

Firestone NEWS

The doorstep to the temple of wisdom is a knowledge of one's own ignorance. —C. H. Spurgeon

The path to success is paved with good intentions that were carried out. —Robert Edwards

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IN NORTH CAROLINA

Outstanding Safety Program Earns Tenth-Year Citation

*Plant Also Shares With Company
In World-Wide Honors*

For the tenth consecutive year the plant has won commendation for its outstanding program of accident control. The honor, given jointly by the North Carolina and the United States Departments of Labor, was handed out in a ceremony at Masonic Temple on April 11. Plant Safety Director Alvin V. Riley received the award on behalf of the Company, from State Labor Commissioner Frank Crane. In addition to the Firestone award, there were presented certificates of honor to 42 other industrial plants in Gaston County for their safety record in 1956.

Of all the plants honored, Firestone Textiles was the only one which received the tenth-year recognition.

The award winners qualified for the state honors in one of three ways: (1) By reducing the plant accident frequency rate 40 per cent or more last year, compared with the plant's rate the year before; (2) by having a record of no lost-time injuries last year; (3) by maintaining an injury rate 75 per cent below the state average for the particular industry.

BASED on an average number of employees of 1,916, the plant here in 1956 accrued a total of 3,897,087 manhours with only four reportable injuries.

With this attainment of the safety program last year, Firestone was a generous contributor to the outstanding record in industry for Gaston County in 1956. The 43 plants honored on April 11 operated a total of 14,790,194 manhours during the year with only 27 lost-time accidents. Altogether they had a 1956 frequency rate of just 1.8 lost-time injuries per million manhours.

"The combined injury rate of just 1.8 lost-time injuries per million manhours represents a splendid accomplishment in the field of accident prevention," Commissioner Crane said.

Last year the state-wide in-

dustrial accident rate was 8.3 lost-time injuries per million manhours worked.

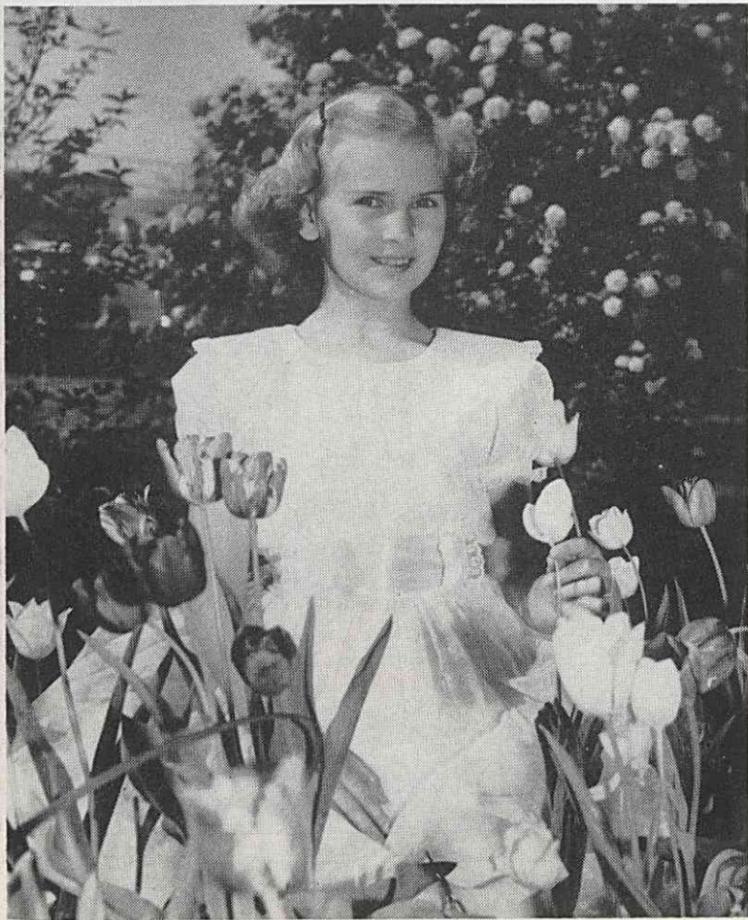
IN MAKING the presentations, Mr. Crane noted:

"Preventing accidents on the job requires a sustained team effort between management and workers. The awards which I present are tokens of your achievement in preventing human suffering and curtailing economic waste. They are intended to recognize the coopera-

tive work and vigilance of each plant official, supervisor, foreman and worker whose planning and practice of safety on the job have made it possible for us to present the awards to you."

