



Fieldcrest[®]

MILL WHISTLE



Sheeting Weave Gets New Air Conditioning

System Put Into Operation May 10 and Is Working Satisfactorily; Part of General Improvements in Mills

The new air conditioning system in the Sheeting Weave Room has been in operation since May 10 and is performing satisfactorily. Adjustments will continue for the next few weeks to "balance" the system and to achieve the uniformity desired.

The system was installed as a part of a long-range capital program to improve the humidification in the various mills.

At Draper the former equipment, consisting of old high duty atomizer heads, was discontinued after many years of use. The new system is expected to increase operating efficiency and bring improvements in quality through uniform humidity throughout the weave room.

The system consists of two sections and two apparatus houses. These latter buildings contain washers, huge fans and a heating coil system for use in cold weather. Air from the outdoors and from the weave room is washed to remove lint and other impurities. Moisture is added and the new air is sent to the weave room for distribution through the ducts. A number of atomizers are used to supplement the air washer system.

Uniform humidity is essential to obtain best performance in the weaving of sheeting. It is necessary to maintain relative humidity throughout the room of approximately 80 to 85 per cent with a maximum variation of a plus or minus 2 per cent. This is due to the hygroscopic qualities of the yarn, sizing materials and the wood and leather parts of the loom. A wide variation in room moisture will cause changes in the weaving characteristics of the yarn and result in mat-ups or breaks. Also, certain parts of the loom swell or contract, causing the loom to get out of adjustment, resulting in improper "boxing" of the shuttle and loom stops.

Aside from better weaving efficiency and uniformly good quality of cloth, the new air conditioning system will bring about greater comfort and well-being for employees inasmuch as a

(Continued on Page Four)

Towel Employee Named Mother Of The Year



Mrs. Hattie Rakes, an employee of the Towel Mill, was named Henry County Mother Of The Year in a contest sponsored by the Retail Merchants' Association of Martinsville, Va. Mrs. Rakes was honored at the association's banquet meeting May 14, and was presented many valuable gifts. The letter nominating Mrs. Rakes was written by her sister, Mrs. Dexter Wood.

Mrs. Rakes moved from Patrick County to Henry County in 1918. Her first two children died. She had six more children and her husband died when the oldest child was nine years old. She was advised to place the children in an orphanage but she refused. She kept them with her and went to work at Fieldcrest Mills to support her family. She had three sons in World War II. Her youngest son, David, a member of the Towel Standards Dept., died suddenly last month. All of the remaining children are married.

Mrs. Rakes has worked in the Towel Mill Sewing Dept. for the past 20 years.

Pension Plan Booklet

You can obtain your 1951 revised edition of the booklet, "Pension Plan for Employees of Marshall Field & Company," by calling at the Personnel Office serving your mill. The revised edition contains many changes, including the latest Social Security Act provisions, with which you will want to become familiar.

Rayon Employees Make Tour of Woolen Bldg.

"Open House" Held Sunday, May 27; Large Number of Visitors See Plant

Fieldcrest Mills held "open house" at the former Woolen Mill building in Spray Sunday afternoon, May 27, in order to give employees of the Rayon Mill an opportunity to see the place where they will work after the Rayon machinery is moved to its new location this fall. More than 600 visitor tickets were issued to Rayon employees and their families or guests.

Tours were planned to enable the visitors to see where the various remodeling projects are in progress. The building is being modernized to the equivalent of a new mill from a manufacturing and employee-convenience standpoint. The mill will be completely air-conditioned and fluorescent lighted. All of the windows are being bricked up in readiness for air-conditioning and old wooden posts are being removed from what will be the large weave room. In other instances new floors and even new walls are being put in.

The yard and surrounding areas are to be changed completely with the fence moved, the entrances changed and improved and walkways and drives built. Entrances and parking facilities are being given particular attention.

Trained guides conducted the visitors through the building in small groups explaining what is going on now in each room and describing what the department will look like and how it will be arranged after the machinery is installed.

Light refreshments were served to all visitors. Another tour is planned when renovation of the mill is completed and before machinery is moved in.

Group To Retire

Eleven employees of Fieldcrest Mills will retire June 1 under the Marshall Field & Company retirement program. Ceremonies honoring the group will be held in the conference room in the Nantucket building at Spray at 10 a. m. Friday. First pension checks will be distributed at this meeting.