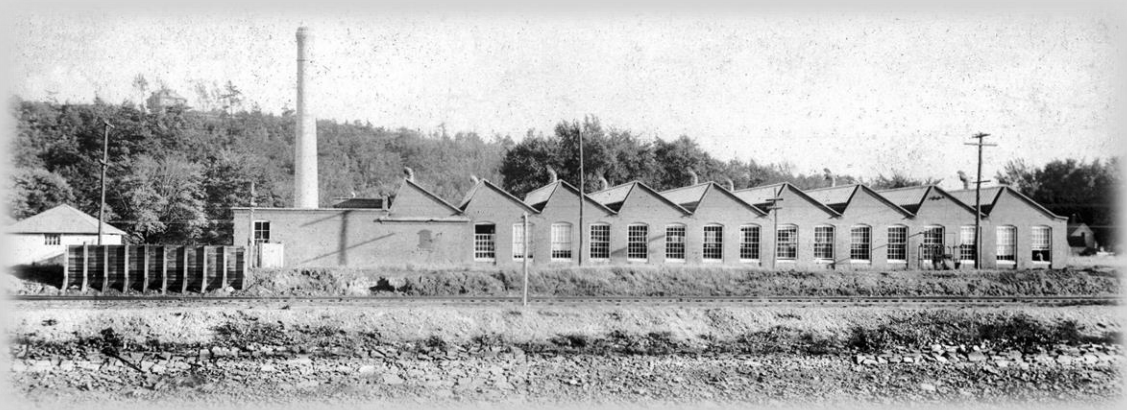


McLane Silk Mill

McLane Silk Mill Evolution.



McLane Silk Mill Evolution.

Gleanings from [The Turners Falls Reporter](#) (1914-1922)
[Greenfield Gazette and Courier \(Recorder\)](#) (1914-1932)

1914

Feb. 11

Turners Falls Gets the McLane Silk Company

New Plant Will Give Employment to More Than 100 People—Expect to Be Producing by May 1, 1914 —People Are. Happy.

Announcement was made at Turners Falls today that the Board of Trade, through its committee on manufacturers, had secured for the town a new industry which will be known as the McLane Silk company, a concern which will manufacture silk fabrics. It will be incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts.

The capital stock of the company in starting will be \$75,000 of which \$50,000 is preferred.

Buildings are to be erected immediately on Avenue A near the Wells forge shop and it is expected that ground will be broken within ten days. The business will be charge of Frederick A. McLane who has been in the silk business for 13 years acting as general superintendent for the William Skinner & Sons company of Holyoke.

The weave shed is to be 100x128 with a saw tooth roof, and construction of the latest type for textile mill. The office and boiler house will be so arranged as to accommodate several more units of weave sheds as the business will demand from time-to-time. It is estimated that 100 people will be given employment in starting and that the pay roll will be considerably in excess of \$1000 per week.

It is anticipated by those who are familiar with the conditions that the business will have a rapid growth. Thomas Brothers, the local contractors, are preparing plans and specifications and will undoubtedly have charge of the building operations.

The board of trade in this successful venture has had the earnest and substantial support of both the Turners Falls company and the citizens of the town generally, and the people are to be congratulated on the successful outcome of this endeavor. This is the second industry which comes to Turners Falls within a year. The F. H. Sprague company which came during 1913 is doing a successful business and has been a substantial asset to the town.

It is expected that the new industry will be turning out material for the market by May 1 of this year.

Apparently the dream and hopes of many years for Turners Falls are finally to be realized and the townspeople are jubilant over the prospect.

Feb. 11

Good News for Turners Falls

The Turners Falls Board of Trade has made another ten strike by their persistent efforts to get new industries for Turners Falls they have against all sorts of competition by

McLane Silk Mill

other boards of trade, secured a brand new industry for Turners Falls, to be started as soon as a factory can be erected and a roof put on it.

The new concern will be called the McLane Silk Co., incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts, and will make silk fabrics very similar to those made by the William Skinner Silk Co. of Holyoke, a world famous concern of which Mr. McLane has been general superintendent for several years.

F.H. McLane, the founder of this new concern, will be president and general manager, and will own considerable stock.

The location suggested by the Turners Falls Company is the second lot below the drop forge on the Avenue. Ground will be broken in a few weeks for a factory of modern mill construction, one story high, with saw tooth roof. It will be 100 x 150 feet with separate buildings for office and boiler rooms.

The concern will be capitalized for \$100,000. The common stock is all taken and most of the preferred stock has been pledged.

The committee on manufactures are entitled to a great deal of credit for handling the details for the Board of Trade, and their success in capturing something that must mean a good deal for the future of Turners Falls, shows that we have business men of the right sort when it comes down to work that counts.

The Turners Falls Company, ever alert to assist every endeavor to advance all interests in Turners Falls are immensely pleased with the success of our business organization, and assures it that they cannot do anything of that sort without meeting their hearty approval, and a good deal more.

Hip, Hip, hurrah for us!

Feb. 18

Board of Trade Meeting

The last meeting of the Turners Falls Board of Trade, held in Library hall last Wednesday evening, was very largely attended, and was almost enthusiastic one. The committee on manufactures reported the particulars of the landing of Turners Falls, latest industry, the silk mill, and received an unanimous vote of thanks for their efficient labors and successful efforts, while the Turners Falls Co. were also extended a vote of thanks for their part in the matter.

Principal Robert Cushman, Jr., of the Turners Falls High school, gave a forceful, straight from the shoulder talk on "The Two Generations." He compared this generation with those of the past, noting wherein they differed, and pointing out that the differences were not always in favor of the present generation. He urged closer co-operation between parents and teachers, and thought that parents were largely responsible for much of the present day laxness in their children.

"Are we going ahead or backward here in America?" he asked, and "What is the cause and what the cure?" This difference is due in part to the parents and in part to the teachers, and also in part to conditions beyond the control of either. Such an expensive and dangerous habit as cigarette smoking would not have been possible 50 years ago. The grip

McLane Silk Mill

of parents and teachers alike is looser at the present time and only close cooperation on the part of both will remedy present conditions.

March 4

McLane Silk Company Organizes

The McLane Silk Company, the new industry which will soon commence operations [here](#), has organized with the following officers:

President and General Manager Frederick A. McLane of Holyoke.

Vice-President, Lester E. Flint of Boston.

Clerk and Treasurer, Charles Edward Hazelton of Turners Falls.

Board of Directors - Frederick A. McLane, Lester E. Flint Alvin McLane, Providence, R. I., Fred A. Hutchins, Manchester N.H.,

Fred C. Abercrombie, Turners Falls

The company has a capitalization of \$75,000, of which \$50,000 is preferred stock, and \$25,000 common.

The plans for the buildings have been completed, and the contract for their construction will be let very soon, as it is planned to have the factory running in a short time.

March 4, 1914

New Company is Organized. McLane Silk Co. Soon to be Ready for Business

The McLane Silk company has been organized with the following officers: President and general manager F. A. McLane of Holyoke; vice president, Lester E. Flint of Boston; clerk and treasurer, Charles E. Hazelton of Turners Falls; directors, F. A. McLane, Lester E. Flint, Alvin McLane of Providence, Fred A. Hutchins of Manchester and Freer C. Abercrombie of Turners Falls. The company is capitalized at \$75,000 of which \$50,000 is preferred and \$25,000 common stock and about all of it has been subscribed for. Building operations will soon be under way and it is hoped to be able to put goods on the market by May 1. About 100 will be employed as a starter and more will be added as needed. The present factory is to be built so that additions can be made from time to time and in time it is expected to have a very large plant. The starting up of the new factory will of course bring in some more people and the question uppermost in the minds of many is where they are to secure desirable tenements. The Turners Falls Associates and others have done much building in the past year but in spite of this fact there is still a scarcity of desirable tenements. Much building will be done this summer and there is no doubt but that the scarcity of tenements will be relieved somewhat. There is much room for growth and it is to be supposed there will not be a let-up in building for many years to come.

March 18

Contract for Silk Mill Let

The contract for the construction of the new mill of the McLane Silk Co. has just been let, Thomas Bros, of this town being the successful bidders Ground will be broken

McLane Silk Mill

for the work next Monday morning and the construction will be pushed through as rapidly as possible. The mill will be 90 x 168 ft. in dimensions, with saw tooth roof, and of the most modern construction throughout. The southerly end will be so constructed that additions can be built thereto easily, as the need arises.

With all the building and work that will be under way in this town this spring, Turners Falls will be a busy place and there will be plenty to do for everybody with the inclination to do it. Not for years has there been such a feeling abroad that Turners Falls was a good place to live in, but this sentiment is now universal among the entire population.

