

# Promising Outlook For the Cotton Mill Industry of State

### Hunter Marshall, Secretary and Treasurer of North Carolina Cotton Manufacturers' Association, Reviews Year Past—Convention to Be Held at Pinehurst December 2 and 3.

(Special to Daily News.)  
Charlotte, Nov. 26.—In anticipation of the annual convention of the Cotton Manufacturers' Association of North Carolina, which will be held at Pinehurst, December 2 and 3, Hunter Marshall, secretary and treasurer of the association, has issued a statement reviewing the industry in the state for the year which is just closing. It is expected that the approaching convention will be largely attended. The season is in full swing at Pinehurst and, in addition to the business sessions of the convention, quite an elaborate program has been arranged, including a golf tournament, tennis, horse races, etc. Col. F. H. Fries will deliver the principal address this year and at the banquet the association will also have the pleasure of hearing "Sunshine" Hawks.

In his review for the year Secretary and Treasurer Marshall indicated that for the first time this year the cotton mills at present have a promising outlook. Practically every mill in the state is operating on full time. This has not been possible up until this time because of the restricted purchasing power of the country at large. A steady improvement is looked for from now on because the buying power of the country is getting back to normal and orders from merchants will be larger and more constant. All in all there is a decidedly optimistic tone at the present time.

"This year which has just closed has been one of uncertainties and varied conditions," declares Mr. Marshall in his resume. "The cotton manufacturers were among the first to suffer as the result of the business depression which began more than a year ago. For many months practically all of the mills operated on short time, many of them closing down altogether for a considerable period. The majority of those which continued to operate did so with out hope of profit but merely to take care of their employees and to maintain their organization. Manufactured goods were stored in warehouses, the mills taking a chance on the market."

**Wage Adjustments.**  
"As a result of the heavy decline in the prices of manufactured products the mills were compelled to reduce wages. The wage reductions in North Carolina have ranged from 10 to 25 per cent, the average probably being 17 or 18 per cent. Wages being paid at present, however, will average more than 100 per cent higher than the wages paid for the same class of work in 1914. The cost of living to cotton mill workers is 50 per cent less than it was at the peak of prices and is pretty close to what it was in 1914. This means that the cotton mill worker today is enabled to maintain a much higher standard of living and to enjoy more of the comforts and luxuries of life or to save more money than he was able to before the war."

"There is apparently no disposition on the part of the mills in the state to further reduce wages. In fact the manufacturers are anxious to maintain wages at as high a figure as possible in order to develop and keep the most efficient organizations possible. The year has been marked by a cordial relationship between manufacturers and operatives, except in a few instances. The exception was the strike at Charlotte, Concord and Kannapolis, which was brought about by labor agitators from the outside through deception and misrepresentation. After a period of approximately 10 weeks, during which there was considerable suffering and misery the operatives returned to work after having lost approximately \$2,000,000 in wages and with nothing gained. This incident put the workers to thinking and it is not likely that hereafter outsiders will figure very largely between the workers in the industry and their employers whose interest after all are identical. The operatives generally have understood the necessity for wage reductions. They have seen the price of most commodities decline to an even greater extent than their wages were reduced and they realized of course that no one could escape the adjustment through which the whole country has been passing."

**Workers Well Satisfied.**  
"The cotton mill worker in the average mill community of North Carolina is fortunately situated. Even that degree of unemployment which existed during the summer has disappeared and, while 5,000,000 workers are unemployed in other industries and in other sections, there is practically no idleness in the cotton mill community of North Carolina who is without a job. When there was unemployment, even in the exceptional case of the strike, workers were living in comfortable homes at a purely nominal rental, the rent averaging not more than 25 cents per week per room as compared with four times that figure for similar houses outside of mill communities. The rental in practically all instances included also electric lights, water, garbage disposal and garden spaces. In this matter the cotton mill workers of this section enjoy a very decided advantage over their fellow workers in northern mills, where no houses are furnished and the workers must pay whatever rents tenement owners charge and in addition of course to pay for their lights, water, etc."

