

IN MEMORY

Hyman Llewellyn Battle, a worthy member of the illustrious Battle family, who have been so outstanding in the industrial and civic life of North Carolina for generations, died on March 24, 1972. He was the younger son of Thomas H. Battle and Salalie Hyman Battle and was born in Rocky Mount August 11, 1896. He was the grandson of Kemp Plummer. Battle, an early president of the University of North Carolina, and the great grandfather of Joe L. Battle, founder of Rocky Mount Mills in 1898, a textile company which has been in continuous successful operation since its founding and largely under great management and control of the Battle family.

Mr. Battle graduated from Mount Holly High School and attended the University of North Carolina, 1915-1916, leaving immediately to enlist in the army, where he served 1917-1918, being honorably discharged with rank of sergeant. On returning to civilian life, it was only natural for him to seek employment with Rocky Mount Mills, a relationship which existed for fifty-three years and during which Mr. Battle held the offices of general manager, treasurer, president, and finally chairman of the Board of Directors, a position he held at the time of his death.

In June, 1921 Mr. Battle was married to Mamie Louise Braswell, daughter of Dr. Mark R. Braswell and Mamie Hackney Braswell, of Rocky Mount. Mrs. Battle died on November 19, 1971. Surviving are two sons, Hyman L. Battle, Jr., of New York City, and Thomas B. Battle, who serves today as president of Rocky Mount Mills. Other survivors include one brother, Kamp D. Battle, and his stepmother, Mrs. Thomas H. Battle, both of Rocky Mount, four sisters, Mrs. Josephine F. Comer and Mrs. Martha B. Mebane, and Mrs. Thomas H. Battle, wife of Hyman L. Battle, Jr., of New York City.

While it is true that during his mature life Mr. Battle's primary interest was always the Rocky Mount Mills, still he led a full life, giving of his time, energy and fine judgment to various activities, including education, religion, transportation, and civic improvements, as is shown by the many connections he held, such as Vice-President of Rocky Mount Cord Company, President of Battle Foundation (a charitable foundation which he established), Director of Seaboard Coast Line Railroad Company, Planters Company and its successor by merger, the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad Company, of Rocky Mount Coast Company, President of Sterling Cotton Mills, Atlantic Coast Line Railroad of North Carolina Bank and Trust Company, Rocky Mount Investment Company, Coastal Plain Life Insurance Company, North Carolina Textile Foundation, Y. M. C. A. at Rocky Mount, and Insurance Company, North Carolina Textile Foundation, Y. M. C. A. at Rocky Mount, and

Birmingham, Alabama.

In addition to the above Mr. Battle served as Advisor to Employer Delegate International Labor Conference, Washington, D. C., yarn consultant to Quartermaster General's Office, U. S. Army, a member of Advisory Committee, Office Price Control, Civilian Production Administration, Chairman of Housing Authority and also President of Chamber of Commerce, both in Rocky Mount. In April 1957 the faculty of the University of North Carolina presented Mr. Battle a Distinguished Service Award for service as a member of Executive Committee of the Good Health Association. In the field of education he served as Trustee of St. Mary's School, National Association Boy's Club of America, and member of the scholarship committee of the John Motley Morehead Foundation. For many years he served as member of the Vestry of the Good Shepherd Church of Rocky Mount and as Senior Warden.

Hyman L. Battle was in truth a remarkable man, endowed with a keen mind, common sense, and a lovable personality that inspired trust and friendship; it is no wonder that under his capable management during the past twenty-five years the Rocky Mount Mills have enlarged and expanded more than in the first one hundred and twenty-five years of its existence.

Those who have served with Hyman Battle share with his family a deep sense of personal loss, but we cannot but feel that somehow and in some way his spiritual presence and guiding influence will abide in this organization.

/s/ Peter B. Ruffin

/s/ A. H. Graham

/s/ J. W. Graham

Committee