The idea that things are "looking up" having taken possession of everybody, and signs that it is so being apparent on every hand, Turners Falls will be a boom town this season and everybody will be glad they're here. No soup kitchens and investigations of unemployed for us, thank you! Everybody's happy and everybody's working and these fine conditions will continue.

March 21, 1914

Silk Mill Contract Let

Thomas Bros, have been awarded the contract for the buildings of the McLane Silk Co., and will start work at once. The weave room will be 163 by 86, and of Sawtooth roof construction. The office and boiler room will be 30 by 30 feet. The buildings Will be of brick and constructed so as to allow for future additions as the business grows. One hundred and twenty electric driven looms will be Installed as soon as the buildings are completed and should be in operation by July 1.

March 25

Our Latest Factory

Monday morning, bright and early, ground was broken for the new McLane silk mill on the lower end of Avenue A, as now opened up, a couple of lots below the Wells & Co. drop forge shop. The first spadeful[sic] of earth was removed by F. H. McLane, president of the McLane Silk Co. The Turners Falls Company were[sic] represented by Assistant Treasurer Fred C. Abercrombie and other officials, and James H. Thomas, the contractor who will build the new shop, was on deck to get things started with a rush. It is estimated that there were several hundred men on hand when the work Commenced, a portion of them looking for jobs, with the usual large contingent of spectators who had come to watch the other fellows work. The crowd of workmen, overseers, self constituted bosses and sightseers, as well as those actually anxious to be hired to work, made things pretty lively for a time.

May 6

Work on the McLane Silk Co.'s factory is progressing rapidly and the roof is being put on this week. The bad weather has handicapped Contractor J. H. Thomas somewhat, but the work is being steadily pushed forward.

McLane Silk Mill

June 3

P. P. Bauer, superintendent of the McLane Silk company, has moved his family here from Patterson, N. J., and they are occupying the tenement in the Ward house on Prospect street, recently vacated by James A. Gunn, Jr.

June 6, 1914

The Second coat of paint is being applied inside the McLane Silk Co's building

June 10

Work on the McLane Silk Co.'s factory is progressing rapidly and the roof is being put on this week. The bad weather has handicapped Contractor J. H. Thomas somewhat, but the work is being steadily pushed forward.

July 8

The New Silk Mill

The McLane Silk Co. has gone into its business office in its new building and has sent out many samples of silk made on the looms which have been operated in the Sprague Co.'s building while the splendid, modern, permanent building of the company was under construction. Lack of tenements is causing delay in getting the families of workmen to move to town.

July 15

New Silk Mill Occupied

President and General Manager Frederick A. McLane of the new McLane Silk Co. has come to town and is hard at work getting things going. The company moved into their offices in the new mill last week and the machinery is being rapidly installed. The factory is so light airy and convenient that work there will be a pleasure.

Sept. 9

Business is coming along at the new silk mill of the McLane Company, and they are now in a position to offer positions to a number of persons in the mill both skilled and unskilled. Application should be made at once, either by self or friend, at the mill, and employment will be given to all competent female help.

Sept. 16

The McLane Silk Product on Sale

Dry goods merchant C.H. Jillson of the Boston store has purchased and put on sale some of the first product of the looms of the McLane Silk mill, the local institution that is going to mean much for Turners Falls. The quality of the goods on sale shows for itself, and certainly is not surpassed by any silk producer on the continent. The experts all say so. Mr. Jillson, who has handled silk goods all his life is pleased to handle such a product. At present the product put out is a high grade satin lining, in the various shades called for and warranted for two seasons' wear, and the prevailing dark colors of soft silks and satins of the various names of the well known type of modern dress wear.

McLane Silk Mill

"When everybody is expressing a desire to help Turners Falls grow to be a bigger and better place what a charming bit of loyalty it would show if every woman in town were to go to the Boston store now and buy at a reasonable price a dress pattern of unsurpassed goods made right at home, by home people, with home capital. By buying the goods of Mr. Jillson it would also show a commendable loyalty to a good store that a village must have, and be served promptly and with better satisfaction than if the money were sent to a catalogue house that has no care for distant towns, except for the dollars they get out of them, often by questionable methods. Be loyal, and be proud of your loyalty, and the good times will rise up some day and bless you. Let every woman point with pride to her home manufactured, home made,[sic] and home sold garment! Bread on the waters isn't in the same river with loyalty to home and home people.

Sept. 30

-The McLane Silk Co. are making an exhibit of the goods they manufacture at the exhibit of local industries at the Greenfield cattle show to-day and to-morrow.

-Two of the new houses on the Montague City road, built by S.E. Hoyt, are occupied by employees of the McLane Silk Co.

Sept. 30, 1914

Town's Newest Industry Starts off Well and With Bright Future—Factory Building Has Most Modern Equipment and is a Model.

Franklin county has many industries but infant among them is the new McLane Silk company of Turners Falls which has recently been incorporated. This company is, not only in its infancy but it is the first silk mill ever operated in Franklin county so far as is known.

It is located in an ideal building constructed according to the very latest scientific principles with regard to light, heat, ventilation, dust and health of its employes.[sic]

The building itself is made of brick, 100 by 200 feet, with a saw tooth roof and many large windows on each side which makes it extremely light and cheerful. On a specially prepared foundation a kyanized floor foundation was laid and the building was planned in such a way that it can be increased to four times its present size under the present heating conditions. Automatic sprinklers have been installed and the very latest sanitary toilet facilities for both men and women with drinking fountains make working conditions of the very best.



THE McLANE SILK COMPANY

As in the 1914 Recorder.

Digitally edited e.g.

The mill is equipped with 100 looms, each of which is operated, by an individual motor and others will be added as the business increases. In connection with anticipated

McLane Silk Mill

future growth, plans have been made for the addition of a die¹ house and a second boiler, to augment the heating arrangements.

The process of manufacture is very interesting and a trip to the mill if previously arranged for would prove to be an interesting experience for anyone in this section. Mr. McLane, the founder, is in direct charge of the mill and with his 30 years experience in the textile business, explains the numerous intricate operations which the raw silk passes through until it becomes the finished product in a most interesting manner.

The silk used here is in bales made up of skeins. The skeins themselves are made up of a strand about 20,000 yards long, each of which is in turn composed of two very minute threads: They are made up with what is known as the Grant cross thread which is unlike the manner in which our grandmothers made their skeins of flax. In order to more fully understand these skeins it might be well to add that it takes from 3000 to 4000 single fibers to make up a skein which will weigh about an ounce and three quarters and it takes about 4600 cocoons to make a pound of silk.

The skeins are first placed upon a machine where the fine thread is wound upon bobbins which will hold about 25,000 yards, the machine itself accommodating 130 skeins at one time.

When these have been wound they pass to the warping machine where they are placed on a frame that can take care of from 700 to 800 at a time and where the width of the goods is determined.

After they pass through this machine the threads are wound upon a loom beam and transferred to a twister.

The beam is placed in a machine and each single thread is then united with the warp already on this machine by an operator who twists the ends together between his fingers. An expert operator can twist as many as 1800 threads together in an hour.

The next step is to a loom where the goods are woven with the back side up where they are filled with either cotton or silk according to the kind of product desired.

From eight to 20 yards a day can be made on this machine according to the width of the piece. Different widths can be woven at the same time and a device at the side of the loom weaves the name of McLane into every inch of the selvage.

The limit in width of these looms is 48 inches. *The finished product is then wound on large cylinders and each inch of it is then carefully inspected and all imperfections picked from it.

The next step is known as finishing and by this process the silk is given its peculiar luster and then ironed to its state of smoothness in which it is purchased from the retailer and wound on bolts in 100 yard lengths. The cotton that is used as a filler in some of the grades is quilled in a similar manner to the silk filler and wound on bobbins which are fed into the looms where the final process of weaving is completed.

The finished product is made in the season's latest shades and weaves in browns, blues and blacks. A peculiar shade of negro brown is very attractive. The bolts of silk are stored in a commodious fire proof vault and are worth from \$100 to \$150 apiece. The raw silk is also placed in this vault as it is worth about \$6 a pound.

¹ dye

McLane Silk Mill

The McLane silk is sold direct from the mill to the retailer and Mr. McLane states that every cross road country store keeper in Franklin county will be treated just as well as the largest.

The first man to place his fine product upon his shelves was Charles H. Jillson of Turners Falls and the second was John Wilson of Greenfield. Salesmen from the mill will call on all dealers in the county and if anyone fails to receive a call, a notification, sent to the mill will bring one.

A portion of the output is already being sold through the New York office and as cheap electrical power is available, this new industry is able to compete with much larger and well established mills in the matter of price as well as quality. Several grades are made, from linings to the finest material used in ladies' dresses. The heavier weaves make excellent bathing suits which would no doubt be dearly prized by women in this section as well as by those anywhere.

