

PLANT ENGINEER W. G. Henson, above second from left, discusses blueprints of the rayon expansion program now in progress with, left to right, H. H. Waters, director of engineering for The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company; W. A. Karl, President of Firestone Textiles Division; and General Manager Harold Mercer. The expansion program, which involves the building of a 12,500 square-foot addition to the basement weave room, and the change from coal to natural gas fuel for plant boilers, is running according to schedule and is expected to be completed by July 31.

### For Progressive Farmers



A new Firestone tractor tire, designed to replace worn tractor tires and increase farming efficiency, is demonstrated here to a progressive farmer. The new budget-priced replacement tire features greatly increased bar height for deeper soil penetration, deeper center bite and greater draw-bar pull at no increase in price. It is known as the Firestone Deep Tread Open Center Ground Grip tractor tire.

## New, Deeper Tread Rear Tractor Tire Now In Production

A new replacement rear tractor tire, designed to bring farm tractors up to their original peaks of operating efficiency at low cost, has been developed by The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, according to an announcement by H. D. Tompkins, Vice-President of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company.

"Appropriately named the Firestone Deep Tread Open Center Ground Grip, the new tractor tire features greatly increased bar height for deeper soil penetration, deeper center bite and greater draw-bar pull," Mr. Tompkins says.

"Along with the added tread rubber and extended bar height, the new budget-priced 'Deep Tread' also incorporates the following six exclusive Firestone construction features: (1) flared tread openings to insure positive cleaning, (2) two extra tread plies to protect against impact breaks, (2) thicker tread base at inner bar ends to prevent bar wiping and bar-end body punching, (4) bigger, stronger shoulders for a better bite and longer tread wear, (5) new improved tread compound to resist cracking and aging and, (6) the extra strong gum-dipped and tension-dried cord body to insure longer retread life."

Factory production schedules on the new Deep Tread have been stepped up to make the new replacement tractor tire available immediately at Firestone dealers and stores throughout the United States.

## Grover Hollifield Passes At Age 46

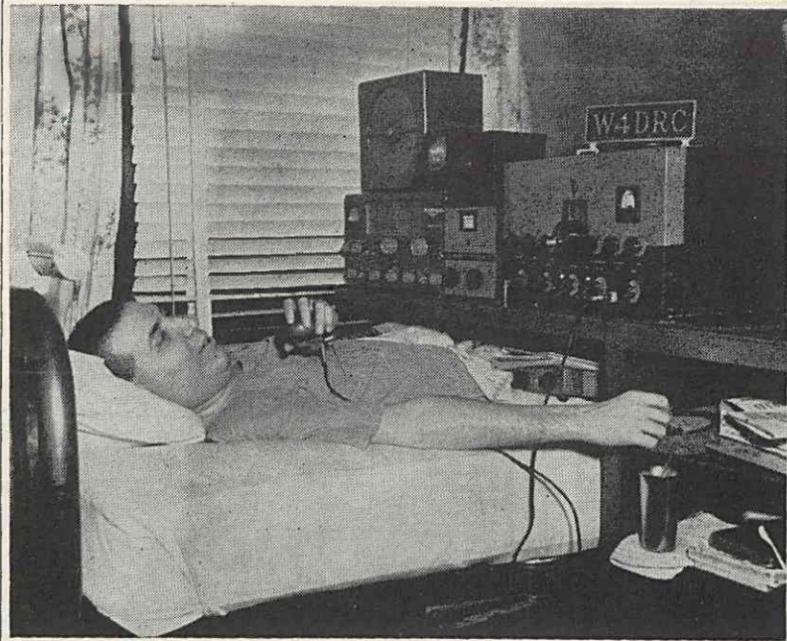
Grover Hollifield, 46, second hand in the Spinning Department and an employee with Firestone Textiles for 18 years, died in a local hospital Wednesday, April 7, at 8 a. m., following an illness of several months.

Mr. Hollifield is survived by his wife, Mrs. Alice Chastain Hollifield, a son, James T. Hollifield (Twisting Department), two daughters, Mrs. Horace Scarborough and Mrs. Joe Styers, both of Gastonia, and his mother, Mrs. Ollie Roach Hollifield.

