr. Dave Woodruff, Mrs. Mandy Burcham and Mr. Millard Darnell, all employees of the Elkin mill. Their combined years of service with the mill total 124.

Mr. Dave Woodruff has been with the Company since June, 1891. He came to work as a Master Mechanic. At the close of a three year period he was made Foreman over the Shop. During the forty-two years that he has been employed by the Company he has lost only one week at a time from illness.

Mrs. Mandy Burcham (better known as "Aunt Mandy") came to work for the Company when there were only two blanket looms in the mill. She learned to run one of these looms and today runs one of the biggest looms in the mill. Mrs. Burcham came to work when she was twenty-two years of age and has been with the Company for a period of forty-three years. She has never been sick any length of

time during this period. She has given to the Company two sons. Mr. Arthur Burcham and Mr. El Burcham. Mr. El Burcham is now the foreman of the Weave Room and his mother works for him. Both of these men came to work at the ages of nine and eleven.

Mr. Millard Darnell has worked for the Company for 39 years and has been employed by the Chatham families for 43 years. Mr. Darnell was made foreman of the Weave Room thirty years ago. The most time that he has ever lost from his work was one month. He has two sons and one daughter working for the Company, Noah, Robert and Mrs. Ellen Lawrence. Mr. Noah Darnell is now foreman of the Weave Room, working on the second shift.

the best way to make money is doing good work, not trying to "chisel" the other fellow out of his share.

I would not forget that most of the low wages and unemployment are caused by unsuccessful mills. And I would do my bit and more to make my mill successful so that there would be fair wages and regular employment for all.

I would never forget that my wages are actually paid by the people who buy the blankets the mill makes and sells—and I would do all I could to make our quality and prices "right" so that the public will want all the goods my mill can make.

And I would do my work so well that my mill can make all the goods the public wants.

And finally, I would remember every minute that no man can get higher wages very long unless he earns them—and I would strive

every day to earn fully every cent that is paid to me.

If I were a worker, I would know that even if the law does promise shorter hours and better wages, it also makes me responsible for doing as much and as good work as I know how. And I'd see how much I could do toward showing my appreciation for this chance at lasting prosperity for me and my family.

## The Grass On Our Side Of the Fence

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pride themselves on their cleanliness.

A great many Southern mills, and an even larger number of mills in the North, have very poor lighting systems. The employees are on a constant strain, and in danger of serious acci-

dents, due to insufficient or poorly arranged lights. Our employees have no such reason to worry them. One can judge from a glance at the mill from outside any evening that lights are abundant and powerful, but upon inspection of the mill's interior we can obtain a much better idea of our good fortune along this line. There are no dark stairways or elevators, and all machines are flooded by powerful ceiling lights. Where the work is of an especially particular nature, an individual drop cord and lamp is used.

The Elkin mill has recently received the highest rating it is possible for the state Department of Labor to bestow upon any industrial plant, and it is interesting to note that the finishing mill in Winston-Salem has received a similar rating. This fact in itself should be sufficient to impress upon us that working conditions in both our mills are far above the average. In making a tour of mills of the state, one does not come across those with an "A" rating in every town of community.

In this connection, we should also bear in mind that relation between employer and employee that makes this company stand out above so many others. A mutual understanding permeates the entire organization. You cannot see it or touch it with your hand, but it can be felt upon a very casual tour of inspection, and it is something of which we are all proud.

As we look about us from the confines of our own environment we should not allow the brilliant green of the grass in our neighbor's pasture to dull the lustre of that beneath our feet. The pertinent reasons brought out in this article are intended to bring home to us all once again those things which distinguish our company from so many on the other side of the fence.

## Thrift

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year. To the ordinary man it is only something the wife keeps nagging at him to try. This is wrong, it should be duty.

This past world depression should have taught us all a good lesson in the use of thrift. Instead of being caught napping next time, let us all take this as a business deal and lay away some profit for the next rainy day.

RUSSELL HOLT.

Cautious Miss: "Are you sure this coat won't shrink in the rain?"

Salesman: "It's all-wool, lady, and did you ever hear of a lamb carrying an umbrella?"