



THE LORAY BAPTIST Church Youth Choir, above, was a state winner at the Baptist Hymn Festival conducted at Hendersonville, N. C., June 27. The choir is directed by James Moss, trainee in the Time Study Department. Members of the choir, left to right, Sybil Ray, Sarah Graham, Nadine Gaddis, Richard Littlejohn, Carol Bolding, Dan Moss, Irvia Smith, Billy Blaylock, Mary Love, Carl Stewart, Jr., Becky Blaylock, and Betty Blaylock.

# Firestone Assembles New Antiaircraft Gun; Tests Show Gun's Superior Defensive Uses

THREE-INCH, 50-CALIBER, rapid-fire, twin-gun mounts being made by The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company will fire proximity fused ammunition to provide effective close-in defense against high-speed aircraft and missiles, according to J. E. Trainer, Production Vice-President of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company.

Developed as a replacement for anti-aircraft mounts which protected combat ships from Kamikaze and air attacks during World War II, the Navy has called this gun mount its newest completely automatic, rapid-fire surface and anti-aircraft weapon.

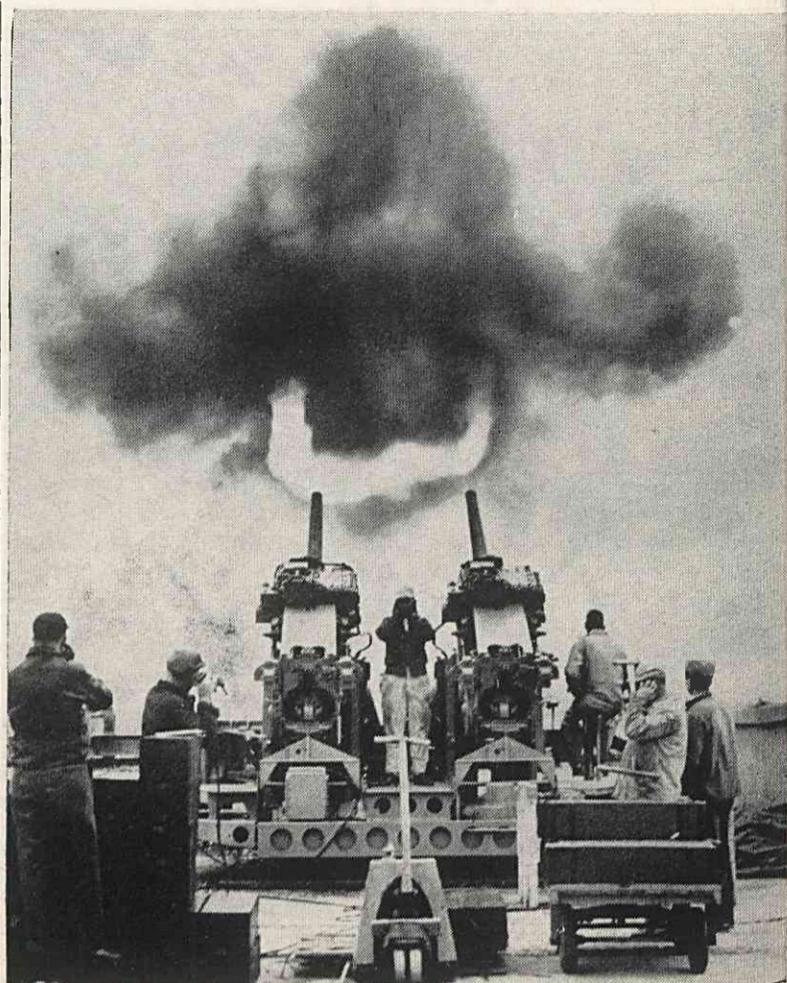
Firing tests were completed in dramatic demonstrations before Navy and Firestone officials at the U. S. Naval Proving Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia. Previously the gun mount passed the rigid inspection requirements of the Naval Gun Factory in Washington, D. C.

The new gun mounts are made up of 28,000 separate parts and represent part of a \$62,000,000 production order.

IN addition to assembling the complete weapon, Firestone also is manufacturing the breech housings and breech blocks for the three-inch guns.

During World War II, Firestone adapted the design of the Swedish Bofors anti-aircraft gun to American requirements and produced more than 30,000 of the guns for the Army and Navy. Currently, the Company is supplying the Army with 90-mm. tank cannon and is making the breech housings and breech blocks for this gun.

The heavy staccato blasts and flashes of fire emitted by the new weapon during its firing tests at Dahlgren gave observers visual proof that the new guns are capable of shielding our combat ships with bursting projectiles. In addition to the 360-degree train of the mount, the guns can be lowered to fire at objects on the water surface.



DRAMATIC firing tests of new three-inch, rapid-fire anti-aircraft guns at the Naval Proving Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia, demonstrate their capability of shielding U. S. combat ships from Kamikaze-type air attacks with bursting projectiles. The task of assembling the 28,000 parts into a smoothly operating, electronically controlled gun mount now is daily routine for The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company men and women who have been producing complete gun mount assemblies for the past nine months. The new guns will fire proximity fused ammunition at a rate which gives them several times more firepower than the gun mounts they are replacing on Navy ships.

## Road Research

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According to Mr. Firestone, his company has been experimenting with rubber paving materials for more than 25 years, but it was just recently that the most promising form of rubber for the purpose was developed.