"The interest of the Carolina manufacturer in his employees is further manifested in the maintenance of playgrounds, the support or partial support of suitable schools, and the maintenance in some instances of community houses and community workers. The intelligent cotton mill operative in North Carolina appreciates his opportunity and the conditions under which he works. He knows that his industry is in the midst of a period of large development and that the opportunities for advancement are unusual. He knows cotton mill executives who have worked up from the ranks. He has seen the fruits of individual industry, intelligence and loyalty, and he appreciates the interest and friendship of his employer."

"North Carolina today stands at the head of her sister states of the south in the manufacture of cotton goods. It has first in rank in number of mills, number of spindles, number of employees, in capital invested and in the value of the annual output. More than half the spindles being installed in the south this year are being placed in North Carolina factories. The same ratio will hold good with new knitting machines. There are now 513 textile mills in the state, compared with 170 in South Carolina and 171 in Georgia. The largest denim mills in the United States are located at Greensboro; the largest damask mills in the United States are located at Roanoke Rapids; and Winston-Salem has the largest underwear factory in America. The development of the industry in this section depends not only upon the enterprise, resourcefulness and success of cotton mill owners and investors, but to an equally large degree upon the spirit, the effort, the loyalty and the efficiency of the operatives in our mills. If the industry continues to develop, as all signs indicate it will, this development will redound to the benefit of workers and owners alike. It will mean greater opportunities for both. It will mean greater opportu-

nities for merchants and other business men who are dependent more or less upon mill communities for a large part of their business. It will mean greater prosperity for our people in general because it will lead to the general health of the state through investments, through larger payrolls and an increased purchasing power. It will mean more taxes for schools, roads, etc.

"The future development of the industry in North Carolina, then, depends upon the combined efforts and enterprise and the combined desire of operators and operatives. It also depends to a very considerable extent upon the attitude of the people generally toward the industry."

**THIEF STEALS \$75 FROM POCKET OF DR. BROOKS**  
Burlington Man's Home Entered and Robbed—Sunday School Class Enjoys An Outing.  
(Special to Daily News.)

Burlington, Nov. 26.—A thief entered the home of Dr. J. H. Brooks in this city one night this week and found his way into the bed-room of Dr. Brooks, stealing his trousers and \$75 in cash which was in the pockets of the trousers. He then retired from the home, leaving the trousers in the back yard. It is not known that the thief secured any articles other than the money. The burglar gained entrance through a kitchen window. It was one of the boldest robberies that has occurred here in many years.

The Sunday school classes taught by Misses Elsie Sharp and Lucile Johnston and L. G. Turner, of the First Presbyterian church, enjoyed a delightful outing Thanksgiving day at Coble's pond. Games were played, boating and fishing were enjoyed during the morning, and at 4 o'clock a picnic, including Brunswick stew and other things, was served. About 40 young people and a few grown persons, including the teachers of the classes, attended.

Rev. W. H. North, D. D., has been assigned to the First Street Methodist church in this city as its pastor for another year. Dr. North is one of the ablest divines in the southern Methodist church, and the Burlington church is very fortunate in securing him for the coming year. He is very popular, not only among the people of his congregation, but is highly esteemed by the people of the entire community. Officers of the local chamber of commerce are planning for the visit to this city of Colvin B. Brown, head of the organization service bureau of the chamber of commerce of the United States, of Washington, D. C., who will deliver an address to the business men of the city next Tuesday night. J. B. Turner and W. H. Hall were among the Alamance county rural letter carriers who attended the district meeting of rural letter carriers held in Greensboro Thursday morning. T. A. May, of this city, was elected president of the district organization, and the next meeting of the organization is to be held in Burlington on next Labor day.

Mrs. Mitchell Clarke is visiting relatives at Statesville. Mrs. Ora M. Wright left Thursday night for Baltimore, Md., where she will spend several weeks with her son, Dr. E. C. Wright. Miss Verdie Thomas, of near Pittsboro, is visiting relatives in this city. Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Therrell are receiving the congratulations of friends upon the arrival of a daughter, Wednesday, November 23. John A. Robertson, of Roanoke, Va., is visiting relatives here for a few days. Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Freeman, of Spencer, are visiting in the home of Dr. R. A. Freeman, in this city. Miss Helen Warren, who has been teaching at Rocky Mount, is visiting her parents here. Mrs. H. I. Earle and children spent Thanksgiving with her parents at Salisbury. J. B. Robertson, of Concord, is visiting his father near here.

