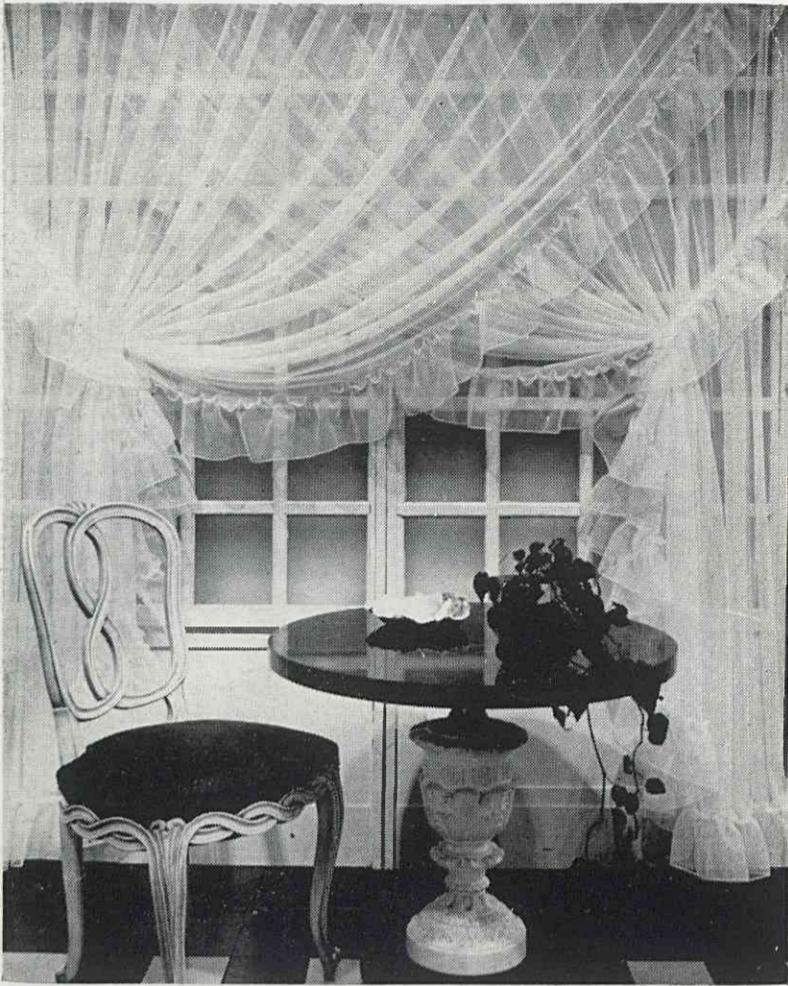


New Use For Velon. . . .

Durable Curtains Woven Of Velon Clean Easily



MARQUISSETTE CURTAINS woven of Velon, a new synthetic yarn produced by the Firestone Plastics Company, Pottstown, Pa., demonstrate that they can be beautiful as well as practical. Velon curtains never lose their crispness, are extremely durable, and may be kept clean by wiping, vacuuming, or simple laundrying without ironing.

THE Firestone Plastics Company of Pottstown, Pa., announced today the development of a new marquisette material for window curtains woven from Velon yarn. According to K. L. Edgar, General Sales Manager, who made the announcement, Velon marquisette curtains are the first on the market to offer a combination of all the desirable features sought by consumers. They can be easily washed or wiped clean, they do not need ironing, they are highly stain and fade resistant, they are long wearing, and they retain their crispness indefinitely.

The special features of the new Velon curtains were demonstrated by S. G. Keiller, Manager of the Velon Yarn Division, who explained that development work had been under way for more than four years. Mr. Keiller pointed out that because Velon yarn is non-absorbent it cannot be damaged by water or soil of any kind. The curtains can be wiped free of dirt or stain, or washed in warm suds to remove accumulated dust. Because of the non-absorbent quality of the yarn, Velon curtains dry as soon as the water is wiped off or shaken from the interstices of the weave. The curtains should not be ironed and may be rehung in a matter of minutes after washing.

* * *

FREQUENT washings, according to Mr. Keiller, have no effect on the crisp appearance of Velon curtains. As the material has no surface finish, but produces its crisp effect because of the inherent characteristics of the yarn, it is impossible for Velon curtains to become limp no matter how long they are used or how often they are washed.

Velon curtains are being introduced by International Flouncing Company of New York, which is producing the first curtains in three styles, ruffled, tailored, and tier. These styles are being offered at present in white only, although other colors will be added to the line later. Approximate retail prices range from under four dollars for the tier to under nine dollars for the ruffled, in the smallest sizes. Other sizes are priced accordingly.

The curtain material is being woven by Copland Converting & Finishing Company of New York. A Velon monofilament of approximately 275 equivalent denier is used for this fabric.

Velon curtains will be available at retail after May 11.



SGT. CHARLES FERGUSON ON THE AIR

What's Your Hobby?

Plant Officer Helped Pioneer "Ham" Radio In Gaston County

"Ham" means more than a choice meat to Sgt. Charlie Ferguson. Its preferred definition, for the Company's plant officer, is "amateur radio operator". He has been an amateur operator almost as long as he has been old enough to appreciate the taste of the country-cured variety that means ham to most people.

