

JGH 1

DR. JAMES G. HALL, sworn, testified:

EXAMINATION BY MR. DALY.

Q You are the city physician, are you?

A Yes Sir.

Q How long have you held your office?

A It will be four years in July.

Q Where did you graduate?

A At the Atlanta Medical College.

Q How long have you been practising medicine?

A It will be 20 years in April. I graduated in 1895.

Q As city physician, what are your duties??

A To look after the poorer classes of people who are not able to obtain a regular physician in private practise.

Q Does your position as such city physician lead you into the mill villages of the Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills?

A Yes Sir, quite a good deal.

Q How frequently are you there in a general way?

A I cannot say, but most every day I am called to some part of it.

Q Have you been going there for the last three years as city physician?

A Yes Sir.

Q Are you familiar with the housing conditions of that village??

JGH 2

A Yes Sir.

Q What are they?

A Well, they have been mighty bad, but there has been some improvement made in the last few months.

Q Are the houses large or small?

A Well, they are both. Some large and some small, but the larger houses carry four families.

Q How many rooms would that be for a family?

A About three to the family.

Q About how many would you think on an average would be in the families there, in a fair average?

A Well, four or five.

Q In three rooms there would be four or five people?

A Yes Sir, lots of times they take boarders.

Q What are the general diseases that you find out there in that village??

A As a general thing we have some typhoid, some malaria and pneumonia, a general line of diseases, but as a general rule badly impoverished in blood, poorly nourished, I suppose, for the hours of labor.

Q How about filthy diseases, syphilis and itch and so on? Do you find any of that?

A Why, a good deal of it.

Q Are the houses kept clean or not?

A No Sir, a majority of them are not.

JGH 3

Q You have stated that the people are in an impoverished condition. Do you mean that many of their ailments arise from that condition?

A Possibly it is the condition of the houses, ventilation and work.

Q Do they have enough to eat, do you think generally?

A I suppose they have, I have not been in there at their eating times in the dining rooms.

Q Do they appear to be well nourished?

A No, about 50% is usually a run-down class of people, you know. They are anaemic.

Q Are they in that condition when they come there, as a rule?

A A lot of them usually are when they come from these malarial conditions.

Q How about the sanitary conditions, are they uniformly good?

A They were pretty bad. In fact the Board of Health had to get right in behind them.

Q And they have been in that condition for a long time or haven't they?

A Yes Sir.

Q Do you know whether the Board of Health called the Mills' attention to this condition prior to the summer of 1914?

JCH 4

A I could not say just positively about that.

Q Are you in connection with the Board of Health in any way?

A Yes Sir, I work directly under them.

Q Have you practised in any other mill village?

A Yes Sir, at Milstead, Georgia.

Q Any other?

A Well, since I have been to the city I have been at the Exposition Mills out here.

Q Any other?

A Well, I go into the Woolen Mills out here

Q Which woolen mills?

A Over on Wells Street.

Q Who owns them?

A I don't know.

Q Comparing the different mill villages, Doctor, what would you say about them?

A Well, the Exposition Mills are in fairly good condition, and the Milstead Mill is in the best condition that I have ever come in contact with, in the mill village. The Atlanta Woolen Mills and the Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills are bad, quite poor. I mean the conditions there of the rooms and the buildings.

Q How about the sanitary conditions at the Atlanta

Woolen Mills?

A Well, of course, they have city water works and toilets.

Q Connected with the sewerage?

A Yes Sir.

Q Comparing these woolen mills with the Exposition Mills, the Milstead Mills and the Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills, how do they compare together?

A The Milstead and Exposition Mills are in fairly good condition, well kept, and the homes are in better condition inside and out.

Q What class of people do you find in those other two villages??

A The Exposition Mills and the Milstead Mills?

A Yes, compared with the type working in the Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills?

A The Milstead Mills have the best class of cotton mill people I have come in contact with, and they take a pride in keeping their homes, keeping up appearances that is, and of course there is a good lot of village people at the Exposition Mills, In fact, they are some better classed than at the Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills.

Q How about the impoverished condition that you speak of at the Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills, compared with the Milstead Village? Do you find that same condition

among the operatives at the Milstead village to any extent?

A Not as much. The people come in, as I stated, but a majority of the people there are a mighty good working class of people.

Q How about the Exposition Mills?

A Well, the physical condition there is better.

Q To what do you attribute that? These three mills are near each other, aren't they?

A Milstead is about thirty five miles from here. They have natural drainage there and they have much better houses and the mill furnishes them all the ground they want to cultivate in vegetables and things like that and they give them pasturage free and a lot of them keep a cow and have chickens and eggs and are naturally in better condition to take care of themselves than the people would be here.

