

Operative #429, Special work, Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills,  
Tuesday, August 22nd, /16.

I reported at the mill office at 6:15 A.M. The employment clerk was aware of my mission, and asked me which mill I was to work in. I told him that I did not know, so he sent me in to #1 mill. I spoke to the second-hand, and asked him for a job carrying filling, or any kind of a job in the weave room, the same as I spoke of previously in the office. I answered questions to the effect that I had worked in and come from Greenville, S.C., and tried to have him understand that I wanted any kind of work but weaving; he stated however, that he had no vacancies of any kind at this time, but that I could come in at noon-time.

Previous to speaking to the second-hand, as I came into the shop, I saw a fellow standing near the information desk and asked him who was the boss weaver. He pointed out the second-hand as the party who lines up the help. He then asked me where I came from, and a whole lot of other questions, which made me feel that this was a fellow that may possibly be interested in getting a line on any new-comers, as he asked too many questions to suit me. He said that one of the filling-carriers was working his notice, and that I may possibly get his job. I did not ask this fellow what he did, but I believe he is a filling carrier himself.

I reported at the mills at 12:20 P.M., and while the second-hand was going around the room, I had a conversation with a spare weaver, who was subsequently put to work. He stated that he had given up loom-fixing on a section of looms for the reason that the work was too hard for him, and that he was going to weave instead. I asked him as to the condition of the weaving, and his remarks were to the effect that the weaving was all right, and he seemed well satisfied with conditions.

The second-hand then returned and told me to go up stairs, and that he thought that I would be put to work. I went up there and was placed on a stand of 20 looms, one of the loom numbers being #735. It was impossible for me to keep them going as they were badly out of order, and the fixer was constantly at work on eight of them all the time. On one of the looms the bobbin would lift up out of the shuttle and jam between the shuttle and box at the magazine end of the loom. On another loom the magazine would empty itself all at once, and on other looms there were various evidences of careless loom-fixing. I may say that a very bad feature I found was nearly all of the bobbins were worn rough on the ends, that is at the tips, which was the cause of filling breaking constantly before the yarn would weave off. I also noted that the filling was wound too far up on the tip, and being also soft, it would break in the shuttle, making a good deal of un-necessary waste. I noted that all the other weavers on the same style had the same trouble. If interested parties would walk through, they would find hundreds

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of pieces lying in the filling and waste boxes rejected from the facts as stated, caused by poor building of the bobbin in the spinning dep't.

With the bobbings being re-dipped in varnish, and attention being paid to a better build in the spinning dep't, and a little better attention to loom-fixing, I am certain that the results would show up far better, as I note that both warp and filling yarns were very good.

I feel very sure that there is some agitation going on, and that there are feelings of dis-satisfaction being spread, and I will pay the closest attention to this matter in order that I may determine where this feeling exists, so that you may be able to get a line on the mal-contents.