**MARION MAN MARRIES A SOUTH CAROLINA GIRL**  
Miss Georgia Mack Antley, of Barwell, S. C., Bride of Winfield Karr Keeter.  
(Special to Daily News.)

Marion, Nov. 26.—The church of the Holy Apostles of Barwell, S. C., was the scene of a very pretty and impressive ceremony on Tuesday, November 23, at high noon, when Winfield Karr Keeter, of Marion, and Miss Georgia Mack Antley, of Barwell, were united in marriage. Rev. J. S. Evison, of Columbia, S. C., officiating. Immediately after the ceremony the wedding party and many friends visited the home of Mrs. Stanley Dick, where an excellent buffet luncheon was served. The bride is of a prominent South Carolina family and is a very gracious and attractive young lady. The groom is secretary and treasurer of the Marion Insurance and Trust company and was formerly an officer of the 81st division, being many months' service in France. The young couple visited Columbia, Raleigh and Richmond on their wedding tour and will return to Marion during the week of November 27, where they will make their home.

**MOUNT GILEAD NEWS.**  
Thanksgiving Day fittingly observed. Personal Mention.  
(Special to Daily News.)  
Mount Gilead, Nov. 26.—Thanksgiving day was fittingly observed here with a union service at the Methodist church at 7 p. m. Rev. Lucy L. Little, D. D., preaching the sermon. The music was furnished by a choir consisting of a quartet from each of the three churches. Rev. J. W. Stork preached the union Thanksgiving sermon at Norwood Thursday morning. Mrs. L. L. Little, of the Presbyterian Mid-China mission delivered a most interesting address to the ladies of Mount Gilead at the Presbyterian church Sunday afternoon. Rev. and Mrs. O. L. Riggs attended the Baptist state convention at Rocky Mount last week. Rev. W. H. Brown and Rev. A. J. Groves attended the annual meeting of the Methodist conference at New Bern last week. Mr. Groves returns to his work as pastor of the Mount Gilead circuit. Mr. Brown leaves today for his new work at West End, being succeeded here by Rev. J. W. Martin, of Durham. W. B. Cochrane and J. A. McAulay spent several days this week on a hunting trip near the coast. Miss Mildred McAulay, of Flora Macdonald college, is spending Thanksgiving with her parents. Miss Pattie Groves, of Durham, spent Thanksgiving here with her parents. Joseph DeBerry is at home after playing on the Saint Louis national baseball team. William McAulay, of Davidson college, is spending Thanksgiving at home. Funeral For Gibson Child. Funeral services for Addie Lee Gibson, 4 year old, who died at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Gibson of White Oak Friday morning, will be held this afternoon from Buffalo church. Rev. R. S. Arrowood will conduct the service. Interment will be made in Green Hill cemetery.

**CARD OF THANKS**  
I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the many friends who, by their votes and personal solicitation, have awarded me first place in the recent movie contest.  
CARLUS BROWN.

**GAITHER WILLIS STRUCK BY A TRAIN AND KILLED**  
Mitchell County Man Loses His Life Near Marion—Mrs. J. E. Neal Hostess—Personal Mention.  
(Special to Daily News.)

Marion, Nov. 26.—Floyd Strickland, 12-year-old son of Mrs. Margie Strickland, of the Clinchfield Mill section, was struck by a Ford car driven by E. M. Price, of New York, one day this week and painfully injured. His arm was broken in two places and he sustained severe bruises, though not serious. Gaither Willis, a man about 45 years of age, was struck by a freight train Monday night about 11 o'clock while on his way home, near the Three C's railroad and sustained injuries from which he died about three hours later. There were two other men with Mr. Willis at the time of the accident, and it is thought that he was looking at an engine which had just passed and did not hear the train as it came up behind him. He did not hear the warning attempted to be given him by the train men but was struck and was injured so badly that he died in a short time. Mr. Willis came to this county from Mitchell and has lived here some time. He leaves a wife and several children. His body was taken to Mitchell county for burial, where he has many relatives and friends.

