



SEASONS GREETINGS

To The Men and Women of Firestone Textiles

Christmas is near. I am sure each of you is planning to observe it in his own way with family and friends. As we look over the year, each of us can see much to be thankful for. More important, perhaps, is the fact that our future here in America is bright, too.

With the warmth of the Christmas Season upon us, it is easy to forget that there are millions of people in the world whose most wanted gift this year is freedom—freedom to work, to speak, to worship, to rear their families in their own way and without fear.

For them, no material blessings can provide a substitute for things which we so often take for granted. On Christmas Day, we'll attend our churches. Our children are being taught good citizenship and respect for the dignity of the individual. These are expressions of freedom. Last month we made our selection of public officials to represent us in government, and that was freedom.

As we enjoy the holiday season, let us

remember that first Christmas nearly 2,000 years ago when angels spoke words that have been an inspiration throughout the centuries: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

By living these words, we can have not only the kind of Christmas we want but also the kind of world we want, for ourselves and for our children.

Within our own plant, I think we have set a fine example of how men of good will can work together, each respecting the other's talents and all benefiting from each other's accomplishments.

Let us sincerely pray that the day will soon come when men and women everywhere will know more of the blessings that we Americans have enjoyed during 1956.

With this thought, I extend to you and your family my sincerest wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Harold Mercer

General Manager

Carding

New employees in Carding are **Claude Bolick**, picker tender, and **Billy Free**, can hauler.

Arthur Ray Davis, son of **Alfonzo Davis**, sweeper, was admitted as a patient to the Orthopedic Hospital, Gastonia, in November.

Frank Bradley, father of **Opal Bradley**, drawing tender, was a November patient at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

Theodore Rape, brother of **Carl Rape**, second hand, was a patient at Duke Hospital, Durham, N. C., in early November.

The wife of **Cletus Starr**, intermediate tender, has been a patient at a Durham, N. C., hospital.

Main Office

Misses **Jerry Barton**, **Doris McCready**, both of Payroll; **Sue Shepherd**, Shipping, **La Ree Windham** and **Betty Kelly** spent a recent day in Cherokee, N. C., and other parts of Western North Carolina.

Mrs. Clayton Wilson, Payroll supervisor, had as recent week-end guests, her niece, Mrs. Donald M. Horne and son Tim of Norfolk, Va.

Herbert Broaden has returned to work after a period of illness.

Personnel

Miss **Barbara Abernathy** entertained a guest from Columbia, S. C., the second week-end in November.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kilby had as week-end guests in November, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde White of Statesville, N. C. Mrs. White is a sister of Mrs. Kilby.

Spinning

A family get-together in Startex, S. C., in November was occasion for renewed acquaintances and introductions to long-lost relatives of some employees here. **Mrs. Maude Guffey**, Spinning, and mother, Mrs. L. M. Guffey, joined Mr. and Mrs. Claude Guffey and Eva Wheeler, to visit Mrs. Vesta Davidson and family at Startex. Mrs. Davidson is a niece of Mrs. L. M. Guffey. On this occasion a number of other relatives came for the family gathering.

Irene Anthony has returned home after treatment in a local hospital.

Glenn Bell, roving hoister, has been out from work on account of an injured leg.

Recent visitors in the home of **Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Johnson** were Mrs. Lee Johnson and daughter, Becky Leigh of Marion, Ind. Lee Johnson is a ministerial student at Marion College, Marion, Ind.

Mrs. Lucy Phillips recently underwent surgery at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Brown were recent visitors of the Reverend Mr. and Mrs. B. Dean Brown of Jamestown, N. C.

Mrs. Henry Hovis, daughter of **O. M. Taylor**, section man, and Mrs. Taylor has been a patient at Kings Mountain Hospital.

Mrs. J. D. McAllister of Magnolia, Miss., was a recent visitor of her sister-in-law, **Mrs. Margaret Matthews**.

Estelle Cooper attended a fall conference of the Church of God Sunday Schools in Statesville, N. C.

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Company Wears Many Hats--Including Yours

"The Company" just came out with a new product. "The Company" has broadened its policy. "The Company" favors better roads. "The Company" does this; "The Company" does that.

