



Etta Martin shows how spooler tenders keep thread waste in apron pocket until it can be put in proper container.



Employees are reminded every day of the cost of waste by showing typical examples of waste and the actual cost per pound.

Towel Mill's Waste Fighters

A foreign dignitary once visited this country and was taken on a nationwide tour of industrial plants. At the completion of the inspection tour he was asked, "Of all the things you have seen in America, what would you and your people like most to have from this country?"

His answer was, "Waste. We could live off the waste made by Americans." What impressed this man most was the lack of thought we too often give to the waste of materials, supplies, time, manpower, machinery, and many other things.

Although he was referring to the nation as a whole and to waste generally, his words could be applied to the textile industry and to the waste of materials, since the control and reduction of such waste plays such an important part in the price of the finished product.

Fieldcrest employees and management have long been aware of the importance of this factor in our manufacturing costs and are continually seeking new or better methods in the control of waste.

It is recognized that, in order for any program of this type to be successful, there must be constant attention, cooperation, and interest on the part of all persons involved. In many departments in the mills, employees and supervisors working together have achieved a marked reduction in waste.

The Carding and Spinning Departments at the Towel Mill offer a good example. Among the devices used to help control and reduce waste in these departments are waste charts or records which keep every employee informed as to how he or she is doing in controlling waste on the job; displays which dramatize the cause of waste losses and inform employees of the cost of materials which end up as waste; and well-identified, conveniently placed containers for each type of waste so that mixing is prevented.

Also used is a system of checking running con-

ditions in spinning to detect operating conditions which might result in unnecessary waste. In another effective practice, many employees wear aprons with pockets for holding different kinds of waste, making it unnecessary for the waste to be dropped on the floor and keeping waste with a higher resale value out of sweeps.

Follow-up meetings in which the supervisors and operators discuss waste control results is a key factor in the effectiveness of the program. At these meetings, each operator's individual waste record is reviewed and a report is given on the progress of the entire department in reducing waste.

W. B. Chambley, foreman of the Carding and Spinning Departments at the Towel Mill, in commenting on the success of the program said, "It is primarily due to the interest and cooperation of the employees that we have achieved some success in our waste control program."

"Our employees have taken a great interest in acquainting themselves with the money value of the materials which they handle on their jobs from day to day, and they realize that helping to eliminate waste of any kind is something that grows on a person and becomes a basic part of his value as an employee."

"They can readily see that careless handling of stock will increase the cost of the goods they are making. In a highly competitive business like ours, the cost of waste can mean the difference between operating at a profit or at a loss, and our people understand that when they help keep our costs down by controlling waste, they are helping the Company to operate more competitively and provide them with steady employment."

Pictures on these pages show some of the people in the Towel Mill Carding and Spinning Departments and some of the practices they use in combating losses from waste.