March 25, 1914

Work Commenced Monday. Interesting Start Made with Beginning of New Factory.

Work has been started on the new industry and the ground was broken Monday morning. F. H. McLane, president of the McLane Silk company, turned the first spadefull[sic] of earth and the Turners Falls company was represented by some of its officials.

Contractor James H. Thomas, who will build the new factory was on hand to get things started right and he soon found that there was no scarcity of labor. No less than 100 men were on hand looking for work more than he could use at once and some of course were disappointed. Most of them were strangers who no doubt had heard of the prosperous times in store for Turners Falls the next few years and came here looking for employment.

It was not supposed that there were so many unemployed men in town as all of the factories are running full time and to their fullest capacity in striking contrast to other places. The reports sent broadcast all over New England and the large amount of construction work soon to be under way here has attracted many and more will undoubtedly come from time to time.

Work on the new factory will be pushed to the limit and it will be made ready for occupancy before June 1 if possible.

September 9, 1914

McLane Silk Co. Wants Help

The McLane Silk company of Turners Falls is getting well started in the manufacturing end of the business and orders are coming in goodly numbers.

The company finds it hard to get help at this time and it might be well for those desiring work to apply at the office. Both experienced and inexperienced help is wanted then anil it looks like a good opportunity for some of the townspeople to learn a good trade. This town has been fortunate in the matter of work and it has not been generally known that help was wanted at the company.

McLane Silk Mill

There is no doubt however that there will be many applications for work when it is known that help is wanted there and it might be well for those in town who desire work to apply at once.

1915

Jan. 27

Two of the new houses on the Montague City road, built by S.E. Hoyt, are occupied by employees of the McLane Silk Co.

March 17, 1915

Business is steadily increasing at the McLane Silk company. At present over 70 are employed there and more help is being added from time to time. New machinery is also being installed as the business increases and this, the town's newest industry, seems to be on the high road to prosperity.

April 28

A sneak thief entered the home of Mrs. J. Russell at South End, Thursday and stole a watch and chain and 50 cents in money. Mrs. Russell and her daughter work at the silk mill and the house is closed during the day.

July 14

Brilliant Wedding

A brilliant society wedding of interest to our people took place Wednesday evening, in the First Congregational church of Holyoke, when Miss Sheila B. McLane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick A. McLane of the McLane Silk Co. of Turners Falls, and Elwyn L. Taber, also connected with the McLane Silk Co. mill and sales department, were married. The bride's gown was of white bridal satin manufactured especially for her in her father's mill. About 400 guests socially prominent throughout the Connecticut valley, attended the wedding. The groom is a graduate of Dartmouth college and the bride graduated from Emerson college of oratory in Boston.

Aug. 11

Miss Marie Rose Charron, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Charron of Holyoke, and Francis C. O'Connor of Greenfield were married at St. Ann's church Saturday, by Rev. J.W. Casey, pastor of the church. Following the ceremony they left on a short wedding trip and on their return they are to make their home at the Ideal in Greenfield, where the groom is employed as chef. The bride has been employed by the McLane Silk Company.

Aug. 18

Miss Mabel Foley of the McLane Silk Co. office has been spending her vacation at Canobie Lake, N. H., accompanied by her sister, Annie Foley of Greenfield.

1916

Feb. 9

The McLane Silk Co., have granted their employees a raise in wages of from five to 12 per cent, in the various departments. Some 90 employees will benefit.

February 9, 1916

Silk Company Employees[sic] Got Raise

The employes of the McLane Silk company were treated to a pleasant surprise last Thursday when upon opening their pay envelopes they found that they had received a substantial increase in wages. No previous announcement had been made by the management that wages would be raised. The raise effects every one of the 90 employes of the mills. No raise had been asked for and it is to the credit of the management that it was forth coming entirely on their own initiative. The employes thoroughly appreciate the kindness of the company.

March 29

The McLane Silk Mill to be Greatly Enlarged

The McLane Silk Company, the latest of the Turners Falls enterprises, is proving as was anticipated, a marked success. It could not be otherwise, with such a manufacturer and such a long sighted business man as Mr. McLane as its prime mover.

Thomas Brothers, the contractors for so much of our mill construction, began Monday morning, the erection of an addition to the present mill building of the silk company, 40 by 80 feet, to be completed with all possible haste. This addition will accommodate some 48 additional looms and other machinery, thus increasing the number of employees very materially.

April 19

Several of the silk mill girls who went out on strike for higher wages, returned to work during the week.

May 17

Opening Celebration of New Addition to McLane Silk Co.'s Mill

The opening of the new addition to the McLane Silk Co.'s mill will be celebrated tomorrow, Thursday evening, May 18th, by the employees and invited guests. The employees of the mill are making all the arrangements for the affair, George Raymond and Miss Lea Chouinard being the chairmen of the committee of arrangements. The Philharmonic Orchestra will furnish music for the occasion; there will be addresses, and also dancing and refreshments, and the mill will be elaborately decorated. George Raymond will be floor director.

May 24

New Addition to McLane Silk Co.'s Mill Opened

The new addition to the McLane Silk Company's mill was the scene of a large celebration, Thursday evening, when about 300 people gathered to observe the opening of

McLane Silk Mill

the new addition to the mill and to take fitting cognizance of the growth of Turners Falls' latest industrial enterprise.

The employees of the mill who now number about 100 and will be increased as soon as the new looms are installed in the addition just completed, had full charge of the festivities and they worked hard to make the affair a great success. They succeeded, and the success of the celebration is very gratifying to all concerned.

The decorations of the new addition were very fine, over 400 colored electric lights being effectively strung about the room, and evergreen and laurel were also used. The Philharmonic orchestra furnished a pleasing concert program and also music for dancing.

Dr. A. J. Nims, vice president of the Turners Falls Board of Trade, was the chief speaker, and made an excellent address. His remarks were heard with interest and struck the right keynote. F.A. McLane, president of the McLane Silk Co., and the man to whom is principally due the great success of the mills and whose energy, foresight and unremitting attention to business is accountable for the steady increase in the mill's product and reputation, was called upon to speak. He spoke appreciatively of the town and his employees and of their loyal efforts to further the company's success.

Beside the employees, stockholders and officers of the mill and other business people of the town, guests were present from out of town and the affair did much to cement the friendship and increase the cordial relations existing between the employers and employed.

Refreshments were served to the guests and dancing concluded the festivities.

George Raymond and Miss Lea Chouinard were chairmen of the committee of arrangement, the other members including John Treasurer William Stotz, J. Bukowski, L. Lemi, James Christ, Misses Grace Bassett, Molly Foley, Mary Boston, Rose Metz and Grace Tanner. All those who had charge of the affair deserve the greatest credit, as everything went through like clock work, [sic] and though all hands, especially the chairmen, worked hard, everyone felt elated over the success of the opening.

Sept. 20

The McLane Silk Co. paid their first preferred stock dividend last Friday and the recipients of the checks from Turners Falls' newest enterprise are much gratified at this evidence of its sound and prosperous condition.

September 20, 1916

The McLane Silk company declared a dividend and checks were mailed the stockholders. The company is doing a rushing business and their goods are very much in demand all over the country. The recent addition made places for more help and the mill is a busy place to visit. More help is needed and as the wages are good it would seem that many more people will be put to work.

Nov. 15

Superintendent P. Bauer of the McLane Silk Company has bought an Overland Touring car.

Nov. 22

-The McLane Silk Co. paid a second dividend on its preferred stock, Nov. 15.
-Francis E. Dolan's new two-apartment house on Maple Street is approaching completion. Mr. Dolan will occupy one of the apartments, and Peter Bauer, superintendent of the McLane Silk Co. will occupy the other.

Dec. 13

McLane Silk Co. Increases Wages

-Turners Falls workers are certainly prosperous these times and everybody who cares to, is at work and steadily employed at handsome wages. The 100 or more employees of the McLane Silk Co. received the pleasing announcement, yesterday, of a wage increase of ten per cent, effective Dec. 22, but which will include the previous four weeks, so that the wage increase is practically in effect now. This is the second ten per cent increase in wages during 1916. The McLane Silk Co. is doing a flourishing business, and Turners Falls people are much gratified at the success of this, one of Turners Falls' newer industries.

December 13, 1916

McLane Company Employees[sic]Get Raise

The employes of the McLane Silk company were made happy yesterday with the announcement of a further increase in wages of 10 per cent.

This increase is general for all employes and goes into effect on December 22nd for the previous four weeks so that it is practically in effect now. This is the second increase of 10 per cent given by the company to their employes in the year making a total of 20 per cent.

