

IN MEMORIAM

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 Sallie 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 great grandson of Joel Battle, founder of Rocky Mount Mills in 1818, a textile company which has been in continuous successful operation since its founding and largely under the management and control of the Battle family.

Mr. Battle graduated from Rocky Mount High School and attended the University of North Carolina, 1915-1916, leaving this institution 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, both of Rocky Mount, Mrs. Ethel B. Thorpe, of Wilson, and Mrs. Mary T. Shannon, of Birmingham, Alabama.

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 Sterling Cotton Mills, Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company and its successor by merger, the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad Company, Planters National 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 Business Foundation, Chapel Hill.

