

Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

The pathway of life is just about like any other congested street. If you don't keep going you get crowded to one side.

—Charles Cowgill

Many people take no care of their money until they come nearly to the end of it, and others do just the same with their time.

—Goethe

VOLUME V

GASTONIA, N. C. MARCH, 1956

No. 3

Company-Wide Savings Bond Drive, March 26 - April 4

☆ ☆ ☆ Employee Contest Planned

Firestone Textiles will join other plants of the Firestone Company in a 10-day U.S. Savings Bond drive March 26 through April 4. This will be the first Company-wide effort to increase subscription to the Payroll Savings Plan since 1951. O. K. Forrester, Overseer in Spooling and Winding, has been named Chairman of the drive. Mr. Forrester was Chairman of the Bond-selling effort here in 1951 and in 1953.

In the drive this year there will be no quota, but a goal of 100 per cent has been set. Chairman Forrester states that each employee, both wage and salary, will be contacted personally in the interest of the Savings Plan enrollment. Those already participating in the Plan will be urged to increase their purchase while new participants will be sought.

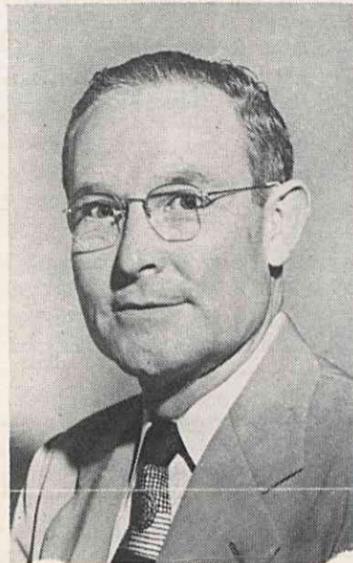
IN CONJUNCTION with the Bond drive, a letter-writing contest will be conducted March 12 through April 4.

In reckoning success of the Bond-selling program, the number of employees subscribing—rather than the total dollar amount—is of primary concern, particularly to the Government.

In the Firestone organization, success of the drive will be measured by the percentage of employees who are enrolled as purchasers of Bonds in the Payroll Savings Plan at the conclusion of the drive. Those in the Plan already will be considered among participants when the percentage of employee coverage is figured at the beginning and end of the campaign.

Among the purposes of the 10-day Bond effort is the "reindoctrination of ourselves in the wisdom of saving a portion of our earnings through the systematic Payroll Savings Plan."

IN THE CONTEST, to be held with the Bond drive, any employee may submit a letter in not more than 50 words, telling why Firestone employees should purchase U.S. Savings Bonds. First prize in the contest will be a \$50.00 U.S. Savings Bond. Second and third prizes will each be a \$25 Bond. If the winner of any one of the prizes is a Sav-



O. K. FORRESTER

ings Bond purchaser, either old or new, that individual will win double the prize offered. Details of the contest will be made available to employees soon.

IN 1951, when the last Company-wide Bond campaign was conducted, 80 per cent of all Firestone employees were buying Payroll Savings Bonds. In the drive that year, the plant at Bennettsville, S. C., had 100 per cent participation, as did also the plant at Des Moines, Iowa.

For its 64-per-cent subscription to the Savings plan in 1951, the plant here received the Treasury Award.

The high achievement in the 1951 drive helped to place Firestone among the first five largest companies in the nation in the purchase of Bonds through Payroll Savings.

Here in 1953, a plant-wide Savings Bond drive boosted participation 22 per cent over the high level attained in 1951.

In the interest of the Company Bond program, Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., Chairman, addresses the following statement—

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF FIRESTONE:

Throughout the year, we Americans are asked to contribute money to one cause or another for the purpose of helping our fellow man. Most of them are worthy and fully deserve our support.