Starting in radio when licenses from the Federal Government were not required, or even issued, Sgt. Ferguson has pioneered the hobby in Gaston County, his home since early childhood. He was 14 years old when, in 1915, he rigged up his first wireless transmitter and successfully sent a message in Morse code to a listening friend. His license and call letters, W4CJQ were issued 30 years ago, and this fact makes him the oldest licensed "ham" in point of service in Gaston County.

The log Sgt. Ferguson (as do all "hams") keeps of his transmissions shows hundreds of "good neighbor" deeds on his part. Sometimes people he never heard of come to his radio "shack" and ask him to try to reach a friend or relative through the world-wide facilities of amateur radio.

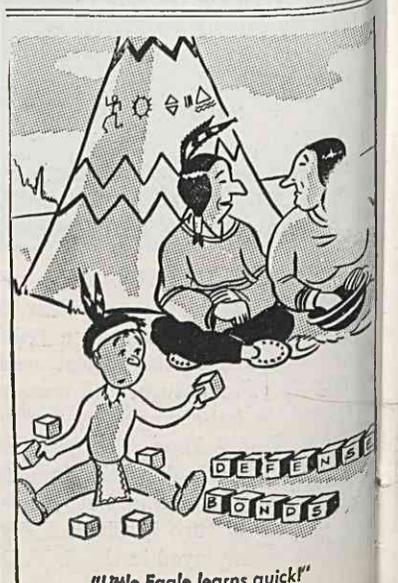
"I've helped locate missing persons, contacted family members to deliver death or serious illness messages, and even had a part in giving Padacuh, Ky., electric power when floods in 1936 practically washed that town away." That's the way the sergeant summarizes his good work as an amateur. The flood incident referred to had placed citizens of Padacuh in total darkness as well as communicative silence, except for amateur radio which always seems to rise to the occasion however dim the outlook. At this point Sgt. Ferguson

received a message by short wave radio asking if he knew of a mobile power generator that could be sent to Padacuh. He did know about one in Charlotte.

Within 24 hours—and after frenzied phone calls to authorities in Charlotte—the city owned power generator truck was on the scene in Padacuh, providing light that helped lessen the toll of suffering following disastrous flood.

This incident, according to W4CJQ's owner, is the high light of a long series of sometimes thrilling, sometimes sad duties he has been called on to perform.

In recognition of his ability in communications, The North Carolina Wing of Civil Air Patrol has commissioned Sgt. Ferguson as wing communications officer with the CAP rank of captain. All of which raises the question: Is it sergeant or captain Ferguson? "Ah," he counters with a trace of embarrassment, "the handle is Charlie!" (Ham talk for "call me Charlie.")



Gastonia, N. C.
April 24, 1953

To the Employees of Firestone Textiles:

Please accept our most hearty thanks and appreciation for your generous contribution of \$2,340.93 to the Cancer Fund campaign. We hope that each of you is interested in knowing how this money will be spent. 25 cents of every dollar goes to research, to pay doctors and technicians who are working hard to find the cause and cure for cancer. Much of it is spent for educational materials, including leaflets, films and posters to bring to people the facts about cancer. This includes the 7 DANGER SIGNALS which everyone should know. We also urge everyone over 35 years of age to have periodic examinations by a doctor, so that the cancer may be found early, when it may be more easily cured.

Part of the money is used locally to help cancer patients in our community who have to meet large bills for medical care. We urge each of you to read the posters and leaflets we supply to your mill from time to time, so that you may benefit from the latest knowledge we have.

Again thanking you for your support of this important work, we are yours sincerely,

Mrs. T. Frank Suggs,
County Chairman, Fund Campaign
Mrs. R. L. Sanborn
Executive Secretary

FIRESTONE NEWS

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R. H. HOOD, Editor
Department Reporters

Carding—Guinn Briggs, Gertrude Sanders, Jessie Westmoreland.
Spinning—Lois Bolding, Evie Thomas, Janet Hartgrove, Mary Turner, Fannie Bruce.

Spooling—Nell Bolick, Helen Reel, Rosalee Burger.

Twisting—Nevie Dalton, Mable Hanna, Hazel Clark, Lassie Crawford, Corrie Johnson, Dean Haun, Ellease Austin.

Weaving—Mary Johnson, Lucille Davis, Inez Rhyne, Irene Burroughs, Vivian Bumgardner, Nina Milton.

Cloth Room—Margie Waldrop.

Quality Control—Dealva Jacobs, Irene Burroughs, Leila Rape, Catherine Isham.

Winding—Dorcas Atkinson, Mayzelle Lewis, Kathleen Hovis.

Shop—Cramer Little.

Warehouse—Bobby Smith, George Harper, Albert Meeks.

Main Office—Mozelle Brockman.

Superintendent's Office—Sue Van Dyke.

Personnel Office—Flora Pence.

Refreshment Department—Deuel Redding.

Quality Control Employee Elected Director in SPEBS

Jimmie Moss, Quality Control, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Gastonia Chapter of the Society For the Preservation of Barbershop Quartet Singing in elections held on April 13. Other employees who will continue serving on this board are Clyde Moss, Sr., assistant to the general superintendent, and Bob Hood, Industrial Relations Department.

Mrs. Evie Thomas, Carding Department, died unexpectedly Monday, April 20 in a local hospital. Mrs. Thomas is survived by her husband, Jack Thomas of 12 South Webb Street. She was buried at Carter's Chapel near Dublin, Ga., following the funeral service at Loray Baptist Church in Gastonia.