

# Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

Want to win some money and help promote safety in your Company?

Remember November 30 is the closing date of the Safety Slogan Contest. Get entry blanks at the Personnel Office or from your department overseer or second hand.

The Firestone Company is one of America's 50 top corporations whose common stock shares are most widely held in the portfolios of the nation's 175 investment companies, says the 1954 edition of Investment Companies.

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"...To All Who Are Willing To Work, To Think, And To Dare,  
The American Way Brings Rich Rewards."

## Firestone Cites Prosperity Of America; Declares Youth Has Great Opportunity

The youth of America has greater opportunities than ever before in various fields of human endeavor, Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., told the Florida State Chamber of Commerce, meeting in Miami, November 16.

Speaking to the Chamber's 38th annual convention on "The American Way," the Chairman of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company observed that the word "opportunity" has no equivalent in some languages.

"To people living under totalitarianism, however, this omission is not serious," he said. "They have little need for such a word. But it is a priceless word in the vocabulary of an American, and it will become increasingly meaningful as time goes on."

**Free Enterprise Aids Prosperity**  
The United States has become "the most prosperous, the most powerful and the most successful nation on earth," the Akron executive declared. This is due in part to the creation in this country of an economic system based on competitive free enterprise, he said.

Under this economic system, Mr.

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## Plant Will Take Holiday Nov. 25

The entire Plant, warehouse and general office will close on Thursday, November 25, in observance of Thanksgiving Day, announcement has been made from the office of General Manager Harold Mercer.

Operations will stop at 11 p. m., Wednesday, November 24, and will resume at 11 p. m., Thursday, November 25.

## Employees Contributed \$9,982.75 In Community Fund Drive

Personnel of Firestone Textiles, Gastonia, contributed a grand total of \$9,982.75 to the employee's Community Fund for 1955, conducted in conjunction with the Greater Gastonia United Fund campaign, announcement was made from the office of General Superintendent Nelson Kessell, chairman of the drive this year.

Plant officials were encouraged by the response to the solicitation effort which was conducted October 28 through November 5. Chairman Kessell was pleased with the outcome of the campaign, and said, "Our employees are convinced that the once-a-year drive for funds is the most practical way to get a very worthwhile job done in supporting the various deserving agencies and charities."

General Manager Harold Mercer registering satisfaction over results of the plant-wide campaign, stated: "The generous response of Firestone Textiles indicates that the united way of giving has been permanently accepted by our employees, as a way of doing a successful job for these most worthy causes."

Altogether there were seventeen agencies which received contributions from Firestone workers. Receiving the greatest amount was

the March of Dimes. The American Cancer Society was designated to receive the second highest contribution, with the Heart Fund, third highest.

Other contributions were designated for the following agencies and charities: Children's Home Society, Gaston County Big Brothers, Florence Crittenden Home, Girl Scouts, Salvation Army, Red

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Shield Boys' Club, American Red Cross, United Defense Fund (U. S. O.), Gaston County Life Saving and First Aid Crew, Cerebral Palsy Association, Gaston County Tuberculosis Association, Boy Scouts, Optimist Club, and Radio Free Europe.

