

# Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

The Bloodmobile program of the Red Cross serves both military and civilian needs for blood and plasma. To continue its mission it must have lifesaving blood. Be a donor!

Drive safely on the highways in 1953 and live to enjoy a year of predicted high-level employment and prosperity in America.

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NO. 1

## Bloodmobile Asks Community Aid

THE American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Loray Baptist Church, Wednesday, January 7, from 10:00 a. m. until 4:00 p. m. Employees of Firestone Textiles, Trenton Mills, and others living in West Gastonia are being asked to contribute their blood on that day.

At a meeting December 30, County Red Cross Chairman Sam McKay outlined to a group of representatives from the plants mentioned and the churches of the community the purposes of the Red Cross Blood program. They are twofold according to Mr. McKay, namely, the collection and storage of blood for free civilian use in hospitals throughout America, and (a more urgent need at the present) the collection and shipment of blood to the Armed Forces in Korea.

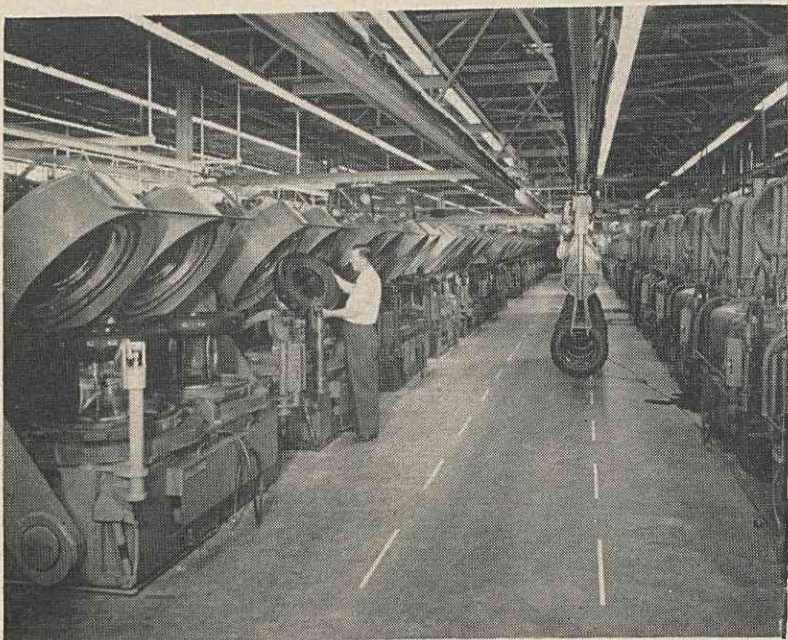
The civilian blood bank phase of the program was undertaken in 1948. Prior to that time individuals who received blood at hospitals either paid for it or had friends replace the blood used with their own blood. Thus for the first time a central agency assumed the burden of administering a nation-wide program and for the first time civilian users of blood were relieved of the financial burdens of repeated blood transfusions, or the necessity of getting donors to replace blood used.

With the outbreak of hostilities in Korea the need for whole blood and plasma (a derivative of whole blood which can be used on any patient without regard to blood type) increased enormously. Since that conflict began the Red Cross has tried to supply both the blood needed by America's fighting men, while at the same time not neglecting civilian needs on the local level in the United States.

MR. McKay emphasized the point that Red Cross blood is furnished without cost to users everywhere. "The only charges the patient bears," says he, "is the cost of having a doctor give the transfusion." The local Red Cross chairman pointed out that a blood bank is maintained by the agency in Charlotte from which anyone may obtain blood on very short notice.

In citing the results of the bloodmobile program in Gaston County since its inception, Mr. McKay revealed that 5,000 of the county's 110,000 people had given blood, in some cases several times. "When we realize that nine pints of blood, on an average, are needed by each wounded boy in Korea," he continued, "we see the need for getting more of our people out for these bloodmobile visits."

The churches which are working with Firestone Textiles and Trenton Mills are: West End Methodist, West Avenue Presbyterian, Firestone Wesleyan, and Loray Baptist. The cooperating groups will supply volunteer personnel to assist the Red Cross staff when it visits this community on Wednesday, January 7.



THE RUBBER INDUSTRY will make a substantial contribution to the high level of business activity which all present economic barometers indicate for 1953.

