

SUIT FOR \$50,000 FILED SATURDAY

Clinton Cotton Mills Is Defendant In Suit Brought By Estate of Deceased Employee.

Laurens, July 24.—The sum of \$50,000 is asked as damages of the Clinton Cotton Mills in a suit filed Saturday in the clerk of court's office by Otis P. Huff and Edna Barnes as administrator and administratrix of the estate of Homer Barnes, who is alleged to have met his death in the spool room of the defendant company,

May 18th, when a piece of shafting being sawed off by other employees flew off and struck the deceased and as a consequence of which "intestate was knocked unconscious, his face horribly mangled, his body bruised, many bones broken and his skull completely crushed" to such an extent that he subsequently died.

The suit, states the second paragraph of the complaint, is brought in behalf of L. W. Barnes and Edna Barnes, father and mother of the deceased, who would be the beneficiaries of his estate.

Homer Barnes, it is set forth in the

complaint, was engaged as an employee of the company in a job of painting in the spool room when his death occurred. While at this occupation the defendant, its agents or servants sawed off or caused to be sawed off a long and heavy piece of shafting over and above where plaintiff's intestate was at work and that said shafting fell and struck plaintiff's intestate with force and violence." The injuries which followed and which caused intestate's death, it is alleged, were caused by the "gross negligence, carelessness and recklessness of the defendant" in four major particulars, viz., that the deceased was not furnished a safe place to work, that reasonable and prudent care were not used in selecting competent employees to cut down the overhead shafting, that a reasonable and prudent inspection of the machinery and premises was not made, and that a proper notice or warning of the "dangerous unprotected machinery" was not given.

As a result of the alleged negligent, careless and reckless acts of the defendant, continues the complaint, the said L. W. Barnes and Edna Barnes "have lost a devoted, helpful and affectionate son and have been deprived of the happiness and comfort of the society and companionship of the said Homer Barnes and have been made to suffer and endure great mental pain and anguish to their damage in the sum of fifty thousand (\$50,000) dollars."

The suit is entered in behalf of the plaintiffs by their attorneys, Messrs. Huff & Huff, and Messrs. Blackwell, Sullivan & Wilson.

The defendant has twenty days in which to file its answer.

izations. I feel, though, that matters pertaining to national labor organizations should come through the regularly constituted labor authorities in South Carolina.

"Hon. Dowell E. Patterson is president of the South Carolina Federation of Labor and a member of the house of representatives from Charleston county. He is thoroughly familiar with labor conditions in this state.

"As I understand it, Mr. Patterson is the authorized spokesman for the labor unions in this state. In the future, where it can be done, Mr. Patterson will be invited to participate in discussions had by me with the representatives of national labor organizations.

"Of course this does not apply to labor organizations in South Carolina. I am willing at all times to receive representatives or delegations from branches of labor unions in this state."

After Governor Richards had termed McMahon's telegram to him as "impertinent" and "threatening," the labor leader replied that the governor's attitude was an "open incitement to lynch law" and declared he had ordered the labor organizers back to Ware Shoals and had told them to "take precautions to protect themselves."

The dispute between the governor and McMahon started after approximately twenty-five men, according to state officers, appeared at the Ware Shoals hotel and told George L. Gooze, representative of the United Textile Workers, that he had better leave Ware Shoals. According to the officers, Gooze and the other textile organizers were taken away at their own request.

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COLLEGE MEN IN STATE PRISON

Trusted With Office Duties and Other Executive Work. Most Prisoners Are Uneducated.

Columbia, July 23.—It has been well said that a college education is of benefit in every walk of life. This may be true even if the path leads through prison doors. A survey of prisons shows that college men are there and that they are trusted with office duties and other executive work.

"It is hard to say how many college men we have on our rolls," said Capt. J. O. Sanders, captain of the guard of the South Carolina penitentiary. "We only have the word of the prisoners for it, you know, as to whether they went to college or not, and some of them may not give such information."

"We do have men that we know of representing five of South Carolina's leading colleges. Some of these men help with the office work of the prison."

Some of the men in the penitentiary, the captain said, have high school education, but most of them are not educated at all, and many of them cannot read or write.

It is a touching sight to witness little groups on the prison grounds, huddled, it may be, around one man who can read and who reads aloud.

During 1928 the number of prisoners in the penitentiary increased by 188, but at the same time the number of illiterates decreased. In 1927 there were 152 prisoners who could not read and write, while in 1928 the number of illiterates had decreased to 1.7 per cent.

The prisoners read the newspaper with much interest. The recent Rafe King trial at Chester won much of their reading time. They devour baseball scores and news. Aviation endurance and long distance flights are of much interest to them.

The prisoners are great sports fans. Baseball is their chief athletic interest. Many of the prisoners are excellent ball players and they have a first team that puts up a splendid brand of baseball. They have games Saturday and Wednesday afternoons, as these days are half holidays for the prisoners. The prison team has played many games with other teams in Columbia, always, however, on their own "home grounds."

GOVERNOR WILL INVITE PATTERSON

Labor Head To Be At Future Conferences On Labor Question, Says Chief Executive.

Columbia, July 23.—Governor John G. Richards announced today that in the future, "where it can be done," Dowell E. Patterson, president of the state federation of labor, will be invited "to participate in discussions had by me with the representatives of nationally organized labor."

The announcement comes in the wake of a statement Saturday in which Patterson declared the governor was neither "unfair" nor "unfriendly" to organizer labor.

The governor recently has been involved in a telegraphic dispute with Thomas F. McMahon, president of the United Textile Workers of America, over what McMahon claimed was the deportation of labor organizers from Ware Shoals.

Patterson, in his statement, declared that the impression that Governor Richards was unfriendly to labor should be corrected.

The governor's statement today follows:

"I am approachable at all times in matters pertaining to labor conditions in this state as they may exist in textile plants and other industrial organ-

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