Every day people speak about that intangible something "the Company" and what it needs and what it gives.

SOME SPEAK of it reverently as though it were super-natural. Others speak of it worriedly as though it were an octopus. Some speak of it affectionately as though it were a doting grandfather. Some speak of it confusedly. They're not sure just what it is.

Well, what is it, this "Company" we speak of so often? What is this invisible something that is so many things to so many people?

"The Company" is people—what people depends on the point of view.

TO THE MAN next door, "the Company" is you.

To the person looking for a job, it's the interviewer.

To the casual visitor, it's the receptionist or the escort.

To the union committee, it's the management men across the table.

To the supplier, it's the buyer.

To the dealer, it's the man who gets him machinery.

To the fund chairman, it's the person who gives him a cheque.

TO US EMPLOYEES, it's our supervisors.

"The Company" is not always the same person. It is not always the same group of persons.

So when we talk about "the Company" we should think of whom we speak. "The Company" wears many hats—including yours. The way you wear yours determines, in part, what people think of "the Company".

—Caterpillar Folks.

Wintertime Driving Means Extra Care

In December, winter driving conditions prevail in many parts of the Mid-South. Careful observance of simple and sound suggestions made by the National Safety Council's Committee on Winter Driving and by the N. C. Department of Motor Vehicles, can prevent injury and loss of life on the highways.

The rules may be summarized this way:

Adjust speed to road and weather conditions after getting the "feel" of the road.

Follow at a safe distance. Pump brakes for stopping on snow or ice.

Make sure that tires are in good condition. Use tire chains when necessary.

A bag of sand carried along can also help you out of sleet, snow and ice.

Keep windshield and windows clean at all times. Keep headlights and windshield wipers in good working order. A dependable defroster is often a necessary item for safety.

Accept personal responsibility for keeping your car safe for driving under all winter conditions.

THE COVER

Charlotte artist James Barnette has combined portions of two churches in the Firestone community to depict the meaning of the Advent Season. At the left of the cover is the center portion of the window above the main entrance to Loray Baptist Church. The front of Firestone Wesleyan Methodist Church looms in the background. Scripture quotation is Verse 14, Chapter 1, The Gospel According to John, King James Version.

Flu Immunizations Go To 642

Plant Physician W. B. Parks has reported that 642 employees received flu immunization shots in late October and early November. The immunizations, made available free to all employees who desire the service, will be repeated in a series beginning around the latter part of January. This will be approximately three months after October 15—beginning date for the season's first round of shots.

Dr. Parks explains that the influenza preventive usually gives little or no unfavorable reaction. It is administered intradermally,

that is, it is injected into the skin.

PUBLIC HEALTH records reveal that influenza leads the list of all reportable communicable diseases every year in the United States, and that it often reaches epidemic proportions.

The vaccine has proved 75 to 80 per cent effective against the malady.

Watch the bulletin boards throughout the plant for announcement of the season's next series of flu immunizations.

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DEPARTMENT REPORTERS

CARDING—Edna Harris, Jessie Westmoreland.

SPINNING—Lillie Brown, Mary Turner, Maude Guffey.

SPOOLING—Nell Bolick, Ophelia Wallace, Rosalie Burger.

TWISTING—Elease Cole, Corrie Johnson, Louise Long, Dean Haun, Vera Carswell, Katie Elkins.

SALES YARN TWISTING—Elmina Bradshaw.

SYC WEAVING—Lucille Davis.

CORD WEAVING—Irene Odell, Mary Johnson.

QUALITY CONTROL—Sally Crawford, Leila Rape, and Louella Queen.

WINDING—Mayzelle Lewis, Elizabeth Harris, Hazel Nolen.

CLOTH ROOM—Margie Waldrep.

SHOP—Rosie Francum.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE—Sue Van Dyke.

PLASTIC DIP—Jennie Bradley.

MAIN OFFICE—Doris McCready.

PERSONNEL—Nancy Gragg.

WAREHOUSE—Patsy Haynes, George Harper, Albert Meeks, Rosevelt Rainey.

Claude Callaway, Editor