The company is doing a rushing business and there is a wide demand for their goods. Every piece is sent out as soon as finished and the company has not been obliged to stock up to keep the mills running. Recently a large addition to the plant was completed in which the most up to date machinery was used and all modern conveniences have been installed also for the comfort of the employes.

This growing concern has proven a valuable asset for the town and under its present management will undoubtedly prove in the future one of the town's most valuable and helpful industries.

1917

Jan. 31

The annual meeting of the McLane Silk Co. will be held at the office of the company, Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 7, at two o'clock.

Feb. 7

Annual Meeting of the McLane Silk Company

The annual meeting of the McLane Silk Company was held this afternoon. and the following officers were elected:

F. A. McLane, - President and General Manager.

McLane Silk Mill

Lester E. Flint - Vice President Charles E. Hazelton - Clerk and
Treasurer

Directors - Frederick A. McLane, Lester E. Flint, Fred A. Hutchins,
Alvin McLane, Fred C. Abercrombie

May 2

President F. A. McLane of the McLane Silk Co. is driving a new Jeffrey Roadster.

May 16

Want Ad

Wanted—Girls and young men to work in silk mill. Apply McLane Silk Co., Turners Falls.

June 20

-Charles Park is building a garage for the McLane Silk Company near their factory.

-The McLane Silk Company will demonstrate the manufacture of their product at the Eastern States industrial exposition to be held in Springfield from June 23 to 30th. One of their expert operators will operate a loom at the exposition and thus demonstrate their product. They will also display a full line of their fine finished goods, including fancy silks and satins. The exhibit will be in charge of Elwyn L. Taber, credit manager of the company.

June 27

Elwyn L. Tabor of the McLane Silk Company, Dartmouth, '12, with Mrs. Tabor, attended his class reunion at Dartmouth College, last week.

July 7, 1917

The mill of the McLane Silk Co., has been closed during the past week for annual inventory, and repairs.

July 11

The McLane Silk Co.'s mill has been closed the past week for the annual inventory and repairs.

August 1, 1917

The terrible heat of the past few days has been the direct cause of many working men and women having to give up their labors. The Montague Machine Company and the foundry were shut down all day yesterday and the McLane Silk Company shut down at noon. All of the other mills and factories are running short handed.

Aug. 8

The McLane silk company is to have an exhibit at the Rochester, N.Y. exposition, next month. Their recent exhibit at Springfield attracted the management of the Rochester exposition, who made arrangements to secure the exhibit.

McLane Silk Mill

Aug. 29

-Miss Mabel Foley is an employee in the McLane Silk Company's office.
-E.L. Tabor of the McLane Silk company goes in a few days to Rochester, N. Y., where the company has an exhibit at the industrial exhibition which will run 70 days. One of the expert operators of the company will leave with him to operate a loom that has been shipped there.

Sept. 26

Montague Tax List—Corporations

McLane Silk Co. \$295.50

Oct. 3

P. P. Bauer, who has been superintendent of the McLane Silk Company since its start, has resigned his position there and will leave town shortly with his family. He is succeeded at the McLane Company by Elwyn L. Taber, who has been in charge of the sales department of the concern.

Oct. 31

P.P. Bauer, formerly superintendent of the McLane Silk Company, who recently resigned, has moved his family to Paterson, N. J., where he will go into business for himself.

Nov. 7

A fine new cement walk is being laid from Eleventh Street to the McLane Silk Co. factory.

1918

Feb. 13

McLane Silk Co. Elects Officers

At the annual meeting of the McLane Silk Co., held last Wednesday afternoon, the following officers were elected:

President and General Manager - Frederick A. McLane
Vice President - Alexander Ott - Clerk and Treasurer Charles E. Hazelton
Assistant Treasurer - Elwyn L. Taber
Directors - Frederick A. McLane, Fred C. Abercrombie, Charles E. Hazelton, F. A. Hutchins, Alvin McLane

August 21, 1918

The hot weather of the first few days of last week caused many of the manufacturing establishments to run short handed. The McLane Silk company shut down Wednesday at noon and the employees of the Keith Paper company were allowed to go home an hour

McLane Silk Mill

ahead of time that afternoon with full time. Thermometers registered up to 98 in the shade that afternoon and one registered as high as 100.²

1919

Feb. 19

Officers of McLane Silk Company

President and General Manager - Frederick A. McLane

Vice President - Alex. Ott Treasurer and Clerk, C. E. Hazelton

Assistant Treasurer - E.L. Taber

Directors - Fredrick A. McLane, F.C. Abercrombie, C.E. Hazelton,
Alvin McLane, Fred A. Hutchins

March 12

The McLane Silk company have added to the manufacture of their fine line of dress and lining silks and are now making slipper satins as a side line. Experiments in this class of goods were made and samples submitted to large manufacturers of slippers with the result that more orders than can be handled have been received. The company have established an office in Chicago to take care of their constantly increasing western trade and are doing a thriving business through the west.

March 19, 1919

The McLane Silk Co. have added the making of slipper satins as a side line to the manufacture of their fine line of Beaver dress and lining silks, and already have more orders on hand than can be handled. Experiments in making this class of goods were made and samples submitted to the large slipper manufacturers who showed what they thought of the quality by placing largo orders. The McLane Silk Co. has also established an office in Chicago.

April 23

Miss Mabel B. Foley, the efficient bookkeeper for the McLane Silk Co., since its establishment here, has resigned, and taken a similar position in the office of the Greenfield Recorder.

May 21

P. J. Curtis of Pittsfield has taken the position of head bookkeeper for the McLane Silk Co., succeeding Miss Mabel Foley, resigned. Mr. Curtis was formerly a star pitcher of the New Hampshire State League and was on the Keene team. He was recently honorably discharged from the service.

June 4

-F. A. McLane of the McLane Silk Co. is driving a new Peerless automobile.

² Temps. hit 100 degrees in Greenfield, MA Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

e.g.

McLane Silk Mill

June 11

The large steel smoke stack on the McLane Silk Company's mill has been removed and it will be replaced with a brick chimney, A New York firm has the contract.

June 14, 1919

The large steel smokestack was removed from the McLane Silk Co. mill last Saturday and will be replaced by a taller one of radial brick.

July 23

The tall, cream colored brick circular chimney of the McLane Silk Co. has made rapid progress skyward and will soon be completed.

July 30

Miss Anna Fritz of the McLane Silk Co, office, is having a two weeks' vacation.

Aug. 6

-The new 60-foot stack of the McLane Silk Co. has been completed.
-The McLane Silk Co. has had a new sign placed on the front of its factory, so that he who runs may read. It is very attractive with large gold letters on a meshed background.

Aug. 20

-Alfred Stotz, who graduated from the Turners Falls High school this year, is to enter Dartmouth college in the fall to take up the civil engineering course. He is employed at the McLane Silk company this summer
-W. A. Farmer, assistant superintendent of the silk mill is on his vacation in New York and will also visit at Scranton, Pa.

Oct. 29

Bush-McLane Combine Buys Government Cartridge Silk

A most important event in the textile industry was the sale, last Wednesday, of approximately eight million yards of government owned cartridge silk, for a contract price of \$10,000,000 to the Bush Terminal Co. of New York and the McLane Silk Co. of this place. Negotiations for the sale of this enormous amount of silk have been going on for several months, and the deal was finally put through by the big Bush Terminal interests in conjunction with the McLane Silk Co.

The silk in its present form is a crude product but all pure silk of great strength. It was manufactured for the government for holding the propellant charges of powder for the big guns used in the army. The propellant powder used in the great guns, from six inches up, is enclosed in bags made of this cartridge silk, as this fabric is the only thing that will wholly ignite without leaving a residue.

This wonderfully strong silk, which in its present state looks like natural color Russian toweling or burlap, is to be processed, bleached, dyed, and finished into a beautiful fabric of wonderful strength and wearing qualities. Experiments have proven it adapted to

McLane Silk Mill

more than 200 uses, including its use for gowns and suits, sport skirts, evening gowns, draperies, furniture coverings, neckwear, millinery trimming, etc., and it will also be printed for various uses.

The McLane Silk Co., its mills, organization and silk experts, will lend its best efforts to produce a beautiful and practical material which the celebrated McLane Silk Co. will be willing to be sponsor for.

It is the intention to put this silk on the market so as not to disturb the regular silk market and industry. It will be nationally advertised and placed on sale throughout the country. The McLane Silk Co. expect[sic] to have some on the market the first of the year.

The Bush Terminal Co. will devote a whole floor of their big terminal building to the display of this silk and the publicity will be in charge of the former publicity manager of the Panama-Pacific exposition at San Francisco.

