

12-09-65

HISTORY OF WINNSBORO MILLS

Winnsboro Mills is the largest and oldest of the United States Rubber Company's textile plants. Originally operating under the name of Fairfield Cotton Mills, it was organized by local capital in 1898. The Fairfield Cotton Mills was locally controlled until 1912, at that time it merged into the Parker chain and the property was deeded to the Hampton Cotton Mills Company.

During the latter part of 1916, Lockwood-Green & Company and United States Rubber Company bought the Winnsboro plant from the Hampton Cotton Mills Company. They immediately started on a large expansion and conversion program of the existing plant for the manufacture of tire cord and tire cord fabric.

This expansion program, which lasted until 1919, consisted of a large addition to the existing building and the construction of an additional building, known as Mill No. 2. The growth of the manufacturing facilities necessarily required an addition to the village facilities consisting of houses, streets, sidewalks and service buildings such as medical Dispensary, Community Building, and churches.

During 1926-1928 the U.S. Rubber Company assumed the active management of the plant by purchasing all stock owned by Lockwood-Green & Company and Winnsboro Mills became an operating unit of the United States Rubber Company.

For several years after 1928, the principal product of the mill was cotton tire cord and fabric. However, the '30's and '40's saw the emergence of a rayon yarn which contributed almost 50% of the total output of the plant. This substitution of rayon for cotton tire cord provided a surplus of cotton manufacturing machinery which in turn allowed a diversification into the entirely new field of cotton and synthetic yarn manufacturing. Production since World War II has expanded to include cotton carded yarn, synthetic knitting yarn, Ustex treated cotton yarn, nylon floor covering yarn, chafer and industrial fabrics as well as rayon and nylon tire cord. The most recent addition to its product line is the new Polycrest® polypropylene yarn for the carpet trade.

In the early 1950's, the Textile Division's research program was stepped up with the construction of a new laboratory at Winnsboro, devoted exclusively to the scientific research and development of textiles.

The division's development laboratories are again being expanded and will be consolidated at Winnsboro to provide improved coordination between projects and a smoother flow of technical information. The new 13,000 sq. ft. wing has doubled the size of the original development building. The laboratories are carrying out development projects for polypropylene, new fibers, process engineering, tire cord and rubber elastic and Vyrene spandex thread.

Another innovation that became essential with the consolidation in 1964 of the Sales and Administrative offices of the Textile Division in Winnsboro is the data processing center which is the first for the division. Built around an IBM 1440 computer, the center gives improved service to the division's 16,000 customers, processes orders and gives accurate, fast data for management planning. The data processing center is also used for accounting, production scheduling, research and development and sales forecasting. In addition, it controls communications between the division's textile mills and other company communication centers.

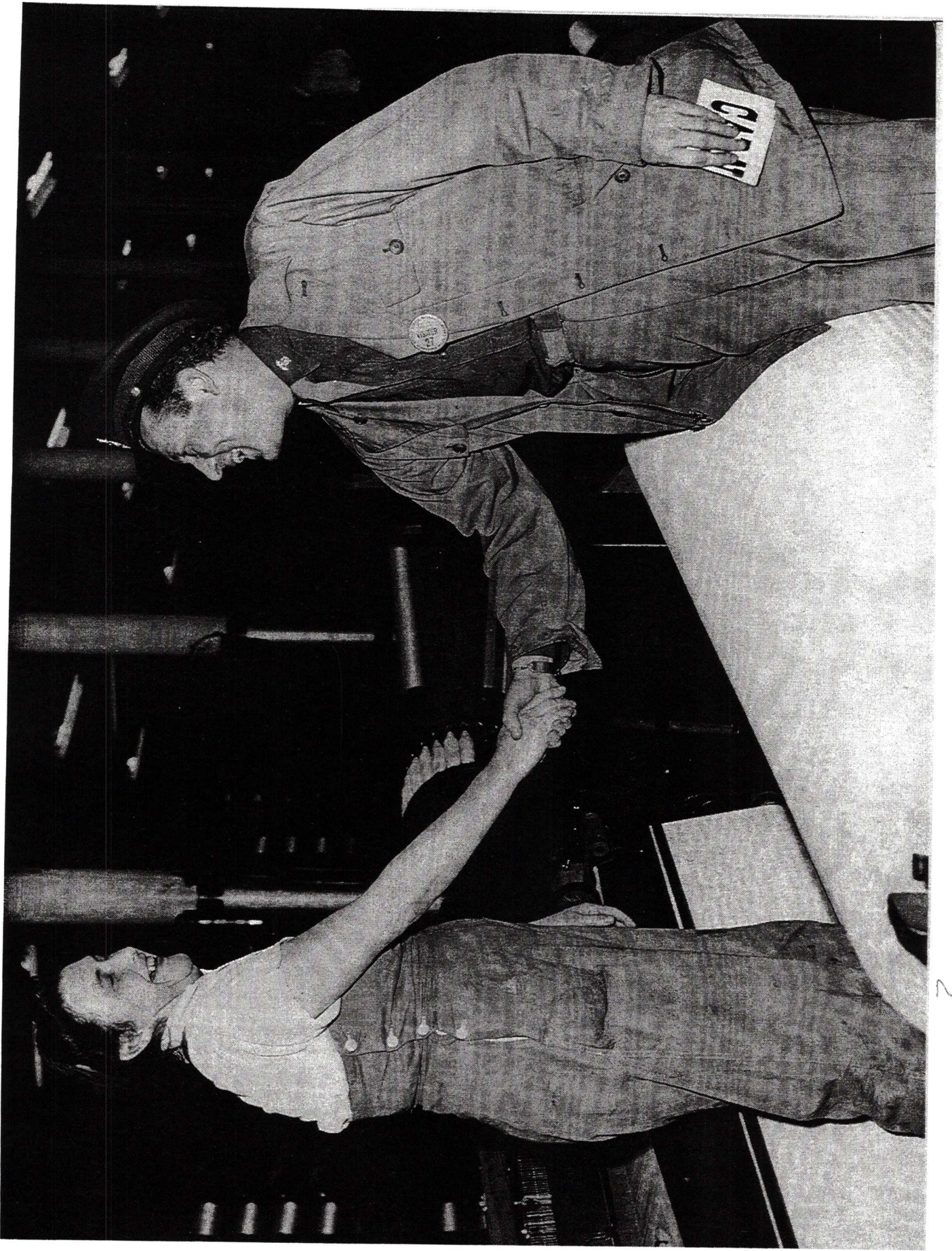
A third phase of the recent investment of approximately five million dollars in the Winnsboro Mill facilities is the tripling of production of Polycrest® yarns, the only polypropylene filament that can be dyed in deep, clear colors after the end product is made. Most of the initial increased supply will be used by the carpet industry. However, additional fabrics and end products of polypropylene, alone or blended with other fibers are expected in the future.

The trend of modernization and versatility of the United States Rubber Company is exemplified in the new trademark, UniRoyal. It is the trademark of a company that manufactures thousands of products, both rubber and non-rubber, such as chemicals, plastics, fibers, footwear, tires and a long list of other industrial and consumer products.

The community of Winnsboro and the surrounding Fairfield County area are proud of the heritage of Winnsboro Mills which has contributed to the dynamic growth of the UniRoyal, United States Rubber Company Textile Division.

