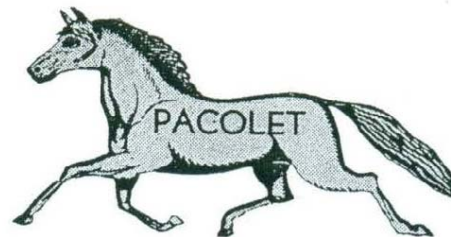




# **Workers at Pacolet Mills**

## **Album 15**



**This album contains many pictures of employees of the [Pacolet Manufacturing Company](#) over the years since its beginning. Most of the photographs have been furnished by Easter Steadings Fisher and from the collection of former Pacolet Mayor David Smith. Unfortunately, very few of the individuals shown in these pictures have been identified. We hope that by putting these pictures on the Pacolet Memories website that some of the folks can be identified by their descendants. If you know any of these people please us know and we will add their names to the picture. The pictures in this Album are in the PDF format that will allow you to zoom in and magnify the pictures.**

**After this album was first published we have been contacted by several folks that have been able to identify more of the people. Thanks to DeAnn Teaster Evans, Paul and Phyllis Teaster Petty, Janice Cook Smith, Amanda Hogan Slusarczyk, Dorothy Paige Howell, Jimmy and Judy Hayes Hodge for their help. Their suggestions have been added. (Last updated on Oct 29, 2018)**



Group of Spinning Room Employees.  
Mill Nos. 1 and 2, Year 1800's.

This is one of the oldest pictures of employees of the [Pacolet Mills Company](#) that I have found. It must have been taken shortly after the mill was built and went into operation in 1883. Notice the large number of children employed in the mill at that time. Some of them appear to be as young as six or seven years old. My maternal grandfather, Tillman Fowler, started to work in the mill in Pacolet when he was 6 years old in 1896. Unfortunately, no one in this picture is identified.



Weaving Department - [Mill No. 2](#) in 1900. Front: Carl Whitlock, Bob Whitlock; Second Row: Miss Scott, Lillie Grant, Miss Scott, Willie Rogers, Betty Crocker, Nan Eison, Miss Owensby; Third Row: second man is Brown McKinney, George Robinson, Mr. Owensby, Bill Johnson - section man of the weaving, Jane Gore, Willie Hogan; Back Row: W.B. Whitlock, Jesse Whitlock, Mr. Young - Overseer, Will Wilkes.



**Nothing at all is known about this picture or the people in it. It appears to be from around 1900 judging by the women's dresses.**



Again, nothing at all is known about this picture or the people in it. It also appears to be from around 1900 judging by the women's fashion.



**Another photo where no one is identified. Also thought to be from around 1900. Mustaches and pocket watches were popular with this group.**



**This large group of men is thought to be posed outside of the [“New Mill”, Mill No. 5](#). Judging by their clothes and hats, the picture seems to have been made in the 1920’s or 30’s. The purpose of the photo or who the men are is not known. One unusual thing about the picture is that one of the men is holding a musical instrument while none of the others seem to have one. The man with the instrument is in the second row, almost directly in line with the pipe or gutter on the wall.**





**Again, nothing at all is known about this picture or the people in it. It also appears to be from before 1900 judging by the women's fashion. Several seem to be young boys and girls.**



In the Spring of 1931, the [Mill Company](#) had a series of group photos made of its employees. The pictures were taken and organized by work department and mill. The photographs were made by the Oliver Photo Company. The camera used produced a panoramic view of the entire group. This album uses portions of these large pictures. This is the first of these on this website. It is a picture of the left side of the photo for the Weaving Department of the [“Old Mill”, Mill No. 3](#). The following pictures are part of this series by the Oliver Photo Co. from 1931.

In 1931, the country was in the Great Depression and the mills were operating at reduced hours.