F.A. McLane of the McLane Silk Co. says that as a silk manufacturer he is glad to undertake this work which he believes will be a benefit to the government and to the public. It is not primarily a money-making enterprise.

Turners Falls people will be greatly interested in the development of this new fabric by a local concern, and will take more than ordinary satisfaction in buying the new material when it is marketed.

The McLane Silk Co. also has an option on a million and a half of government owned Surplus silk noils³ or yarns.

October 19, 1919

McLane Silk Company Party \$10,000,000 Transaction

Turners Falls and the McLane Silk company were distinctly on the map last week when most of the big eastern dailies featured the story of a \$10,000,000 deal between the McLane Silk company and the Bush Terminal company with the United States government.

The companies contracted with the government to take over the above amount of cartridge silk, in all 14,000,000 yards of the material and will manufacture it and put it on the market on a 50-50 basis, that is, the government will get 50% of the profits and the McLane Silk company and the Bush Terminal company each 25%. The silk in its present form is a crude product but it has been determined by experiment and scientific study that it can be bleached, dyed, printed and finished in ways to develop a large number of beautiful fabrics.

The fabrics will not only be beautiful to the eye but will possess wearing qualities out of the ordinary because of their great strength. While the cloth is pure silk in the beginning it does not look like it and it will require a large expenditure of money to produce an article that will be satisfactory to those who are to market the product. It was manufactured for strength and was to have been used in charges of high explosive powder and would have received much rough handling. Major Grinden, chairman of the salvage board of the United States government, laid stress on the fact that the transaction will return to the government the full cost of the material and that the general public would be vastly

³ Short fiber removed during the combing of a textile fiber and often separately spun into yarn.

benefited during the shortage of wearing material by the new fabric to be placed on the market.

The silk will bear but one stamp, "Made in America, Cartridge Cloth, it's All Silk." He also pointed out that Vice-President Marshall, Secretary of War Baker, Secretary of the Navy Daniels, Secretary of the Interior Lane and other government officials had clothing made from the material while many women prominent in the social life of the capitol have had gowns, wraps and hangings PH made from the silk.

Frederick A. McLane, president of the McLane Silk company, had this to say regarding the deal:

"As a silk manufacturer, I am glad to undertake this work, which I believe is a benefit to the government and the public. I will say that it is not essentially a money-making enterprise. It is, however, a great public undertaking, and we are preparing to place at the disposal of the public at a reasonable price, a very durable and attractive fabric. It is our intention to put this out so as not to disturb the market or industry. The McLane organization, its mills, and silk experts, will lend their best efforts to produce a beautiful and practical material.

"The stupendous size of the task is one that I do not look upon lightly. I am glad to have to be associated with such men as Mr. Irving Bush, who has a world-wide reputation of doing things, and whose character and integrity are such that I feel encouraged to embark upon this huge undertaking. "There is hardly any article of apparel that one can conceive, into which the utility of this silk will not enter. It is impossible to enumerate all of its uses in a brief space of time.

"This material should not be confused with other materials that are sold at the same price, because it lends itself beautifully to all kinds of treatment."

Experimentation has proved that the fabric can be beautifully finished. It is adapted to more than 200 uses. These include: Street suits, sports suits, riding habits, skirts, dress wraps, evening gowns, auto dusters, linings or heavy wraps, petticoats, ready made millinery, trimming supplies, coats, neckwear, soft collars, bathrobes, linings for muffs, scarfs, lampshades, piece goods, wall panels, fabric shoes complete, sport flags, clergymen's robes, book covers, boxes and baskets, painter's canvas, tents awnings, etc.

The McLane Silk company also have an option of 1,500,000 yards of yarn silk noils[sic] with the government and taken all in all it looks like busy times ahead for the concern, which has never found any difficulty in marketing their fine line of goods from the start of manufacturing them.

Dec. 10

McLane Silk Co. Has New Treasurer

C.E. Hazelton, who has been treasurer of the McLane Silk Co. since its organization, resigned, Monday, and George H. Smith of Holyoke has been elected treasurer in his stead. F. A. McLane, president of the McLane Silk Co., has resigned as treasurer of, the Bullard Thread Co. of Holyoke, which concern is owned and run by the McLane Silk Co. interests, and George H. Smith was elected to be treasurer of this company also.

McLane Silk Mill

Mr. Smith has held an important executive position with the Valley Paper Co. of Holyoke for the past 27 years. His new duties as treasurer of the McLane Silk Co. and Bullard Thread Co. will require him to divide all his time between Turners Falls and Holyoke.

Dec. 17

A special meeting of the stockholders of the McLane Silk Company will be held Monday afternoon, Dec. 22, at 2 o'clock.

December 20, 1919

A special meeting of the McLane Silk Co., stockholders will be held in the office of the company on Monday, December 22, at 2 p. m. "The rapid and prosperous growth of the company makes it necessary for the business to be carried on in a more conservative manner and it is necessary to consult the stockholders before making any radical change in financing.

December 24, 1919

McLane Silk Co. to Expand

At a special meeting of the stockholders of the McLane Silk company held at their office in Turners Falls Monday it was voted to increase the capital stock of the company from \$300,000 to \$600,000. The proceeds of the sale of the new stock will be used in expanding the business of the company, which has factories in Holyoke and two in Scranton, Pa., in addition to the local factory, which employs about 150 hands. The company, has a government contract to produce 11,000,000 yards of cartridge cloth. They also produce satins and taffetas.

1920

Jan. 7

The employees of the McLane Silk Co. have been granted an increase in wages.

Jan. 28

Cartridge Silks are Very Beautiful

The McLane Silk Co., are now placing on the wholesale market the United States cartridge silk which they recently bought from the government. The advance samples show a wonderfully attractive fabric whose artistic possibilities have not been overestimated. The silk was processed and dyed by the McLane Silk Co., is shown in a great variety of exquisite rich colors as well as natural and neutral tints, and the embroidered and eyeleted patterns, as well as those processed to show self color designs, also the printed effects, are exceedingly beautiful. They offer unlimited opportunity for unusual and distinctive effects.

The silks are in different weights, suitable for feminine gowns and suits, men's hot weather suits and for draperies, cushions and hangings. Thin silk will surely take the country by storm. Originally made for the federal government to hold the powder charges for the great guns used in the war, and therefore exceedingly durable and every thread pure

McLane Silk Mill

silk, it has been so metamorphosed by textile skill that it is exceedingly difficult for one not versed in such matters to even imagine how it could be changed from a dingy Russian crash looking, very utilitarian sort of fabric to one which, the highest lady in the land will be proud to wear or which will captivate any artistic soul.

Feb. 4

Annual Meeting of McLane Silk Company

At the annual meeting of the McLane Silk Co. held this afternoon, the following officers were elected:

President - Frederick A. McLane. Vice President - Alexander Ott

Treasurer and Clerk, George H. Smith. Asst. Treasurer - Elwyn L. Taber

Directors:— Frederick A. McLane, Fred C. Abercrombie, F. A. Hutchins, George H. Smith, Elwyn L. Taber

Feb. 11

Bullard Thread Company Elects Officers

The Bullard Thread Company of Holyoke, which is affiliated with the McLane Silk Company, has elected these officers for the coming year:

President - E. A. McLane Vice President - Elwyn L. Taber

Clerk and Treasurer - O. H. Smith
Assistant Treasurer and Manager - G.C. Watson

Directors-F.A. McLane, F.C. Abercrombie, G.H. Smith, E.L. Taber, G.C. Watson.

March 17

Local people, especially investors, will be interested in the advertisement concerning McLane Silk Co. stock, which appears elsewhere in these columns.

April 14

A display of the famous United States Cartridge silks which have been placed on the market this spring by the McLane Silk Co. is now on view in H.F. Seiler's store window.

Offering of Tax Exempt Stock,
\$300,000
McLANE SILK COMPANY
(A Massachusetts Corporation)
Seven Per Cent Cumulative Preferred Stock
Par Value \$100.
Dividends payable quarterly: On the 15th day of February, May, August and November.
REDEEMABLE as a whole or in part at the option of the Company on 30 days' notice, at 110 and accrued dividend. Preferred as to assets and dividends.
† Tax exempt in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and other States.

CAPITALIZATION.
Preferred Stock outstanding and to be issued, \$500,000
Common Stock authorized and outstanding, \$100,000
We call attention to the following facts which were received from official sources:

BUSINESS AND PROPERTIES: McLane Silk Company, incorporated in 1914, operates one plant at Turners Falls, Mass., two plants at Scranton, Penn., and one plant at Holyoke, Mass.

The Company sells direct to the cutting-up trade, both in men's and women's wear, fur, millinery and dry goods trades, and have sales offices in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and Cleveland, thus eliminating all commission houses and jobbers.

