

**New Employee Benefits**

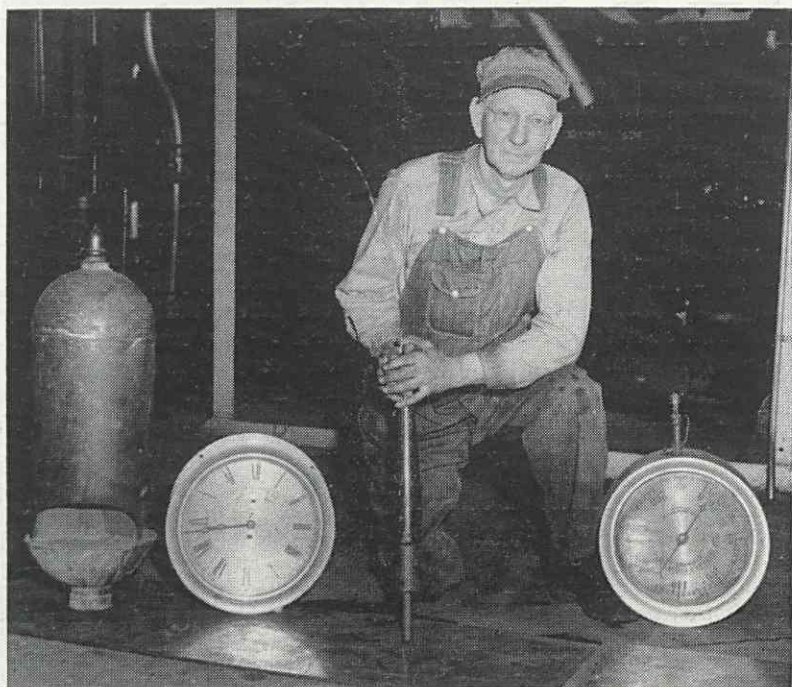
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management and the employees would be very happy to run only one type and style, however, we are not our own boss—the customer is the boss. If the customer states to us that he wants a different type and style, we have very little choice. Of course, we could refuse to change and fill the bins up with yarn for which there is no sale but I do not think this would be very profitable because it would only be a relatively short time until the plant would be shut down.

"I am sure we can all agree that the interest of management and the employee is best served in a plant that operates efficiently and profitably. I remember Mr. Firestone saying years ago that a plant that could not make a profit was no good to anyone. It was not good for the stockholders because it would lose money. It was no good for the workman because it would be closed and he would lose his job. . . .

"I have taken up a great deal of your time. I have tried to give you some thoughts that will help you in your work. I have not covered all the questions because I think we all realize that modern industry is continually changing, and I think the changes are for the better. We try to conduct our business at Firestone in keeping with the company slogan, 'Best Today, Still Better Tomorrow'.

"Thank You."



**ROBERT PASSMORE**, shop employee, takes great pride in the relics he has collected during his long period of plant service. From left to right in the picture, the first steam whistle used by this plant (then Loray Mill), the first clock used in the boiler room (retired from use in 1919), the handle used to throw the switch that put electric power to work in the plant for the first time, and the first steam pressure gauge used in the boiler room. The latter was used continuously from the time the mill began operations at the turn of the century until 1947 when it was replaced by a more modern gauge. Mr. Passmore has been a boiler man at Firestone since 1935.

**Employee Builds Home**



**J. H. BROOKS**, second hand in the Weaving Department, and his wife, Mrs. Velva Brooks, weaver, have completed and moved into a beautiful ranch type brick veneer home located just off the Kings Mountain highway. The house blends well with the natural wooded setting which surrounds it.

The house has five rooms, one of which is a combination living-dining room. Most of the rooms are pine panelled, the floors are hardwood except in kitchen and bath which have rubber tile. The house is piped for hot air central heat and has celetex ceilings throughout.

Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, both 17-year Firestone employees, have plenty of garden space to work during their spare time. Their new property contains two acres of rich soil; ideal, according to Mr. Brooks, for cabbage which is one of his favorite garden vegetables.

**Employee's Daughter Continues Gravely Ill; Physicians Unable To Find Cause**

**LITTLE** Patricia Anne Hardy, 18-month old daughter of Weaver Roy Hardy, continues gravely ill in Gaston Memorial Hospital. She became ill in October of last year, was taken to Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem where doctors were unable to diagnose her ailment.

As mysteriously as she became sick she apparently recovered until she suffered a recurrence of the illness in February of this year. She has been at Gaston Memorial Hospital since suffering the relapse.

According to her father, she is at this writing somewhat improved, although doctors are still baffled as to the cause of the illness and have never conceded her much chance of recovery.

Mr. Hardy, who lives in East Gastonia, wishes to thank Firestone employees for their concern and interest in the welfare of his child. "They've been very kind," he says, "and I have wanted to thank each one personally, but just haven't had time."