Ronald O. Cunningham
Industrial Relations
(12/09/65)



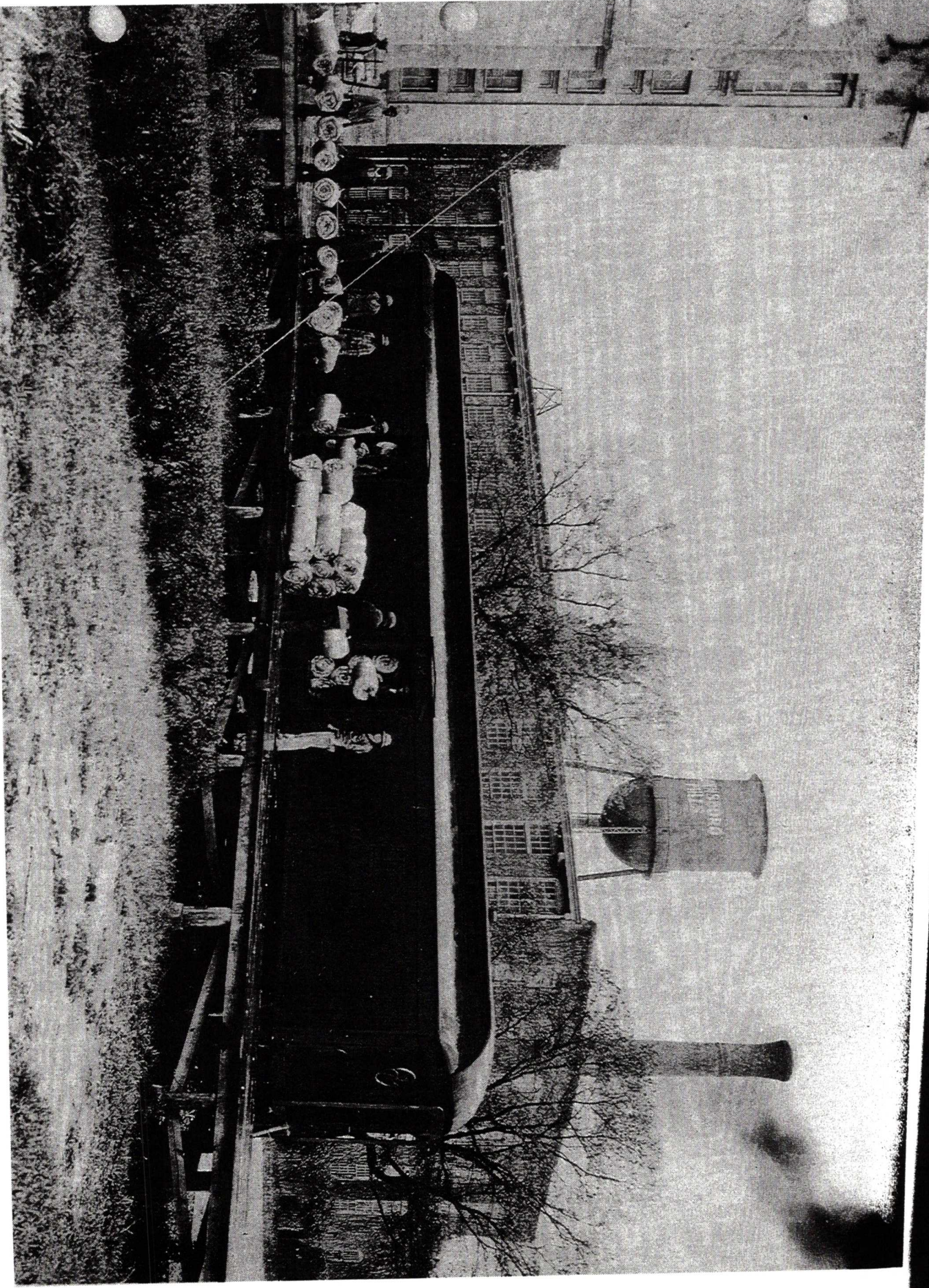


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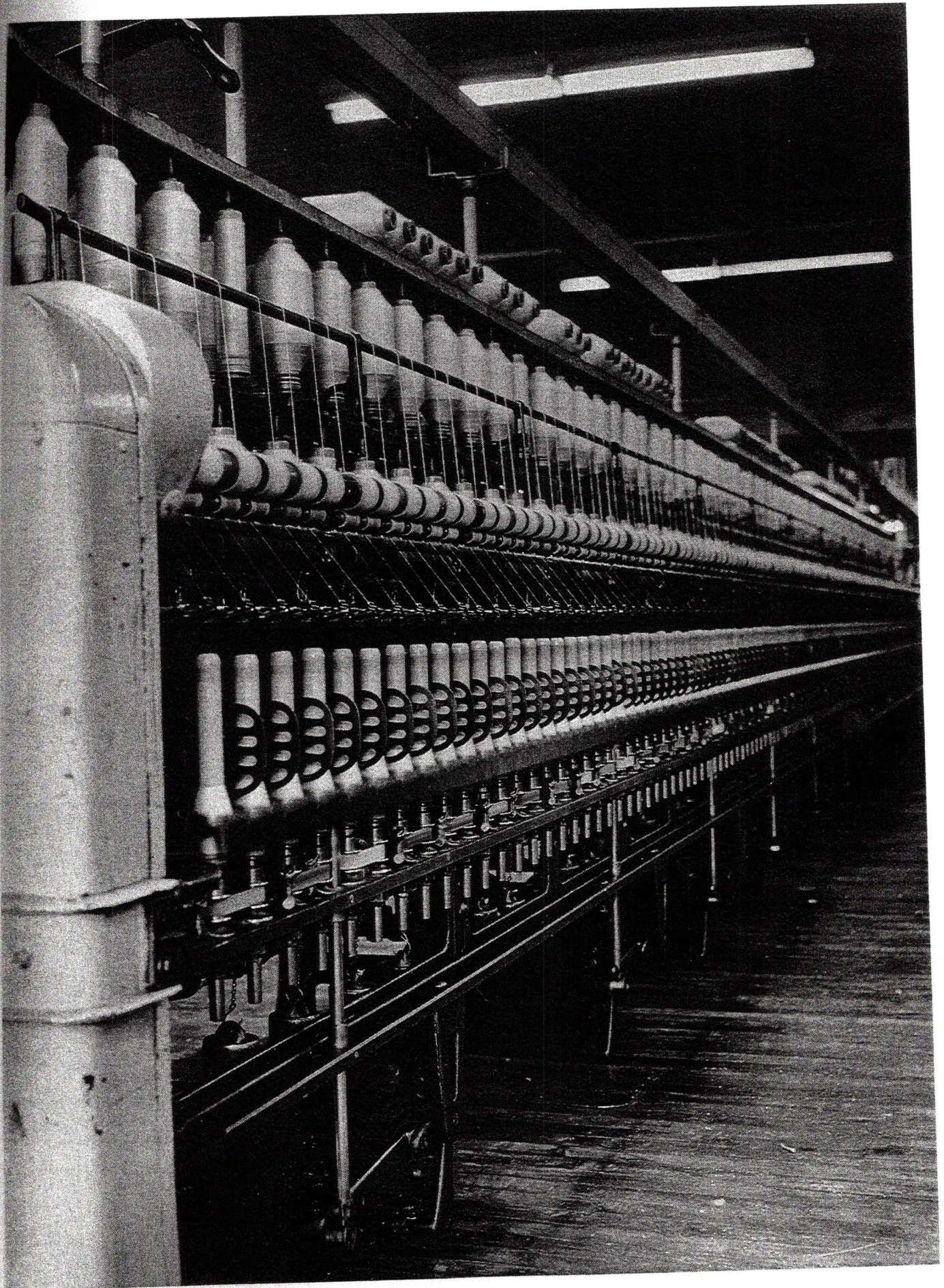
Mr. Sasser, Bar

