TEXTILE GRADUATES

Future Work of Students in North Carolina School

Seven of the graduates of the Textile Department of the North Carolina State College, of Agriculture and Engineering, have been accepted for the Officers' Training Corps at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. Two have become connected with dyestuff firms, one in a commission house, and three have gone into cotton mill work.

The graduates of the textile department upon the completion of a four-years' course are awarded the B. E. Degree in Textile Industry. The textile department is a fully equipped textile school for instruction in cotton manufacturing, and a complete course in this subject is given which includes designing. In addition to the regular textile subjects given, the student also receives instruction in mathematics, English, chemistry, drawing, motors, machine shops, and other work.

EXTENSIVE EQUIPMENT

The college has a large electrical and mechanical equipment in which the textile students receive instructions in motors and engines, etc. For the past four years the National Association has awarded the students' medals to this textile department, being the only textile school in the South to receive same. The illustration shows the thirteen members of the graduating class in the Textile Department, and also the Director, Thomas Nelson.

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New Bedford School Graduation

National Association Diploma for General Excellence Awarded to Chinaman

THE graduating exercises of the New Bedford (Mass.) Textile School were held last Friday night. The speakers of the evening were Channing Cox, Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, Rufus R. Wilson, secretary of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers; Thomas Marvin, secretary of the Home Market Club, Boston; John Sullivan, superintendent of the Slater Mill, New Bedford, and William E. Hatch, president of the corporation.

The medal of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers was awarded to Cheng Q. Amona, a Chinese, now an American citizen and a resident of New Bedford. Mr. Amona received a diploma in the general cotton manufacturing class and a certificate of five years' work in the evening classes. His record was closely approximated by that of Walter D. Pickard. The medal was presented by John Sullivan in place of Rufus R. Wilson, who was obliged to leave after addressing the graduates. President Hatch, in his address of welcome, said in part:

"Our graduates who are industrious and persevering are making good in every line of the textile industry for which this school aims to prepare them. We find them occupying positions as designers and stylists, as overseers, as salesmen, as inspectors and technical experts for the United States Government, as chemists, superintendents, agents and treasurers.

"I never go where manufacturers meet, but I find graduates of this school from both the day and evening classes filling high and lucrative positions in this, the greatest industry of New England, who greet me with pleasant words of praise for the help given by the New Bedford Textile School in advancing their careers.

"I attended a convention of the knit-goods manufacturers recently in Philadelphia. I found in attendance three graduates of this school, two of them recent ones. One was superintendent of a large knitting mill, one was head chemist for one of the largest finishing plants in the country, and the other chief salesman for a large concern that controls a known dyeing process. Each of them came to me and spoke in terms of praise of the benefits derived from attendance at this school.

"The demands are constant for graduates to fill positions that we are unable to supply, not that a graduate is expected to fill a high position at once, but he is given a start and he has but to make good when promotion is sure and advance rapid if he has laid his foundation well at school.

"A manufacturer said to me recently, 'If a young man who has had the advantages of your school can't win out when he considers the character of the competition he has to meet in the average untrained employee he ought to be ashamed of himself.'" Speaker Cox emphasized the high place occupied by the state in educational matters. Concluding, he said:

"Come what will or come what may," he said, "we must keep the mills running and the wheels turning. We are going to need clothing and cotton fabrics in a hundred different ways, and there is going to be an opportunity for you young men. If the productive power of the country is crippled, it is going to be more important that each one of you use your individual knowledge, and do his little bit in order that the industry may go forward. Massachusetts has made an investment in you, the city of New Bedford, and both expect you to live true to the traditions of the state and city."

Secretary Rufus R. Wilson of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers followed Mr. Cox and, in addition to his address to the graduating class upon their duties under war conditions, he presented the association medal. His address was in part as follows:

"Convinced that our cause is a righteous one, each of us must discharge with singleness of purpose and splendid disregard of self the task which falls to his or her particular lot. Only by so doing shall we achieve that unity of purpose and effort needed to assure success for one of the outstanding lessons of the last three years has been that war is no longer made by armies. It is made by entire nations, by the closely co-ordinated forces of capital and labor, of industry and agriculture, each for the private gain and personal advantage in the same spirit of willing sacrifice that animates the soldier when he puts his life at hazard. Plain and manifest is the duty of each of us in the light of these new conditions. The self-indulgent must stop their excesses; the idle must go to work; labor must be diverted from unnecessary to necessary tasks. And, while the laborer is treated humanely at every point, there must be no unwarranted restrictions on output, but instead, quick adoption of methods of efficiency now tabooed by a false humanity. We fight this war for liberty, not for conquest or wealth, and by the same token, swift and effective disfavor must be the portion of the manufacturer or trader who prospers unduly at the expense of the Government or of his help.

Heavy will be the economic burdens the war will lay upon us. During the next twelve months, the Government plans to raise seven billions of dollars in war loans and not less than a billion and a quarter of dollars in necessary taxation, while with each passing month it will become constantly clearer that upon us is to fall the weight of future credit issues for the war. Where are the vast sums these demands imply coming from? In a broad way, they must come, not from the past, but from the present and future savings of the people. The annual savings power of the nation has been estimated at six billions of dollars. A portion of this total, as in normal times, must be devoted to re- respectively and bettering the machinery of transportation and agriculture, and to the added housing demanded by a yearly increase in population which will not fall below three millions. Another considerable portion of aggregate savings will be absorbed by the construction of establish the production objects of mili-
tary need, and by the increase in the cost of living which always follows when the Government makes first claim on a considerable part of the products of labor. For example, when the Government buys twenty million dollars worth of shoes, as it did the other day, it makes shoes more costly for the civilian and his family; and this rule applies to each of the daily needs which enter also into the equipment of our armies.

Thus, while the increased cost of living will operate effectively to prevent the higher wages paid to labor in war-time from being diverted into extravagances, it also follows that the cost of the war will have to be paid, in the main, from the savings of those who can still afford to save, no matter how heavy may be the current demands upon them. While there must be as little meddling as possible with the ordinary methods and course of business, purveyors of luxuries must, for the moment, find other callings, and the watchword of the hour must be a wise and prudent economy. We have been, in recent times, a prodigal and extravagant people. According to estimates of the Department of Agriculture, more than seven hundred million dollars worth of food is needlessly wasted in the Nation's kitchens every year. At the same time, we have been spending annually half a billion dollars for pleasure cars, while asking the peasants of France to finance our railroads.

We must turn on the instant from the indulgent philosophy that condones waste and extravagance of this sort, and sharply shape our course in another direction. There is at least one luxury every well-to-do family can forego without discomfort, and thus increase its savings for investment. Moreover, by limiting the production of luxuries, we release men for the Army and Navy and for employment in industries essential to the successful conduct of the war.