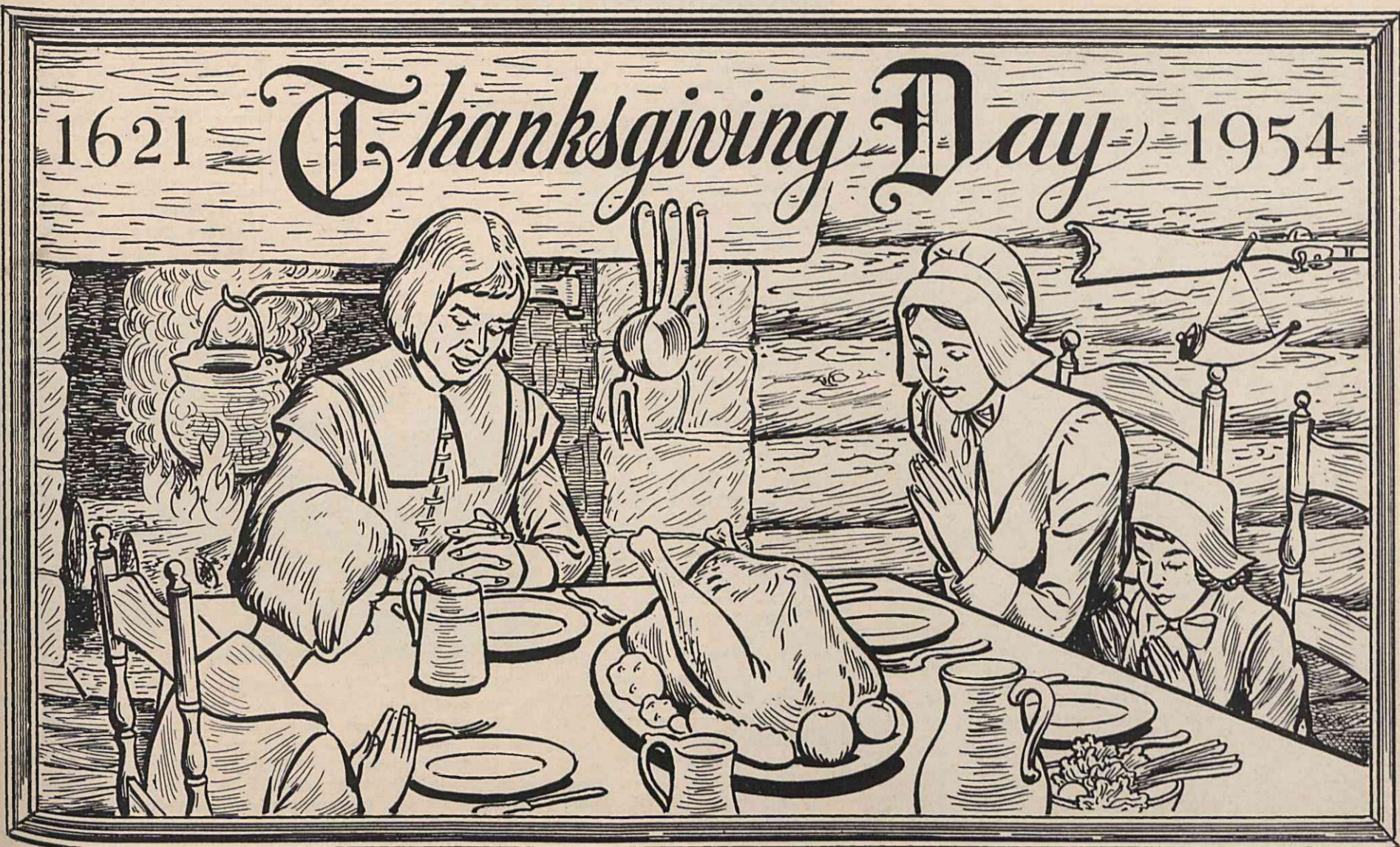
In the collection of funds, giving was placed on a voluntary basis.

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## Comptroller Requests Reports On Change Of Dependency Status

If your dependency status has changed since January 1, 1954, it is necessary that you transmit such change to the Payroll Department without delay. In this request for up-to-date records on employees of Firestone Textiles, Comptroller E. J. Mechem explains that the information sought is of vital necessity for the purpose of reporting to state income tax authorities.

"In the past we have circularized our employees about once a year for the confirmation of their dependency status for tax reporting," said Mr. Mechem. "We believe that this vital matter may be adequately handled this year through the plant newspaper."



This drawing, prepared especially for Firestone News, depicts the spirit of the first Thanksgiving in America. Edward Winslow, leader in the Plymouth Colony, wrote to one of his friends in England late in 1621: "Our harvest being got in, our Governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might, after a special manner, rejoice together, after we had gathered the fruits of our labors. Some ninety people entertained and feasted for three days. By the goodness of God we are so free from want that we often wish you partakers of our plenty."