**Mrs. Evie Thomas Ill**

Mrs. Evie Thomas, spinner and second shift Spinning Department reporter, has been confined to Memorial Hospital since February 11. Her husband, Jack Thomas, wishes to thank her many friends in the plant for their interest and concern for Mrs. Thomas' recovery.

**Shop Employee Bob Passmore Saves Relics Of Former Era**

A visitor to the Boiler Room during first shift hours will be greeted by an employee who, in his 22 years at this plant, has developed tremendous pride in his job—and the gadgets, gauges, clocks, etc., worked with on his job in years past.

The employee, Boiler Man Robert Passmore, has managed to save, from what might have been an inglorious end in a salvage pile, a collection of obsolete clocks, gauges, and other items having little or no commercial value. Under the care and keeping of Mr. Passmore, however, these items have developed a degree of sentimental and historic value. He believes time will increase these values. At any rate, he hopes they're never discarded.

Equally interesting as the collection itself is the collector (both pictured above). His record of service and loyalty to Firestone is possibly without equal in the plant. For example, since it is necessary for someone to fire the boilers over holidays, he has done the job every Christmas during the past 17 years. Only once during his nearly 18

years with Firestone Textiles has he failed to make an appearance for work, and then it was because of illness.

**MR. PASSMORE**, who lives with his wife at 1011 West Second Avenue, has witnessed many changes in machinery and plant while serving here. He recalls the days when steam power was used to operate the plant, a system that was slow and inefficient as compared to today's electric power. He remembers the rather difficult task encountered in removing the old steam plant with its huge system of rope drives extending up through several floors in what was known as the "rope way".

So it is that Mr. Passmore and his collection, taken together form an interesting story of the plant, past and present. If atomic energy should ever replace electric power for industrial use (a remote and distant possibility at best) and there's a Bob Passmore around there will be no tears for the passing of electric power. . . . just an added item or two for Bob's collection.

**VOICE OF FIRESTONE**

**Programs For April**

<b>April 6—Jerome Hines</b>		
Unfold Ye Portals from "The Redemption"	di Chiara Gounod	Orch. & Chorus Hines
Trust in the Lord	Handel	Orchestra
The Bells from "L'Arlésienne Suite"	Bizet	Hines & Chorus
Panis Angelicus	Franck	Hines
The Two Grenadiers	Schuman	Orchestra
Venusberg Music from "Overture to Tannhauser"	Wagner	Hines & Chorus
<b>April 13—Rise Stevens</b>		
Can't Help Singing	Kern	Orch. & Chorus
Songs My Mother Taught Me	Dvorak	Stevens
Sacchanale from "Samson and Delilah"	St. Saens	Orchestra
Mon Couer S'Ouvre a Ta Voix from "Samson and Delilah"	St. Saens	Stevens
Onward Christian Soldiers	Sullivan	Stevens, Chorus and Audience
Final 4th Symphony	Tschaikowsky	Orchestra
Say Not Love is a Dream from "Count of Luxembourg"	Lehar	Stevens & Chorus
<b>April 20—Mimi Benzell</b>		
Cielito Lindo	Traditional	Orch. & Chorus
Over the Rainbow	Arlen	Benzell
Dancing Doll	Poldini	Orchestra
Musetta's Waltz from "La Boheme"	Puccini	Benzell
The Lass with the Delicate Air	Arne	Benzell & Chorus
Melody of Moonlove	Tschaikowsky	Orchestra
Siboney	Leucona	Benzell & Chorus
<b>April 27—Dorothy Warenskjold and George London</b>		
It's a Grand Night for Singing	Rodgers	Warenskjold
The Girl That I Marry	Berlin	London
Lady of Spain	Evens	Orchestra
La Ci Darem La Mano from "Don Giovanni"	Mozart	Duet
The Sailor's Life	Wilson	London
Romance, from "Desert Song"	Romberg	Warenskjold
Hungarian Dance No. 1	Brahms	Orchestra
Medley from "Naughty Marietta"	Herbert	Duet
a. I'm Falling in Love with Someone		
b. Ah Sweet Mystery of Life		

**Weddings**

Miss Billie June Hanna and Charles Kenneth Barker were united in marriage on Saturday evening at 8 o'clock at Firestone Wesleyan Methodist Church.

The Rev. Frank B. Dennard was the officiating minister.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Belon D. Hanna, both employees of Firestone. The bridegroom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Barker of Belmont.

Following the wedding an attractively appointed reception was held at Firestone Girls' Club.

White blossoms and greenery were used as decorations.



Mr. and Mrs. Charles K. Barker

**Lost Time Accidents By Departments—1952**

Ply Twisting	1
Weaving	2
Shop	1
Warehouse	1

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