Unloading cotton from train car





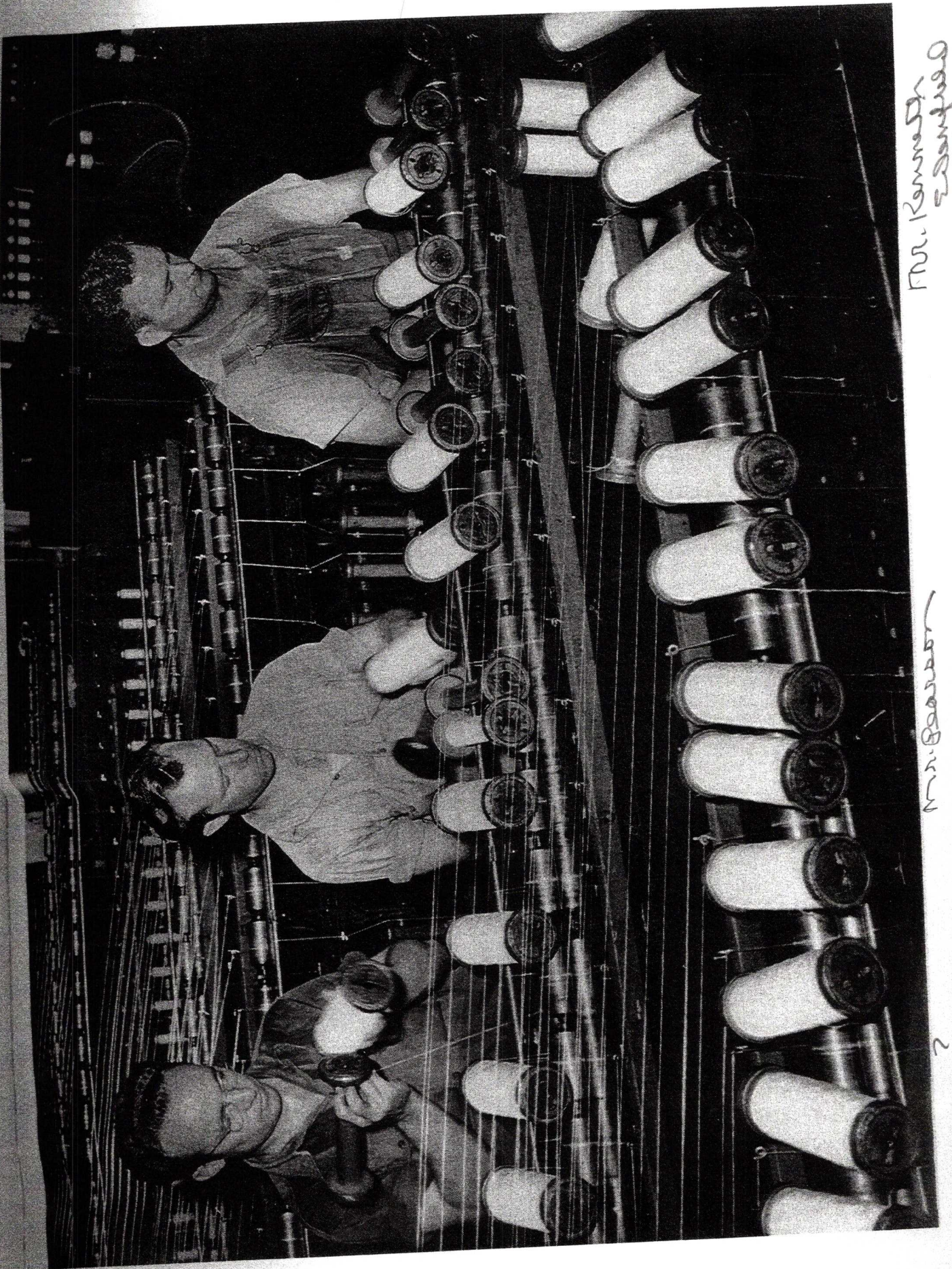
Mr. Pearson







Cold Room

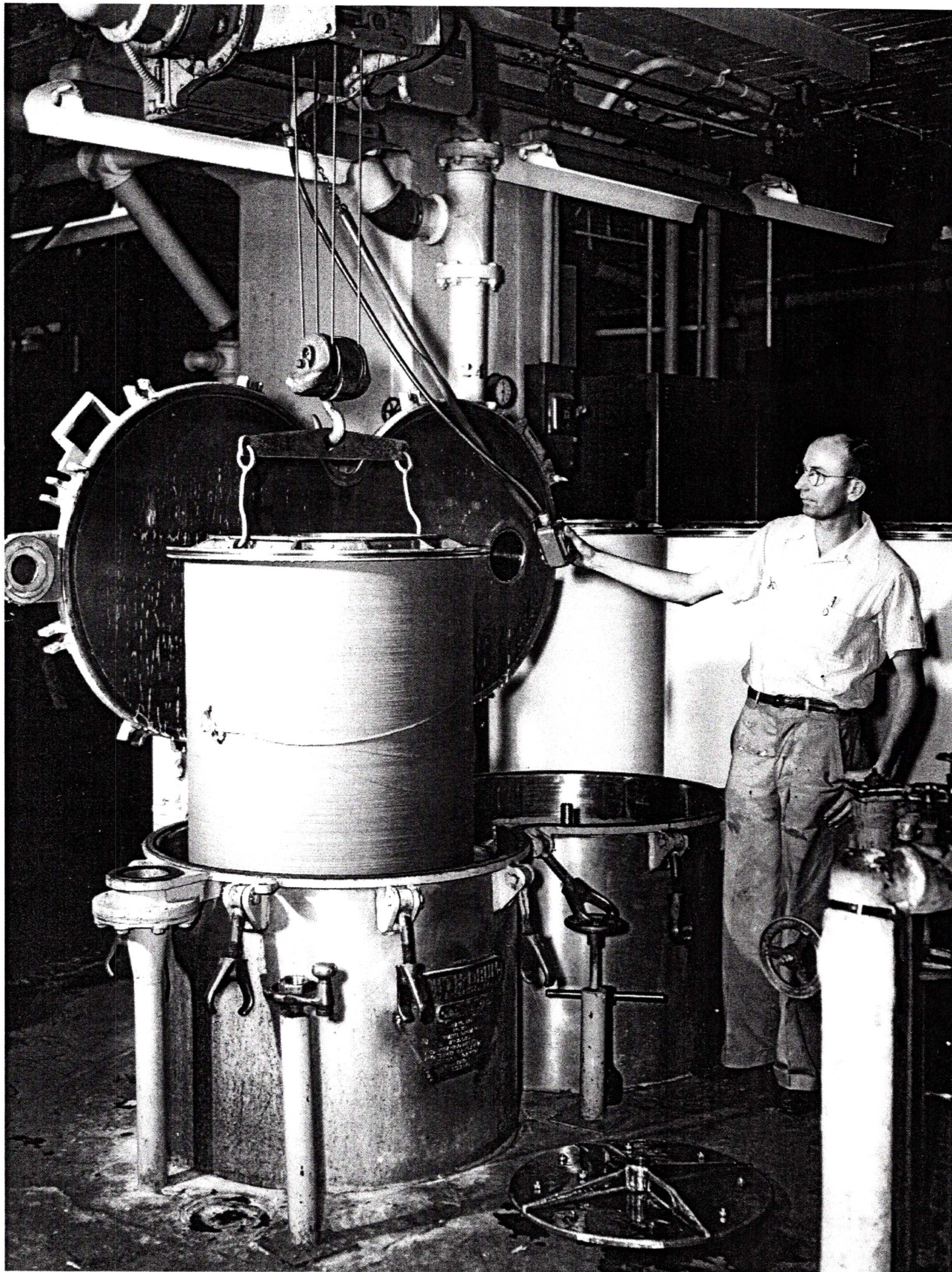


Mr. Kenneth
Sampson

Mr. Sampson

