

Firestone NEWS



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May Is Off-The-Job Safety Month

The "sun-and-fun" season is no time for getting physically injured anywhere — on the job, or while pursuing recreation and leisure at home or elsewhere. Because there are many added hazards during the sunny months, Firestone plants in the United States and Canada observe May each year as Off-Job Safety Month.

Since it is the beginning of the outdoor season in most locations, May is an appropriate time to stress the importance of safety throughout the upcoming months of outdoor activities. Fishing, swimming, boating, do-it-yourself pursuits, and traveling are associated with the

greatest toll of injuries and fatalities every summer.

Highlighting the May program every year is the traditional motor-vehicle safety check operated at Firestone plants in states where the law does not require auto safety inspection.

Schedule For Gastonia

Dates for operation of safety-check lanes at the Gastonia plant are May 21-25. As in past years, lanes will be set up in the employee parking area off Firestone boulevard, in front of the mill. Daily hours will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with no time out at noon.

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Firestone At World's Fair

Firestone has a part in the 1962 Seattle World's Fair which opened a six-month run April 21. The Monorail which speeds visitors from downtown Seattle to the Century 21 Exposition has Firestone tires.

Built in Germany, the Monorail is the first high-speed and full-size train of its kind in the United States. Firestone's Akron, Ohio factories built the Duplex and industrial tires on which the Monorail makes its almost-silent ride.

Even at speeds of 60 mph, the train has no resemblance to the noisy, old elevated railways of New York and Chicago.

THE MONORAIL system consists of two trains of four cars each, riding on three-foot wide concrete beams 25 feet above Seattle streets. The train grips the track from the sides with six laterally-mounted guide wheels, in addition to the Duplex tires on the drive wheels.

Each unit drives on 16 Duplex tires, and 48 Rib Industrial tires are on guide wheels.

The Duplex is the wide tire Firestone introduced last year to replace the dual tires on commercial trucks. The type used on the Monorail has a plain flat tread with straight grooves.

Trains operate on two parallel rails. Since there are no loops at the terminals, each train remains on its own line and shuttles back and forth with a driver at each end of the car.

Seattle's system is regarded as the first practical test of the

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Photo: NC Dept. Conservation & Development

ADVENTURE CALLS

The Cherokee Indian called it The Great Blue Shacona-gas. Today it's known as the Great Smoky Mountains, and it's the place where people in North America visit most—just for the sheer joy of looking, listening, relaxing and taking the Nature Cure.

The crowning area of the Smokies has been confined within a national park 54 miles long, east and west, overlapping North Carolina and Tennessee. The Park is 19 miles wide, encompassing breathtaking scenes like the

one above, of mountains that helped the Cherokees barricade white men from their Hunting Ground for over 200 years.

Shacona-gas means "Smokies", a blue haze rising from the valleys to enshroud the peaks. The enchantment and excitement of this wild region is yours for a short drive from Camp Firestone near Marion. Many employees make the company-operated retreat on Lake James a "shoving-off place" for sight-seeing tours in a five-state mountain empire of the Appalachian South. Camp Firestone is open from early May through mid-October.

1961 Safety Performance Brings 15th Award

Firestone people at the Gastonia plant reached a high level of safety performance on the job during 1961. In recognition of this, the plant has received a top award presented jointly by the North Carolina Department of Labor and the United States Department of Labor.

The citation is the 15th honor which the plant has won in consecutive years.

For its outstanding program of accident control last year, Firestone earned its way to the top of Gaston county industries. Only 3 other units of industries and business in North Carolina

received the 15-year honor this year.

PRESENTATION was made at the annual Chamber of Commerce Safety Awards dinner meeting in Masonic Temple in late April. The Firestone honor, presented by North Carolina Labor Commissioner Frank Crane, is in the form of a 15-year engraved bar to be added to the ladder of bars on a 10-year plaque.

Commissioner Crane reviewed the record—that the plant here had won a distinction every year since the State Labor Department set up its awards program in 1946.

Firestone qualified on the basis of its low frequency rate

of on-job injuries in 1961. Based on an average number of employees during the year, the plant amassed 2,404,286 man-hours with only one injury that resulted in lost-time.

Each spring the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce has the Safety Awards dinner meeting to congratulate and recognize the county's business and industry for their safety achievements. The North Carolina Department of Labor makes separate safety awards to organizations employing up to 50 persons. Establishments with more than 50 employees get joint awards from the North Carolina Department of Labor and the United States Department of Labor.

continuous processing and machine-operator cycles as encountered in textile mills."

Mr. Cooper is immediate past president of the manual's sponsor, Southern Textile Methods and Standards Association. He is now a member of its board of directors.

Another Firestone man, Thomas A. Grant, contributed a chapter to a similar volume, "Time Study Manual for the Textile Industry", published in 1960. Mr. Grant is current treasurer of STMSA.

Cooper Writes For Methods Manual

James M. Cooper, methods-standards engineer at Firestone in Gastonia, is among the 27 contributors to "Industrial Engineering Manual for the Textile Industry," just issued by Textile Book Publishers, a division of John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Mr. Cooper authored three of the book's 20 chapters. The work was edited by Norbert Lloyd Enrick of the University of Vir-

ginia Graduate School of Business Administration for the sponsor, Southern Textile Methods and Standards Association.

The 216-page manual is described as "a study, reference and training aid for people in standards and methods work, on principles and practices of time-study applications, with special consideration of problems of



Variety Club's 'Cheer' Project

Mrs. Emma Sherrill (left) at 216 South Liberty street dresses up her porch garden with cuttings of coleus and other plants. Providing the cuttings and potting soil and helping out with the work are Mrs. Nell Robinson (center), chairman of the Variety Garden Club of Firestone's garden-therapy project; and Mrs. Marie Fogle, another club member. Both Mrs.

Robinson and Mrs. Fogle are retired Firestone employees.

The company-sponsored Variety Club has had a garden-therapy program for several years. This season it includes projects for the physically handicapped and for shut-in persons at home, in hospitals and rest homes.

The Club sponsored an egg hunt and prepared flower cuttings for pupils of the Gaston County Center for Handicapped Children in late April. Mrs. Henry Chastain of Weaving (cotton) is president of Variety Garden Club.