

THE MILL WHISTLE

Fieldcrest
COORDINATED FASHIONS
FOR BED AND BATH



Karastan
AMERICA'S FINEST TWEEDS

FIELDCREST MILLS, INC. • Plants at Draper, Forest City, Greenville, Leaksville, Mount Holly, Salisbury, Smithfield, Spray and Worthville, N. C.; Fieldale, Va.; Columbus, Ga. and Auburn, N. Y.

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Ceremonies Honor Retiring Employees

Twenty Employees Retire June 1 To Make Total Of 1,005 Retirees Now Receiving Pension Checks

Twenty long-service employees retired under the Fieldcrest Pension Plan effective June 1 to make a total of 1428 men and women who have retired since the program was started in 1944 and a total of 1005 who are now living and drawing pensions.

Ceremonies honoring the latest retirees were held in the various mill managers' offices where the retirees' first monthly pension checks were presented.

Mill officials congratulated them upon having reached retirement age when they can enjoy greater leisure with a monthly pension for life paid from the Fieldcrest Mill Pension Trust.

The mill managers and members of the Industrial Relations Department explained the various benefits available to the company's retired employees and pointed out that retirees are still members of the "Fieldcrest family."

It was explained that the Pension Trust is administrated by the Wachovia Bank and Trust Company of Winston-Salem as trustee and that the money which the company pays to the fund is taken from the company's earnings and can be used only for the payment of employees' pensions.

The pensions paid under the plan are in addition to, and completely separate (Continued on Page Eight)

Credit Union To Pay Dividend Of 4½%

Members of the Fieldcrest Mills Credit Union in all locations will receive a 4½ per cent per annum dividend, figured on their average monthly balances and credited to each member's share account as of June 30, 1966.

The dividend was authorized by the Credit Union's Board of Directors at their last regular monthly meeting.

The Credit Union, which has never paid less than 4 per cent per annum on savings, increased the per annum dividend rate from 4 per cent to 4½ per cent effective January 1, 1965, and it is now being increased to 4½ per cent for the latest six-month period.

Company Announces Expansion Plans

Fieldcrest Mills has announced plans for a major expansion at the Karastan Mill in Leaksville and for construction of a new, modern air-conditioned Bedspread Finishing Mill and warehouse on the former Union Carbide property near Draper.

The demand for the style and quality of rugs and carpets produced by Karastan has grown steadily for several years, and the announced expansion is to provide space and equipment to enable Karastan to continue to service increasing customer demands.

At the Karastan Mill, a 41,300 square foot addition to the present weave room will be built. This will provide space for additional Kara-loc looms; and orders have already been placed for parts, etc. to build five additional looms in late 1966 and early 1967.

The entire mill will be air conditioned with the exception of one or two locations where it would be impractical. It is expected that the air conditioning

will be ready before summer of 1967.

The additional weaving capacity will necessitate increased auxiliary equipment and a gradual increase in employment at the mill. Extra equipment will be added for the beaming, winding, burling, sizing, and drying operations; and an additional dye machine will be installed, requiring that an addition be built to the dyehouse.

Steel for the weave room addition is scheduled to be delivered by the end of June, and the building is scheduled to be completed by December 31.

Meanwhile, work is under way on preparing the site. Fencing is being moved, driveways and underground piping are to be relocated and the site filled to the level of the existing weave room.

Likewise, greater capacity for bedspread sewing and warehousing operations has been necessitated by the steady growth of the business in the past several years and the expected growth during (Continued on Page Three)

Safety Awards Presented To Four Plants

The Award of Honor, the highest recognition given by the National Safety Council, has been presented to the Automatic Blanket Plant for the fourth year.

There has never been any lost time due to injury at the Automatic Blanket Plant since it was established in June, 1960. The plant is continuing its perfect record to date and has accumulated over six million safe man-hours.

The award was presented to Robert F. Bell, personnel manager for Smithfield and Greenville, at the recent meeting of the Central Safety Committee. The presentation was made by Kenneth R. Baggett, safety director.

Mr. Baggett also presented to Haven Newton, director of industrial relations, an Award of Honor won by the General Offices employees, who had worked over 3¼ million man-hours without a lost-time injury since March 1, 1958.

An Award of Merit, the second ranking award of the National Safety Council, was presented to D. A. Purcell, manager of the Towel Mill, for that mill's outstanding safety performance throughout 1965, amounting to approximately 2½ million man-hours without a lost-time injury.

A Certificate of Commendation from

the National Safety Council was presented to the Bleachery for outstanding safety performance throughout 1965, amounting to 190,000 man-hours without lost time due to injury. Frank T. Suttentfield, general superintendent of the Finishing Mill and Bleachery, accepted the award for the Bleachery.

'White Elephant' Goes To Karastan Spinning

The white elephant, symbol of the poorest safety record, was awarded to the Karastan Spinning Division at Greenville based on safety experience during May.

Prior to May the Greenville employees had worked approximately one year and accumulated a half-million man-hours without a disabling injury. The mill had an average of 2,152 safe hours per employee and had won a barbecue under terms of the Fieldcrest safety contest.

The Carding Department, in which an injury occurred in May had operated approximately 100,000 man-hours without any lost time due to injury and had achieved an excellent safety record during the past 1½ years.