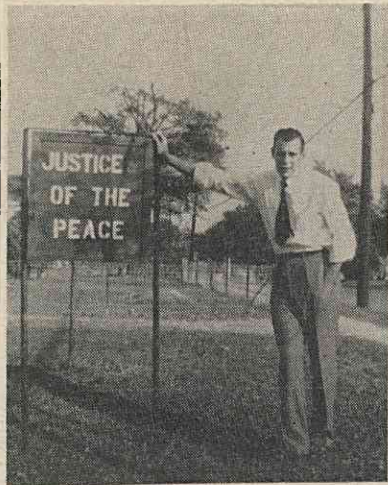
The industry foresees a record high consumption of rubber and a demand for more than one hundred million tires. The industry is geared to produce this number while meeting all its present commitments for defense products. This situation indicates that employment will continue at its present high rate.

## Employee Serves As Justice of Peace

WHEN the doorbell at 706 West Second Street rings, after first shift working hours, it may be the signal for Twister Tender Roy Jordan to make a quick change in title to Justice of the Peace Roy Jordan. Apparently, after 17 years with the first title and four with the second, he feels none the worse for wear, in spite of the daily transition.

Mr. Jordan is the only justice of the peace in West Gastonia, and is one of the few in the county. His is an elective office, sometimes highly sought after. The jurisdiction of the office is deeply rooted in American and English History. Historically his job has been to conserve the peace in his specified district; however, he is best known today for his invested authority to perform marriage ceremonies.

If circumstances demand it he can prepare warrants and dispense summary justice in minor cases. However, in most cases, he tries through friendly and helpful advice to prevent infractions of the law, rather than pass judgement on petty offenders.



TWISTER TENDER Roy Jordan, a 17-year Firestone employee, assumes the duties of a justice of the peace in his off duty hours. As a JP he is empowered, among other things, with the authority of performing marriage ceremonies.

Yet, with human nature what it is, Mr. Jordan never knows when he opens his door to callers whether their presence bodes good or evil for the community.

## Industry Predicts Continued High-Level Employment In '53

THE YEAR 1952 in the rubber industry was highlighted by extensive modernization and expansion programs, such as this new tire production line in the Des Moines plant of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company. The automatic units pictured left combine the tire-forming and tire-curing operations and increase the output of finished tires substantially. More than eight million dollars has been spent on new, modern production facilities by Firestone during 1952 in the Des Moines plant alone. With new equipment, tire manufacturers are able to build safer, longer-wearing, more economical tires for American motorists. Firestone statisticians report that, because of technological improvements in materials and methods of building tires, today's popular size passenger car tires give more miles of service per dollar than they did in 1945.

## H. S. Firestone Receives Award

HARVEY S. FIRESTONE, JR., was cited as an outstanding churchman, businessman, statesman and humanitarian by the National Conference of Christians and Jews last December 8, at a dinner given in his honor by the Automotive Division of the Conference in The Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

The Chairman of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company received the organization's Brotherhood Award in the presence of 900 business, civic, religious and social leaders. The presentation was made jointly by Roger W. Straus, Chairman of the American Smelting and Refining Company, and Governor Theodore R. McKeldin of Maryland.

For the occasion Oscar Hammerstein, II, producer of many Broadway hits, wrote and produced a 35-minute dramatic playette on brotherhood.

In presenting the Award to Mr. Firestone, Mr. Straus said:

"The National Conference of Christians and Jews salutes Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., as an enlightened industrialist, who from his youth has realized that man increases his material welfare with his increasing regard for the welfare of others.

"To the vision of man's power to direct his physical destiny, Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., coupled a religious principle: every nation's economic strength ultimately rests upon a spiritual brotherhood of all people.

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Our supply of both natural and synthetic rubber will be sufficient to meet anticipated demands. And our ability to produce ample quantities of synthetic rubber should, barring unforeseen developments in the rubber producing areas of the Far East, exert a strong influence in keeping the price of natural rubber at a reasonable level.

During 1952 the Government's rubber stockpile reached the point where the country has enough natural rubber to carry it through five years of all-out war. During the same period the rubber industry was freed from virtually all Government controls. The only remaining major control is Government ownership of the synthetic rubber plants in the United States which are being operated by individual rubber companies.

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## Property Must Be Listed By Residents Of Gaston

J. H. WORKMAN, tax lister, will visit the plant from January 5 to January 9 to list property for taxation. Employees who live in Gastonia or Gaston County may see Mr. Workman on these dates at the Supply Room and list their property. The law requires that property—both real and personal—be listed annually before the last day of January. In addition to property taxes all male residents of Gaston County between the ages of 21 and 50 (unless otherwise exempted by the County Commissioners) must pay a \$2.00 annual poll tax; a dollar more (\$3.00) if they live in Gastonia.

By Milt Caniff

## STEVE CANYON