"This form of rubberized pavement should be more resistant to frost damage," the rubber company executive said. "Also, since the new type rubber surface is less brittle it will not break up under traffic stress as rapidly as ordinary asphalt. The rubber is more uniformly distributed in the asphalt itself, and it enables the asphalt material to be mixed at higher temperatures without damage from overheating. Flexibility of the rubberized material is greater at the outset and this flexibility is retained to much greater ages."

## Dickson Cites

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the factory by comparison of total number of injuries in each. There were 4,300,000 injuries in the home last year, or more than twice as many as occurred in industry.

Mr. Dickson concluding by endorsing the North Carolina Highway Patrol program, recently introduced, whereby motorists are asked to report instances of speeding, etc., to the patrol. By the same token instances of outstanding courtesy may be reported. In either event the patrol will write the driver in question commending for his courtesy, or warning him about speeding, etc., as the case may be.

## In Memoriam

PRINTED below is a statement issued by J. E. Trainer, Vice-President, on the passing of W. R. Murphy:

"Mr. Murphy was with our Company over 46 years. He was one of our most valued executives. For the last thirty-five years he was in charge of the industrial relations of our Company. He was known as the 'Dean' of the rubber industry's labor relations negotiations, and he practiced his profession with dignity and fairness. We will miss his wit as well as his wisdom, both of which could be relied on always to calm the most troubled situations. In his passing we have lost a good and a trusted friend."

## Service Awards

### FIFTEEN YEAR PINS

#### Spinning

Ruth L. Helms

### TEN YEAR PINS

#### Carding

Grady C. McDonald

#### Twisting

Florence W. Stiles

Edith J. Robinson

#### Syc Weaving

Robert Nichols, Jr.

#### Shop

Jetter L. Patterson

#### Personnel

T. B. Ipock, Jr.

### FIVE YEAR PINS

#### Spooling

Nedra J. Allen

Leona C. Lattimore

Helen L. Reel

#### Twisting

Beatrice S. Player

R. F. Whitworth

Frances W. Huffman

Junior W. Jones

#### Cord Weaving

Essie T. Parrott

Ronald R. Clark

#### Syc Weaving

Beatrice L. Carver

#### Shop

Clinton McLeymore

## Sport Notes

Boccie has proven very popular with all age groups. Leagues for boys, girls, men, and women will be operating in the near future.

Ceramics classes have been changed from Monday until Tuesday at 9:30 a. m. and 7:00 p. m.

Attendance at Firestone's outdoor movies continues to improve at each Friday night showing. Bring out the entire family and enjoy the remaining scheduled free movies.

Now is the time to get information about the vacation trip you're planning. Complete information may be obtained from the Recreation Department about any vacation or resort area in the United States.

Fifty children have been taught to swim at the playground swimming pool to date this summer. Classes, conducted by playground supervisors, will continue until the playground closes August 22.

The Ceramics Class visited in Charlotte at the Treasurer House Ceramics Supply Store, Tuesday, August 4. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, owners of the Treasurer House, showed the group many beautiful articles they had made.

## Employees Plan

(Continued From Page 1)

tances among relatives and friends. Mrs. Ada Butler, spinner, with her husband, Horace, spinning doffer, are looking forward to a week of sight-seeing from famed Skyland Drive, the mountain-top highway from Western North Carolina into Virginia. After leaving the northernmost point on Skyland Drive they will continue on to Baltimore to visit a daughter.

Wayne O'dell, weaver, is going to take his family across the Smokies to Knoxville, Tenn. After arriving there will be time, he thinks, for fishing in Lake Norris.

Grady Davis, Carding, may drive over to neighboring Cleveland County—his home county—for a day. Other than that he plans to be home in Gastonia. Later on he and his wife, Getty, Spooling, will use another of the three weeks of vacation they have this year to take their daughter back to school at Woman's College in Greensboro.

Asbury Neely, mail clerk, wants to catch up on his baseball listening by radio. Between games he may find time for some fishing in the Catwaba River.

Bingo parties will be renewed in September.

## Stork Club

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Townsend announce the birth of a son, Roger Dale, on July 21 at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gordon announce the birth of a daughter, Ann Readia, on July 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Tracy Moore announce the birth of a son, Isreal Joseph, on July 10.

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Department of Industrial Relations

R. H. HOOD, Editor

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CARDING—Guinn Briggs, Edna Harris, Jessie Westmoreland.

SPINNING—Lois Bolding, Mary Turner, Maude Johnson.

SPOOLING—Nell Bolick, Helen Reel, Rosalee Burger.

TWISTING—Annie Cosey, Frances Huffman, Wilma Smith, Nevie Dalton, Corrie Johnson, Dean Haun, Margaret Tate, June Shirley, Elene Dodgins.

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

QUALITY CONTROL—Dealva Jacobs, Irene Burroughs, Leila Rape, Catherine Isham.

WINDING—Mayzelle Lewis, Kathleen Hovis.

CLOTH ROOM—Margie Waldrop.

SHOP—Cramer Little.

WAREHOUSE—George Harper, Albert Meeks, Dorothy Sanborn.

MAIN OFFICE—Mozelle Brockman.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE—Sue Van Dyke.

PERSONNEL OFFICE—Flora Pence.

REFRESHMENT DEPARTMENT—Deuel Redding.