



● On last day of work, Leon Keisler (right) was honored with a gift check from fellow employees and presented by H. T. Aldridge, twisting (synthetics) department manager. In background: portrait of Harvey S. Firestone, company founder.

## LEON KEISLER RETIRED

# You'll Find Him Busy

Before the middle of October rolls around, Leon M. Keisler will be enjoying one of his favorite pastimes — saltwater fishing along the Carolinas coast. He may venture as far north as Nags Head on the Outer Banks, where he's fished before.

For him, other pier and deep-sea-fishing locations are along Little River and at Sneeds Ferry near Wilmington.

**CLOSER** home to Gastonia, Mr. Keisler "goes in" for crappie and bass fishing up and down the Catawba River. His cabin on the Catawba affords leisure-recreation and a headquarters for his boating and fishing.

Besides water sports, Keisler keeps life interesting through raising azaleas and other shrubs and flowers, and grooming the lawn at his Suburban Heights house.

Keisler, who retired here in late summer, dates his work record with Firestone to May of 1935, scarcely a month after the plant started production under Firestone ownership.

His last job was as a section supervisor in twisting (synthetics).

Mrs. Keisler (Mae Belle) is a reclamer in twisting (synthetics). Their daughter, Betty Queen, is a beam knitter in the same department.

## Georgia Tire Plant **FIRST PRODUCTION IN EARLY 1968**

The plant which Firestone is building at Albany, Ga., will be one of the world's largest and most modern tire manufacturing facilities. The most modern equipment and improved techniques will be incorporated into the multi-million-dollar facility, being located on a 343-acre site a mile east of Albany on U.S. Highway 82.

Construction began soon after the new plant was announced in early September. First production is planned for early 1968.

The Albany plant, Firestone's 12th tire factory in the United States, is designed to produce 20,000 tires per day. That production will increase demand for tire fabric such as is produced in the Firestone Textiles plants at Gastonia, Bennettsville, S. C., and the one soon to be in production at Bowling Green, Ky.

The complete passenger-tire production layout also will have laboratory and testing facilities, a large warehouse and offices. Exterior of the one-story factory will be of pre-stressed concrete.

"We studied many sites before choosing the one at Albany," said company chairman Raymond C. Firestone. "Many reasons led to our choosing the Dougherty County area, particularly the availability of skilled and semi-skilled potential employees and the exceptionally fine transportation facilities available."

"We also were impressed with the attitude of the people of the Albany area and the state of

Georgia," he added. "They make us feel as if we're wanted."

This is Firestone's first manufacturing plant in Georgia. Atlanta has long been the company's product distribution center for the Southeast. Also, the company has had several home and auto service centers and hundreds of dealers throughout the state for many years.

The Albany plant is the second of the company's tire-building facilities in the South. The other is at Memphis.

Albany is Georgia's sixth largest city with a population near 67,000. It is located 175 miles south of Atlanta and 200 miles northwest of Jacksonville, Fla.

Tires made at Albany will go to plants producing new wheeled vehicles, and to the replacement market in the Southeast.

## THE DONORS at last bloodmobile visit

Andrew McKay Jr. of twisting (synthetics) "made a gift of life" and at the same time, won a \$25 U.S. Savings Bond. His name was drawn from names of all donors at the recent visit of the Red Cross Gaston Chapter Bloodmobile.

The stop at the Recreation Center was the second of two established Firestone visits each year. Altogether, there were 130 people at Firestone, members of employee families and others of the community who each offered a pint of blood. In addition to Mr. McKay, the list:

Otis Ballew, J. A. Barker, Charles Barnes, J. C. Barnes, Lee Beckham, Clifford Bell, Annie Bradshaw, Coy Bradshaw, Fred Brandon Jr., John Brasch Jr., W. T. Brice, Luther Brown, J. B. Brown, John Bryant, Larry Bryson, James Burr, Lucille Burr, John E. Butts, Ida Byers.

Frank Capps, Melvin Carpenter, Cornelia Carringer, E. J. Carson, John Carson Jr., Elizabeth Champion, Calvin Chastain, J. Paul Chastain, Virgil Collette, T. L. Cordell, Dorothy Couick, Eva Nell Crawford, Samuel Crawford.

Ralph Dalton, Fred J. Davis, Grady L. Davis, William Davis, Gus Demetriades, Alvin Dixon.

