

FRENCH TEXTILE INDUSTRIES REGAINING NORMAL OUTPUT, BUT STEEL AND IRON SLOW

Forty Thousand Persons Are at Work in Textile Mills and Within Two Years it is Expected the Production of 1914 Will be Surpassed.

Lille, Jan. 1.—Forty thousand persons are at work in the French textile mills, which only a few months ago were raised or looted by the Germans. The production of textiles is regaining its normal output, but steel and iron are slow. The correspondent of the Associated Press was given the following information by French authorities, who have arranged a trip to show him the strides made by the nation in reconstruction.

Within a year, government officials and manufacturers agree, production of textiles will reach half of the pre-war total, and within two years, these men forecast, the 1914 output will be surpassed.

The wool industry is said to be recovering most rapidly, with cotton in second place. Linnen weaving is reported to be slowest in getting back to normal, because of the shortage of flax, formerly obtained from Russia.

In Lille and the adjoining cities of Roubaix and Turcoing, where the textile manufactures are centered, it is estimated thirty thousand men, women and children are now busied with combing, spinning and weaving, and approximately ten thousand are employed in the smaller mills of surrounding towns where progress is slower but is being pushed with equal vigor.

Rapid Growth of Textile Plants.

Statistics compiled by the government from necessarily accurate statements, upon which factories are paid reconstruction indemnities, show that in the Lille district on October 1 last there were 35,534 persons working in 162 textile plants, compared with 106,066 employed before the war in 265 factories. In all of the 491 textile mills of the liberated regions there were employed in August of this year only 21,027 of the 152,943 persons at work four years ago.

Reconstruction of the textile industry was declared by manufacturers a few months ago to be almost a hopeless task. At least they said it would be so slow that France would lose her world trade in textiles. Now, however, a brighter view is being taken, and government figures show the industry has reached two-fifths of normal production. Manufacturers themselves concede that output is at least one-third of that before the war. All agree that rehabilitation is proceeding more rapidly each month as the looted machinery is being returned from Germany or new installation are coming from England and the United States. Some of the equipment was not removed, but merely damaged by the Germans, and this is being repaired.

Twenty Billion Damage to Textiles.

Direct damage to the textile industry is estimated by the Ministry of Reconstruction at 20,000,000,000 francs. In this section of France, the heart of the industry, mills for the most part were knocked to pieces and the rest were damaged. All of the electric machinery, belting, shafting and similar equipment were taken by the Germans, and seven-tenths of the spindles, looms and combers which possessed almost human dexterity were either shipped to Germany or pounded into utter uselessness.

Two out of every hundred machines were left intact, packed and tagged for shipment, but were abandoned by the Germans in their strategic retreat. Those machines which were not removed were stripped of all brass and copper parts, and delicate pieces were mutilated requiring months to replace. The extremely thorough stripping of copper parts from the machines is an important factor in delaying work, as it might almost be said that the French

use copper, and brass except when such metals will not possibly answer the purpose.

The labor problem is not at this time particularly embarrassing to textile manufacturers. The task of replacing the remarkably skilled workers, many of whom are among France's million and a half of dead war heroes, is said to be in the way of solution because women always were largely employed, and they are more keen than ever for such well paid work since many of them are widows.

Steel and Iron Production in France Slow to Return to Normal.

Valenciennes, Dec. 31.—(By The Associated Press.)—France's steel and iron industry, virtually cut in half by war's ravages, is faced by what engineers estimate to be an eight to ten year task of reconstruction. Details of the problem were related today to the correspondent of the Associated Press who is visiting the devastated regions of France by special government dispensation.

Engineering experts, however, say the country's steel and iron production may be much quickened by the mineral mining and metal treating plants of Lorraine, returned to France under the terms of the Versailles treaty. The seriousness of the loss to the industry by war, nevertheless, is heightened by the great necessity for metal construction throughout devastated districts and the dependence of nearly one hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants of these regions on the blast furnaces and metal mills for a livelihood.

In Valenciennes, Denain, Trillemont, St. Leger, Fresnes, Anzin and other towns of this district the destruction suffered as the result of the conflict is estimated at 95 per cent, including the obliteration of the Denain and Anzin works, which were the most important in France.

Of the more than five hundred small metal treating and metal construction plants of the devastated region government reports show 47 per cent, have resumed work, but with only 14 per cent, of the pre-war force. This does not include the large plants, which alone are said to be capable of meeting the country's chief needs in the way of structural material and important machinery taken away or destroyed during the war.

No note of pessimism is intended, it is said, by the engineers who forecast an eight to ten year period of reconstruction before the nation can regain her former place in the iron and steel industry. These men, in support of their position, cite the fact that the work of clearing away the debris of war has not yet commenced at the largest mill, and they declare this is due to the necessity of designing a huge plant with equipment to cost millions of dollars and to other preparatory considerations. Actual accomplishments to this end, they state, are being delayed also by the general conditions holding up all construction facilities, labor troubles and shortage of coal and fuel.

