

Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

If you like photography — or think you'd like it — you're invited to join the Camera Club. The photographic darkroom is available to members each Tuesday afternoon for developing and printing film.

Firestone employees have repeatedly agreed that one of the best ways to save money is to buy and keep United States Savings Bonds. Join with the majority of your fellow employees, join the Payroll Savings Plan.

VOLUME II

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NO. 5

For A Job Well Done

February 20, 1953

Mr. Harold Mercer,
Firestone Textiles,
Gastonia, North Carolina.

Dear Mr. Mercer:

Mr. Karl has just shown me your report upon the 1953 Community Chest solicitation in the Gastonia plant. The result is a great tribute to the wonderful community spirit of all the men and women in your organization. They're the kind of folks who make me proud to say that I, too, am a Firestone man.

My best regards and congratulations.

Sincerely,
J. E. TRAINER,
Vice-President

Vacation Plan Liberalized To Permit One Week Vacation Anytime After Year's Work

Among the several liberalizations in employee benefits which went into effect February 16th is a change in the vacation plan for plant employees.

In the past the vacation period was from May 1st to December 31st of each year and an employee had to have one year of credited service on or before May 1st to be eligible for a week's vacation. This meant that an employee had to take his vacation during this vacation period of eight months and certain employees actually acquired almost two years of credited service before they were eligible for a week's vacation.

Under the new plan the vacation period is from October 31 to October 30th of each year and there is no longer a specific eligibility date such as the prior May 1st date.

The advantages are two fold. First, it means that all employees are eligible for a week's vacation immediately upon completing their first year of credited service and employees completing their fifth or fifteenth year of credited service will be eligible for an additional week's vacation at that time. The second advantage is that employees will be allowed to take their vacations at anytime during the year that is mutually satisfactory with the employees and their supervisors.

The requirement that vacations be arranged with supervisors is necessary in order to maintain production without interruption. Without this requirement production would be severely restricted if large numbers of employees in departments decided to take vacations at the same time. Whenever it is not possible to allow all employees to take their vacations during the periods desired, employees with the most company service will be given preference.

Except for the changes pointed out all other provisions of the vacation policy remain in effect—chief of these is the provision for vacation pay. As in the past, employees entitled to vacations will receive vacation pay as follows: Those entitled to one week of va-

Frank Davis Honored For 25-Year Firestone Service



WITNESSING the presentation of Cotton Classer Frank Davis' 25-year Service Award and check for \$100.00, left to right, General Superintendent Nelson Kessell, Comptroller E. J. Mechem, Mr. Davis, General Manager Harold Mercer, and Superintendent Francis Galligan.

IN the first 25-year service award presentation to be made at this plant, Frank W. Davis, Cotton Classer for all Firestone Textiles plants, received his 25-year pin and a check for \$100.00 from General Manager Harold Mercer on February 2.

Mr. Davis, who began his career with Firestone on February 1, 1928 at Fall River, Mass., has been located in Gastonia since the plant was acquired by Firestone in 1935. He was cotton classer for Firestone's New England plants until moving to Gastonia. Upon his transfer to Gastonia he was placed in charge of cotton classing for all of Firestone's textile plants in the United States and in Canada. He was also given the responsibility for the sale of waste in these plants.

Prior to joining Firestone, Mr. Davis was cotton salesman for two years for the P. T. Jackson Company of Boston. It was while so employed that he became acquainted with cotton buyers for Firestone's New England plants.

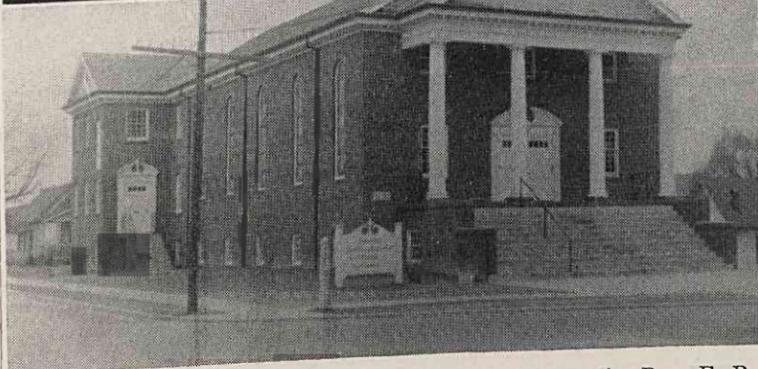
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Firestone Wesleyan Methodist To Observe Fiftieth Anniversary Of Church's Founding

APRIL 19, 1953 will be a red-letter-day for the 179 members of the Firestone Wesleyan Methodist Church, located at 1001 West Second Avenue in Gastonia. On that day a double celebration will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the church's founding, and the fourth anniversary of the completion of the new church plant.

The people of the Firestone Wesleyan Church including the pastor, the Reverend Frank B. Dennard, are proud of the progress their church has made over the years since its founding. Their pride is not vainglorious, but is rather a feeling of thankfulness. Thankfulness for a church that had weathered the storms of depression and moral upheaval in the world around it, yet withal has remained strong and determined in its teaching of the fundamental virtues of Christian living.

Looking forward with especial interest to the April 19 Anniversary Services are two charter members of the Firestone Wesleyan Church: W. G. Waldrop and Mrs. A. E. Hill. These 50-year



The Wesleyan Methodist Church with its pastor the Rev. F. B. Dennard shown in the inset.

members will be in their accustomed pews for these services, if health permits. Mr. Waldrop work-

ed many years for Firestone Textiles and before that for the Man-

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Firestone's Plant Newspapers Win Annual Freedoms Award

THE Firestone Tire & Rubber Company and its Chairman, Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., have received two high honors from the Freedoms Foundation.

Mr. Firestone was awarded an honor medal in the Public Address category for his talk, "The Bonds of Brotherhood".

The Company's seven publications have been given the top award in the Employee Publications category of the Freedoms Foundation Awards Competition for 1952. J. E. Trainer, Vice-President in Charge of Production, accepted the award for the Company at ceremonies at Freedoms Foundation headquarters at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, February 22. Vice-President Richard Nixon presented the awards.

The Firestone publications won the award in competition with several hundred other leading

Company publications. Mary Kerrigan, supervising editor for the publications, received a personal honor medal.

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THE seven publications for which the top award in the Employee Publication category was given was: the Firestone Non-Skid, for employees of the home plants in Akron, Ohio; the Firestone Californian at the Los Angeles, California, plant; the Firestone Southerner, Memphis, Tennessee;

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