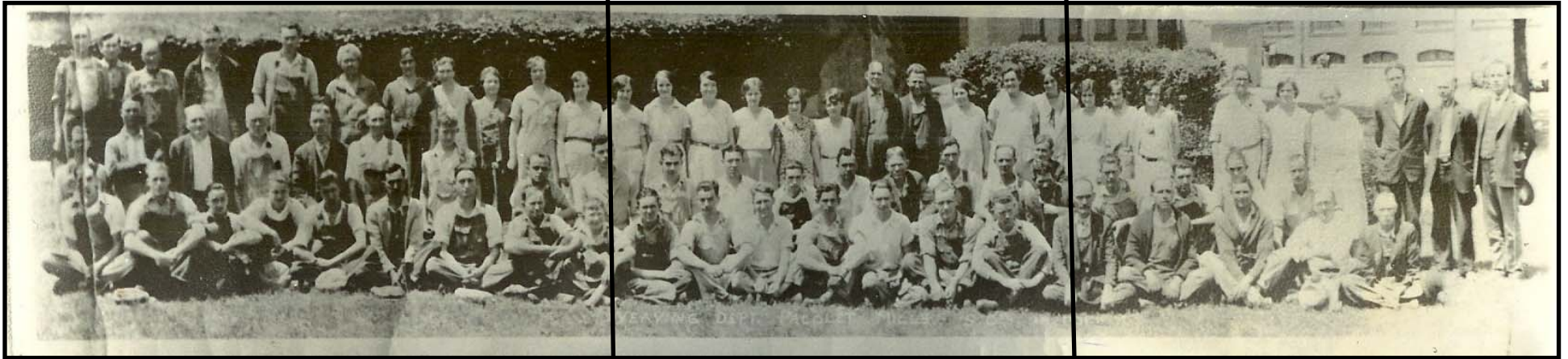
This photo is the right side of the picture shown on the previous page of the Weaving Department of the [“Old Mill”, Mill No. 3.](#)



Another picture in the Oliver Photo Company series in 1931. This is a picture of the left side of the panoramic photo for the Card Room of the [“Old Mill”, Mill No. 3.](#)



This photo is the right side of the picture shown on the previous page of the Card Room of the [“Old Mill”, Mill No. 3.](#) It seems like four of the men in the front had a prearranged agreement to pick their teeth when the picture was being made. Johnny Allen, sitting in the front row, is my uncle.



(See Page 15)

(See Page 16)

(See Page 17)

This is the panoramic photograph of the Weaving Department of the [“New Mill”, Mill No. 5](#), taken in 1931.



A picture of the left side of the panoramic photo for the Weaving Department of the [“New Mill”, Mill No. 5.](#)



A picture of the middle part of the panoramic photo for the Weaving Department of the [“New Mill”, Mill No. 5](#). This picture has my maternal grandfather, Tillman Fowler; a great uncle, John R. Paige; and two uncles, Monroe Teaster and Bill Phillips.