The funeral service was conducted by Dr. Frank A. Malone and Rev. J. B. McQuere at the Loray Baptist Church with burial following at the Gaston Memorial Park. Active pallbearers were supervisor friends of Mr. Hollifield from the plant; honorary pallbearers included the entire supervisory staff of Firestone Textiles.

## Public Speaking Class Honors Professor Tyson

The public speaking class under the direction of Robert Hull, Quality Control Supervisor, climaxed its meetings, Thursday, April 1, at the Firestone Girls' Club with a banquet honoring Professor Raymond W. Tyson, chairman of the speech department of Davidson College and teacher of the class. After dinner, each class member gave his final speech and expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to Mr. Tyson for his wonderful cooperation and help during the 10-week course. Husbands and wives of the members were invited guests.



BOBBIE SMITH, a newcomer to amateur radio ranks, talks to a "ham" friend from his home at 607 South Linwood Road.

What's Your Hobby? . . .

## Disability No Hindrance To Active Amateur Bobby Smith

NOT one to be easily disheartened, Bobby E. Smith, a victim of arthritis since he was 13, and continuously bedridden since an accident in 1946, has set for himself a pace that might floor more able-bodied men. This is especially true in the field of amateur radio in which the youthful Mr. Smith is perhaps the most active "ham" anywhere in the state. (If the number of calls hams enter in their log books is the determining factor, Mr. Smith's record of nearly 900 so far this year could well establish him as first in activity among North Carolina radio amateurs.)

Whether or not he has set a record makes little difference. The fact that he has been able to conquer the monotony and despair that usually accompany total disability is significant, and doubtless serves as a source of envy for many of his friends whose most disturbing disabilities are occasional colds.

"I've really fallen hard for this," he says as he points to the big, bold "W4DRC" that adorns his Viking transmitter. "Nothing I've ever done before has the appeal of amateur radio. Since January 28, 1954 this has been my constant companion." A sweep of the hand across the control panel of his compact and easily accessible ham station said as much as his words. Here, stretched across his bed on a movable table, was his contact with the world outside—a world that reached from England to California already.

HIS station log shows the extent of this new found circle of friends. They represent 24 states, England, and several South American countries. If his average of 20 calls (completed 2-way radio contacts with other hams) a day con-

tinues he believes he will have "worked" every state in the union and many foreign countries by another month.

"This rig gets out pretty well," he explained in what was, if anything, an understatement. "I've had extra good luck lately on 10 meters (one of the amateur bands); worked England on that band as easy as I'm talking to you," he was warming up his rig as he talked.

"This is W4DRC . . . W4-dog-roger-charlie. . . in Gastonia calling CQ, CQ, CQ." The silence following was short-lived.

"W4DRC this is W4OBC, over." With that a contact was made, the 880th to be exact, and Bobby Smith, son of veteran employee John Smith (Cloth Room) was once again beaming out to hams far and near the mixture of pleasantries and technical jargon that they call "rag chewing."

Whatever the name, it makes the clock hands fly and can be replaced anytime by emergency messages for which hams around the world are noted. That's why it appeals to Bobby Smith.

## Fishing Club Rules

WHEN TO JOIN—Between now and June 4. (No members after that date).

HOW TO JOIN?—By signing membership blank at Firestone Men's Club or from any member of Fishing Club. (A prize will be given to person signing up most members).

PRIZES FOR BEST CATCHES!—A prize will be given to each member who catches biggest fish in each of the following nine groups or classifications (between now and October 31). Small Mouth Bass — Large Mouth Bass — Calico Bass — Crappie — Yellow Perch — Bream — Trout — Catfish — Carp — Pike.

GRAND PRIZE—In each club will go to member who catches the biggest bass.

"TOUGH LUCK" STORY—A prize will be given in each club for the best "Tough Luck" story submitted.

### HOW TO ENTER THE CONTEST

1. The contests are open for fishing club members only.
2. Get contest blanks from clerk in Men's Club.
3. The fish are to be caught with hook and line.
4. The weight of the fish is to be written in ink by the weigh station operator.
5. Contest blanks should be turned in at Men's Club where they will be filed until the end of the contest on October 31, 1954. After this date if you catch a fish, you may enter it in next year's contest.

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