

The Caromount News

PUBLISHED EACH MONTH BY AND FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE WILSON AND CAROMOUNT DIVISIONS

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SIDNEY BLUMENTHAL AND CO., INC.

JANUARY, 1955

Employee Comfort First In Construction Program

Flash! Dyehouse Employees

The days are numbered for dyehouse employees to put up with the heat and fumes that they have so patiently endured. Mr. Laughridge, plant engineer, reports that work will begin in the dyehouse on February 1, to install a modern, efficient ventilating system, whereby all dye tubs will be ventilated and exhaust fans will be placed to draw the heat and fumes away from the working area. Mr. Laughridge reports that plans for this undertaking were begun in the latter part of September, 1954, soon after Malcolm Jones was appointed President of Sidney Blumenthal & Co., Inc.

Engineers and architects of Charlotte, North Carolina, who are acknowledged as being the best in the business, personally inspected our plant conditions and planned and designed this ventilating system. The contract, C. M. Guest and Sons, of Greensboro, North Carolina, specialists in textile construction and modernization, will install this system. Our Dyehouse will continue to operate during the period of construction.

More Free Insurance For Employees And Dependents

In keeping with its policy to offer the best available services to employees the company has again increased the benefits of its group insurance program. This insurance plan which became effective on January 1, 1955 provides an insurance coverage which is with the best in this area and no cost to the worker.

The company also realizing that medical costs for one's family is an item of major concern to any employee has increased the dependent hospital benefits and has added surgical benefits for dependents.

Important among the changes will be the addition of Infantile Paralysis benefits up to \$2,500 covering both employees and their dependents. Daily hospital

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Walt Thompson and Lancey Winstead, both of the Finishing Department, are proudly displaying 16 birds (limit for two people) which they bagged while hunting near Hobgood.

1954 Benefits Greater

At Caromount and Wilson many employees and their families were benefited by the foresight and generosity of our Company in providing group insurance. The entire cost of this plan is free and it provides life insurance, hospitalization, surgical, medical and weekly sickness benefits.

During the past year the sorrow caused by the sudden death of four of our employees was lessened by life insurance benefits which totalled \$2,000.00. These benefits were provided by the company at no cost.

Claims for hospitalization were made for 142 employees and 131 dependents. Hospital benefits totalling approximately \$14,000 were paid for these claims.

Sickness benefits of more than \$6,000.00 were paid. Total insurance benefits paid out amounted to more than \$25,000.

The premium which the company paid for these insurance plans amounted to more than \$42,000.00.

The present plan, which was generously increased by our Company on January 1, 1955, at no cost to employees, will cost approximately twice as much as the plan which was in effect last year.

New Parking Area

Everyone at Caromount who drives his car or rides to work by car should be pleased to know that Mr. Laughridge reports that work on our new parking lot will begin almost immediately. The plans will more than triple our present parking facilities and permit 350 or more cars to be parked at one time; cement walkways should also be a welcomed new feature.

Everyone at Caromount—and indeed in Rocky Mount—will be interested to know that Caromount employees and other local employees will be utilized to the fullest possible extent in the work being done at Caromount Mills and we hope that the work will proceed rapidly without delay or interference so that these welcomed changes will be enjoyed by all.

Flash! Finishing Dept

Finishing Department employees, Mr. Laughridge reports, should welcome the partition to be constructed between the Finishing Department and the Dyehouse because it is intended to eliminate disagreeable fumes and heat from the Dyehouse. Lint removers will be increased in number and should filter the air more effectively.

Since October, 1954, when our new President, Malcolm Jones, was appointed, our Engineering Department, consulting engineers and architects have been busy at work on plans for a broad modernization program.

In the short time Mr. Jones has been President he has been so busy that few of us have had a chance to know him. His action in approving the construction program that will begin February 1, is convincing proof that Mr. Jones and his staff regard the welfare of employees at Caromount highly.

Work will begin first in improving conditions in the Dyehouse and Finishing Department and making wash room facilities modern and adequate and expanding our parking facilities. Mr. Laughridge, Plant Engineer, has furnished you a report with explanation of work being done, which is reported elsewhere in the news.

Special! To All Of The Caromount Employees

Every employee of Caromount will be interested and welcome the program of modernizing our wash room facilities, reports Mr. Laughridge, plant engineer. Five new, modern, shiny ceramic wash rooms will be added for our men and five new, gleaming, ceramic wash rooms will be added for our ladies; in addition, all of the present wash rooms will be fully modernized with modern facilities and with spick and span ceramic tile walls and floors. Plans for this work are expected to permit this major project to be completed in August, 1955, and every effort is being made to eliminate, as far as possible, inconveniencing our employees during this program. Mr. Laughridge reports that the location of all of our wash room facilities have been made under the direction of an outstanding Charlotte Engineering firm and that this program, planning for which was begun in October, 1954, was one of the first approved by our new President, Malcolm Jones.