



THE ERWIN CHATTER



Directors Announce Promotions, Appointments, \$10 Million Loan

New Duties Given To Officers of Company At Dec. 12 Meeting

At a meeting of the Board of Directors on December 12, Carl R. Harris was elected to the newly created office of Executive Vice-President and Ralph T. Marshall, formerly of Utica, N. Y., who has recently joined our Company, was named Vice-President, Treasurer, and a member of the Board of Directors.

Additional officers named were Dr. Frank T. deVyver, Vice-President; E. W. Dunham, Secretary; N. A. Gregory, Assistant Treasurer; L. C. Thomas, Assistant Secretary; and John McArthur, Controller.

Loan Negotiated

President Ruffin announced that a \$10,000,000 15-year loan has been negotiated with the Company's banks and two insurance companies, the New York Life and Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, the earlier maturities with the banks, and the later ones with the insurance companies. The average rate of interest for the loan is 3.8 per cent. Proceeds of the loan will be used to pay current notes and increase working capital, a need which arises from larger and higher priced inventories, and other factors reflecting the inflationary status of today's dollar value.

Dividend to Be Paid

A dividend of 15 cents per share on Erwin Mill's stock was declared payable January 2 to stockholders of record at the close of business on December 23. The Company's annual report will be mailed to stockholders and employees in December.

"Our Company's nine plants in North Carolina and one in Mississippi are operating full time," said President Ruffin, "but prospects are for only modest profits, reflecting still the lack of full recovery from the depression which beset the textile industry early in 1951."

C. R. Harris

C. R. Harris, our new Executive Vice-President, is a graduate of North Carolina State College and became associated with Erwin Mills in 1928 after having gained his textile apprenticeship with F. W. Pee Manufacturing Company, Greenville, S. C., the Lancaster Cotton Mills, Lancaster, S. C., and Inman Mills, Inman, S. C. He left the Company briefly to become general superintendent of Aragon-Baldwin Mills, Chester, S. C., and (See PROMOTIONS, Page 2)



RALPH T. MARSHALL, new Vice-President and Treasurer of Erwin Mills and member of the Board of Directors.

TWUA-CIO Wins Neuse Election

The Textile Workers Union of America (CIO) won an election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board at our Neuse mill December 3.

Of the 104 eligible voters at Neuse, 52 votes were cast for the CIO, 21 for the United Textile Workers (AFL), 15 votes for neither union and one vote challenged.

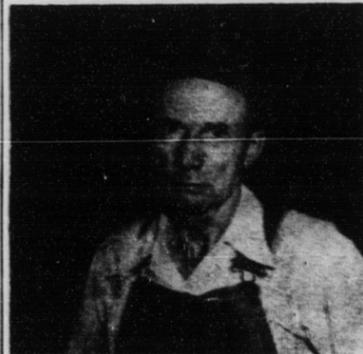
The present contract between the TWUA-CIO local at Neuse and the Erwin Mills will expire on March 31, 1953.



E. H. BOST and FRANK T. DeVYVER present service pins to new Twenty-five Year Club members in Erwin. SEE PAGE 6 FOR MORE BANQUET PICTURES.

Fifty Years With Erwin Mills

Robert W. Wilkerson and Graham Wilson this year became members of the Erwin Mills' exclusive



ROBERT WILKERSON

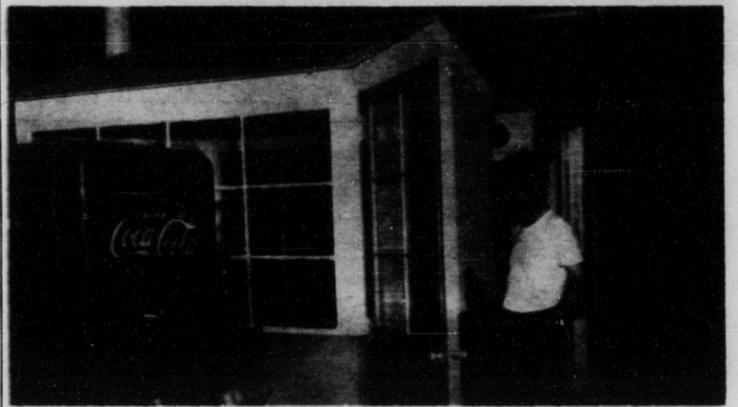


GRAHAM WILSON

and most honored Fifty Year Club. At the Twenty-five Year Club Banquets they received gold watches and well-deserved praise for their faithful and loyal service to the Company.

