

Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

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VOLUME I

Ten Receive 15-Year Pins



W. A. KARL, President of Firestone Textiles, presents 15-year pins to ten employees during his recent visit to Gastonia. Pictured above, left to right, J. W. Hartgrove, F. W. McDonald, Mr. Karl, Lewis P. Reel, Mrs. Annie S. Freeman, John W. Freeman, Mrs. Leila Rape, Walter Jolly, Carl Rape, John W. Herring, Henry Sparrow, and witnessing the presentation, General Manager Harold Mercer, and Chief Engineer H. H. Waters of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company in Akron.

Miss Firestone Crown Won By Pretty High School Junior, June Thompson

MISS JUNE THOMPSON became the third Firestone Beauty to be named Miss Firestone in as many years when she outdistanced her competition and won the crown in the Hobby Show Beauty Contest, Friday, October 10. Before a packed Armory she and seven other beautiful young ladies paraded past the judges panel consisting of Misses Susan Sexton, Aline Wilkins, Mrs. Maida Adams, and Bill Hardin, all of Gastonia.

These same judges named Little Miss Becky Douglas, Little Miss Firestone, in that contest which preceded the main competition. Superintendent Francis Galligan did the crowning in both instances. Quality Control Engineer Clyde Moss was in charge of the beauty contest.



MISS JUNE THOMPSON, 17, daughter of Mrs. W. C. Humphries, tie-in-hand, is shown as she was crowned Miss Firestone of 1952 Friday night, October 10, at the Gastonia Armory. Crowning Firestone's first young lady of beauty is Superintendent Francis Galligan. The Beauty Contest was the grand finale to the 1952 Hobby Show and was held in the Armory to accommodate the crowd as well as to provide a suitable place for the square dance which followed the crowning.

Employees Inspect Latest Machinery At Textile Show

THIRTY-SIX employees from Firestone Textiles attended the 17th Southern Textile Exposition in Greenville, S. C., during the week ending October 11. They saw the very latest in textile machinery, supplies, primary, and fabricating materials and parts for the textile industry.

Here are some comments on the exposition from several plant individuals who saw it:

W. B. Sevilla, trainee, "I thought that from the new machinery standpoint there was not enough experimental machines on display. From the supplies angle it was first-rate—provided an excellent chance for supply buyers to see the latest developments in that field."

Alvin Riley, second hand, "It was a good show. The ball bearing age as shown there very much impressed me. The newer types of lubrication, were especially interesting. The "Alemite" exhibit, for example, was an eye-opener with its revolutionary method of applying lubricants without waste. I think the time spent in Greenville was very worthwhile."

Tommy Tompkins, purchasing agent, "The best I've seen, and that includes all of them for the past ten or fifteen years. There were more exhibits, and more really interesting exhibits than has been true in the past."

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H. S. Firestone Urges Prompt, Bold Action To Improve Nation's Highways

FURTHER delays in tackling boldly the job of building better and safer highways will "invite disaster which may cost thousands of lives and billions of dollars," Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., stated recently before 2,000 members of the American Trucking Association at their annual convention in New York City.

Speaking over a coast-to-coast radio and television network, the Chairman of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company urged immediate action "by towns, cities, counties, states, and the Federal Government, individually and collectively, to modernize our obsolete street and highway systems."

Discussing the efforts made to control traffic by signal lights, stop signs, re-routing trucks, speed and other restrictions, Mr. Firestone declared that such measures will not provide a permanent solution to the problem of making "horse-and-buggy streets serve hundred-horsepower needs."

"To build essential roads, to modernize existing highways and to maintain our present system in a satisfactory condition will take five to seven billion dollars a year for the next fifteen years," Mr. Firestone said.

"No other nation on earth relies so heavily on automotive transportation for the mass movement of people and products. More than 40,000 communities are completely dependent on cars, trucks and buses for all of their transportation needs. Three-fourths of all passen-

ger travel between cities, towns and farms goes by car or bus. Two-thirds of all freight is shipped by truck during some part of its journey. Therefore, it is vital that the automotive vehicles, on which we so largely depend, be kept moving quickly, economically and safely," Mr. Firestone stated.

Many of the 37,500 men, women, and children who lost their lives in automobile accidents last year would still be alive if our streets and highways were adequate to meet our traffic needs, according to Mr. Firestone.



LITTLE MISS FIRESTONE: Fourth Grader Becky Douglas, daughter of Mrs. Betty Martin, weaver, is the first winner of the Little Miss Firestone Title in the 8-12 age group.

Barbara Redding, and June Thompson. Entering the Little Miss Firestone Contest were: Misses Mary Ann Moss, Roxie Newton, Nancy Westbrooks, Sandra Cooper, Linda Dugan, Francine Hembree, Beverly Riley, Vickie Bolick, and Becky Douglas.

Winners in the various Hobby Show exhibit classifications were:

- Art
Painting (oil or water colors)
First—Edith Lewis
Second—Edith Lewis
Third—Edith Lewis
Pencil (Crayon, ink designing, etc.)
First—Jesse Crane
Second—Denny Dockery
Third—Jesse Crane
Flowers

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