PROCEEDS OF ISSUE: Proceeds of this issue are for the purpose of increasing the facilities to meet the increased demand for their goods.

SECURITY: The Company has no mortgage or funded debt and no mortgage or lien may be placed upon its property with the exception of purchase money obligations, and no security may be created having prior claim to this issue, except with the consent of 75% of the preferred stockholders. The stock is preferred as to cumulative dividends at the rate of 7% per annum, and in the event of liquidation the Preferred stock shall be entitled to \$10 per share and accumulated dividends. No cash dividends may be paid on the Common stock which would reduce the net assets below 125% of the par value of the Preferred stock then outstanding.

ASSETS: Total Net Assets are equal to more than \$160 per share of the Preferred stock now outstanding and presently to be issued. Net Quick Assets are more than \$130 per share. This valuation is after ample allowance for depreciation and all indebtedness of the Company, but includes nothing for good will and other intangible assets of this well-established business.

EARNINGS: For the three fiscal years ending June 30, 1919, net earnings have exceeded six times the dividend requirements on the Preferred stock outstanding and earnings for the present calendar year will probably exceed ten times the dividends requirements. It is believed that, in addition to the regular business of the Company, which is growing rapidly, net earnings during the next three years will be largely augmented by the profits which will be derived from the sale of more than 11,000,000 yards of Government-owned silk known as "Cartridge Cloth" which the Company, in connection with the Bush Terminal Company of New York, is now marketing.

FUND TO RETIRE PREFERRED STOCK: The Company provides that each year it shall set aside out of its net earnings, after the payment of dividends on the Preferred stock, interest, taxes, depreciation, and other reserves a sum equivalent to not less than 5% of said net earnings, which sum shall be used for the purchase and retirement of Preferred stock at not over \$10 a share or the calling of Preferred stock at \$10 a share.

DEPOSITARIES.
Guaranty Trust Co., New York.
Webster-Atlas National Bank, Boston.
Crocker National Bank, Turners Falls.
Franklin County Trust Co., Greenfield.
First National Bank, Greenfield.
Traders' National Bank, Scranton.

All legal details in connection with the issue of this Preferred Stock will be passed upon by Messrs. Davis, Peabody & Brown, of Boston, Mass.
The accounts of the company are audited by Messrs. Setchell & Luther, Certified Public Accountants, Boston, Mass. Further details sent upon request.

PRICE: \$100 per Share and Accrued Dividend to yield 7% free of tax.

MOODY BROTHERS & CO., Bankers,
387 Main Street, Springfield, Mass. 49 Pearl Street, Hartford, Conn.

The information contained in this circular is derived from sources we regard as reliable. We do not guarantee, but believe it to be correct.

Orders may be placed through your local banker.

McLane Silk Mill

June 30

The McLane Silk Co.'s plant closed Friday for the annual inventory and repairs. The mill will start work again July 6.

July 7

-The McLane Silk Co. has resumed operations after the annual shutdown.
-George H. Smith of Holyoke, treasurer of the McLane Silk Co., has resigned. Elwyn L. Taber, who has been superintendent of the mill, becomes treasurer, and the superintendency[sic] goes to W. A. Farmer, who has been the assistant superintendent.

July 21

William A. Farmer, superintendent for the McLane Silk Co., and Miss Lucy Zimmerman of Greenfield are to be married Monday, July 26.

July 28

-The employees of the McLane Silk Co. gave their superintendent, Mr. Farmer, who was married Monday, a surprise last week, and presented him with a handsome electric floor lamp.
-The McLane Silk. Co. shut down last week for a fortnight.

Aug. 11

E. L. Taber, treasurer of the McLane Silk Co., and family are at Echo Lake, Marlow, N.H., for two weeks.

New York Tribune August 19

Bush Denies Blame in Failing to Sell Government's Silk Says Market Conditions Are Unfavorable for Disposal of Huge Amount of War Material on U. S. Contract

Following dispatches from Washington intimating that the War Department was considering canceling its contract with the Bush Terminal Company for the disposal of 10,000,000 yards of cartridge silk, acquired by the government during the war to hold the powder charges of the large fold and naval guns, Irving T. Bush disclaimed the assertion that his company had been slow in disposing of the material.

"I do not know how much of the cartridge silk has been sold," he said, "but in view of the conditions of the silk market during the past few months I judge the amount is not large."

"He asserted that while his company had an interest in the contract with the government for the disposal of the silk, it was not charged with the responsibility of selling the merchandise. "The sales campaign," said Mr. Bush, "has been entirely in the hands of the McLane Silk Company, also one of the parties to the contract with the government.

"I have several times expressed the opinion to the officials in Washington having to do with the contract that the price fixed by the government was too high to permit the sale of the silk under present conditions, and I have said that the chief interest of the Bush

McLane Silk Mill

Terminal Company is to render some service to the government and we are ready to retire from the contract. at any time which seems desirable from the government standpoint.

The authorities in Washington understand our position and I am quite certain recognize that little headway could be made in view of the unsettled conditions in the whole textile market. I am quite certain that they do not blame either this company or the McLane Silk Company for conditions which they recognize are entirely beyond our control."

The dispatch from Washington reported that the Bush company to date had disposed of less than 50,000 yards of the material, whereas its contract was supposed to call for a much larger amount. Officials of the War Department were quoted as saying that, in their opinion, the Bush company had not advertised the silk sufficiently or followed up the initial advertising adequately.

When the Bush-McLane interests took over the disposal of the government silk following negotiations between R. H. Mallinson & Co., silk manufacturers, and the government, the peacetime uses of the fabric as material for men's and women's garments, upholstery and draperies were demonstrated by a style show in the Bush Terminal Sales Building in this city and by exhibits in leading retail stores throughout the country.

The wholesale price of the silk ranged from about \$1.50 to \$3.50 a yard for various grades, after they had been processed, dyed or otherwise converted into suitable fabric for commercial purposes. The contract with the government is said to call for the payment of the cost price of the silk by the Bush-McLane interests and an equal division of the manufacturer, trading profits with the government

About a month ago T. R. McLane, president of the McLane Silk Company said that the promotion of the sale of the cartridge silk was held in abeyance by the general drop in the silk. market, but would be revived when market conditions became more favorable.

Sept. 15

Treasurer E. L. Taber of the McLane Silk Co. is on a business trip to New York, Washington and Scranton, Pa.

Dec. 29

The McLane Silk Co.'s mill is shut down for ten days. It will reopen Jan. 3.

1921

Jan. 10

The McLane Silk company which has been running on a three day schedule for several weeks has again resumed full time, the change going into effect this morning. A 10 per cent reduction in wages went into effect today which is more than offset by the company again resuming full time.

McLane Silk Mill

Jan. 12

The McLane Silk Co. resumed operation on full time, Monday, after being on a three days schedule for a number of weeks. A ten per cent reduction in wages has been made.

Feb. 2

Annual Meeting of McLane Silk Co.

At the annual meeting of the McLane Silk Co., held this afternoon, the following officers were elected:

President and General Manager - F. A. McLane Vice President - Alexander Ott
Treasurer and Assistant General Manager - E.L. - Taber Clerk - E.L. Taber
Directors - F. A. McLane, E.L. Taber, F. C. Abercrombie, Alexander Ott,
F. A. Hutchins

April 13

Michael Brozo, an employee of the McLane Silk Co., received a painful injury, Saturday, while at work. He fell near a loom, his neck struck a bolt and the resulting wound required four stitches to close.

July 20

Russell Kells of Montague City, who graduated from, the Turners Falls High school in June, has taken a position in the office of the McLane Silk Co.

Aug. 24

Nicholas Murley, who has been an efficient clerk in the office of the McLane Silk Co. for the past two or three years, has been promoted, and transferred to a more responsible position in the company's office at Scranton, Pa. He left for his new duties today. Mr. Murley is a young man of much promise and his many friends, while sorry to have him leave town, expect him to make the most of his opportunities in his new position.

Aug. 31

Pay Big Taxes in Montague

McLane Silk Co. \$674.40

Sept. 14

Bendigo Murley has gone to Scranton, Pa., to work in the McLane Silk Mill there.

Oct. 26

Treasurer E. L. Taber of the McLane Silk Co., and wife, attended the Dartmouth-Columbia football game, Saturday, at Hanover, N. H. Mr. Taber is a graduate of Dartmouth.

Nov. 23

Two basket ball teams are being formed among the employees of the McLane Silk Co., one team for men and one for girls. The first practice was held at Hibernian Hall, Monday night, under the direction of Treasurer E.L. Taber, Superintendent W.A. Farmer and Russell Kells. So much promising material appeared at the practice that two girls' teams may be formed.

