

Six Thousand Barrel Heads Made Daily By Local Concern

The Southern Roller Stave and Heading Company
Making Good Use of The Native Gum One
of City's Hustling Industries

There is as much chance for diversification in the woodworking industry as in the textile arts or most others. The Southern Roller, Stave and Heading Company is a concern that stepped right in to an opportunity at Elizabeth City, a city in which so many opportunities of numerous kinds are running around loose, because of this condition. The business has been established twelve years, and during that time has turned many thousands of dollars into the coffers of Elizabeth City merchants and banks that would have gone elsewhere if diversification had not been so prominent here. Originally a partnership of J. Boyd Anderson and A. B. Houtz operated it. Four years ago Houtz bought out Anderson and controls and manages the plant.

The specialty of Mr. Houtz is slack cooperage stock. Gum rollers for moving machinery, etc., are made in great numbers, almost exclusively from gum wood; this however, is only a side line. He owns his own timber, railway, barge equipment, etc., and brings the raw material from the Albemarle Sound section. He employs sixty or more people in the plant and more in the woods.

Many mine props are bought here and sold to the owners of the Pennsylvania, West Virginia and other coal mines. Pine and hardwood logs are shipped to many points by Mr. Houtz.

The Southern mill has a capacity of 6,000 heads daily, enough for three thousand barrels. There is ready market for them; in fact, a demand is almost constantly up to the output. It is in this product that the business has one of its staunchest assurances of future progress, for the demand for barrel heads is growing just as is the manufacture of barrels and the increase in the stuffs for which the barrels are made is waxing greater each year. The

output of this mill is principally for flour and sugar barrels. They and the other goods are shipped to the Northern markets and sold direct. The location of the big industry is on the Norfolk Southern Railroad. Two miles of narrow gauge road is operated for logging purposes. Over three and a half acres of ground are covered by the plant, which contains the most modern machinery.

The Southern Roller, Stave and Heading Company's manager is a native of Pennsylvania but now most intensely interested in the progress of his adopted home.

THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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tered ruins to mark the spot where the majesty of England builded a city that failed. At Ocracoke was the rendezvous of the famous Pirate Blackbeard, William Teach, who while he was courting the last of his many wives at Bath kept a lewd colony on the island, which he visited at every week end. South of Elizabeth City on the Norfolk Southern Railroad is Edenton, an early capital of North Carolina and one of the most picturesque and interesting places in the entire country. Bath the first colonial capital, is some sixty miles, roughly estimating, farther south.

In the days of the Indian wars Pasquotank County sent aid to the citizens of Bath against the warring redskins who had perpetrated the massacre of 1712, sent Militia to South Carolina to fight the Yamasses, and her citizens fought the treacherous warriors whenever the occasion demanded whether at home or in any other part of the colony. The county sent her whole quota of soldiers to the English and Spanish war, to the French and English war, and during the revolution, when North Caro-

lina revolted against British tyranny along with her twelve sister colonies, furnished her hundreds to rid the country of King George's agents and his military forces. She had her full share of men in the war with Mexico. During the war between the states Pasquotank County was loyal to the fullest extent to the State, and had companies in many of the regiments raised in this part of North Carolina. Her sons were at Bethel and at Appomattox, neither braver nor abler than those of the rest of the South, but doing their duty and doing it well and with credit to themselves and their county and contributing their full part to the river of blood that flowed, the stream of life that went to make sacred for evermore the soil of the nation that was, but is not and will not be again.

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