THE PRICE OF GREATNESS IS RESPONSIBILITY.
—Winston Churchill

Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

THE BUSINESS OF LIFE IS TO GO FORWARD.
—Samuel Johnson

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Review Tire Cord Fabric Production

ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, W. A. Karl, President of Firestone Textiles, accompanied by 8 other officials and engineers flew here from Akron in a company plane to attend an all-day conference at the local plant. The meeting was devoted to a review of production of rayon and nylon tire cord fabrics, and to a discussion of plans for future operations. At the conclusion of the conference, the entire party left for Akron. Members of the Akron party are shown here with officials and engineers of the local plant. They are, front row, from left: T. M. Kersker, W. A. Karl, Harold Mercer, J. N. Street.

Second row: C. W. Pentecost, G. L. Bruggemeier, Nelson Kessell, R. B. Hull, R. V. Guelich. Third row: W. P. Ellis, W. G. Henson, D. J. Haefka, J. V. Darwin, H. F. Umstott. Back row: D. E. Howe, J. M. Tengea, I. S. Bull, C. E. Moss, and T. B. Ipock, Jr.

Pan American Week April 10-16

The week of April 10 is being observed nationally as Pan American Week. In a proclamation issued by President Eisenhower, April 14 was fixed as Pan American Day. The President urged the people of this country "to give particular expression to their fraternal feeling toward the peoples of the other American Republics and to their devotion to the maintenance of the principles which we share with them."

Pan American Day is traditionally observed on April 14. In 1890 the first International Conference of American States, meeting in Washington, was held on that date. A resolution adopted then resulted in the creation of the organization known today as the Pan American Union.

Sellers Named Scholarship Winner

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Is Third From N. C. To Receive Firestone Grant

A college education extending over the usual period of four years will be the reward to Bobby Eugene Sellers of Bessemer City, as a winner in the Firestone College Scholarship Program for 1955.

The student, whose father, Clyde W. Sellers, is employed in the SYC Weaving Department here, is one of 21 sons and daughters of Company employees in 10 states to be awarded scholarships. The announcement came March 29 from Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., Chairman of the Company.

Sellers, a senior at Bessemer City Central High School, will be allowed to attend any college or university of his choice in the United States, providing it is an accredited institution.

The Bessemer City youth has been an outstanding student throughout his high school days. Last year he was vice-president of the Junior Class, and through his scholastic record and leadership abilities became a member of the National Honorary Beta Club.

In addition to his high scholastic attainments he has been an active participant in sports including football, basketball and baseball. This year he was captain of the basketball team, and co-captain of the football team.

In his senior year he was voted "The Best Personality" and "Most Athletic" in his class. He is vice-president of the Senior Class, president of the Radio Club at the school, and has served as business manager of the staff of the school annual.

Young Sellers plans to study engineering when he enters college under the Scholarship Program next fall.

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THE AWARDING OF 21 scholarships this year brings to 63 the number of students who have won Firestone College Scholarships in the three years the program has been in effect.

Although only 15 annual Firestone Scholarship awards were an-

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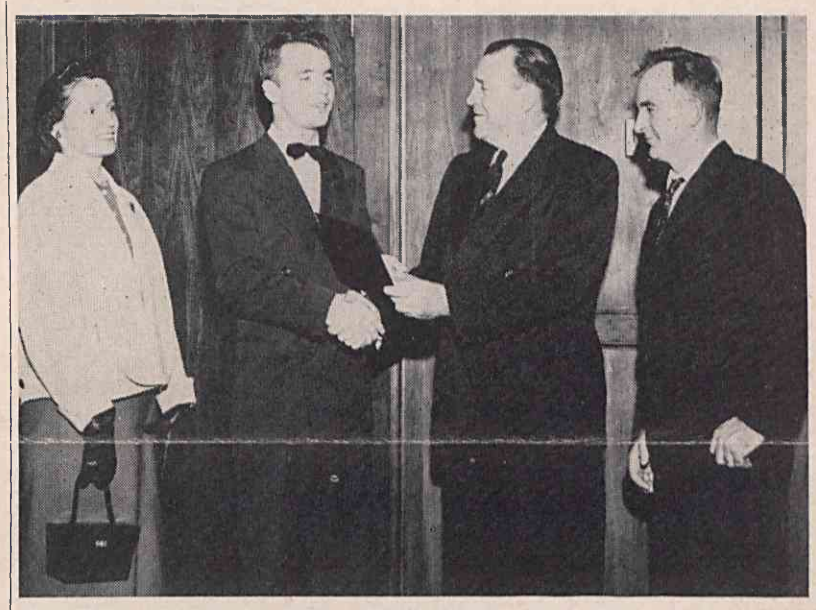