During the ten-day period beginning March 26 and ending April 4, the men and women of Firestone will be asked to make an investment instead of a contribution. They will be asked to purchase United States Savings Bonds. May I remind you that every dollar that you invest in

Turn to page 2



MRS. CLAYTON B. WILSON, Payroll Supervisor, greets the Reverend David F. Blue, Jr., at open house in the West Avenue Presbyterian Church Manse. Looking on, at left are Paul, David, and Mrs. Blue. At right, Miss Myrtle Bradley, Main Office, and Clayton B. Wilson.

New Church Leaders Welcomed To West Avenue Presbyterian Church

Open house at West Avenue Presbyterian Church Manse, 1109 Spencer Avenue, was observed Friday evening, February 10, honoring the new minister

and his family, and the recently-chosen choir director at the church.

Before the new minister arrived, the Manse interior was redecorated.

The Reverend David F. Blue, Jr., became resident minister of the West Avenue congregation in the Firestone community, January 20. He came here from the pastorate of Bayless Memorial Presbyterian Church in Concord. The church leader succeeds the Reverend W. C. Neel, who is now pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Saluda, N. C.

The new choir director is Mrs. C. A. Eden, teacher at Myrtle School and director of the glee club there.

McAbee A C of C Director For 1956

Safety Director L. B. McAbee is one of the 12-member board of directors of the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce for 1956. In this capacity he will serve as chairman of the safety committee for the Chamber. McAbee and other 1956 members of the Chamber were elected at a recent meeting in Masonic Temple.

Honors To Be Given At Safety Awards Meeting

Firestone Textiles will be among Gaston County industries represented at the Annual Safety Award Dinner Meeting Thursday evening, March 29 at Masonic Temple.

The meeting, sponsored by the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the North

Carolina Department of Labor, will be the occasion for presentation of awards to various industries in the county which qualified for safety honors during 1955.

Attending the meeting will be Frank Crane, North Carolina Commissioner of Labor, who will make the awards.

THIRD TRIP ABROAD

Superintendent On Assignment In India

General Superintendent Nelson Kessell and Mrs. Kessell are now in Bombay, India, where, for several months he will be in an advisory capacity where tire fabrics are concerned at the Firestone subsidiary tire plant there.

The Kessells departed Gastonia January 29 for New York, where they traveled by TWA Airliner, making short stops at Paris, Rome, Athens, and Cairo.

They arrived in Bombay February 1.

They will return to this country by boat and will stop in Spain enroute home in order to visit briefly another Firestone tire plant and textile affiliate.

THIS IS the third trip abroad for the Kessells in the interest of the Company. The Kessells spent approximately one year at Buenos Aires, Argentina, returning to Gastonia in July 1950. On that return trip they stopped

at Sao Paulo, Brazil where Firestone operates a tire plant as well as a textile plant. In May 1953 they went to Balboa, Spain and visited the Firestone plant in London, then returned to the United States in September of the same year.

Superintendent Kessell has been with the Company for 31 years, having been transferred to the plant here from Fall River, Mass., in 1935 as plant superintendent.

Help For Your Tax Reporting

Do you need help on filing your income tax return? Many folks do. Beginning March 26, you can take your problems to the Special Income Tax Department, where trained personnel will be on the job at the Girls Club to help you.

The schedule: March 26 through April 16—absolute deadline on tax returns. The days will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1 to 5 p.m.

Those who will operate the free service to employees make this reminder:

Bring with you the W2 Income Tax form and the tax return form supplied you by the State and Federal Governments. If you plan to fill in the long form, have with you all information necessary for completing the form. This will include all allowable deductions such as interest, contributions, and taxes.



Atomic Survival Literature Available At Gastonia Civil Defense Office

Information on emergency action on how to fight atomic fires and to administer first aid are among subjects treated in posters and pamphlets being distributed by the Gastonia Civil Defense. This literature was recently distributed to homes by members of the Gaston Junior Woman's Club. If you didn't receive this vital information, it is available from the Gastonia Civil Defense office, recently opened on the lower level of the city hall building.