

Sandhurst Hosiery Mill One Of South's Finest

(Continued From Page One)

1946 sold his No. 2 mill to the Robbins interests who in turn sold it to the J. P. Stevens Company who converted it into a woolen mill. The Hannah Pickett No. 1 mill sold Sept. 22, 1944 to Safie had 2248 looms and 77,000 spindles and brought \$2400 per share (1200 shares) or \$2,880,000. And with the sale in 1946 of his No. 2 mill, that put the Coles out of the mill business. (No. 1 mill had been chartered in October, 1906).

There is an old saying that "printer's ink sticks." Once tarred with it, one never quite quits the printing game.

And so with Mr. Cole.

And the mill industry.

He had spent his entire adult life with mills—starting back in the late Nineties as bookkeeper with Steele's (now a unit of the Burlington chain). Then with his own beloved Hannah Pickett Mills. In all his endeavors he was most successful—one of the recognized top mill executives of the South.

After selling his mills in the Forties, he found that the period of "idleness" was not to his liking. And so he and his son, Bob, in January, 1950, launched their plan for a model new hosiery mill. They first planned to build it just east of town, fronting Highway No. 1 on their Eastside Dairy property; but changed, and instead bought 4.75 acres from the Leak Realty Company, fronting old Highway 74 half a mile southeast of Rockingham, for \$4000—this on the old Shea ball park, fronting about 400 feet on Highway 74, with depth on the east side of 466 feet.

The Sandhurst Mill was incorporated Jan. 31, 1950, with W. B. Cole as Chairman of the Board, Robert L. Cole as President and Treasurer, and Atty. Thomas H. Leath as Secretary.

C. M. Guest and Son, contractors, began erecting the building March 1, 1950. The building of brick was put up in quick order, so that within six months the first of the eight Reading full-fashioned machines began to be installed—this on Aug. 9, 1950. Each

This Is The Way Seams Are Made



Mrs. Grace Rawls is shown above operating a Seaming Machine which joins the sides of the hosiery. 'As can be seen in the photo, the hosiery is fed into the machine and the two sides are in effect welded together. There are about 20 such machines working when the mill is fully operating.

machine is four feet wide and 32 feet long. It required a month to install each machine, and gradually the plant got in operation.

There are no windows in the mill. A perfect air-conditioning system prevails from a 75-ton CARRIER unit, and what is more important, the mill has the most modern humidifiers.

The east wall of the building is a "false" or temporary wall so that at the proper time the mill can be expanded, with more room added on the east.

At the present time, only one-third of the large building is being used.

The mill has 20,000 square feet of space. And the present eight big machines turn out around 2000 dozen pairs of ladies hose per week. They are made of the finest 100% Dupont Nylon—about 500 pounds a week (and this Nylon costs about \$6 per pound).

The mill runs on three shifts five to six days a week. The Hosiery is shipped to Siler City and to Milwaukee where

they are dyed and finished, and put on the market.

Each machine makes thirty stockings at one time. Approximately thirty minutes are required for a stocking to be completely knit. As stated, in a 6-day week the present mill turns out 2000 dozen; in a 5-day week, about 1600 dozen.

An interesting fact is that the average primary size turned out now is No. 10, whereas in 1951 the average size was 9½.

Ladies feet getting larger? In April, 1951, the Coles sold a block of stock to W. H. Entwistle Jr., and he joined the company April 16, 1951 as Vice President and Treasurer, and General Manager.

And Billy is still in charge, the mill running smoothly and with plans at some future date for still further expansion, with new Reading machines to bring the total to 16. The 20,000 square feet of the present mill really has room for 24 machines without adding to the building unless it is later decided to finish hose here for direct sale to the retail stores.

1953 Personnel.

Around 55 persons are employed at the mill, half of them young ladies. The personnel in charge are:

Billy Entwistle, Vice President, Treasurer and General Manager.

Mack Riddle, Office Manager. Miss Becky Fowlkes, office secretary.

Harry Usher, Mill Supt. John Raymond Thomas and John Robert Sparks, knitting foremen.

John Satterfield, foreman of Auxiliary department. Mrs. Dan (Margaret Doster) McCall, assistant Aux. dept.

\$600,000 Capital Outlay.

