A SKETCH OF THE MILLS OF THE AMERICAN WOOLEN COMPANY

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A Sketch of the Mills of the American Woolen Company by American Woolen Company

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The American Woolen Company was incorporated under the laws of New Jersey on March 29, 1899, with the following officers: President, Mr. Frederick Ayer, of Lowell, Mass.; Vice-President, Mr. Joseph G. Ray, of Franklin, Mass.; Treasurer, Mr. William M. Wood, of Andover, Mass.; Assistant Treasurer, Mr. Edward B. Chapin, of Andover, Mass.; Secretary, Mr. Joseph T. Shaw, of Boston.

The Executive Committee comprised Mr. Wood, who was Treasurer of the Washington Mills; Mr. James Phillips, Jr., who was the owner of the Fitchburg, Beoli, and Valley Mills; and Mr. Charles Fletcher, of the National and Providence Worsted Mills, the Fulton and Saranac Mills.

These seven mills, with the Riverside Worsted Mills of Providence, formed the nucleus of the new corporation. Afterward there were purchased and assimilated by the company the following plants: The Sawyer Mills, of Dover, N. H.; the Assabet Mills, of Maynard, Mass.; the Faulkner Mills and the Collins Mills, of Lowell, Mass.; the Vassalboro Woolen Mills, of North Vassalboro, Me.; the Plymouth Woolen Mills, of Plymouth, Mass.; the Anderson Mills, of Skowhegan, Me.; the Kennebec Mills, of Fairfield, Me.; the Manton Mills, of Manton, R.I.; the Inman Mills, of Harrisville, and the Sheffield Worsted Mills, of Pascoag, R.I.; the Chase Mills, of Webster, Mass.; the Brown Mills, of Dover, Me.; Ray's Woolen Mills, of Franklin, Mass.; the Weybosset Mills, of Providence, R.I.; the Baltic Mills, of Enfield, N.H.; the Milner Mills, of Moosup, Conn.; and the Riverside and Mascoma Mills, of Lebanon, N.H.

The various plants continued their current season's business through their respective commission houses, but with the opening of the goods for the next season in August, the American Woolen Company's management assumed full control of the manufacture and the disposition of the fabrics of all the various mills.

The twenty-six manufacturing plants comprising the company employ 20,000 hands, and produce 37,500,000 yards of cloth per year. Their aggregate equipment comprises 362 woolen cards, 179 worsted cards, 166 combs, 147,264 woolen and 151,716 worsted spindles, and 5,410 looms.

The mills have an aggregate floor space of 5,480,065 square feet, or one hundred and twenty five and one-half acres. The land owned by the company amounts to six hundred and nine and onehalf acres, exclusive of hundreds of acres covered by flowage rights. All of the manufacturing property of the American Woolen Company, including its plants, stock (raw, wrought, and in process) and finished goods, is fully covered by insurance.

The company is capitalized at \$49,501,100, which comprises \$20,000,000 of preferred stock and \$29,501,100 common stock outstanding. The preferred stock is subject to a seven per cent cumulative dividend, payable quarterly.

On the expiration of his term, Mr. Ray was succeeded by Mr. Frank Jones of Portsmouth, N. H., as the vice-president of the company. Mr. Fletcher has been succeeded by Mr. Frederick Ayer on the executive committee, and by Mr. Samuel P. Colt of Providence, R. I., on the directorate, which now comprises Frederick Ayer, William M. Wood, James Phillips, Jr., Frank Jones, Edwin C. Swift of Boston, Edward P. Chapin of Andover, Francis W. Kittredge of Boston, J. Clifford Woodhull of Summit, N. J., Charles R. Flint of New York, and Samuel P. Colt of Providence, R. I.

The company's selling agency is located at 74 and 76 Worth street, New York City, having also office and storage space at 19 and 21 Thomas street and the building comprising Nos. 143 to 147 Franklin street. It has leased, however, for its sales office, four floors of the building in course of construction at Leonard and Church streets, which will afford more commodious quarters. The company has, in addition to its main selling agency, branch offices at Broome and Mercer streets, in New York, and also in the other larger cities in the country.

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