

Textile Industry Heads To Southern Territory

History of Cotton Manufacturing in South Shows Slow Development for Awhile, to Be Succeeded by Mighty Impetus Within Recent Years.

That the cotton manufacturers of the New England section of the country have for generations dominated this industry are being forced into the South because of "radical legislation and excessive taxation" and are reaching toward this territory where there is less "legislative interference, lower taxes and a better class of labor" is the challenge which David Clarke, editor of The Southern Textile Bulletin throws right into the heart of the New England manufacturing district, published in an article in the annual Christmas edition of The Boston Transcript.

Mr. Clarke's article deals with the development of the industry in the South, slowly at the start and under the leadership only of the capitalists interests of this section and which now, he suggests, is to receive the impetus of this section and the added animation of building which manufacturers from that section will undertake throughout the South, particularly in the Carolinas.

Mr. Clarke's article in The Transcript is as follows:— Cotton manufacturing began in the South in 1813 with the establishing of a small mill at Lincolnton, N. C. Most of the machinery was made on the spot and the total cost of the seventy spindle mill was \$1,300.

During the next twenty years other small mills were built but farming with slaves was found to be much more profitable than cotton manufacturing and it is estimated that the presence of negro slaves retarded the textile industry of the South fully fifty years.

The men of that period found that negroes could not be trained as cotton mill operatives and although many attempts have since then been made to utilize negro labor in cotton mills, the results have been exclusively for negro labor but the result has been the same in every case and all of them have been dismantled or been changed to white labor.

By 1850 the spindles in the South had gradually increased to 1,819,000 in 1859 and 6,277,000 in 1890.

Progress became more rapid after 1890 so that 11,583,000 were in operation by 1910 and New England began to realize that the South could manufacture cotton and was becoming a real competitor.

Now the South has in operation 16,400,000 spindles and will undoubtedly reach the 17,000,000 figure during 1923.

The following table shows the comparative spindle growth of the North and South during the past few years:

Year	North	South
1910	13,900,000	7,481,000
1920	15,900,000	15,237,000
1921	16,000,000	15,902,000
1922	16,000,000	16,150,000
1923	16,000,000	16,400,000

Massachusetts has long held the cotton manufacturing supremacy but North Carolina with 5,500,000 spindles installed and many more under construction threatens to take the lead.

Massachusetts allows its legislators to meet every year and a manufacturer can easily adjust himself to one law before other proposed laws are upon him.

A Massachusetts Governor takes his seat in the Governor's chair and has to immediately consider his campaign to succeed himself.

The North Carolina legislature on its meets every two years and the session can only stay in session for sixty days.

The Governor of North Carolina is elected for four years and not allowed to succeed himself can devote his time to constructive work.

Manufacturers prefer the North Carolina system of State Government and too much politics weigh heavily upon the cotton mill men of Massachusetts.

The King prevails that Southern cotton mills operate very long hours and employ very young children, but such is not the case.

All the Southern states prohibit the employment in factories of girls under fourteen years of age.

All the Southern states prohibit the employment of boys under fourteen years of age except that in Georgia the son of a widowed mother, solely dependent upon him, may work after becoming 12 years of age and in North Carolina a boy between 12 and 14 years of age may work outside of the school term.

In both cases a special permit must be secured from a child welfare commission.

South Carolina limits working hours to 55 and while the other states permit 60 hours, many mills only operate 55 hours.

and once established in a mill village they rarely go back to the mountains or leave the mills to engage in other lines of work.

With few exceptions the Southern cotton mills own the mill villages, that is, they build cottages close around the mill and rent them to their employees at 25 cents per room per week. Often their price includes electric lights and water and fuel is furnished at wholesale prices.

Comparatively few of the New England mills have their own villages and the operatives therefore have to rent homes from outsiders often paying \$5 to \$7 per week in addition to the cost of water and lights. Many of the New England operatives also pay car fare to and from the mills.

In the mill villages of the South every cottage has a garden and the produce therefrom supplies the tables in the summer whereas the New England operatives pay high prices for vegetables.

On account of the colder climate New England operatives must buy more and heavier clothing and it is estimated that their average fuel cost is \$35 as against \$18 for Southern operatives.

The New England operatives demand sufficient wages to cover their higher costs of living which are estimated at \$7.50 per operative per week more than that of the Southern operative. A New England operative must therefore get \$22.50 per week in order to live on the same scale as a Southern operative who receives \$15.00.

As goods of equal quality are sold for the same price whether produced in the North or South, the cotton manufacturers wish to avoid having to add to his costs the extra \$7.50 per operative per week and it is logical to build mills where goods can be manufactured at the lower cost.

In addition to the lower wage scale the manufacturer finds in the South a splendid class of labor and is easily trained and does not leave the mills for the lines of work as do the foreign born employees of the New England mills.

Thirty years ago it was said that the South could only make the very coarsest yarns and goods and it was said so often that New England believed it.

Twenty years ago it was admitted that they might make the medium counts but could never produce fine goods.

Today Southern mills are making fine cotton and silk shirting and dress goods equal in quality to those made anywhere in the world.