Benjamin Eaves, Ray England, Jack Faile, Devain Faulkner, J. A. Ferguson, Earlene Fitzgerald, Clara Flynn, Robert Forster, Delores Fritton, Francis Galligan, Paul Gann, Jackie Gates, W. R. Glover, Ross Gregory Jr., J. G. Guffey.

R. F. Hagar, H. G. Hall, Charles Hamrick, Fred Hardee, Max Hartsoe, George High, David Hirsch, Ester Holden, Finley Holland, Doris Hollifield, James Hord, Jenny Howie, Theron Houser, Margaret Huffstetler, Horace Hughes.

Jesse Jones, Joe Kayler, Lennell Keenum, A. C. Kessell, Mason King, Melvin Knox, Alvin Ledford, Maurice Leonard, John Lett Jr., Luther Lingerfelt, A. D. McCarter, Beatrice McCarter, Juanita McDonald,

Earl McComb, Mack Quinn Jr., B. F. Massey, John Mercer, Jerry Mitchell, Raymond Morgan.

Annie Norwood, Gladys Nygard, Dillard Palmer, Charlie Parham, J. L. Parks Jr., Charlie Plyler, Bobby Ray Queen, James Reel, Ralph Reep, James Revels, Alvin Riley, Ann H. Robinson, Harold Robinson, Horace Robinson, Jack Robinson, Max Robinson, Bobby Rogers.

Donald Sanders, E. M. F. Sartin, Wayne Setzer, Ann Sharpe, James Sills, Patsy Small, Carl E. Smith, A. A. Spencer, S. N. Stevenson, Elton Still, Pauline Stroup, Harold Summer.

Louise Tate, J. O'Dell Thomas, Ray D. Thomas, Thomas Turner, Raymond Wallace, Carl Ward, Tracy Whitener, Coy Willard, John Wilson, A. M. Wingfield, W. E. Woody, Thomas Yelton, Lenore York.

## Cub Scouting

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needs, characteristics and desires of boys of Cub Scout age, their family and group interests; and reviewed and appraised current practices in Cub Scouting.

Findings were evaluated in 1965-66. The proposed improved program was shared with leaders in 68 meetings across the nation.

Program changes seek to improve the appeal of Cub Scouting, attract more boys and hold them for three years, and encourage them to enter Boy Scouting at age 11.

Since Cub Scouting began in 1930, membership has gained each year. Today, there are some 2,125,394 Cub Scouts in 56,436 Cub Scout packs.

More than half of the industrial expenditures for research and development in the United States since 1776 has been made since the end of the Korean War—less than 15 years ago.

## 'Pride Man Of The Month'



A2C Charles V. Heffner was selected "Pride Man of the Month" for August at 19th Transportation Squadron, Homestead Air Force Base, Fla.

He is the son of Gastonia city police detective Charles L. Heffner and Mrs. Heffner (Helen who works in preparation at Firestone).

The airman, in service 13 months, has been stationed at Homestead AFB for one year. He was promoted from A3C to his present rank Sept. 1.

On his August recognition, Charles' transportation officer wrote:

"You have been selected 'Pride of the Month' . . . on the basis of your outstanding

## Won Refrigerator

Henry Grady Church of the mechanical department was winner of a refrigerator in a Firestone Stores numbers drawing in late summer. The prize was awarded through the drawing from tickets deposited from customers and visitors at the downtown Gastonia Firestone Store. Store manager Chris Hope made the presentation.

Life pays a bonus to those who learn that laughter is a vital part of living. It is one of God's richest gifts.

—Edwin Davis

performance since being assigned to the VIP section of the Base Motor Pool.

"Your military dress and manner are that of an exemplary airman and the outstanding manner in which you conduct your duties sets an example for fellow airmen to follow.

"I commend you on the status in which staff cars assigned to you are kept. . .

"In addition to the outstanding performance of your duties, you made a high score on your three-level SKT. These are most outstanding examples of 'Pride' at work. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on a job well done."

Charles' commanding officer added: 'Pride Man of the Month' is a title you have well earned. I consider you a great asset to this section and to the U.S. Air Force."



## Tanks For Storage

● Giant pillows on the beach? They're 10,000-gallon collapsible tanks for storing and dispensing fuel and oil for military vehicles

in Vietnam. Tanks in this picture are on the beach in Vietnam. Made of rubber-coated nylon fabric, the tanks are among the many defense products turned out by Firestone's Coated Fabrics division at Magnolia, Ark.

## Firestone NEWS

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## • GASTONIA

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