Nov. 30

McLane Silk Mill Forms Hoop Teams

Turners Falls will be well fortified with basketball clubs this winter from the early indications. Announcement was made by the McLane Silk mill this week that two teams will be formed there. It is planned to have a team of girl tossers in addition to an aggregation of male performers on the court.

A manager and coach will be appointed immediately and the McLane Silk quintette will get away to a start before the first of the year. It is expected that the girl's outfit will stage a series of home and home[sic] games with the GTD girls if the proper arrangements can be made.

Dec. 14

Games are wanted by the two basket ball teams recently formed by employees of the McLane Silk Mill. Manager W.H. Farmer, care of the McLane Silk Co. should be addressed.

Dec. 21

Silk Co. Basket Ball Teams Play

The two newly organized McLane Silk Co. basket ball teams played their first games last evening at Hibernian Hall, with the Turners Falls High school teams. In the first game, the score was 23 to 10 in favor of the McLane Silk Co. team, and in the second game, between the second team of the McLane Silk Co. and the second High school quintet, the score was 24 to 4, in favor of the High school.

Dec. 28

The McLane Silk Co. is closed for a week for the annual inventory and repairs.

1922

Jan. 25

Much interest is being shown in the Industrial Basketball League games, conducted by the Community Service Council. Last night, the Montague City Rod shop vs. International Paper and the McLane Silk vs. John Russell Cutlery five, furnished the sport.

McLane Silk Mill

Feb. 1

Annual Meeting of McLane Silk Co.

-At the annual meeting of the McLane Silk Co. held this afternoon, the following officers were elected:

President and General Manager - Frederick A. McLane

Vice President - Alexander Ott

Treasurer and Asst. General Manager - Elwyn L. Taber

-The McLane Silk mill defeated the Esleek Manufacturing Company, 26 to 9, and the Montague City Rod shop defeated the John Russell Cutlery team, 30 to 14, in the Industrial League games in Hibernian Hall, Thursday night.

-In the Industrial league games at Hibernian Hall last night, the Rod shop defeated the McLane Silk Co., 13 to 14; and the International Paper Co. five defeated the Griswoldville team, 21 to 13.

March 16

The McLane Silk Co. branch of the Community Service Girls' Recreation Club organized last week with Laura Bourbeau, president; Helen Zak, secretary, and Ida Zankon, treasurer. Elizabeth Cray is chairman of the program committee with Edith Bourbeau and Clare Le Moyne. The club meets Thursday evening of each week.

The O'Gorman, Wade and Powers branch of the Community Service Girls' Recreation League has organized with Mrs. H. Fritz as president, Magdalene Zelan, secretary, Miss Mathieu, treasurer, and Misses Rivet, Cray and Brady as program committee.

March 22

Laura Bourbeau, president of the McLane Silk branch, of community service, announced that that club will conduct a bowling party at the Inn⁴ this evening beginning at 7.30, with Mrs. E. L. Taber aa chaperone.

April 12

The Montague City Rod Co. five won the basketball championship of the Community Service Industrial League, when they defeated the Cutlery team in the final game, last week. The rod makers won n games during the season and lost 4. The McLane Silk Co. five stand second in the league, winning 9 games and losing 6.

April 19

Treasurer and General Manager E.L. Taber of the McLane Silk Co. addressed the employees of the great Filene store in Boston, lately, upon the manufacture of silk. Filene's, which is a specialty store of the first rank, uses much of the McLane Co. silks in its merchandising and the store long ago adopted the policy of giving their sales force, as well as patrons, lectures and expert instruction upon various phases of business which make for increased efficiency and service.

⁴ The Turners Falls In had a pair of bowling lanes.

~~ The Turners Falls Reporter ceases publication May 13, 1922 ~~

June 17, 1922

The McLane Silk company has closed part of the plant for about two weeks. They will start up again after the Fourth of July.

Sept. 13, 1922

The McLane Silk company has closed for a short time, they will reopen as soon as conditions in their line change, which will probably be soon.

October 4, 1923

Pay Montague Taxes

McLane Silk Mill \$588.00.

Nov. 7, 1923

The McLane Silk company, which has been closed for several weeks, plans to reopen again on Wednesday, November 16th.

June 8, 1923

Girl's Club Picnic

The Girls' Recreation club of the McLane Silk company will hold an outing tomorrow afternoon. The party, numbering 35, will leave here in several cars and go over the Mohawk Trail stopping at the top of the trail for a basket lunch. The party will be chaperoned by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Taber. Miss Laura Bourbeau is in charge of the arrangements.

July 5, 1923

-The McLane Silk company's float represented a scene in Japan with the Japanese silk workers engaged in their work of preparing the thread for use by the mills. The costumes of the Japanese and the entire set made a very handsome appearance.

- The McLane Silk Co's float was highly effective and very beautiful as well as being thoroughly distinctive of the industry carried on by the company. The entire color scheme, the artistic and effective Japanese costumes of real silk were noteworthy and harmonious.

June 17, 1924

The McLane Silk, company shut down last Friday night for the annual inventory and repair period. The mill will open again on July 7th.

February 4, 1926

McLane Silk Annual

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the McLane Silk company was held yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the office of the company here.

Reports of the officers for the past year were approved by the meeting and the following officers elected: President and General Manager, Frederick A. McLane; vice-

McLane Silk Mill

president, John MacFarland; treasurer and assistant general manager, Elwyn L. Taber; Clerk; directors, C. Abercrombie, E. L. Taber, John MacFarland of New York city, F. A. Hutchins of Manchester, N. H.

March 7, 1928

Has Fingers Crushed

Mrs. Matthew Care of Second Street met with an accident while at her work at the McLane Silk company on Saturday morning. Mrs. Care was cleaning the loom oh which she works, while it was running, and her hand slipped and was caught in the machinery. Two of her fingers were badly crushed and she was taken to the Farren hospital where she was treated by Dr. R. A. McGillicuddy.

May 9, 1928

New Supt. Coming

Edwin C. Zollinger of Reading, Pa., has accepted a position as superintendent of the McLane Silk company and will assume his new duties about the 15th of this month. Mr. Zollinger has had a very wide experience in the manufacture, of silk, having been with some of the largest firms, in this country and Europe.

He is a graduate of the Zurich Textile school of Switzerland and has worked at all of the various operations connected with the manufacture of silk. Mr. Zollinger succeeds William E. Farmer, who has resigned his portion with the McLane Silk company to accept one with the Turners Falls Power and Electric company as an operator at the Mt. Tom sub-station.

January 31, 1929

McLane Silk Company Will Hold Annual Wednesday to Hear Official Reports

The annual meeting of the McLane Silk company will be held at the office of the company on next Wednesday afternoon, February 6, at 2 o'clock.

Reports of the officers for the past year will be acted upon and the report of the special stockholders' committee will also be made to the meeting.

The stockholders elected a special committee, last November to investigate the advisability of the company's continuing in business. After careful deliberation and many meetings, this committee, it is understood, will report back that in their opinion the company should continue. At the present time, the business of the company appears to be in better condition than for some time past. This will be welcome to the citizens, as the town can ill afford to lose any of its corporations.

February 5, 1929

McLane Silk Co. Annual Tomorrow Report of Special Committee Will be Heard

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the McLane Silk company will be held at the office of the company tomorrow afternoon, at 2 o'clock.

It is expected that this meeting will be largely attended as the report of the special committee, which was appointed on November 16, will be made at this time. A letter from

the committee to the stockholders recommends that the company continue to business, as they expect a continuation of the better business which the company has experienced the past several weeks.

February 27, 1929

Silk Company Will Continue to Operate

Turners Falls, Feb. 7—The annual meeting of the McLane Silk company was held at the office of the company here yesterday afternoon. The special stockholders' committee, which was appointed at a special meeting held last November, reported back that in their opinion the company should continue in business.

After listening to the reports of the officers for the past year, the meeting, of which W. T. Ellis was chairman, elected Elwyn L. Taber as clerk of the company. The following directors were also elected: Waldo T. Ellis, Rolland H.P. Jacobus, Charles [illegible], Elwyn L. Taber and Patrick E. Wells.

The report of the special committee was heard with interest. This committee, which was composed of F. E. Wells, A. R. Smith, W. S. Cassidy, Otis Hager and Daniel Jenks, made an extensive study of the local plant. Its individual needs, and the textile industry in general. The conclusion arrived at was that the silk business had witnessed the end of its long period of depression and that everything pointed to a revival of better business in this trade. It was their opinion that the company was in a much stronger position today than for some time past and that the present year would see a turn in the silk markets.