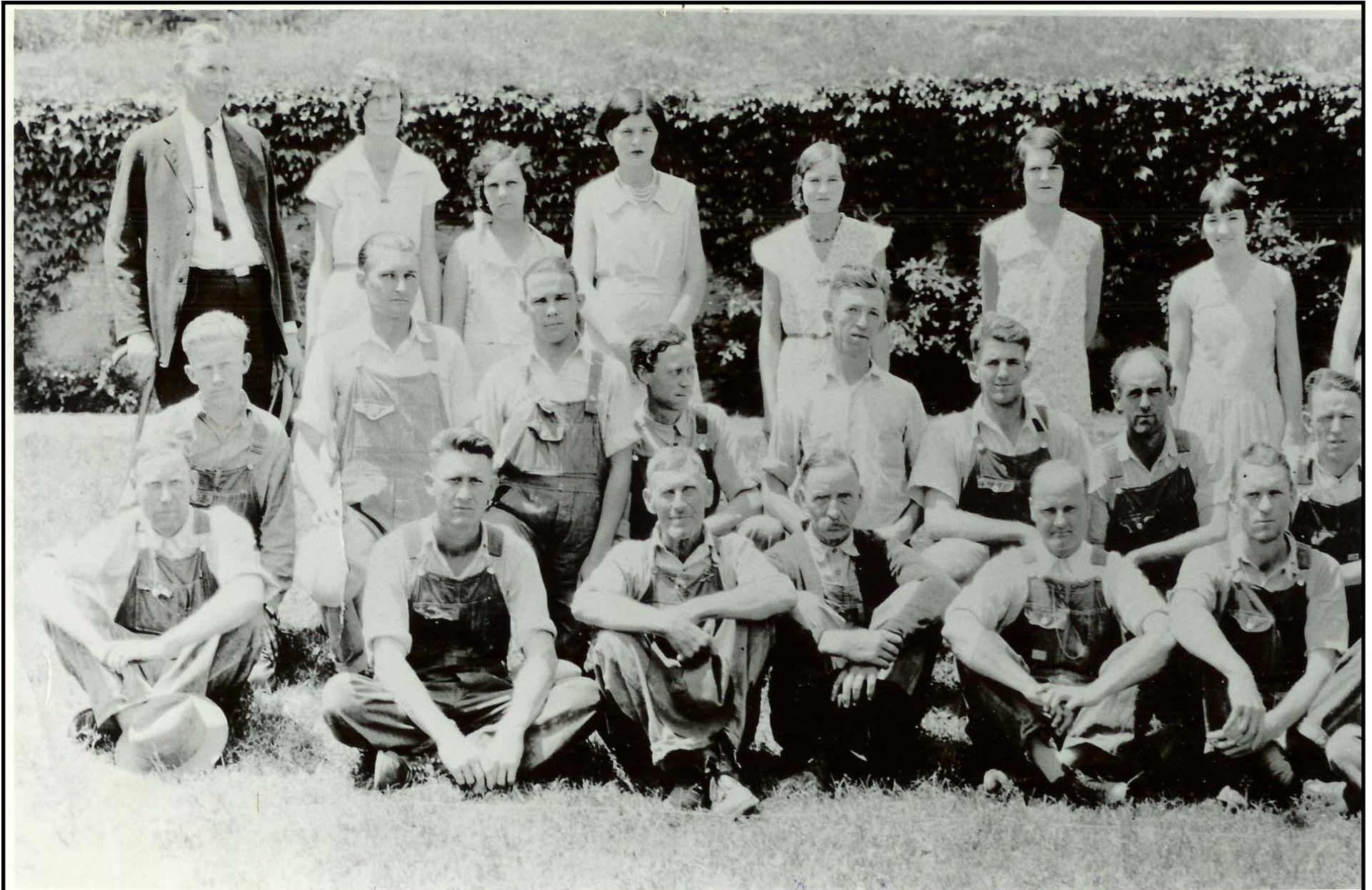




The right part of the panoramic photo for the Weaving Department of the [“New Mill”, Mill No. 5](#). This picture has my maternal grandmother, Mattie Brown Fowler. She and my Grandad, Tillman, both worked in the Weave Room.



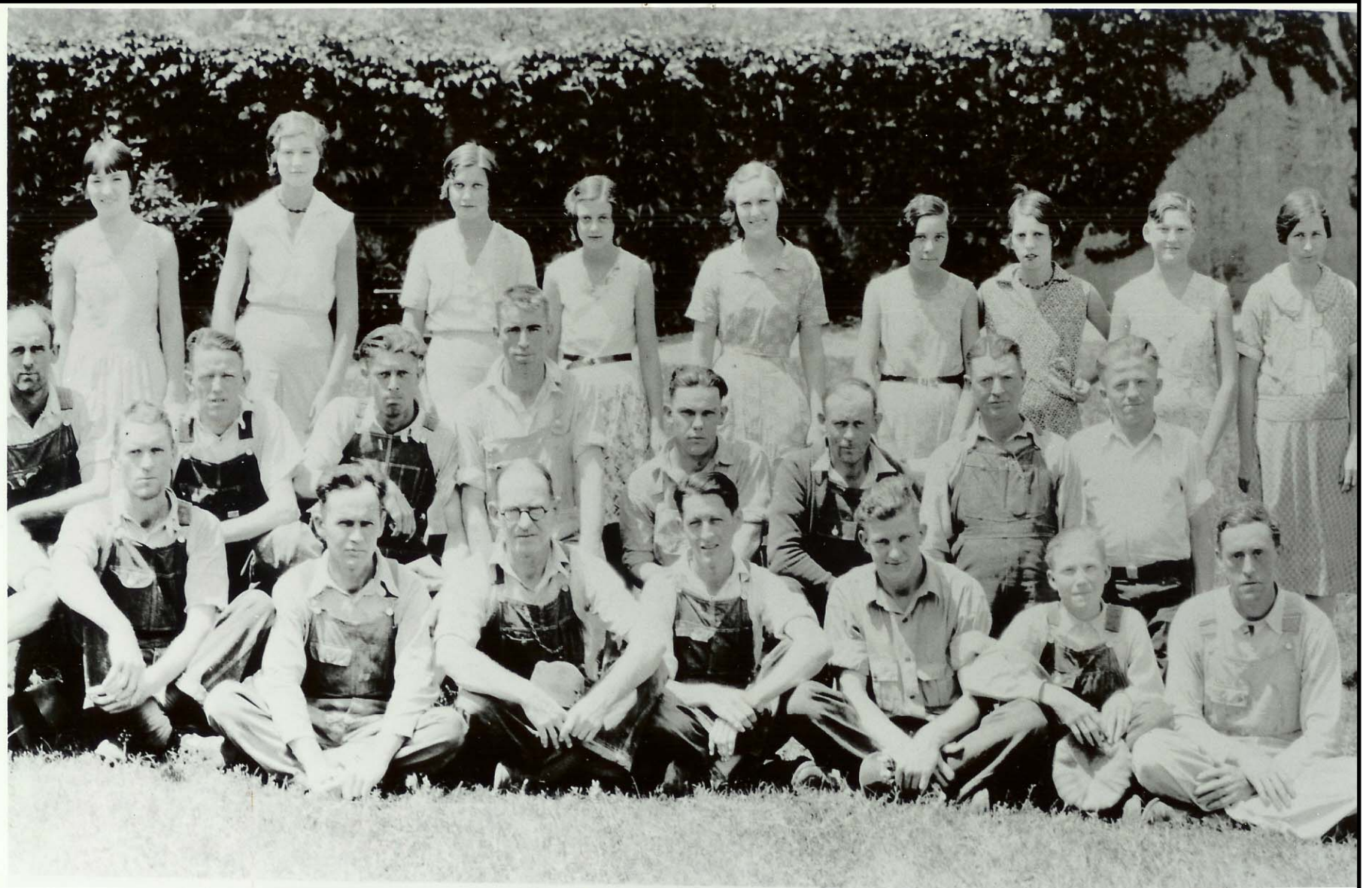
The left side of the panoramic photo for the Spinning Department of the [“New Mill”, Mill No. 5](#). This picture has my paternal grandfather, Ransom Teaster. Someone in the past has made an effort to identify these folks by marking up the picture. The picture with their handwritten notes is shown on the next page.



