

# Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

"We like no -ism's but safety-ism at Firestone."

Oscar Jacobs, Shop  
2nd place winner,  
1953 Safety Slogan Contest

Your son or daughter may be eligible to compete in the Firestone Scholarship Program. Get full information and application forms at the Industrial Relations Office.

VOLUME III

GASTONIA, N. C., JANUARY 25, 1954

NO. 2

## "Quality" Stressed In Talk Here By J. E. Trainer

Bowie Talks. . . .

### Piedmont Council Presents Its Top Award To H. Mercer

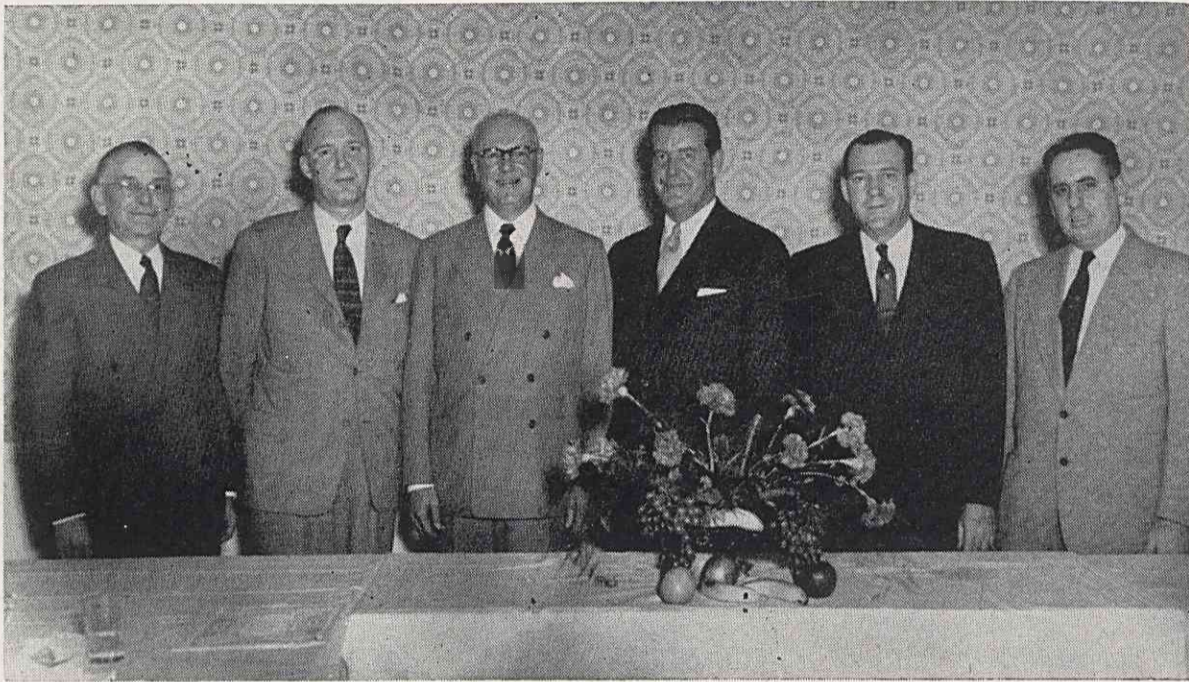
GENERAL MANAGER Harold Mercer was presented the Silver Beaver Scouting Award along with two other outstanding Boy Scout leaders in the Piedmont Boy Scout Council at the annual Piedmont Council Banquet, Tuesday, January 19.

The Banquet, held at the Boy Scout headquarters in Gastonia, was highlighted by an address by George A. Bowie, public relations consultant for The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company.

Mr. Bowie, who has authored several books including "Snap Goes Your Judgement" and "Words Can Be Dangerous," chose "Man" as his topic. "Of all wonders—man himself is the most wonderful," he told the group.

The Silver Beaver Awards went to H. H. Howard of Shelby, Terrell Webster of Conover, as well as to Mr. Mercer. The citation for Mr. Mercer noted his outstanding contributions to the work and leadership of the Piedmont Council during the past decade. Among other positions of importance he has served as (1) chairman of the Gastonia District Committee, 1953, (2) chairman of Cub Scouting, Gastonia District, 1948 to 1950, (3) member the Gastonia District Committee, 1944 through 1953, and (4) member of the Executive Board, Piedmont Council, 1953.

THE NECESSITY for high quality products that will be accepted favorably in the coming highly competitive market and cooperation between individuals and between departments were the main points stressed by J. E. Trainer, Executive Vice-President of the Company, in a talk to the supervisory staff and other key personnel of the Gastonia plant. Mr. Trainer spoke at a dinner meeting at the Firestone Girl's Club during an inspection trip to the plant Monday, January 4.



J. E. TRAINER, Executive Vice-President of the Company (shown above third from right), told assembled supervisory and staff personnel here that the new policy of selling yarn and fabric in competition with other mills gives the Textile Division its first opportunity to see how good its products are in comparison with those of other textile manufacturers. With Mr. Trainer in the picture are, left to right: Nelson Kessell, general superintendent; H. H. Waters, Director of Engineering for the Firestone Company; W. A. Karl, President of Firestone Textiles; Harold Mercer, general manager; and Francis Galligan, superintendent.

