

Plant Honored For Safety Record Made Last Year

At a dinner meeting in the Girls Club in late September, Firestone Textiles was formally awarded an achievement plaque for its outstanding safety record during 1954.

THE HONOR came from the North Carolina Cotton Manufacturers' Association in cooperation with the State Industrial Commission. It was an award for the plant's record in leading all other North Carolina industries of more than 1,100 employees in the state Safety Commission's state-wide contest during 1954. That year, Firestone had only three accidents, a record unmatched by other large firms in the state.

At the recent presentation meeting here, G. D. Cross of Akron, Ohio, told approximately 60 employees—most of whom were supervisory personnel—that "accidents, no matter how minor, cost money and human suffering." Mr. Cross is director of safety and supervisory training for the Company.

Citing the Firestone Textiles record for safety in the current year, Cross emphasized that in safety each year must show an improvement over the previous one, and urged "increased safety consciousness."

THE PLANT'S safety record thus far in 1955—although below that of 1954—is good when com-

pared to other companies of similar size, the speaker pointed out.

During the past year, the plant divided its supervisory personnel into four teams. These teams competed against each other for the best safety record.

Team Number 2, captained by C. E. Moss, Sr., was first-place winner. At the plaque-presentation meeting each member of the winning team received a Parker "21" pen and pencil set.

TEAMS, besides the winning one, were: No. 1, General Superintendent Nelson Kessell, captain; No. 3, Francis Galligan, Superintendent of the Cotton Division, captain; No. 4, Phil Williams, assistant to Mr. Galligan, captain.

Scoring in the supervisory safety contest was based on record of absence of lost-time accidents in the departments each month, wearing of safety shoes and prescription safety glasses, personal contacts in the interest of safety promotion, attendance at monthly safety meetings, and number of approved safety suggestions or refinements made in the departments.



SAFETY TROPHY—For the best safety record in 1954 of North Carolina plants employing over 1,000 persons, Firestone received a plaque, accepted here by General Manager Harold Mercer (left) from H. S. Baucom, director of the State Industrial Commission. At right is G. D. Cross, safety director and head of supervisory training for the Firestone organization. At extreme left, L. B. McAbee, Director of Safety here.



RECOGNIZED FOR SAFETY LEADERSHIP—These supervisors made up a portion of Team 2, which was honored recently at a dinner meeting for the team's winning first place in the safety contest during 1954. In front row, from left: Tracy Whitener, Paul Walker, Clyde Moss (team captain), W. G. Henson, Sr. Back row: H. A. Cauthen, I. S. Bull, W. H. Dilling, and G. A. Perry.

Members of the team not present for the photograph were R. E. Conrad, Frank Davis, Fred Morrow, Luither Foy, Ed Taylor and D. J. Haefka. Mr. Haefka had been transferred to Akron at the time of the safety dinner meeting here.

Carson Is Judge In Field Trials

John R. Carson, Jr., son of J. R. Carson, plant guard, and Mrs. Carson, Cord Weaving, was one of the judges in the South Carolina Fox Hunters' Association field trials, held at Clinton, October 4-6. At the meet, hunters brought some 300 dogs from several states.

Carson, who has 12 fox-hunting dogs of his own in Gastonia, spent a recent week hunting in eastern North Carolina.

ELEVENTH MONTH HAS VARIETY

Holidays and Anniversaries Fill Calendar In November

The Saxons called it Windmonath, as the winds then blew furiously and the fishermen drew their boats on the beach to wait for the calmer weather of spring.

To Americans, November is a month of football games, Armistice Day, harvest-home festivals and Thanksgiving Day.

It is a month of 30 days ideal for work and play and nights cool enough for sleeping. There is a zip in the air and restraint in the midday sun. And with the coming of frost, those first pink tendrils of morning look airish and brittle. Trees have shaken off their garb of colors and animals are busy making preparation for winter. Fields yield their goodness and there is settling influence that touches everything.

NOVEMBER was the ninth month in the old Roman calendar, and was named from the Latin word meaning "ninth." When the Gregorian Calendar (the one we have now) was revised—making the year begin with January instead of March—November became the eleventh month without any change in its historic name.

November begins with All Souls' Day which traditionally

ARRIVALS

Edgar Evans Wright, III

Two members of the Spencer family—both employed here, became a grandmother and a great-grandfather at the same time in September.

Edgar Evans Wright III, made his earthward trip at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Millington, Tenn., September 17.

The father, Edgar Evans Wright, Jr., is serving with the U.S. Marine Corps. The mother, the former Jo Ann Spencer, is a daughter of Mrs. Mazella Spencer of Rayon Weaving; and a granddaughter of J. E. Spencer, personnel interviewer here.

The child, first in the Edgar Wright family, weighed seven and one-half pounds.

Plant Engineer I. S. Bull and Mrs. Bull announce the birth of a son at Memorial Hospital on Sunday, October 9. The child, who weighed seven pounds and two ounces, has been named David Jackson Bull.

Ralph Carson, plant guard, and Mrs. Carson, splicer in Cord Weaving, became grandparents of a baby girl on October 1, born to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Lutz in Nashville, Tenn. The mother is the Carsons' daughter. The grandmother went to Nashville to visit the Lutz family when the baby arrived.

Private and Mrs. John D. Wiggins announce the birth of a daughter, Nancy Ellen, on September 30. Private Wiggins is the son of Mrs. Rosalie Burger, starter maker, in Spooling. The father is stationed at Fort Eustis, Va.



The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company
Akron 17, Ohio

Dear Mr. Mercer:

Mr. Karl has just shown me your letter to him stating that the Gastonia Plant was the winner in Group 7 (factories employing over 1151 people) of the Statewide Textile Safety Contest.

My congratulations to you and the entire personnel of the Gastonia Plant. Of course, it is well appreciated by me that a record such as this is only attained by the wholehearted cooperation of every man and woman in the Plant. It is they who make the record, and to them go my congratulations.

J. E. TRAINER
Executive Vice President

The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company
Firestone Textiles Division
Akron, Ohio

Dear Mr. Mercer:

It is especially gratifying to learn that Gastonia was the trophy winner in Group 7 of the 1954 Statewide Textile Safety Contest. To attain this position naturally requires continued vigilance on the part of your entire organization. My congratulations to you; Mr. McAbee, your Safety Director, and to your entire organization since they had a part in making this record possible.

W. A. KARL
President
Firestone Textiles

Firestone NEWS

Volume IV, No. 17, November, 1955

Published by The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, Firestone Textiles Division, Gastonia, North Carolina. Department of Public Relations

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Claude Callaway, Editor