Although Mr. Wilkerson is now employed at Erwin in No. 5 Spinning Room, he began his career with Erwin Mills as a Doffer in No. 1 Spinning, Durham. The first plant in Erwin was not built until 1903. No. 5 Mill where he now works began operations in 1926. Mr. Wilkerson is a Section Man in the Spinning Room. He has run every job in Spinning, including spinning. When he's not working, his favorite pastime is fishing.

Graham Wilson, like Robert Wilkerson, went to work in 1902 as a Doffer in No. 1 Spinning. He has worked as an oil and bander man, section man, card tender and also with the overhaulers crew. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have six children, all of whom have worked for Erwin Mills at some time. Two daughters, Ruth Broadwell and Pauline Estes now work in the Sewing Room. Two sons, Jesse and Bill Wilson work in No. 4 Card Room. The Wilsons have twelve grandchildren. Mr. Wilson enjoys working in his garden and yard.



SMOKING AND SOFT DRINKS POPULAR IN MILLS.—Clinton Baker, with Coke, and William Blake, No. 4 Carding, use the fireproof smoking room in their department. Smoking enclosures are metal and glass houses in most departments. This is necessary because of the quantity of lint in the air which creates a fire hazard.

Employees Change Over To Three 8-Hour Shifts

Smoking Enclosures, Soft Drink, Candy and Crackers Machines Now Installed

A regular schedule of three 8-hour shifts a day began in our Durham mills on Monday, December 8. In Cooleemee, the change-over was effective beginning with the third shift Sunday night, December 14. Erwin changes to three 8-hour shifts on December 22.

The change-over was desired by Erwin Mills employees in order to give them more convenient hours for home life and recreation. At the same time, the new schedule helps production in the mills since less time is taken up with starting and stopping machinery as employees come and go at lunch periods.

Eat and Smoke in Mill

Since the change of times does not allow for a regular lunch period, soft drink machines, candy and cracker vending machines have been installed in each department. Employees may eat at any time during working hours. Profits from these machines will be used for community work and recreation at each location.

Smoking areas have also been established in each department and smoking is permitted in those areas only. Because of the fire hazard created, the rules for using smoking enclosures must be strictly enforced.

Employees Vote

Last September, employees were asked what starting times they would prefer if and when the mills (See CHANGE OVER, Page 2)

Negotiators Work On New Contracts

Meetings Held for Both CIO and AFL Contracts During Month of December; Early Agreement Hoped For

Representatives of the Company and the United Textile Workers (AFL) met seven times during December for contract negotiations representing Durham and Cooleemee employees. The CIO negotiators for employees at our Erwin plants met with Company officials on December 5 and plan to resume meetings December 19.

As we go to press, no agreement has been reached between the Company and either of the two unions. Both the unions and the Company hope for an early agreement as to the terms of the contracts as negotiations continue. Although specific information about the contract meetings is not available, it is known that negotiations are proceeding in a friendly atmosphere.

The original CIO contract for Erwin, Cooleemee and Durham ended October 11. An NLRB election held October 1 certified the AFL as official bargaining agent for employees in Cooleemee and Durham. A run-off election, necessary in Erwin, was held October 17 and won by the CIO. An extension of the old contract through November 25 was agreed upon by the Company and the AFL for Durham and Cooleemee plants. A second extension of the contract ended December 15.



E. G. McIVER, JR., new Assistant Manager of the Durham Erwin Mills, will begin his duties December 29. Mr. McIver has been with the Company since 1936. He started here as an apprentice, working in the Picker Room and Card Room. He worked with the Overhaulers when the new spinning frames were installed in No. 1 Mill and with the

loom erectors when new looms were installed in No. 6 Mill. He was Asst. Overseer in No. 4 Weave Room and became Asst. Superintendent at No. 6 Mill in 1941. After two years' service with the U. S. Navy, he worked in the Standards Department. He became Manufacturing Assistant in 1947.



Santa Claus brought 7500 colorful towel sets to employees of Erwin Mills, a Merry Christmas gift from the Company. This is the seventh year that Erwin Mills has

given presents to its employees. The custom started in 1945 when the gift was a turkey. Since then the gifts have been turkeys, hams, blankets and Erwin Percale sheets.