An interesting meeting of the executive board of the Green River association was held at the First Baptist church Friday afternoon. This board is composed of selected men from Luthertford, Old Fort, Marion and adjoining sections—mostly laymen. The work of the association was thoroughly gone over, plans were laid for further growth work churches aided in securing pastors and supporting same. Rev. J. J. Gentry, who has recently been transferred from Buncombe county by the Baptist state board of missions to do enlistment work in the Green River association and adjacent territory, was present and presented suggestions as to his future work here. The secretary and treasurer of the Home Building association announces that the drive for the third series, beginning October 1, resulted in selling 1,122 shares. The Women's club will meet with Mrs. E. B. Gwin Friday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Bartlett, of Garden City, were shopping in Marion Monday. Esq. J. C. Sandlin and Mrs. P. H. Mashburn, of Old Fort, were visitors here Monday. Miss Faye Conley left yesterday for Charlotte, where she will visit relatives and friends. Mrs. Seldon Roberts and children, of Kingsport, Tenn., are visiting Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Bomar. Misses Elizabeth Gilkey and Rowena Neal spent Thanksgiving with friends in Spartanburg. Mr. and Mrs. John F. Hyams and

Miss Peggy O'Neal, of Weaverville, visited relatives here last week. Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Kirkpatrick have returned from a visit to relatives and friends in Greenville, S. C. Mrs. James Morgan left Wednesday for Greensboro, where she will spend the week-end with relatives. Mrs. R. N. Martin, after spending some time with her sister in Asheville returned home Monday. Mrs. Martin is recovering from an attack of pneumonia. Rev. J. J. Gentry, the new enlistment man for the Green River Baptist association, will preach at the East Marion Baptist church next Sunday morning and at the Clinchfield church at night. J. E. Lyon, of Burnsville, has accepted a position with the First National bank of this place. Mr. Lyon is a young man of excellent business qualifications and has had several years' experience in the banking business. Mrs. J. E. Neal was hostess Friday afternoon to the San Souci club, when "108" was played at four tables, only members of the club being present. Mrs. J. Q. Gilkey assisted the hostess in serving a most delightful and elaborate two-course luncheon suggestive of the Thanksgiving season. If a rich man's son seldom knows the value of a dollar, a poor man's son can tell him it isn't worth much.

**FOUR CHANGES IN LAST WEEK'S DETOUR REPORT**  
Exceptions Between Gastonia and Dallas—The Detour West of Monroe Has Been Discontinued.  
(Special to Daily News.)

Raleigh, Nov. 26.—With the following exceptions the detour report for the week ending November 27 will be in effect throughout the coming week, the state highway commission announces: Gastonia—Lincolnton-Newton highway. Gastonia-Dallas—Present road between these points is closed by city work at Gastonia and from Long creek bridge to Dallas by state highway construction. The following detours will be necessary until further notice. Northbound traffic will follow route No. 29 to a point one half mile east of corporate limits of Gastonia; then turn north, crossing Piedmont and Northern railway on overhead bridge. Follow graded topsoil road to Dallas, crossing Long creek over street bridge. Detour is about four miles long, is good in dry weather, and is passable in wet weather. Detour is plainly marked by detour signs. Southbound traffic will follow Main street in Dallas, crossing C. and N. W. railway, then turn to right (south),

following topsoil road across Long's creek and across overhead bridge over Piedmont and Northern railway to Charlotte-Gastonia road (route No. 29). Turn left for Gastonia or right for Charlotte. Monroe-Detour immediately west of Monroe has been discontinued and road opened to traffic.

**THE MOOSE AT ALBEMARLE GIVE ELABORATE BANQUET**  
(Special to Daily News.)  
Albemarle, Nov. 26.—One of the most interesting affairs to take place in Albemarle during the Thanksgiving season was the elaborate banquet given Thursday night by the local Order of Moose. The banquet was served at the Central hotel and was declared to have been one of the most elaborate ever served in this town. E. B. Huneycutt, dictator of the local organization, acted as toast master and provided with much credit to himself and to the order. In addition to the members of the Moose fraternity a dozen or more friends were fortunate enough to be invited. There were a number of short but interesting speeches made during the course of the program among those who addressed the meeting having been: Messrs. J. E. Cole, who gave the welcome address, H. L. Horton, Martin Hatley, J. A. Little, Jethro Almond, J. M. Hoyett and A. C. Huneycutt.

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