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GEORGE MATHERS



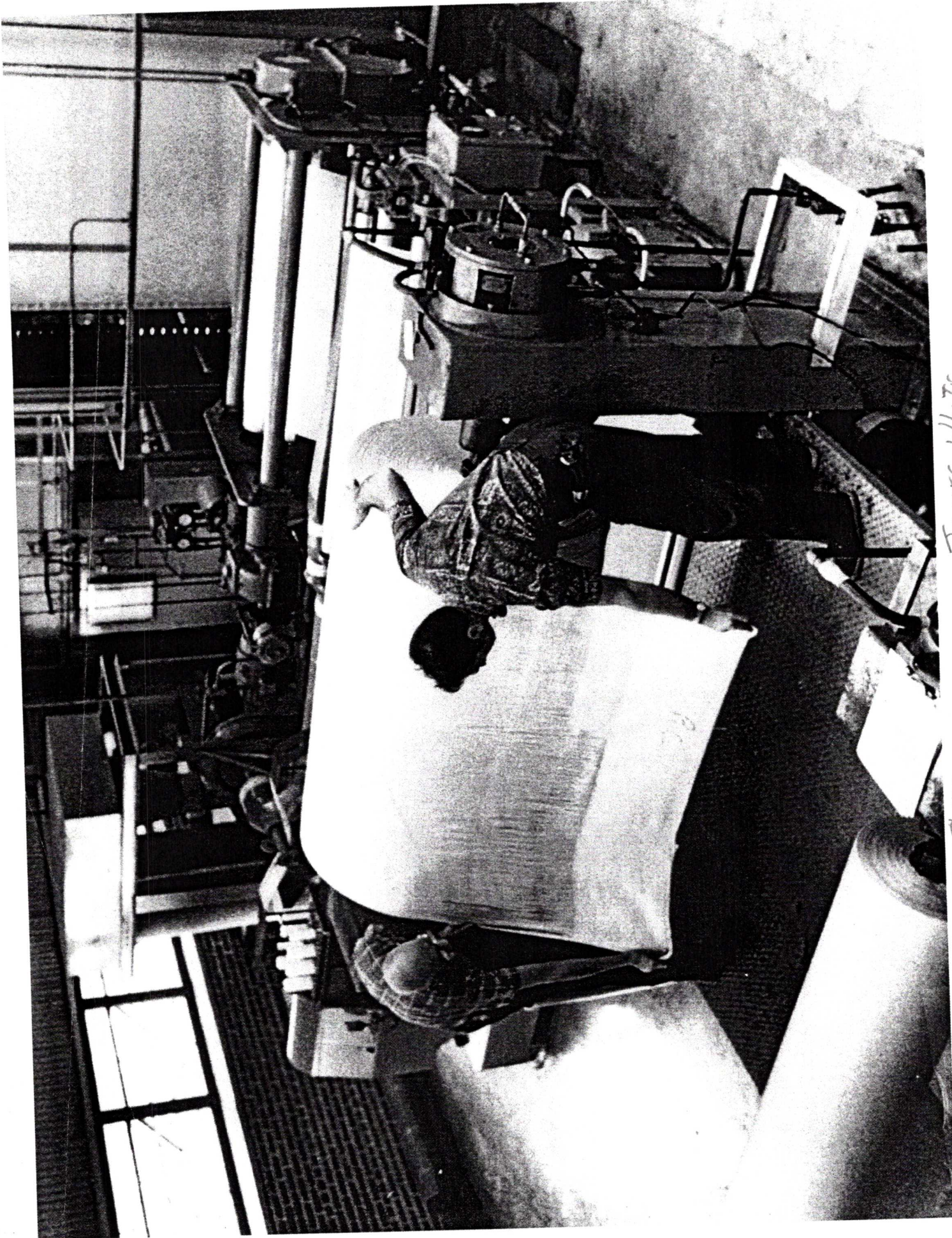
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JOE CLARK