It is asserted, however, that production will be certain and steady with the attainment of half production within five years.

At present many of the smaller plants are said to be devoting their output to the most needed foods. In some instances several small concerns have combined their equipment, inadequate for separate operation, and have thereby created a group of little units and shops capable of rapid action and able to help in some measure in supplying the crying needs for machinery of all kinds.

Andover

Andover, Dec. 29.—Mr. John Curry, of Magog, has been spending a week with his mother, Mrs. William Curry.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Porter went to Fredericton, Tuesday, where they will remain for a time.

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Wallace, Fredericton, are guests of Dr. and Mrs. A. F. Macintosh.

Mr. Carl Flemington came up from Fredericton and spent Christmas with his parents, Rev. Charles and Mrs. Flemington, at the parsonage.

Mr. Burton McAlary, of Van Buren, Me., and Mr. Sandy McAlary, of Escoort, Que., spent a few days recently with Mr. and Mrs. Harry McAlary.

Mr. Wilmot Curry returned to Edmonds on Friday after spending Christmas at his home here.

On Christmas night a very pleasing concert was given in the Baptist church by the younger members. At the conclusion presents were distributed from a well-laden tree.

Mr. and Mrs. Wellington Keirstead, of Presque Isle, Me., have been visiting Mrs. Robert Ervin.

A jolly bunch enjoyed a straw ride to Fort Fairfield on Christmas night, where they attended a dance.

Miss Kathleen Beveridge is home for a few days from Fredericton.

Mrs. Howard Shaw and Miss Irma Shaw, of Toronto, are holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Reed Bedell.

Mr. Thomas Bedell came from St. John to spend the Christmas season with his family here.

Mr. George Montgomery spent the weekend at Woodstock.

On Friday afternoon Miss Gertrude Tibbitts was hostess at a small tea, when her guests were Miss Eva and Daisy Miller, Janet Curry, Lillian Rawies (Bristol, England), and Pearl Wade.

Miss Myrtle Crawford, St. John, is visiting her aunt, Mrs. Harry McAlary.

Miss Lillian Beck, of the Western Union, has been enjoying a short vacation at her home in St. Stephen.

Mr. David Miller, of his home from Fredericton for a few days.

Mrs. James Watson and Miss Watson, of Grand Falls, visited Miss Jeanne Watson on Saturday.

Miss Gertrude Tibbitts went to Houlton, Saturday, to visit Miss Helen Colwell.

Miss Emma Wootton returned on Saturday from a month's visit with Ottawa friends.

Mr. Pringle Kelly was home from Wapke to spend Christmas.

Mr. Randolph Jamer returned to Buckingham, Que., on Monday after a short visit with his parents.

Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Wade went to Grand Falls on Wednesday to visit relatives over Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Roderick L. Angolia, of Amqui, Que., are visiting Mrs. Angolia's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. Cronkite.

Miss Carolyn Armstrong, of Edmonds, has been visiting her mother, Mrs. Carolyn Armstrong.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Pugsley, of Halifax, and Mr. Norman Sisson, of Plaster Rock, spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Wellington Sisson.

Mr. George Armstrong and son, Gordon, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Charles Elliott at St. Stephen.

Mr. Malcolm McKellar, Red Rapids, Me., was the guest recently of Mrs. Carolyn Armstrong.

Miss Annie Bedell came home from Toronto to spend the holidays with her mother, Mrs. L. Bedell.

Miss Velma Mant, who is training at Providence, R. I. Hospital, is home on her vacation.

Dr. MacIntosh and son, Allen, of Fort Fairfield, were Christmas guests of Dr. and Mrs. A. F. MacIntosh.

Mr. and Mrs. James Adam, Lower Kincardine, have been visiting Mrs. James McPhail.

Mrs. Lewis McQuade has returned from a visit with relatives at Morrell.

Miss Luella Pearson went to her home in Lower Brighton to spend Christmas.

Mr. Herbert Barnett and sons, of Hawke's Bay, are guests of Mr. and Mrs. O. Clinton Johnston.

Mr. and Mrs. LeBaron Anderson and children spent Christmas at Mr. Harry Tibbitts.

Mr. John Ogilvy, of Oxbow, has been visiting at Mrs. Benjamin Kilburn's.

Mrs. Millen, of Woodstock, is visiting the Misses Millen for a few weeks.

Mr. Neales, of Montreal, has come to fill the vacancy in the Bank of Montreal caused by Mr. Melanson's resignation.

Miss Margaret Sutton has gone to Plaster Rock to visit her aunt, Mrs. B. T. Marston.

Mr. Reed Lewis was home from Edmonds for Christmas.

Mr. Barney Armstrong is home from Montreal.

Miss Annie Stewart is visiting relatives in Jacksonville.