Q Some better wages are paid by the Milstead Company than at the Exposition Mills and Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills, or not?

A Yes Sir.

Q At the Exposition Mills are the people in better physical condition?

A The majority are much better personally.

Q In those mills that you are in touch with, including the Atlanta Woolen Mills, are there large numbers of people that come from the mills every year, the floating class of people?

A Yes Sir, just drifting; transient, you might say, just jumping from one town to another.

Q Are they the people of lowest vitality, or not?

A Yes Sir, as a general thing they are.

Q Does that low vitality, in your opinion, that whole condition of life that that class seems to be in, have anything to do with the transient situation and moving from one mill to another? Would you think that the low vitality of the floating classes would have anything to do with their wanting to change from place to place?

A I don't know just exactly about that. Of course, you take anybody that is not well and healthy and they become dissatisfied in any location, almost, thinking possibly a change would benefit them sometimes.

Q Going back to the Fulton Mills will you just simply give the situation as to health, hygiene and sanitation in your own way?

A Yes Sir, of course you could not say that the people are in a healthy condition or that the sanitary

or hygienic conditions were ideal at all.

Q Could you say they were bad?

A Yes Sir.

Q Now, there were improvements made there in those conditions in the summer of 1914, were there not?

A Yes Sir.

Q In your judgment were those improvements sufficient to put the village in a firstclass sanitary condition?

A Outside, they are. These people will not keep their homes clean.

Q The mill has no jurisdiction over the inside of the homes?

A No Sir.

Q You attribute the filth on the inside of the buildings themselves, of course, to the way they keep their homes?

A Yes Sir.

Q Has there been any epidemic among them?

A Nothing but measles and things of that kind, which come and go with the spring and fall.

Q Do you practise mostly among other classes of people principally?

A Yes Sir.

Q It has been stated that pellagra was prevalent among the mill people, is that correct?

JGH 9

A We have had several cases of pellagra there.

Q Is that disease in any way peculiar to the cotton operatives?

A I am not prepared to answer that just exactly, but I should not think it was entirely confined to them for the reason that I come in contact with it with as fine people as there are and who never come in contact with a cotton mill?

Q And you find that here in the South too, do you?

A Yes Sir.

Q Then you would not say it was what you might term an occupational disease?

A No Sir, I could not say that.

Q Did you find pellagra on the Milstead village?

A Yes Sir.

Q How many cases?

A Only one case while I was there.

Q How long were you there?

A Seven years.

Q Have you ever seen cases of pellagra in the Exposition Mills?

A Yes Sir.

Q How many?

A I could not state.

Q More than one?

A I cannot remember because we have changed our work. We used to go all over the city and now we have it divided. Dr. Wilkins has that section in this city.

Q While you had any connection with the Exposition Mills did you see a case there?

A Yes Sir.

Q Have you seen any in the Atlanta Woolen Mills?

A No Sir, I do not recollect a case there.

Q Where are the Atlanta Woolen Mills, here in town?

A About a mile out from town.

Q Inside the city limits?

A Yes Sir, right in the heart.

Q Is it a small mill?

A No, not small.

Q Is there a floating class of help in that mill?

A Yes Sir.

Q A large percentage or not?

A Well, I could not say just how large.

Q Do they change much?

A The majority of these people come and go, back and forth.

Q Do you know anything about the way in which the Fulton Mill village does its cooking?

A No Sir.

Q Are you familiar with the character of welfare

work in those villages you have been speaking about?
When you were at Milstead what interest did the mills take in their employees?

A Quite a good deal; they did everything for their comfort that they could to make them satisfied.

Q As a result of their treatment things were in a good condition?

A That had a good deal to do with it, yes Sir.

Q In your affiliation with the Exposition Mills did you know anything about the character of interest that the mills take in their employees there? Welfare work?

A No Sir, I am not prepared to answer that.

Q How about the Atlanta Woolen Mills?

A I could not say that.

Q Are you familiar with the workings of the Wesley House in the settlement or not?

A Yes Sir.

Q What would you consider the work, there? Is it up-to-date, firstclass or not?

A Well, it could be improved on, but they do quite a lot of good and are a great help to the people there.

Q Does that mill do any other class of welfare work except what they do from the Wesley House?

A Not that I know of. They may do it; I am not

prepared to say.

Q Your services down there are furnished by the city?

A Yes Sir?

Q And paid for by the city?

A Yes Sir.

Q And any medicine you furnish them the city pays
for it?

A Yes Sir.