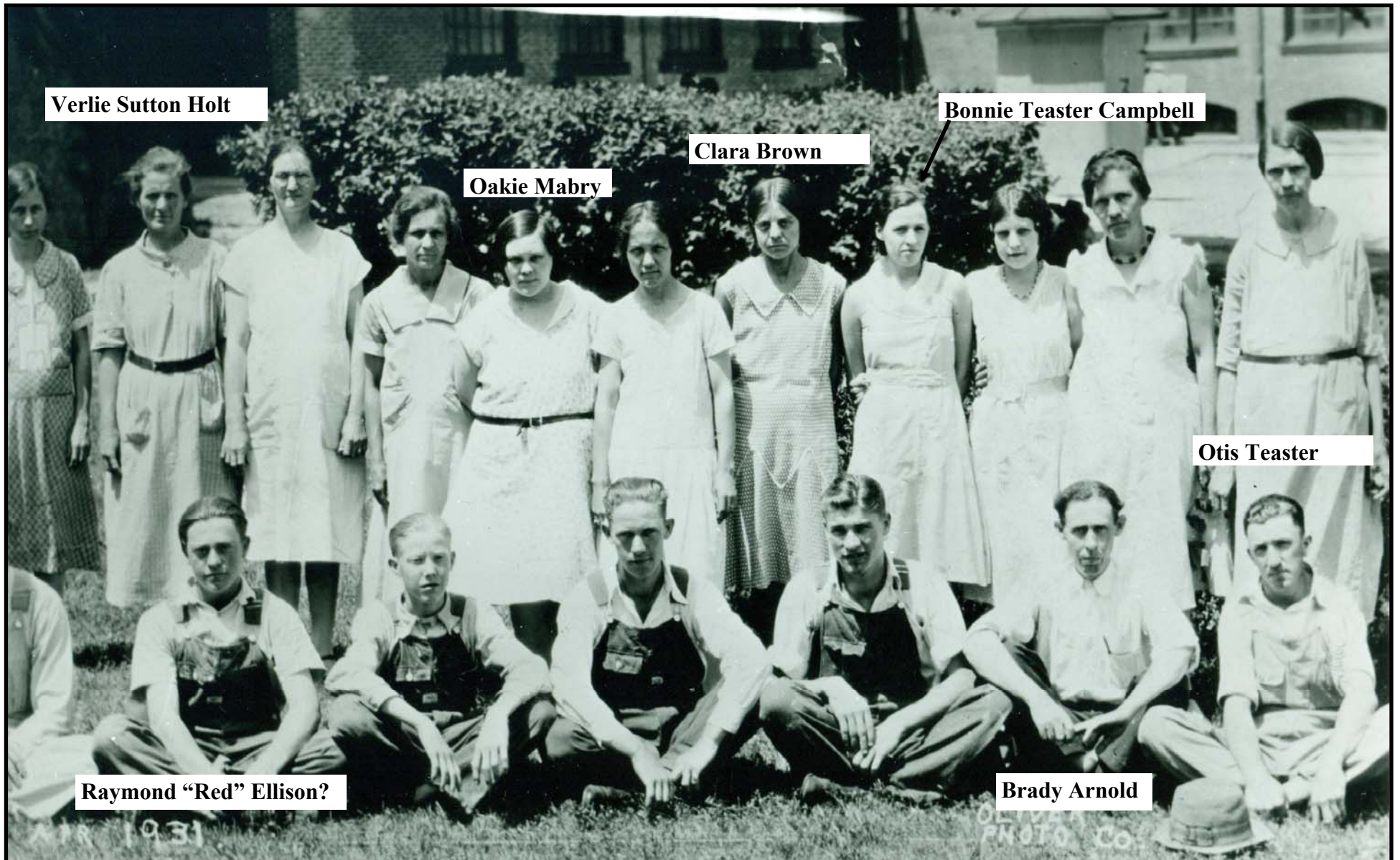
Standing Henry Chapman <sup>Monie Wells</sup> E. Knorr <sup>Esther Newell</sup> <sup>Clara Wells</sup> <sup>MAE COOK</sup>  
 Middle Row, <sup>etis Wells</sup> Ernest Brown Broadus Knorr <sup>Allen Bryant</sup> <sup>Frank Bryant</sup> <sup>Dewey Duke</sup> <sup>JIM FLEMING</sup>  
 Front Row <sup>Warrant Homer Ellison</sup> <sup>Joe Ellison</sup> <sup>Rans Tenster</sup> <sup>Will Hanham</sup> <sup>Charlie</sup> <sup>Ellison</sup>



