



THE old joined the new at the Pennsylvania State Farm Show early in January when the first tractor to be equipped with Firestone tractor tires, complete with the original tires, was displayed beside a modern Champion Ground Grip tractor tire. Left to right, J. A. Straits, District Manager for the Firestone Company in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, shows the modern tire to Charles E. Webster, Allis Chalmers Branch Manager, and S. H. Sorensen, Implement Sales Manager for the Tractor Division of Allis Chalmers Manufacturing Company.

First Set Of Low-Pressure Farm Tractor Tires Placed On Exhibit; Applied In '32

IN 1932 The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company applied the first set of low-pressure farm-tractor tires ever designed to the tractor of Albert F. Schroeder of Prospect, Wisconsin.

Twenty-two years later that original tractor with the first Firestone tractor tires was displayed at the Pennsylvania State Farm Show in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, during January. After the Farm Show it was presented to the Wisconsin State Historical Society and will be on permanent exhibit there.

In 1938 Mr. Schroeder, the original owner, said: "This tractor is still doing service and still has the original set of Firestone tractor tires on it and they're still saving time and fuel for me."

"Using the tractor all the time, six years, winter and summer, I have never had a single puncture."

When Harvey S. Firestone pioneered and perfected the first practical pneumatic tractor tire in 1932, he not only made the greatest contribution to power farming since the introduction of the tractor, but also opened a vast new market for tires.

Firestone Ground Grip tires have helped to make lightweight, inexpensive, power-farming equip-

McAbee Attends Ninth N. C. Safety School In Salisbury

THE ninth annual North Carolina Safety School, held March 22-24, in Salisbury, N. C., was attended by 85 safety engineers from North Carolina's transportation and manufacturing industries. In the group was L. B. McAbee, safety director for this plant.

Mr. McAbee, who served on the 1954 Safety School Committee, Industrial Section, reports the school a great success. He pointed to the talks by Edward Scheidt, Commissioner of Vehicles for North Carolina, and Ted Davis, Public Relations Director for Serv-Air Aviation Corporation, as highlights in the 3-day program.

Those attending the school received certificates in safety from the school's sponsor, N. C. State College.

ment practical. This has extended the benefits of power farming to millions of farmers who could not afford the heavier, more-expensive, slow-moving tractors.

Little Leaguers' Baseball Opener Set For April 19

BASEBALL SEASON opens officially for Firestone's Little League team on April 19, when they meet St. Michaels at 6 p. m., at Todd Field. Firestone, defending Suddeth League champs, can rely on such second year varsity boys as Buford Turner, M. C. Huffstetler, Sammy Honeycutt, and others, to add power at the plate and on the mound in early season play.

Firestone will play in a 4-team league, as was the case last season, other teams being the Optimist Club, St. Michaels, and Gastonia Combed Yarns.

According to Recreation Director Ralph Johnson, who has released the schedule below, each game will have a member of Firestone's Recreational Council as sponsor. All games are to be played at Todd Field:

Date	Team	Time
April 19	St. Michaels	6:00
April 22	G. C. Y.	7:30
April 26	Optimist	6:00
April 29	St. Michaels	7:30
May 3	G. C. Y.	6:00
May 6	Optimist	7:30
May 10	St. Michaels	6:00
May 13	G. C. Y.	7:30
May 17	Optimist	7:30
May 20	St. Michaels	6:00
May 24	G. C. Y.	7:30
May 27	Optimist	6:00
May 31	St. Michaels	7:00
June 3	G. C. Y.	6:00
June 7	Optimist	7:30
June 10	St. Michaels	6:00
June 14	G. C. Y.	7:30
June 17	Optimist	6:00

Industrial Management Courses

(Continued From Page 1)

agement courses now being offered at the Institute are an assist to anyone in the field of supervision—textile or otherwise. I personally have enjoyed the courses I've taken very much."

Anthony E. Zelinski, Lincolnton, expresses his feeling by saying, "The N. C. State College Extension offers here in Gastonia a fine series of courses which will help anyone interested in basic management techniques."

Mr. Zelinski drives to and from classes at the Institute from his home in Lincolnton, a record for commuting students now enrolled in the series.