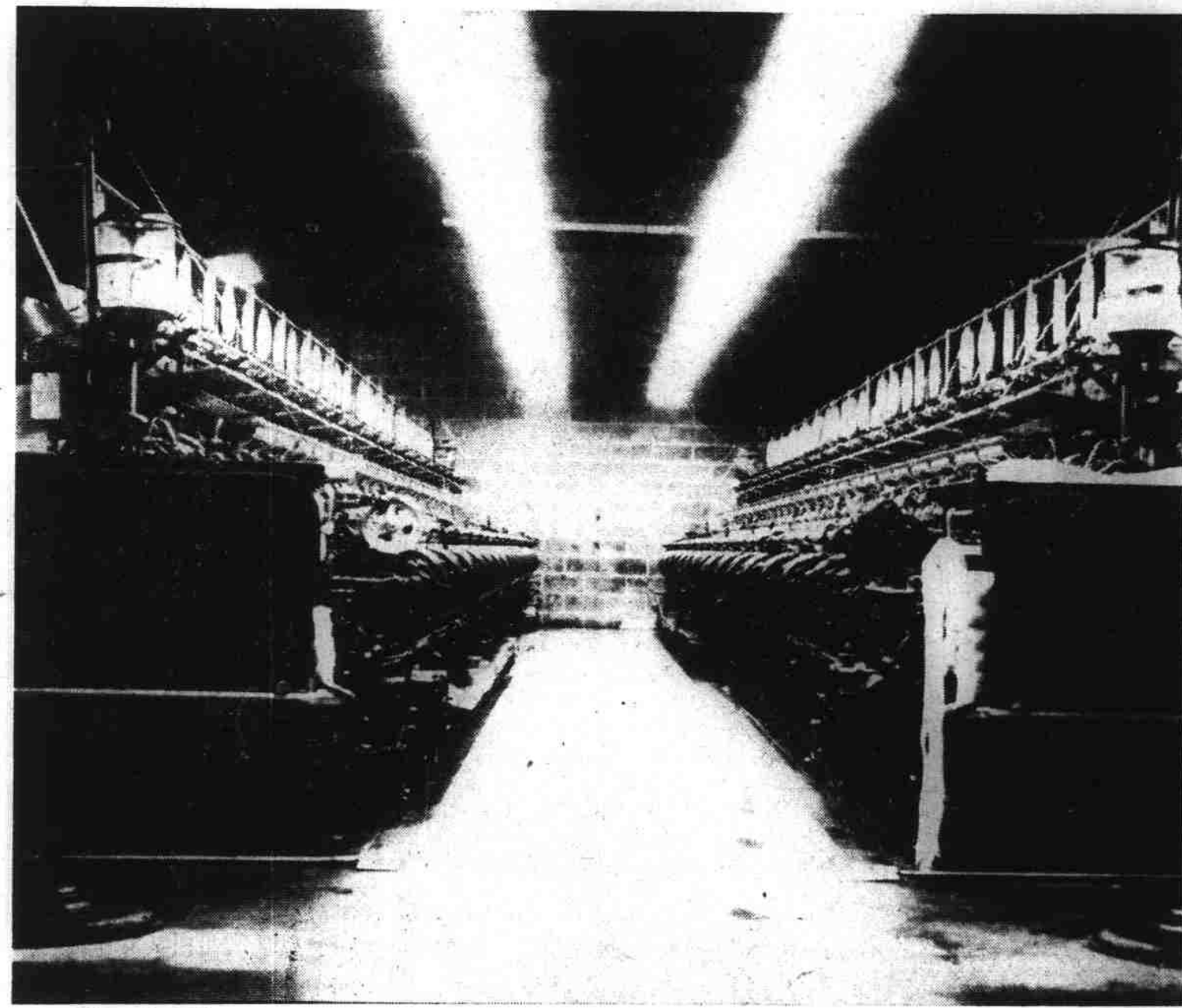
The building cost about \$225,000 in 1950 to build—and of course such a building would be more now. The Reading machines in 1950 cost \$34,390 each (as against a 1953 cost of \$38,000); and so putting in eight such machines at \$275,000, and the cost of the building, plus the expensive humidifiers, air-conditioning etc en-

Final Step: Inspection



The job of Mrs. Elizabeth Jenkins, and a number of other women, have the job of inspection each pair of hose for defects. They draw the hose over a wedge-shaped board, take a look at both sides and note any tears or other defects. (All photos staff)

Some Of The Machinery



The Sandhurst machinery is all new and turns out about 2,000 pairs of hose a week. The finest 100 percent DuPont nylon is used. Eight of the big machines shown above use about 500 pounds of nylon a week and are run on three shifts five to six days a week. Each machine makes thirty stockings at one time, requiring thirty minutes to completely knit.

She Mends 'Em



Although, with the new machinery and modern methods used there is little to be done, Mrs. Edna Caple, above, has the job of mending any small tears which appear in the hose.

tails a total capital outlay of around \$600,000.

The faith of the Coles, and their friends the Guests, in Rockingham and such an industry, was well-founded; and it is a source of gratification to this community that we have such a well-balanced organization, and one affording pleasant and skilled workmanship.

Confederate Dead

Confederate Dead in Oakwood Cemetery, Richmond, Va.

Where more than sixteen thousand laid Lie sleeping here upon this hill I live and breathe a pleasant air. What sympathy it is to kill!

Who could conceive this acreage Of soldiers lying side by side, The meaning of these many mounds, The tears they brought from far and wide?

Think of the many funerals, The digging of so many graves! Who could forget these terrible days When death was coming in such waves?

And sadder still, no loved one near To say good-by to these brave sons. Their fathers, mothers never knew The resting place of their dear ones! Written by A. G. Melton in Oakwood Cemetery May 13, 1945.