New England lost sight of the fact that the mills of the South were being filled with people who were pure blood descendants of the best stock of England and Scotland and that they had the ability to acquire skill.

The men who are at the head of the cotton mills of New England are as a rule able, experienced and well trained but the constant pressure of radical legislation and excessive taxation has been wearing them down.

They see in the South less legislative interference lower taxes and a better class of labor with a lower living cost.

Is it any wonder that their faces are turning Southward? * * * * *

THE WEATHER * * * * *
Weather Bureau Office,
Charlotte, December 31, 1922

Sunrise 7:31
Sunset 5:21
Moonrise 3:49 p. m.
Moonset 4:56 a. m.
Moon phase full Jan. 2.

TEMPERATURE.
Dry Bulb
8 a. m. 50
10 a. m. 42
Noon 40
2 p. m. 44
4 p. m. 45
8 p. m. 50

Wet Bulb
8 a. m. 37
Noon 33
8 p. m. 33
Highest 41
Lowest 30
Mean 38
Normal 41
Mean same date last year . . . 36
Excess for month 107
Excess for year 517
Highest of record for December, 75 in 1859
Lowest of record for December, -5 in 1880.

PRECIPITATION
Total for 24 hours ending 8 p. m. . 0
Total for month to 8 p. m. . . . 4.30
Normal for December 3.86
Excess for year 2.43
Greatest of record for December . 6.99 in 1907.
Least of record for December, 0.48 in 1889.

HUMIDITY
8 a. m. 70
Noon 67
8 p. m. 43

BAROMETER
8 a. m. 30.33
8 p. m. 30.29
G. S. LINDGREN,
Meteorologist.



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\$27.50, Less 1-3	\$18.33
\$28.50, Less 1-3	\$19.00
\$30.00, Less 1-3	\$20.00
\$32.50, Less 1-3	\$21.67
\$35.00, Less 1-3	\$23.34
\$37.50, Less 1-3	\$25.00
\$40.00, Less 1-3	\$26.67
\$45.00, Less 1-3	\$30.00
\$47.50, Less 1-3	\$31.67
\$50.00, Less 1-3	\$33.34
\$52.50, Less 1-3	\$35.00
\$55.00, Less 1-3	\$36.67
\$57.50, Less 1-3	\$38.34
\$60.00, Less 1-3	\$40.00
\$65.00, Less 1-3	\$43.34
\$67.50, Less 1-3	\$45.17
\$70.00, Less 1-3	\$46.67
\$75.00, Less 1-3	\$50.00
\$80.00, Less 1-3	\$53.34



\$25.00, Less 1-4	\$18.75
\$27.50, Less 1-4	\$20.63
\$28.50, Less 1-4	\$21.38
\$30.00, Less 1-4	\$22.50
\$32.50, Less 1-4	\$24.38
\$35.00, Less 1-4	\$26.25
\$37.50, Less 1-4	\$28.13
\$40.00, Less 1-4	\$30.00
\$45.00, Less 1-4	\$33.75
\$47.50, Less 1-4	\$35.65
\$50.00, Less 1-4	\$37.50
\$52.50, Less 1-4	\$39.38
\$55.00, Less 1-4	\$41.25
\$57.50, Less 1-4	\$43.13
\$60.00, Less 1-4	\$45.00

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The Boys' Shop
Second Floor

All Boys' Overcoats

1-12 to 18 Years at a Reduction of

25%

\$ 8.50, Less 25 per cent	\$ 6.38
\$10.00, Less 25 per cent	\$ 7.50
\$11.00, Less 25 per cent	\$ 8.25
\$12.00, Less 25 per cent	\$ 9.00
\$12.50, Less 25 per cent	\$ 9.38
\$13.50, Less 25 per cent	\$10.13
\$14.00, Less 25 per cent	\$10.50
\$15.00, Less 25 per cent	\$11.25
\$16.50, Less 25 per cent	\$12.38
\$17.50, Less 25 per cent	\$13.13
\$18.50, Less 25 per cent	\$13.88
\$19.50, Less 25 per cent	\$14.63
\$20.00, Less 25 per cent	\$15.00
\$21.00, Less 25 per cent	\$15.75
\$22.50, Less 25 per cent	\$16.87
\$25.00, Less 25 per cent	\$18.75

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25%

\$ 8.50, Less 25 per cent	\$ 6.38
\$10.00, Less 25 per cent	\$ 7.50
\$11.00, Less 25 per cent	\$ 8.25
\$12.00, Less 25 per cent	\$ 9.00
\$12.50, Less 25 per cent	\$ 9.38
\$13.50, Less 25 per cent	\$10.13
\$14.00, Less 25 per cent	\$10.50
\$15.00, Less 25 per cent	\$11.25
\$16.50, Less 25 per cent	\$12.38
\$17.50, Less 25 per cent	\$13.13
\$18.50, Less 25 per cent	\$13.88
\$19.50, Less 25 per cent	\$14.63
\$20.00, Less 25 per cent	\$15.00
\$21.00, Less 25 per cent	\$15.75
\$22.50, Less 25 per cent	\$16.87
\$25.00, Less 25 per cent	\$18.75



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