Large-plant honors, which are for establishments having 50 or more employees, are joint presentations of the North Carolina and United States Departments of Labor. Awards for smaller plants are from the North Carolina Department of Labor.

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O SPRING COME PRETTILY IN

Spring has lighted her candles everywhere and once more the withered year has been redeemed. That's what the poet said. The new world of green leaves and fresh blossoms—not to mention the mysterious resurgence of zest for living—serves as a reminder of springtime's new horizons. To this, you may add: Hopes reborn and a million other exciting things which the heart can feel in the season of Nature's awakening.

To Katherine Sanders, spring means all these things, and others, too. Such as the upcoming respite from classes at Central School and days and days of fun under Mid-South skies. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sanders, 1740 Poston circle. Her mother works in Main Office.

Expanding Textiles Industry Offers Broad Opportunities

To young people with ability, ambition and determination, the gates of opportunity are open in textiles—the nation's third largest industry and North Carolina's first.

Textile manufacturers are searching for those with training and ability to fill responsible positions in the industry that in North Carolina amounts to 2.5 billions of dollars as compared with 900 millions of dollars for agricultural products.

In recent months demand has been mounting for graduates from North Carolina State College's School of Textiles. According to information from the research coordinator at the School, the graduate there can have his choice of more than a half-dozen jobs. And the pay, as well as the in-plant training, is equal to—if not better than—any other industry.

William A. Newell of the School's research department said that the excellent opportunities for employment in the industry are indicated by the fact that in a recent year one

company alone wanted more trained workers than the number in the entire textile graduating class of the same year at N. C. State College.

INDICATIONS are that there will be an even greater demand for trained workers as the textile industry expands, prepares to manufacture a wider range of goods, adjusts its physical assets to the new age of automation, Newell said.

A variety of jobs, he added, embracing virtually all management and scientific talents, are open to textile school graduates. He said that graduates are needed in production, sales and merchandising, production planning and control, chemistry, research, quality control, machinery development and sales, fabric design and development, industrial engineering and management.

Located principally in North Carolina and adjoining states, the textile industry offers jobs within the state and enables young men and women to enter careers in their native state,

thus helping to build up the economic levels and raise the per capita income.

Newell pointed out that research holds the key to further revolutionary improvements in the textile industry.

With its annual research budget of around \$436,000—98 per cent of which is invested by the textile industry—the School of Textiles has been buying and is continuing to buy textile machinery equipment at the rate of \$75,000 a year which, with state appropriations, has enabled the institution to assemble the best in teaching and research facilities.



SYMBOL of top safety performance at the plant: The plaque presented by N. C. State Labor Commissioner Frank Crane (center), to Safety Director Alvin Riley. With them is Brice T. Dickson, executive secretary of the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce, sponsor of the awards program April 11.

Scholarship To Daughter Of Employee

Miss Irva Frances Smith, daughter of Dave Smith, plant guard, and Mrs. Smith, has been awarded a \$150 scholarship by the Gastonia Pilot Club. Miss Smith, a student at Gardner-Webb College, Boiling Springs, is the first to receive the scholarship, instituted this year.

The club president said the recipient was chosen for her ability, participation in many activities in college, and because she is a major in business administration. After this school year, she plans to transfer to

Appalachian State at Boone, to continue studies in business administration.

While at Gardner-Webb, Miss Smith has been prominent in school and campus affairs.

In 1956 the employee's daughter was in the Miss Shelby beauty contest, and last year was chosen Homecoming Queen at Gardner-Webb. As a member of Loray Baptist Church she is active in young people's work. She was once a regional winner in the young people's Speakers Tournament.