Mr. Trainer congratulated the men on their accomplishments during the past year of operation and thanked them for the part they played in helping to make the Company's Billion Dollar Year possible.

"A period of adjustment to changing economic conditions is taking place, however," Mr. Trainer said. "This is due mainly to the curtailment of automobile production, but we do not expect it to last too long.

"We are making other adjustments in our textile operations which will help get us back into full production as soon as possible. We have expanded our business and are now putting out our textile products in yarn fabric to sell in competition with other mills. This is a change from our former practice of producing only for Firestone."

Mr. Trainer pointed out that the new policy will give the Textile Division an opportunity to see how good its products are in comparison with other mills, a comparison not possible before.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Firestone Scholarships To Go To Top 15 Eligible Applicants

APPLICATIONS are now being received for the 1954 Firestone Scholarship Program. All prospective applicants have until March 1st to get their completed applications into the hands of the Firestone Scholarship Committee in Akron, Ohio.

Essentially the same rules apply this year as were in effect for the 1953, initial scholarship program, which was won in this area by Miss Claudette Taylor, daughter of Second Hand and Mrs. Claude Taylor. Miss Taylor is now a scholarship student at Duke University, Durham, N. C.

The applicant must be a high school senior who is a son or daughter of a Firestone employee whose earnings do not exceed a base pay of \$625.00 per month. In addition, the applicant must graduate in the upper one-half of his or her class.

Scholarship winners may attend any college or university in the United States providing it is an accredited institution. The scholarship will provide enough money to pay tuition, academic fees, textbooks, and a substantial part of the living costs of each winner.

This year's program provides for the awarding of 15 scholarships. Winners will be selected on the basis of their scores on psychological tests, rank in their respective classes, and other qualifications which indicate that they have the character which will bring them success in college life and in post-college life.

Each candidate for a Firestone Scholarship may obtain proper ap-

plication forms from the Industrial Relations Department, or by writing the Firestone Scholarship Committee, The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, 1200 Firestone Parkway, Akron 17, Ohio.

The Committee will notify all applicants early in May of the names of the winners of the 1954 Firestone Scholarships.

## Dilling Named To College Who's Who

BILL DILLING, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Dilling of the Weaving Department, has been named to Who's Who at Central College, Central, S. C. Young Mr. Dilling, a former Main Office employee, is president of the student body and has held prominent offices in literary and music societies.

The faculty in selecting Mr. Dilling characterized him as "influential, understanding, willing to help, capable, and ready to serve God." Upon the completion of his undergraduate work, he plans to enter the ministry.

Earl Beeker Second . . . .

## John Fletcher's Gear Adjustment Suggestion Tops In 1953 Contest

A suggestion entitled "Eccentric Adjustment for Gears" has netted Lathe Operator John Fletcher one hundred dollars and a Firestone clock-radio which the suggestion won for him in the week-long Suggestion Contest staged in November of last year.

His suggestion applies to the horse head gears on speeders and intermediate roving frames. According to the suggestion these gears—being casted—are never perfectly true, i. e., do not track in a true circle. His remedy is to fit these gears with an eccentric bushing so fitted that the gear will

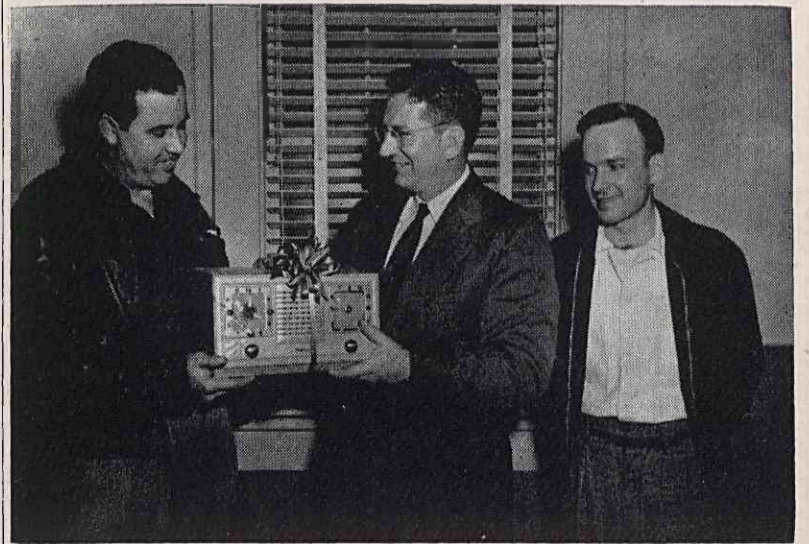
track in a true circle, thus eliminating the sticking and improper meshing that sometimes results when casted gears without bushings are used.

The second place winner in the contest, Laboratory Technician

(Continued on Page 2)



SILVER Beaver Winners—General Manager Harold Mercer is shown seated; H. H. Howard of Shelby and Terrell Webster of Conover shown standing, left to right.



JOHN FLETCHER, lathe operator (left above), won first place in the Suggestion Contest conducted last November and is shown here receiving the grand prize, a Firestone clock-radio, being presented by Industrial Relations Director Tom Ipock. Earl Beeker, laboratory technician (at right), won second place, the award being a Firestone passenger tire.