

May 14, 1915

OE-5

Mr. H. P. Meikleham,  
Lindale, Ga.

Dear Mr. Meikleham:

Now that our Annual Meeting is about to take place, I want to reply more fully to your letter of April 22nd.

I do not know whether it will be advisable for me to attend the Executive Committee meeting when this matter is considered.

Our Company has already remitted to the Joint Employers' Association \$600.00, and I think it is no more than fair that the Georgia Cotton Manufacturers' Association should be willing to pay, say \$400.00. I think the Joint Employers' Association, under such a contribution of a total of \$1,000, would be, - or at least should be, - satisfied.

It was due to the strong efforts of this Joint Employers' Association that the public Hearing was prevented in Atlanta. I think, from the developments, that it is exceedingly fortunate that no public Hearing was held. It would have been the beginning of undue agitation and notoriety in the papers, resulting in unduly exciting the help, and the probable result of more organization among them than now exists. No matter what showing would have been made by the mills themselves, the labor element would have predominated, and so framed the questions that only the bad spots would have been picked out by them for investigation; while we, on the other hand, would have found it more difficult to present the good spots. This is my idea, and my reason for feeling that although no public Hearing was held (due, as already stated, to the efforts of the Joint Employers' Association), that a nominal contribution of \$400.00 is not asking much in view of the services rendered.

I do not know whether you agree with this version of it, but if I do not attend that meeting I would appreciate your stating the case for me, if you are willing to do so. At the present time

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I feel a delicacy in attending the meeting; it would appear too much as though I had an "axe to grind", when, in reality, I feel that the fight coming up at our plant has, and will, redound in the future to the benefit of the general cotton mill industry in the South,- especially in this immediate section.

Some of the members of the Executive Committee may not feel this as strongly as I do, but had things turned out differently, probably it would have been too late to either agree or disagree on this point.

Another important matter to come up will be the consideration of the members individually, or the Association as a body, joining the new Georgia Manufacturers' Association. I believe that this would be a move in the right direction; in fact, I rather favor the collective proposition, because I can see no necessity or advantage in maintaining different organizations.

Yours very truly,