The center part side of the panoramic photo for the Spinning Department of the [“New Mill”, Mill No. 5](#). Like the previous picture, someone in the past has made an effort to identify these folks by marking up the picture. The picture with their handwritten notes is shown on the next page.



Standing Mae Gibson, Zelman Martin, Ruth Cook, Mildred Morris, Ruth Kidd, Lee Brock  
 Middle Row Dewey Cook, Jim Fleming, Howard Ellison, Elia Gibson, Geo Knox, Jimmy Sutton, Dewey Cook, James Boyer  
 Front Row Robt. Ellis, Ches. Lewis, John Clayton, Carson Robbinette, (Lester Bell), Fred Yount, Wm. Ellison



The right side of the panoramic photo for the Spinning Department of the [“New Mill”, Mill No. 5](#). This picture has my uncle, Otis Teaster, my aunt, Bonnie Teaster Campbell, and my great aunt, Clara Brown. The man sitting on the front left is thought to be a young Raymond “Red” Ellison a great [Pacolet baseball player](#),



The left side of the panoramic photo for the Spooling Department of the ["New Mill", Mill No. 5.](#)



The right side of the panoramic photo for the Spooling Department of the [“New Mill”, Mill No. 5](#). My aunt, Althea Teaster Hughes, is seated in the front row. I believe that Sue Lemmonds Padgett, a life long friend of my Mom, is sitting next to her.





The left side of the panoramic photo for the [Cloth Room](#) taken in 1931. The [Cloth Room](#) was located close to [the Hall](#) but served both the [“Old Mill”, Mill No. 3](#) and the [“New Mill”, Mill No. 5](#). The [Cloth Room](#) is still standing.



The center part of the panoramic photo for the [Cloth Room](#).



Mary N. Glass Robinette

The right side of the panoramic photo for the [Cloth Room](#).



This is a photo of the first shift Weave Room from the [“New Mill”, Mill No. 5](#). [Joyce Harmon Garner](#) has given us the picture that was taken about August, 1952. An article using this photo was in the [Pacolet Neigh](#) of that month but the people were not named. Some few of these folks have been identified, including Joyce's Mom, Virginia Henderson Harmon and her Dad, Earl Harmon, but most have not. If you know any of the people in this picture, please let us know. One of the women that has been identified was my maternal grandmother, Mattie Brown Fowler. She is also shown in the photo of the Weaving Room employees on page 17 that was taken in 1931, 21 years earlier.