May 22, 1929

Silk Exhibit to be Interesting

Since 1914 the McLane Silk company of Turners Falls has been producing some of the finest broad silk fabrics made in this country. After being for many years the general superintendent of the Skinner company in Holyoke, F. A. McLane came to Turners Falls and established the first unit of the present plant. The following fall, E. L. Taber, now treasurer and general manager of the firm, came as an assistant to Mr. McLane.

The business developed to such an extent that in 1918 an addition which doubled the capacity of the plant was built to the weave room. The management has always kept abreast with milady's demands to broad silks, with the result that the firm is rated today as one of the most successful and progressive of the broad silk industries of the country.

The firm is now employing 60 persons, and is directed by the following officers: R. H. P. Jacobus, president, of Greenfield; W. T. Ellis, vice president, and E. L. Taber, treasurer and general manager.

The McLane company is planning a very attractive booth for the industrial exposition, the walls of which will be draped with one of their new spring fabrics called 'Krinkle Krepe.' Old rose and powder blue will be the color combination used and the furnishings of the booth will be made to harmonize with those colors.

The company has obtained from one of the large Japanese Importing houses an assortment of cocoons, silk worms and different types of silk. These will be attractively

arranged to show the different sizes of cocoons and silk worms, illustrating the various stages of their growth.

October 29, 1919 [Greenfield MA Recorder 1918-1919 a - 1083.pdf](#)

IMPORTANT BUSINESS DEAL

McLane Silk Company Party \$10,000,000 Transaction

to Turners Falls and the McLane Silk company were distinctly on the map last week when most of the big eastern dailies featured the story of a \$10,000,000 deal between the McLane Silk company and the Bush Terminal company with the United States government.

The companies contracted with the government to take over the above amount of cartridge silk, in all 14,000,000 yards of the material and will manufacture it and put it on the market on a 50-50 basis, that is, the government will get 50% of the profits and the McLane Silk company and the Bush Terminal company each 25%. The silk in its present form is a crude product but it has been determined by experiment and scientific study that it can be bleached, dyed, printed and finished in ways to develop a large number of beautiful fabrics. The fabrics will not only be beautiful to the eye but will possess wearing qualities out of the ordinary because of their great strength. While the cloth is pure silk in the beginning it does not look like it and it will require a large expenditure of money to produce an article that will be satisfactory to those who are to market the product. It was manufactured for strength and was to have been used in charges of high explosive powder and would have received much rough handling.

Major Grinden, chairman of the salvage board of the United States government, laid stress on the fact that the transaction will return to the government the full cost of the material and that the general public would be vastly benefited during the shortage of wearing material by the new fabric to be placed on the market. The silk will bear but one stamp, "Made in America, Cartridge Cloth, It's All Silk." He also pointed out that Vice-President Marshall, Secretary of War Baker, Secretary of the Navy Daniels, Secretary of the Interior Lane and other government officials had clothing made from the material while many women prominent in the social life of the capitol have had gowns, wraps and hangings PH made from the silk.

Frederick A. McLane, president of the McLane Silk company, had this to say regarding the deal

"As a silk manufacturer, I am glad to undertake this work, which I believe is a benefit to the government and the public. I will say that it is not essentially a money-making enterprise. It is, however, a great public undertaking, and we are preparing to place at the disposal of the public at a reasonable price, a very durable and attractive fabric. It is our intention to put this out so as not to disturb the market or industry. The McLane

organization, its mills, and silk experts, will lend their best efforts to produce a beautiful and practical material.

"The stupendous size of the task is one that I do not look upon lightly. I am glad to have to be associated with such men as Mr. Irving Bush, who has a world-wide reputation of doing things, and whose character and integrity are such that I feel encouraged to embark upon this huge undertaking.

"There is hardly any article of apparel that one can conceive, into which the utility of this silk will not enter. It is impossible to enumerate all of its uses in a brief space of time. "This material should not be confused with other materials that are sold at the same price, because it lends itself beautifully to all kinds of treatment."

Experimentation has proved that the fabric can be beautifully finished. It is adapted to more than 200 uses. These include: Street suits, sports suits, riding habits, skirts, dress wraps, evening gowns, auto dusters, linings or heavy wraps, petticoats, ready made millinery, trimming supplies, coats, neckwear, soft collars, bathrobes, linings for muffs, scarfs, lampshades, piece goods, wall panels, fabric shoes complete, sport flags, clergymen's robes, book covers, boxes and baskets, painter's canvas, tents awnings, etc.

The McLane Silk company also have an option of 1,500,000 yards of yarn silk noils⁵ with the government and taken all in all it looks like busy times ahead for the concern, which has never found any difficulty in marketing their fine line of goods from the start of manufacturing them.

September 23, 1930

McLane Company Owners Must Decide on Future of Concern Monday

The directors of the McLane Silk company have called a meeting of the stockholders to be held at the office of the company on Monday, Sept. 29th. Stockholders have received a notice to the effect that there are four important articles to be acted upon as follows:

Article one. To see what action the stockholders will take relative to authorizing and instructing the board of directors to discontinue or to continue the business of the corporation.

Article two. To see what action the stockholders will take relative to instructing and authorizing the board of directors to lease or dispose of any or all real estate and personal property of the corporation.

Article three. To see if the stockholders will ratify and confirm, all the acts of the officers.

Article four. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting. This plant has been closed since the first of the year, and when running on full

⁵Noil refers to the short fibers that are removed during the combing process in spinning. These fibers are often then used for other purposes. Fibers are chosen for their length and evenness in specific spinning techniques, such as worsted. The short noil fibers are left over from combing of wool or spinning silk.

McLane Silk Mill

time there were about 100 looms in operation and nearly 100 men and women were employed. It was one of the major industries of the town and its closing down was quite a loss to not only the employees[sic] and merchants but to the town as a whole.

January 27, 1931

McLane Silk Company Stockholders to Act on Articles and Reports of Officers

TURNERS FALLS.—The annual meeting of the McLane Silk company. Inc., will be held at its office at Turners Falls on Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 2 o'clock and will act on the following articles:

To hear the treasurer's report and act thereon to select officers for the ensuing year: to see if the stockholders will ratify and confirm all acts of the officers, and directors for the past year: to transact such other, business as may legally come before the meeting.

The directors will hold a meeting directly after the annual meeting. The following letter has been mailed to the stockholders: — "In accordance with the vote at the special meeting of the stockholders on Oct 20, 1930, your directors are negotiating a sale of the machinery owned by the corporation to a Patterson, M. J. company and have leased the building to the same company who plan to start operations in the near future.

In view of the present depressed real estate market your directors deemed it unwise to sell the land and buildings at this time believing that a short term lease was more advantageous to the stockholders as no doubt the property can be sold for more, two or three years from now than at the present time xxx." (signed) Elwyn L. Taber, Treasurer

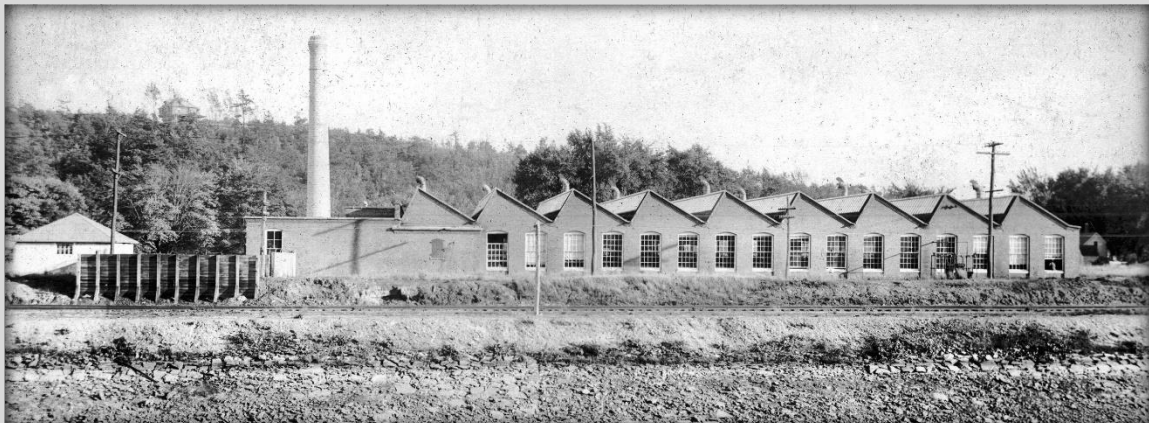
January 27, 1932

Call McLane Meeting

Stockholders and officers of the McLane Silk Company Inc. will hold their annual, meeting in the law offices of McLaud and Jacobus on. Avenue A on Feb. 3, at 3 o'clock, according to notices sent out to the stockholders Tuesday afternoon.

~~ The McLane Silk Mill closed operations in 1932. ~~

~end~



McLane Silk Mill, 1915

e.g. archive