A Firestone Textiles employee, Sam Honeycutt, finds his studies at GTI tie in directly with his work in the Company's Quality Control Department. "I'm learning the theory underlying the practical operations we perform daily in my work. I would recommend the management series to anyone interested in bettering himself in the textile, or other industrial field."

* * *

ANOTHER Firestone employee, Alvin Riley, says, "I have thoroughly enjoyed the course in Quality Control. The matter of applying the things you learn to your job presents an especially interesting challenge to the student in this course, it seems to me."

"The courses offered in Industrial Management which I have attended have been well presented and thorough," W. F. Ashby, Textiles, Inc., speaking. Mr. Ashby continues, "The subjects already completed in this series are extremely valuable to personnel in industry. I believe the class schedules and level of presentation are well suited to the category of students for which the courses were designed."

Elmer Barrett of Firestone Textiles sums up the consensus of opinion when he says, "I think the courses we are taking at GTI will greatly help us in the future and management, too, will benefit."

Eleven employees were enrolled in one or the other of the two Industrial Management courses just completed at Gaston Technical Institute. Taking Quality Control were: R. B. Hull, Sam Honeycutt, Raymond Mack, Henry Wilder, Alvin Riley, and Furman Clark. Completing Job Evaluation—their second course in the series—were: Elmer Barrett, James Moss, Thomas Grant, T. B. Ipock, Jr., and R. H. Hood.

Applications and complete information regarding these courses may be obtained at the Industrial Relations Department. All interested employees are urged to make inquiry as soon as possible in this connection.

Kite Flying Contest Attracts 25 Entries

The Kite Flying Contest, an annual March event, attracted 25 contestants, according to Recreation Director Ralph Johnson. The contest, held in the Firestone Ball Park on March 17, produced the following winners: Roger Lunsford, altitude; Vance Ipock, best puller; and Billy Guffey, best decorated kite.



MRS. ELLA RUFF applies a colored clay to a figurine in her ceramics room at her home on 1116 East Drive in Gastonia. She is using the top of her kiln, which was not in use at the time, as a table.

Wife Finds Ceramics A Nice, But Very Contagious, Hobby

"BISQUE WEAR" and "leather hard" meant nothing to Mrs. Ella Ruff of the Weaving Department until she discovered a liking for ceramics in 1952. Now her vocabulary includes these and other picturesque words used by clay modelers to describe their tedious work and fragile product.

"It's catching," she says in pointing out the fact that her husband, Section Man J. C. Ruff, was also a ceramics fan, having gotten interested in it after she had produced a number of attractive and useful objects for him to admire. "Now we work together at it; he makes the molds, I do the decorating of the green wear."

At this point she paused to explain the meaning of some of the words used in connection with ceramics. "Green wear," says she, "is the modeled or molded ceramic piece before it is kiln dried; bisque wear is the undecorated, kiln dried ceramic piece."

The kiln, incidentally, is the most important and costly item of equipment used by ceramics hobbyist. Mrs. Ruff is proud of her 121-cubic-inch electric kiln which she purchased for approximately \$85.00. In it she has kiln dried and glazed some 200 clay objects.

The clay she and her husband use for the most part is a liquid called "slip." All molded ceramic objects are made with slip, according to Mrs. Ruff. "It's very simple to use," she advises, "just pour it in your plaster-of-paris mold and leave it long enough for a proper

thickness of clay to stick to the inside walls of the mold, then pour the remaining slip back into your storage container."

AFTER removing the molded piece from the mold it is allowed to dry for three days, or until it is leather hard—completely air dried. Then comes "cleaning up" (removing excess clay and smoothing out rough spots and edges), green wear decorating, kiln drying, and glazing in that order. (Decorating can be done either before or after kiln drying using glazes or colored clays, etc., depending on which time you select.)

The kiln drying step may be repeated once or more times depending on what kind and how much decorating the individual wants to perform. "I can bake a cake faster," continues Mrs. Ruff, "than I can kiln dry a single clay object, but then I suppose the ceramics wear lasts longer." To this her husband agreed with a smile.

Cutting the excess clay from a mold, he ventured the opinion, "That's the only trouble I find in ceramics. . . . all this baking—about five hours at a stretch—and nothing to eat!"

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