BOBBY SELLERS receives his Scholarship award certificate and congratulations from General Manager Harold Mercer, as Mr. and Mrs. Sellers look on.

Anniversary Program, May 3-7

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Will Mark 20 Years' Progress Here

More than 14,000 persons are expected to tour the 5-floor building of Firestone Textiles, when the plant here will hold Open House May 3-7, to celebrate its 20 years of progress in Gastonia. Planned tours open to schools, civic groups, employees and the general public will be conducted. This will be the first time the plant has opened its doors to the general public.

Detailed plans for the Open House were announced by General Manager Harold Mercer, on the 20th anniversary of Firestone's coming to Gastonia, April 1, 1935.

Governor Luther Hodges is being invited to a luncheon on May 5. On that day a banquet will honor 100 employees with 20 years longevity. They will be awarded watches and service pins.

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INVITATIONS are also being sent to the state commissioner of labor, other state, county and city officials, and to many textile leaders of this and other sections. Official visitors will include several Company officials from Akron.

The celebration will be climaxed Saturday, May 7, with a barbecue and entertainment lasting five hours in the company parking lot on Firestone boulevard, between Second and Franklin. This event is intended for the 2,300 employees and their families. They will be served between 11 a. m., and 4 p. m. Prizes will be awarded that night at a square dance.

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A TENTATIVE schedule of the 5-day jubilee program includes:

Tuesday, May 3: Plant tours for employees and their families. Tours from 9:30 to 9 p. m.

Wednesday, May 4: Tours for school children from the junior and senior high schools, both white and Negro. Teachers will accompany their classes. Tours to be held from 9 a. m. till 12 noon, and from 1:30 to 5 p. m.

Thursday, May 5: Tours by civic

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Freedoms Foundation Honor Goes To Company Newspapers

The Firestone Company's nine U. S. plant publications have received the George Washington Honor Medal for distinguished service from the Freedoms Foundation of Valley Forge, Pa., for "outstanding achievement in helping to bring about a better understanding of the American Way of Life during 1954."

In addition to the award to the Company, Mary Kerrigan, Supervisor of Employee Publications, received a George Washington Honor Medal. Miss Kerrigan also received this honor in 1952 and 1953.

This is the third consecutive year that the publications as a group have received an award from the Foundation. In 1953 and 1954 they received the top award in the company employee publications category of the Freedoms Foundation's annual awards program for their work in 1952 and 1953.

The publications are under the direction of the Firestone Department of Public Relations, of which William D. Hines is Director.

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THE PUBLICATIONS in the various plant cities and their editors are:

Firestone Non-Skid, home plants, Akron, Ohio, Jean Sonnhalter; **Firestone Californian**, Los Angeles, Paul W. Neff; **Firestone Southerner**, Memphis, Tenn., Nick Pinter; **Firestone News**, Pottstown, Pa., D. E. Story; **Firestone News**, Gastonia, N. C., Claude Callaway; **Ravenna Arsenal News**, Ravenna, Ohio, Diane Neass; **Firestone Hoosier**, Noblesville, Ind., Kenneth M. Wright; **Firestone Hawkeye**, Des Moines, Ia., Ralph C. Darrow; **Firestone News**, Fall River, Mass., Thurlow Cannon.

The object of the Foundation's annual awards program is to honor outstanding efforts to improve public understanding and appreciation of our basic Constitutional Rights and Freedoms inherent in the American Way of Life.

Announcement of the awards is made each year at Freedoms Foundation Headquarters at Valley Forge on George Washington's birthday.

While working, protect your eyes. They're the only two you'll ever have!