MR. PRICE

PRICE



JAMES WHITE

HOT STRETCH

GEORGE MARSHERS

BILL PERRY

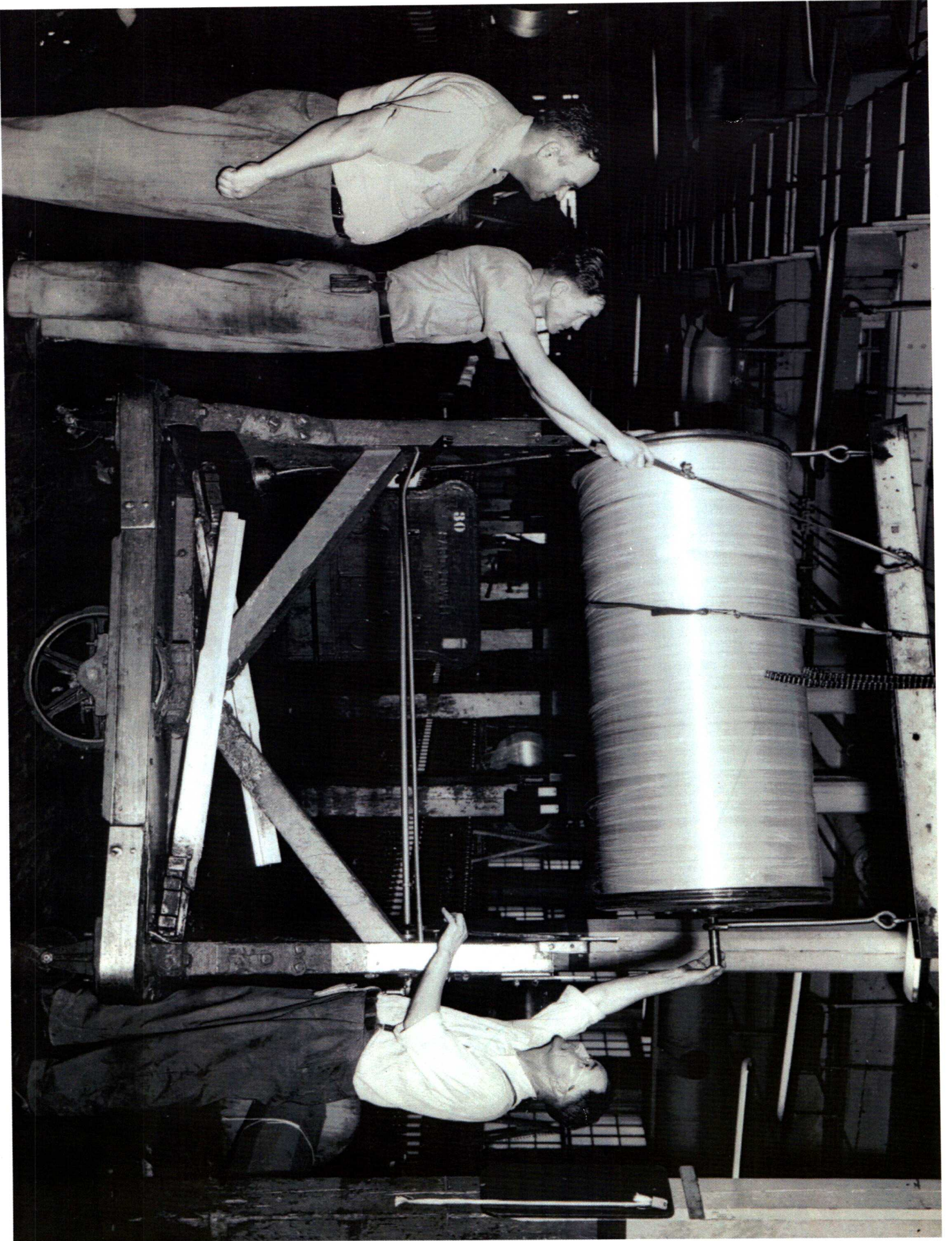


Bill Perry

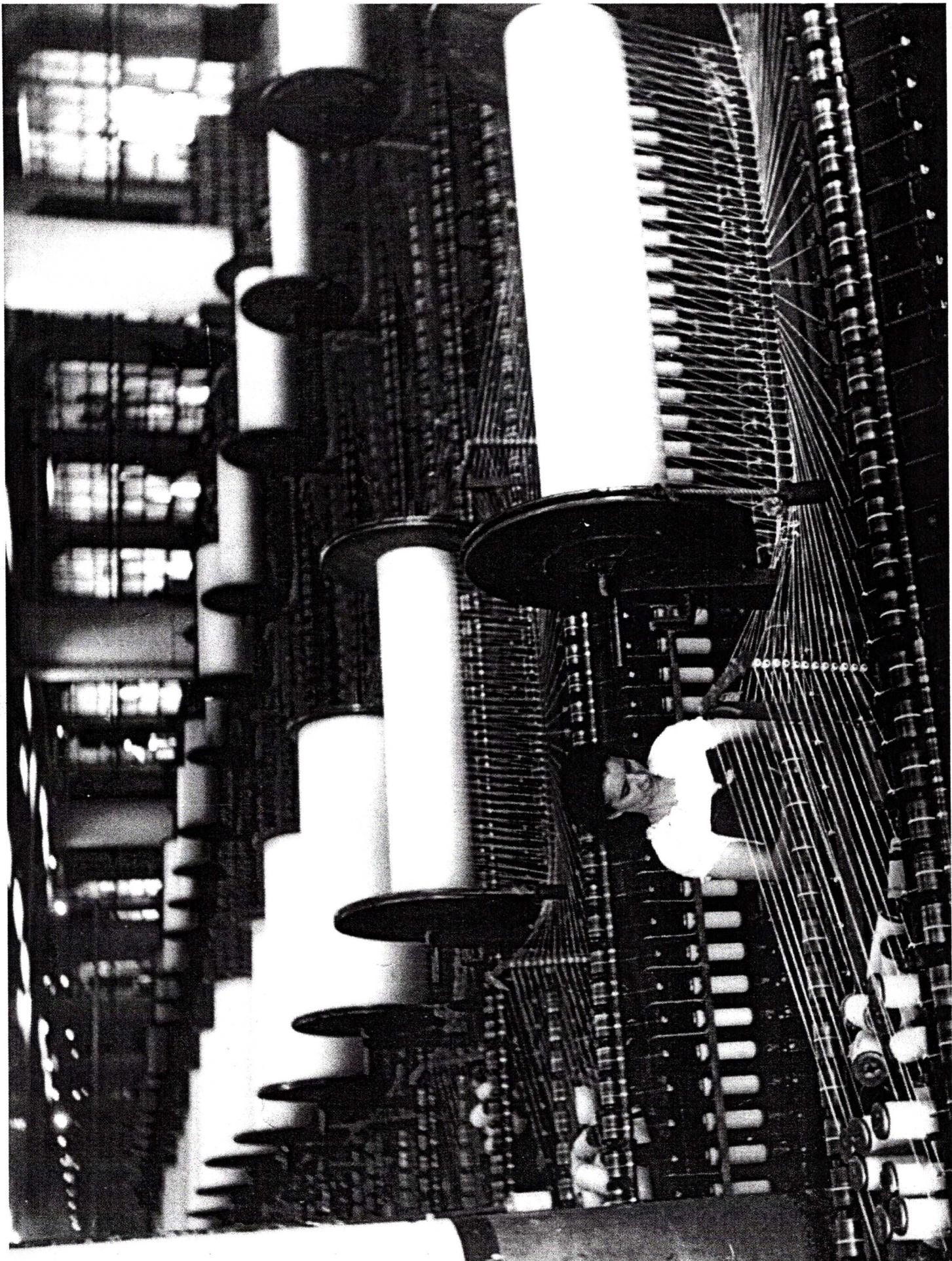
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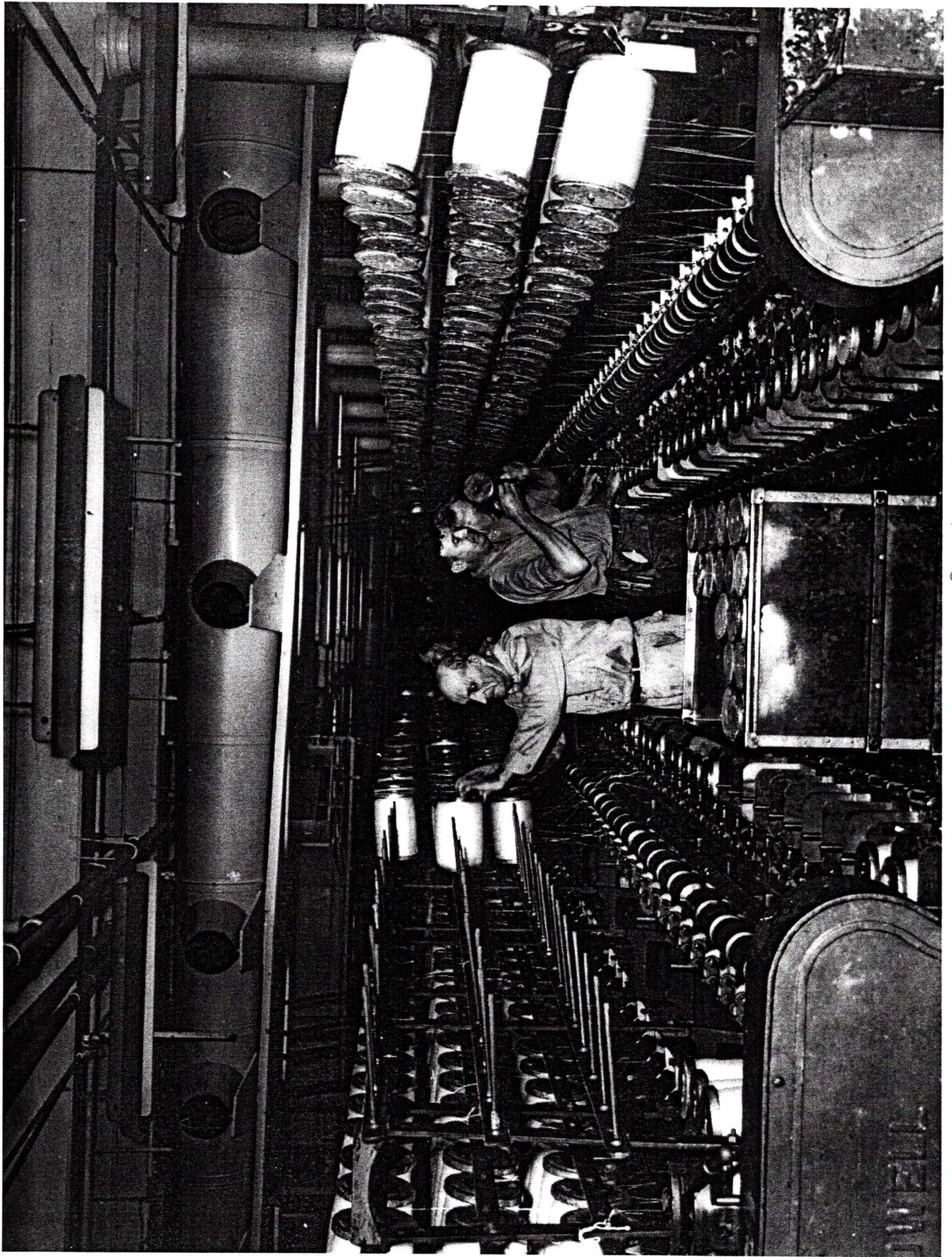






