

"The Scovill and Talon slide fastener branch plants are located right in the heart of the Appalachia Region, just described. The Scovill plant is located in Clarkesville, Georgia, a city with a population of only 1352 persons in Habersham County. According to the latest figures available, Habersham County has a population of 19,000, with about 2,500 unemployed.

"The Scovill plant employs 370 workers with an annual payroll of over \$1,000,000. It is one of four industrial plants in the entire area. The other three employ a total of about 640 workers. Total employment in the area served by Clarkesville is approximately 2000, of which the four industrial plants provide employment for a total of 1010. There are currently about 2500 workers in the Clarkesville area who are unable to find employment, and it is obvious that if the Scovill plant were to close an additional 370 workers would be added to the unemployment roll. As indicated by the above-quoted article, there does not appear to be anywhere for these people to go for employment. Even Atlanta—some 95 miles away, and the closest large city—has no place for them.

"Similarly, the Talon branch plant is located in Cleveland, Georgia, a city with a population of only 700 in White County. The December 1963 Labor Market Report issued by the Georgia State Employment Service of the Department of Labor shows that White County has a population of 6935, with a civilian labor force of 1900. As of February 1964, 133 or 7% were unemployed.

"The Talon plant employs approximately 230 workers and has an annual payroll of approximately \$800,000. All except four of such workers are long-time White County residents. The Talon plant is the only industrial plant in Cleveland, and there are only two other industrial plants in the county. These provide employment to about 300 workers. Currently there are 58 employable workers living in Cleveland who have been unable to find any kind of employment. Again it is clear that if the Talon plant were forced to close an additional 230 workers would be added to the rolls of the unemployed, and would have no place to go in the area—not even to Atlanta which is about 65 miles away."

The full economic impact of the closing of these plants can only be visualized by picturing the effect on the cities in which they are located. Attached to this statement are letters from the Honorable S. W. Reynolds, Mayor of the City of Cleveland and Mr. Clifford Campbell, Clerk of the Superior Court of White County, marked "Appendix B" and "Appendix C" respectively, emphasizing the importance to Cleveland and White County of the continued operation of the Talon plant, and pointing out the direct economic impact on the area if the plant had to close. The Slide Fastener Association has on file a certification by the Tax Commissioner of White County showing that during 1964 139 of the Talon employees owned their own homes and paid taxes. It is apparent that if the Talon plant were closed these 139 workers would have to sell their homes at a substantial loss, if forced to seek employment elsewhere, and would seriously affect the entire economy of the area.

Since 1964 the Administration has been studying poverty conditions in the Appalachia, Georgia area and the Congress has appropriated millions of dollars to "prop up" the economy of the area and to provide jobs for the unemployed. At the same time as it is spending these millions of dollars, the Administration has reduced the duties on products manufactured in the area, thus endangering the jobs of some 600 workers in slide fastener plants who are fortunate enough to now have employment.

2. In the Clothespin Industry

The town of West Paris, Maine, with a population of 670 people, has only two industrial plants, both engaged in the production of wood products. One employs only about a dozen workers and the other, Penley Bros., employs about 150 workers in the production of clothespins. The few remaining workers employed in the town work for merchants, trucking companies and service establishments. Many of the workers own their own homes, pay taxes to the town and generally contribute to the continued existence of the town.

The wood used by Penley Bros. in the production of clothespins is largely furnished by hundreds of farmers in the vicinity whose only cash income is from the sale of wood cut from small wood lots.

If the clothespin industry is one of those to be sacrificed, as appears highly likely, the Penley Bros. plant will be forced to close down, putting 150 workers in West Paris out of work directly. Since there are no other employment opportunities in the town, these workers would be forced to look elsewhere for jobs, and