Messrs. Ewan and Donald MacIntosh, of Edmonds, are guests at Mrs. William Curry's.

Mr. Brown, of Plaster Rock, spent Christmas at Mrs. Lucy Bedell's.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ouellet, of Plaster Rock, spent Christmas with Mrs. B. C. Palmer.

Richibucto, Jan. 1.—Miss Francis McDonald went to St. John on Monday, called there by the illness of her sister, Mrs. Valmore Royer.

Miss Marguerite Bourque of Ottawa, is visiting her parents, Senator and Mrs. Bourque.

Miss Olive Storer of New York, is spending the holiday season with her mother, Mrs. A. C. Storer.

Miss Salome Townsend is spending her vacation at St. Martins.

Miss Virgie McDonald returned on Wednesday from Campbellton.

Mr. Verne Hutchinson of Newcastle, spent Christmas at his home here.

Messrs. Alceide LeBlanc and Vincent Doucet of St. Joseph's College, are spending the holiday at their homes here.

Misses Angella Robichaud of Edmonds, and Marie Louise Robichaud of Moncton, spent their vacation at their home here.

A very enjoyable dance was given by the Tennis Club in the Globe Hall on Tuesday evening, which was very

much enjoyed by a large number of people. Those present from out of town were Mr. Kenneth Irving, Mr. and Mrs. Hansen, Buctouche, Mr. and Mrs. J. Dickinson and Mrs. H. Stewart, Buxton.

Mr. Brown Haines of Detroit, Mich., spent New Year's with his grandfather, Mr. Allan Haines.

Mr. James Haines of Campbellton visited his father, Mr. Allan Haines, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Robichaud spent Christmas at St. Anthony's.

Miss Eugene McDonald of Portland, Me., called home by the illness of her mother, Mrs. R. McDonald.

Miss Kathleen O'Leary of New York, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. O'Leary.

Miss Christian O'Leary of Moncton, spent Christmas at her home here.

Mr. Harry Graham of St. John, is visiting his father, Mr. James Graham.

Miss G. Long of Fredericton, is visiting her mother, Mrs. L. Long.

Mr. R. L. Johnson spent Christmas at his home in Loggieville.

Mr. Bert Patterson of Halifax, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. Patterson.

Mr. Arthur O'Brien of Chatham, visited friends here this week.

Sussex

Sussex, Jan. 2.—C. E. Fairweather of the Bank of Nova Scotia staff, Toronto, was the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Fairweather, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Dougall, St. John, spent the Christmas holidays, guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McLeod.

Horace Chapman of Truro, N. S., was in Sussex for the Christmas holidays.

Miss Mildred Arnold, who has been spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Arnold, leaves this Saturday for Grand Manan.

Mrs. O. P. King was a visitor to St. John on Monday.

Dr. Ross Mills, Philadelphia, who spent the Christmas season with his mother, Mrs. James Mills, returned to his home on Monday. He was accompanied by his brother, Mr. Percy Mills of British Columbia, who will spend two weeks in Philadelphia.

Miss Gladys Atwood left this week for her home in London, Ont., for an extended visit to her aunt, Mrs. W. H. Cox.

Mr. Percy White of McGill University, is spending the vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. White.

Mr. C. A. Keith, Petticoat, spent the weekend with his son, J. E. Keith, Mr. Reginald Hickson of St. John, spent Christmas at "The Knoll."

Miss Mary Connolly returned to Canning, N. S., on Monday after spending the Christmas season with her mother, Mrs. Robert Connolly.

Mr. and Mrs. Garfield White were weekend visitors to St. John.

Miss Genevieve Barnes, Hampton, and Mr. Aldon Brown, St. John, are visiting their aunt, Mrs. Frank Creed.

Mrs. Robert Morrison spent the weekend in St. John.

Mrs. C. C. Flewelling was hostess at an enjoyable bridge on Tuesday afternoon. The prize was won by Mrs. Arthur Keith.

Miss Edna White of Orange, N. J., who has been spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward White, leaves this Saturday for her home.

Miss Gretchen Mills spent this week in St. John with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Keith and two sons were holiday guests of Mr. Keith's mother, Mrs. S. Keith, Church Ave.

Mr. R. Orlando Atkinson of New York, who is visiting in Sussex, has been the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Keith and Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Humphreys and other friends during the holidays.

Miss Della Daly was in St. John this week attending the Military Ball. While in St. John Miss Daly was the guest of Mrs. F. J. Harding.

Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Moore were visitors to St. John this week.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.

Miss Frieda Morash is visiting friends in Milford, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sharp, Sussex, announce the engagement of their daughter, Irma May to Mr. Warren P. Myers, St. John, N. B., the marriage to take place at an early date.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bowron and little son are spending the holidays at the home of Mr. Bowron's parents in Stellarton, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Coleman and family are spending the holidays with relatives in Ontario.