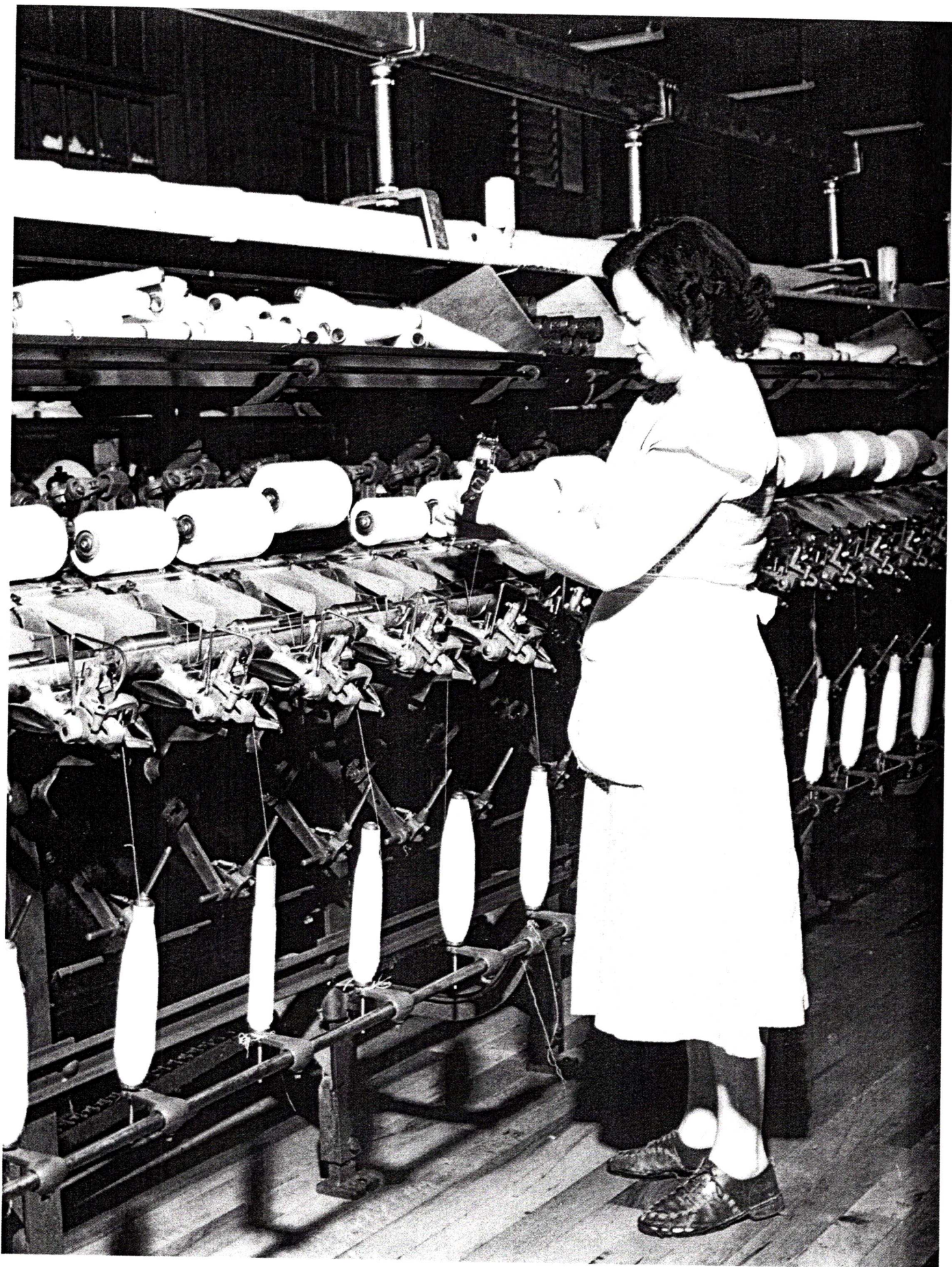






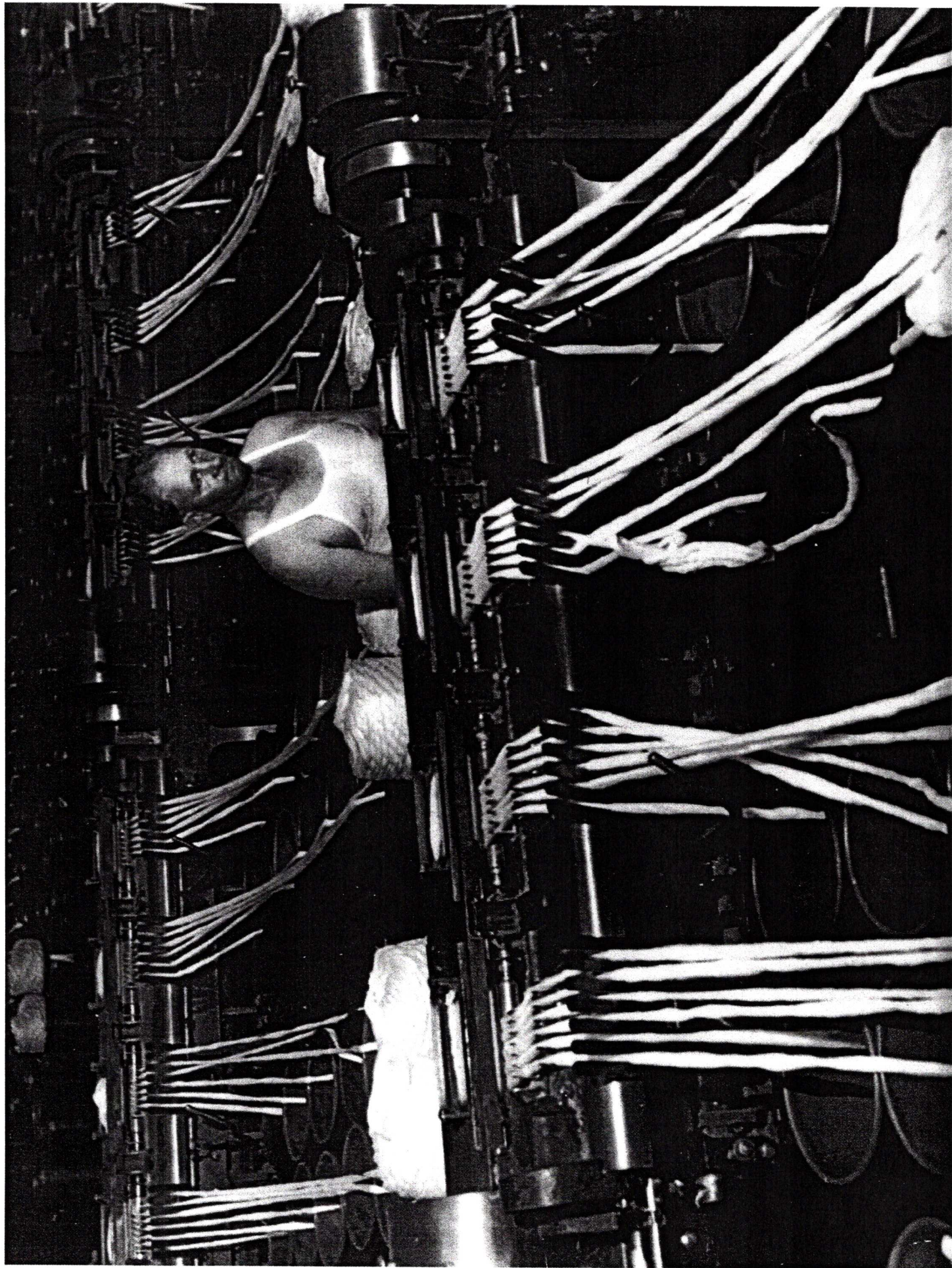
WILLIAM WATERS DOUGLASS BASS