P. S. There are thousands of Confederate soldiers buried at Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond where the great Editor and Historian, Douglas Freeman was buried last Tuesday.

\$ CASH \$ LOANS

On Furniture, Cattle, Etc. REPAY ON EASY TERMS \$ — \$ — \$ — \$ — \$ Thrift Loan & Fin. Co. ROCKINGHAM, N. C. "Supv. State Banking Comm." Room 15 in Watson Building

HOSPITAL GIFTS

Appreciation from Staff.

The Richmond County Memorial Hospital has recently been the recipient of several substantial and useful gifts for which it is deeply grateful.

The Land-Covington Furniture Company has given a new eight cubic foot Kelvinator refrigerator to be used in the kitchen of the new Nurses Residence.

Then the Collins Department Store has given the complete furnishing of the small items for the Nurses residence; included in the gift are a complete set of dishes, silverware, pots and pans and food preparation utensils, garbage can, dish towels, dish drainer and so forth.

The Medical Auxiliary, which is composed of the Doctors' wives of the Richmond County Medical Society, has given two attractive floor lamps for the Doctors' lounge on third floor of the Hospital.

Also, the Hospital's Guild has presented two sixteen inch oscillating electric fans, one for the x-ray department and the other for the first floor nurses station.

Such generous support as is being expressed by these groups is most encouraging. We sincerely hope that the services that the Hospital renders to the people of Richmond County will warrant the continued confidence of the people in this area.

This, 1st day of July, 1953. Miriam F. Greene, Asst. Clerk Superior Court. Jones & Jones, Attorneys for Plaintiff. (July 2, 9, 16, 23).

ARTHRITIS?

I have been wonderfully blessed in being restored to active life after being crippled in nearly every joint in my body and with muscular soreness from head to foot. I had Rheumatoid Arthritis and other forms of Rheumatism, hands deformed and my ankles were set. Limited space prohibits telling you more here but if you will write me I will reply at once and tell you how I received this wonderful relief.

Mrs. Lela S. Wier
2805 Arbor Hills Drive
P. O. Box 3122
Jackson 7, Mississippi
(July 3p)

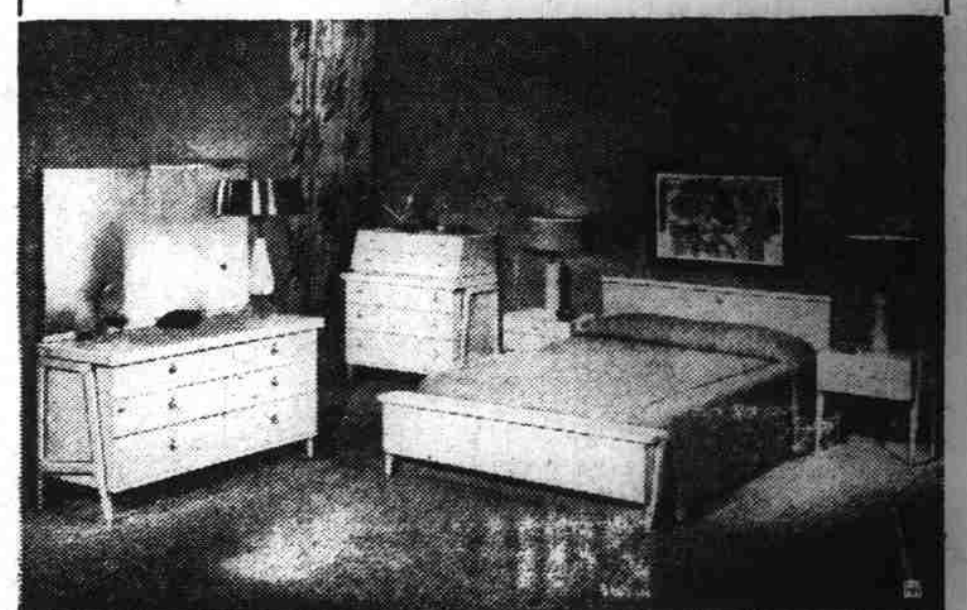
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HOME Furnishings News.

The Light Look



The trend is toward furniture that is raised from the floor. Here case pieces are lifted from the floor by carefully tapered legs, giving a light feeling to the furniture. Brass ferrules are used on legs for decorative contrast. Footboard on bed contains storage compartment for two blankets. The wood is mahogany. Finish on group shown is called "Fawn". For those who prefer a darker finish, the same group is available in a cordovan finish. (United Furniture Corporation).

Hallum Furniture COMPANY

E. Washington St. Rockingham, N. C.

Supervisory Staff At Sandhurst



The Supervisory staff of the mill is, above, seated, Mrs. Margaret McCall, assistant supervisor of the auxiliary; and Harry Usher, superintendent. Standing, left to right, John Satterfield, auxiliary superintendent; Robert Sparks, third shift supervisor; and John Raymond Thomas, second shift supervisor.