



## BUTLER WRITES OF VISIT TO EUROPE

**Chatham Officials Make Inspection Tour of Mills In England and Scotland**

**By A. L. Butler, Vice-President and Secretary**

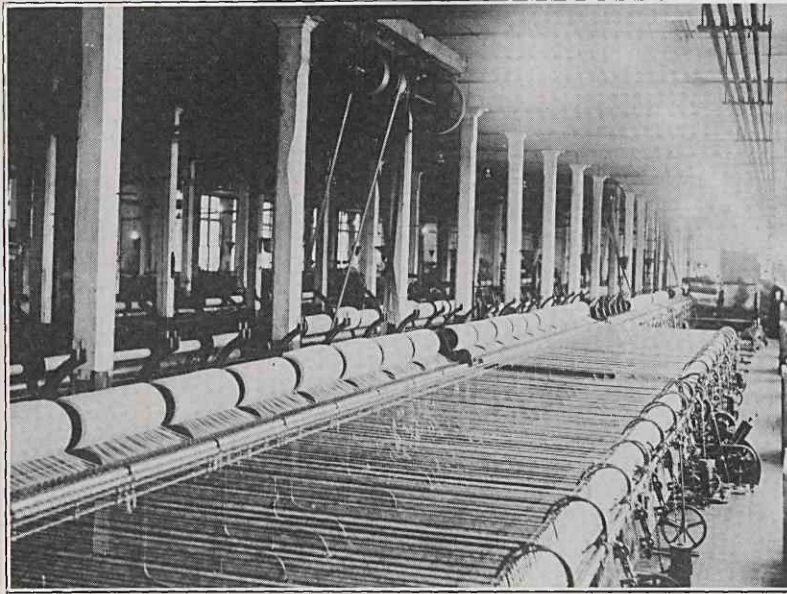
It is the policy of our company to have as full information as possible concerning every phase of our business. To do this we must avail ourselves of every opportunity to study the advances and improvements that are being made in our particular branch of the industry, and also those of other branches, that we can adopt for our purpose. This policy, we believe, has resulted in Chatham setting the pace for new ideas and improvements in blankets. Accordingly, last fall, Mr. Sheehe, Mr. Neaves and I were chosen from our organization to visit England, Scotland and France.

We sailed from New York November 8th, on the S. S. Manhattan, the largest ship ever built in America, larger than our Elkin mill. Its crew and passengers were about equal to the population of Elkin. The ship has a swimming pool, moving picture shows, tennis courts, gymnasium, all kinds of deck games and shops to make the voyage pleasant. We were told it had three bars. Constantly we were reminded of the wide acceptance of our product because the ship is completely outfitted with Chatham blankets. After an interesting voyage we landed at Plymouth on November 15th, and reached London that mid-night. We made our headquarters at the Savoy Hotel. From acquaintances at the American Express and Chamber of Commerce we received letters of introduction to the persons we wanted to interview and the mills we wished to visit. It is much more difficult to get into some English mills than into American mills.

We stayed in London proper four days, visiting the stores to learn about their methods of displaying, advertising and sale of blankets, and to study the types of blankets that were most in demand. In this connection it is interesting to know that heavy pairs of all wool white blankets with blue and pink borders continue to be the largest sellers, possibly not because of the preference of the users, but because the mills,

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## Scene In Spinning Department



One of the many Mules in our spinning department.

## E. B. LAWRENCE DIED WEDNESDAY

Edgar Bahnson Lawrence, 41, passed away February 28th in the University Hospital, Philadelphia, following an operation for the removal of a tumor of the brain, from which he had been ill for some time. He failed to revive consciousness after the operation. The remains arrived Thursday. Funeral arrangements have not been announced.

Mr. Lawrence was one of Elkin's best known citizens. He was a member of the board of deacons and treasurer of the First Baptist church, a teacher of the young men's Bible class, a leader of the choir, and a leader in the Young Peoples' Union. He was proprietor of the Lawrence Cleaners, a most successful enterprise.

The deceased was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lawrence and was reared in the vicinity of Elkin.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Virginia Howell Lawrence; two daughters, Misses Virginia and Edwina Lawrence; three brothers and one sister, T. S. and J. E. Lawrence of Elkin; John W. of State Road, and Mrs. D. Brown of Boonville.

Mr. Lawrence was formerly an employee of the Elkin Mill and has several relatives still with the Company.

## HAROLD LEWIS ON INSPECTION TOUR

Members of the senior class in the textile school at N. C. State College, began their annual inspection trip Tuesday, February 20th. Thirty students composed the party and were accompanied by Dean Thomas Nelson, head of the Textile school.

The inspection trip included mills in Burlington, Greensboro, Leaksville, Spray and Draper in North Carolina and Fieldale and Danville in Virginia.

The students were met at each plant by State College Alumni, who were employed in all the plants visited. These graduates with the aid of other officials of the mills, pointed out the things that will be of the most value to young men who are soon to become an integral part of America's largest industry.

Among the students making the inspection trip was Harold Lewis, son of Bruce Lewis, foreman of the Finishing Department of the Winston Mill. Harold has worked every summer in the Chatham Mills since he has been attending school at State College. Harold has made a splendid record during his stay at the college and will be graduated from the textile school in June.

## SPINNING ART IS VERY OLD

**Probable That Some Shepherd Boy of Long Ago Was the First Spinner**

The art of spinning undoubtedly originated in prehistoric times, for the necessities of mankind forced attention to the making of threads or tissues of different kinds, however crude, to fasten skins together and put them in a wearable form.

We are also warranted in believing that from the earliest time mankind has clothed themselves in the wool of the sheep, in some form. It is very possible that the first spinner was a shepherd boy, who while caring for his sheep might have discovered that by taking wool and twisting fibres together a thread could be produced. The next step would doubtless be the winding of the thread on a twig to prevent its becoming entangled. This twig would be the forerunner of the present day spindle.

For many centuries there was no further development until the perfection of the distaff and spindle, which was used by the Egyptians, Babylonians and other ancient races.

The distaff and spindle were used for centuries before any further development along this line took place. The next improvement was the one thread spinning wheel, the first wheel of this type having been made in India. The first record of the use of this wheel in Europe was at the latter end of the fifteenth or beginning of the sixteenth century, and with this invention seven times as much yarn was produced as could be made with the distaff and spindle.

In the year 1799 in England the first machine with spindles placed in a moveable carriage was invented. This rudely constructed and cumbersome machine brought in to play the equivalent of every motion needed in the highly perfected and efficient mule of today.

The spinning of woolen yarns is accomplished by the following operations on the mule: The soft roving, as it comes from the cards, is drawn out to reduce the diameter of the strand. At the same time the roving is twisted to give

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