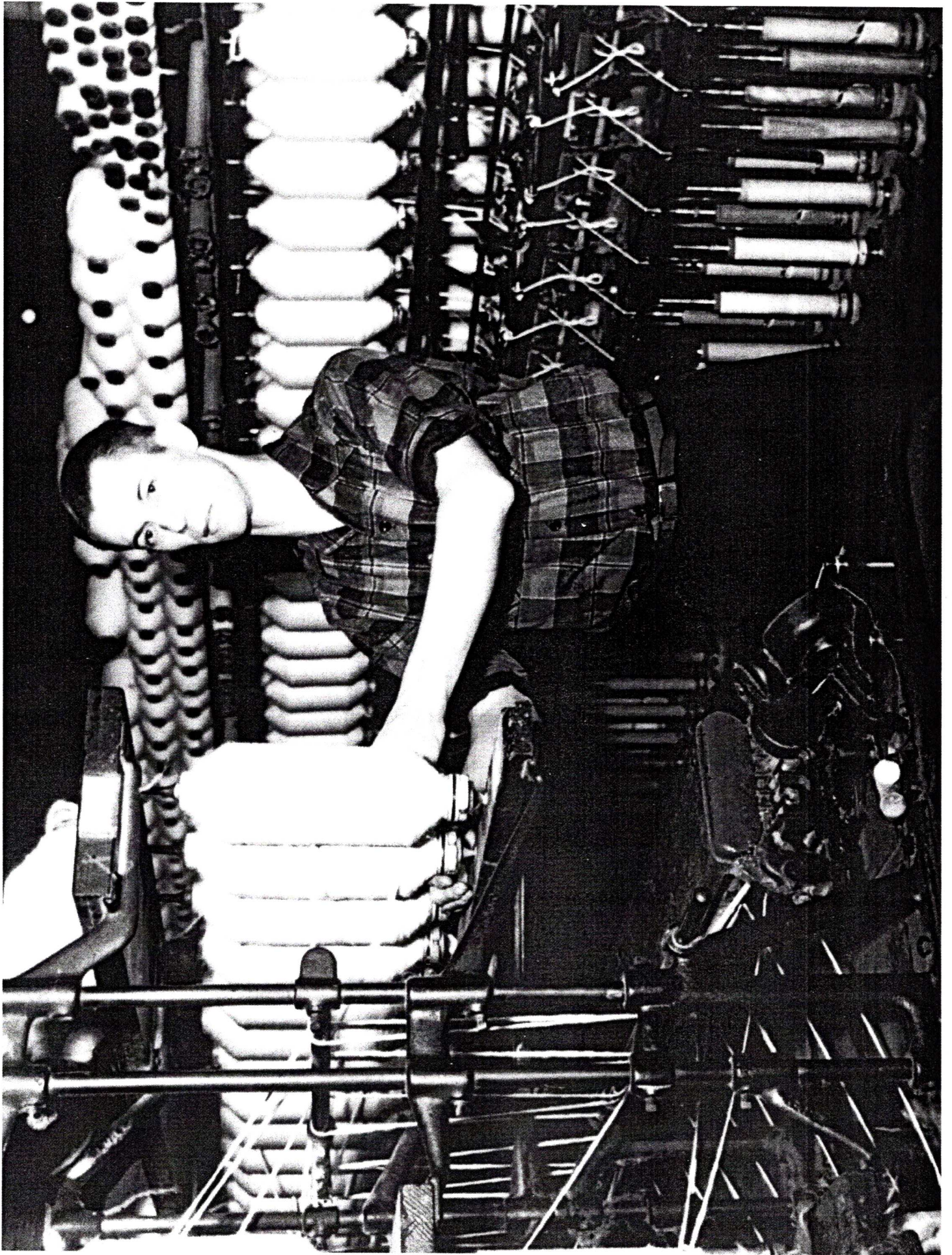
WILLIAM WATERS



ANNIE WISE

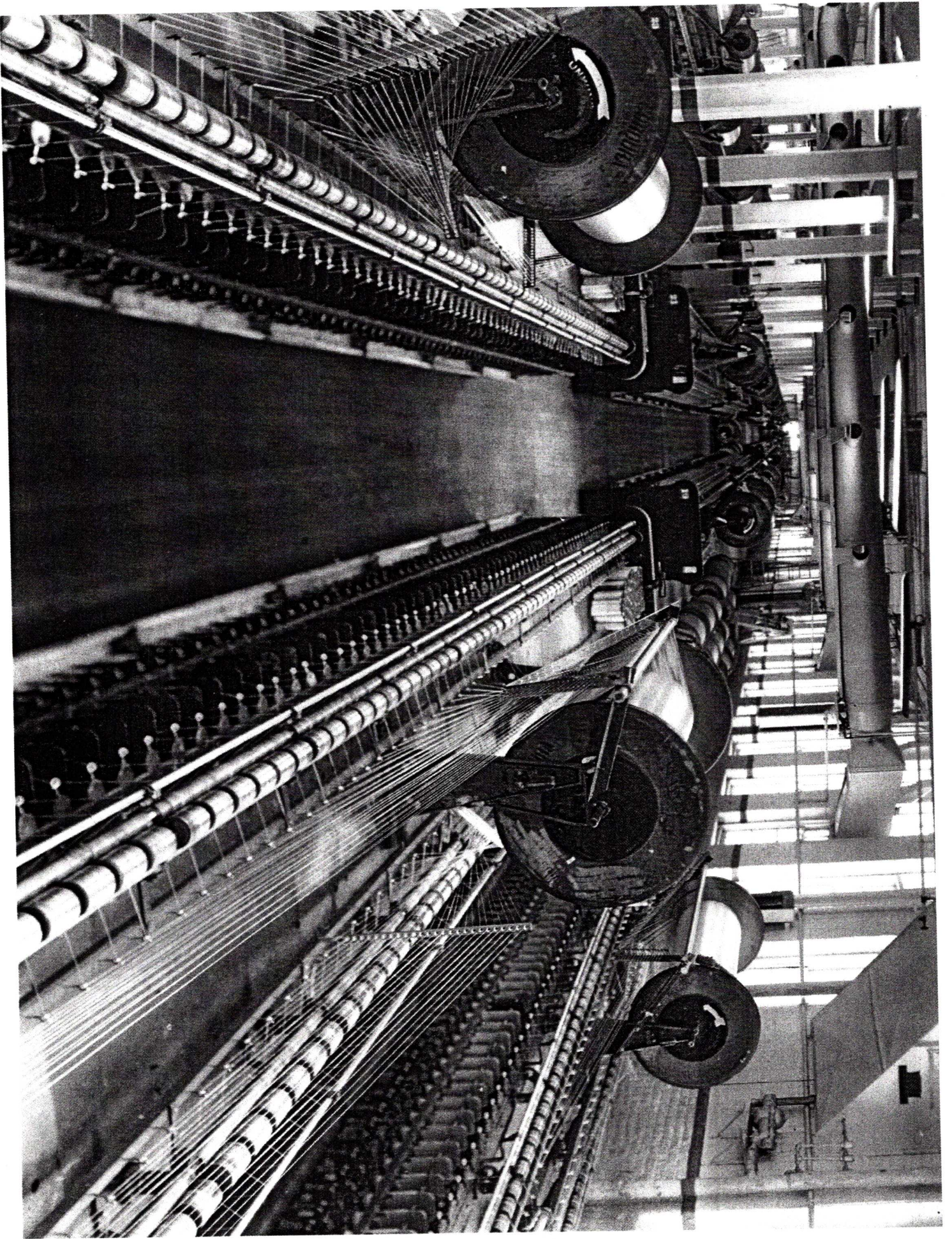
CARD ROOM

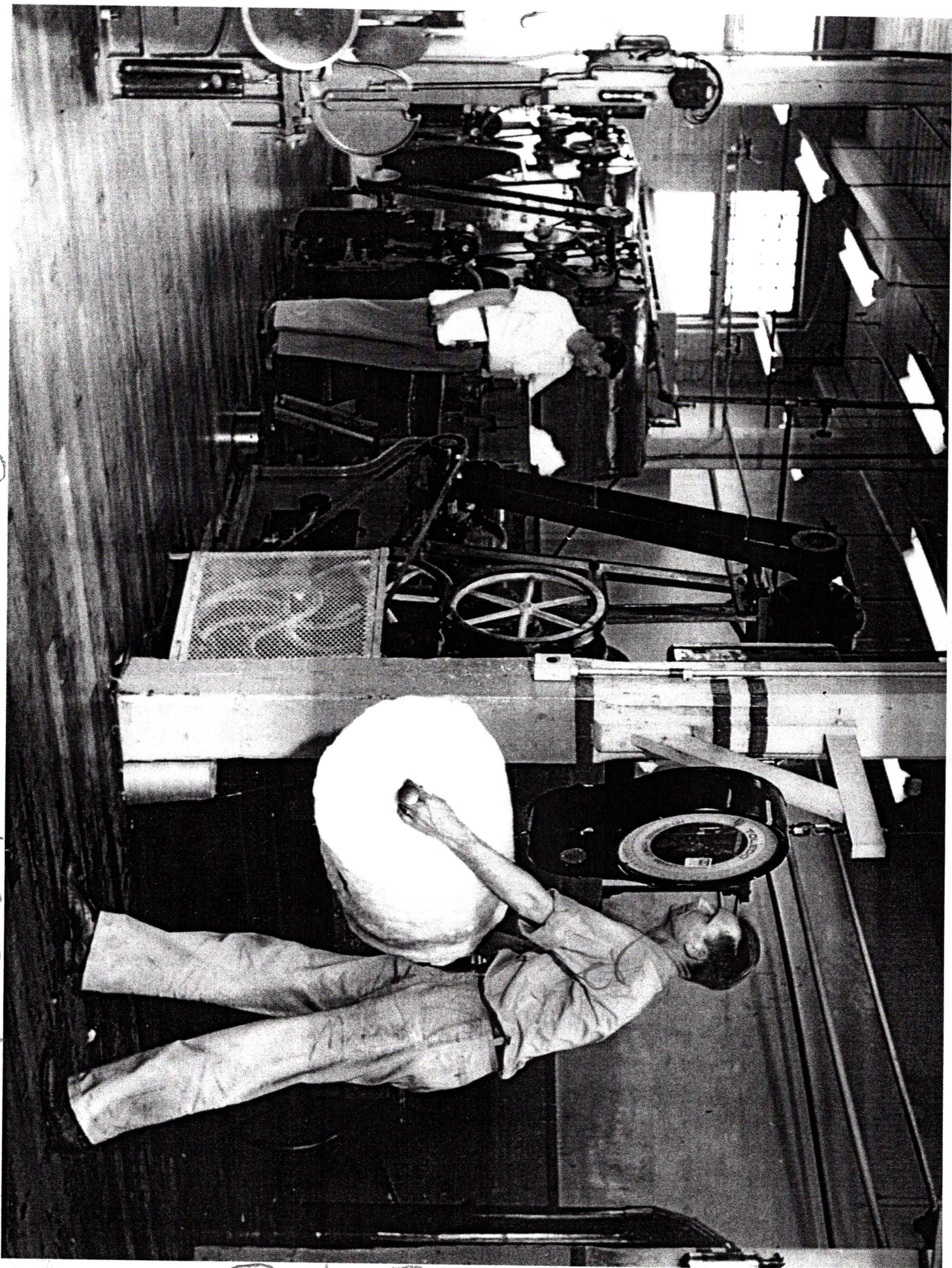




Patricia Bruce







Card Room U.S. Rubber

Baxter Boone



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