



Fieldcrest MILL WHISTLE



Fieldcrest Employee Candidate For Second Term On School Board

John M. Geer, purchasing agent at Fieldcrest Mills, has announced his candidacy for re-election as a member of the school board in the election



John M. Geer

March 27. Mr. Geer is completing his first five-year term as a member of the board. Terms of the five-man board of trustees are so arranged that the tenure of one member expires each year. Present members are C. C. Campbell, chairman, Dr. G. P. Dillard, R. J. Adkins, Mr. Geer, and Allen W. Hancock.

A resident of the Tri-Cities for the past 15 years, Mr. Geer has been active in numerous educational and civic affairs. He is a former president of the Carolina Cooperative Council at Fieldcrest, and has served as president of the Leaksville Graded Parent-Teacher Association. He teaches in the Sunday School at First Baptist Church, Leaksville. A native of Greenville, S. C., Mr. Geer is the son of Dr. B. E. Geer, who until his retirement was president of Furman University.

Contract Extended Until End Of Month

The threatened TWUA strike at Fieldcrest Mills failed to materialize at midnight Thursday, March 15, after an agreement was reached to extend the present contract until March 31. Representatives of the Company and the Union made the announcement following negotiations at a meeting at 9:30 p. m. Thursday.

This development came after a nationwide strike by unionized cotton and rayon workers was called off in New England and postponed until at least March 31 in the South and other regions.

The break came when eleventh-hour negotiations in Boston resulted in a tentative management-union agreement covering New England. Union sources announced efforts to have the agreements cover all cotton-rayon workers.

New Boiler Plant Will Be Installed

A new boiler plant to serve mills and offices in the central Spray area is under construction at the site of the old Nantucket boiler room. A large modern Babcock & Wilcox steam boiler will replace the present older type boilers at the Nantucket and Finishing Mills. The two old boilers at the Nantucket will be discarded but the Finishing Mill units will be left in place.

The new boiler will provide steam for both heating and processing. It will be of the latest water-tube type and will be stoker-fired with provision for emergency oil firing. The boiler will provide improved processing and heating through adequate and well-regulated steam pressure.

The old Nantucket boiler room will be enlarged to accommodate the new boiler and auxiliary equipment. Excavating began in February and brick work for the new boiler room was commenced March 15. It is expected that the new plant will be ready for operation prior to the heating season next fall.

A new 100-foot steel smokestack will be shipped here in sections and erected with the boiler. A brick coal silo used for storing coal for the new boiler will

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Tri-Cities Give Good Response In Red Cross Drive; Goal Is In Sight

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Almost \$6,500 Collected To Date; Draper Community Exceeds Goal With Enthusiastic Support

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A report Friday by E. W. Medbery, general chairman, and J. H. Ripple, co-chairman of the 1951 Red Cross fund campaign in the Tri-Cities, showed that a total of \$6,318.47 has been turned in thus far in the drive.

Only a partial report has been received from the Leaksville business district and it was believed with that section's final report this week the community goal of \$7,000 would be in sight. In addition there are some "callbacks" elsewhere in Spray and Draper and the final canvassing was expected to push up their totals a little farther.

Of the amount raised so far, Leaksville-Spray accounted for \$4,356.24. Mr. Ripple reported contributions of \$1,962.-23 for Draper, an amount in excess of the town's goal. He said he found enthusiastic support of the Red Cross campaign in the Draper community.

Although contributions made in the
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Sergeant, Home From Korea, Visits Karastan Mill

Sgt. Marvin J. Gategood, former employee of the Karastan Shipping Dept., who has returned from Korea after fighting around Seoul, Inchon, and other points, visited his former department at the mill March 6. He stated that he was "very happy to be back" and to see friends and the place he used to work.

The young sergeant received a 30-day emergency furlough due to illness of his father, Charlie H. Gatewood, who lives on the Stoneville Road. He arrived in the States on February 24 and will report back to Camp Stoneman, Calif., on his way back to Japan and Korea. "Conditions are very tough in Korea," he said. "GI's feel that we will eventually win the struggle, but believe we have a tough fight ahead."

Picture shows the sergeant with L. M. Oakley (center), shipping foreman and Virgil Hall, superintendent of Karasan.

