As Governor of a State which is exceedingly proud of its great textile industry, I have been deeply gratified to learn of the recent upward trend in the industry. It is good news to hear that practically all sections of the cotton textile market are moving along at a brisk pace, and that there is an active demand for goods, and that the period of severe readjustment in the industry over the past year is apparently ended.

The leaders of the textile industry deserve the congratulations and gratitude of the people of the South for having successfully weathered this storm. It is another justification of our great and abiding faith in the industry.

We are proud of the fact that South Carolina led the nation in total spindle hours run in 1948, as well as in hours run per spindle. The importance of the textile industry to South Carolina may be seen in the fact that 73 per cent of our State's industrial pay roll comes from textiles.