

Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

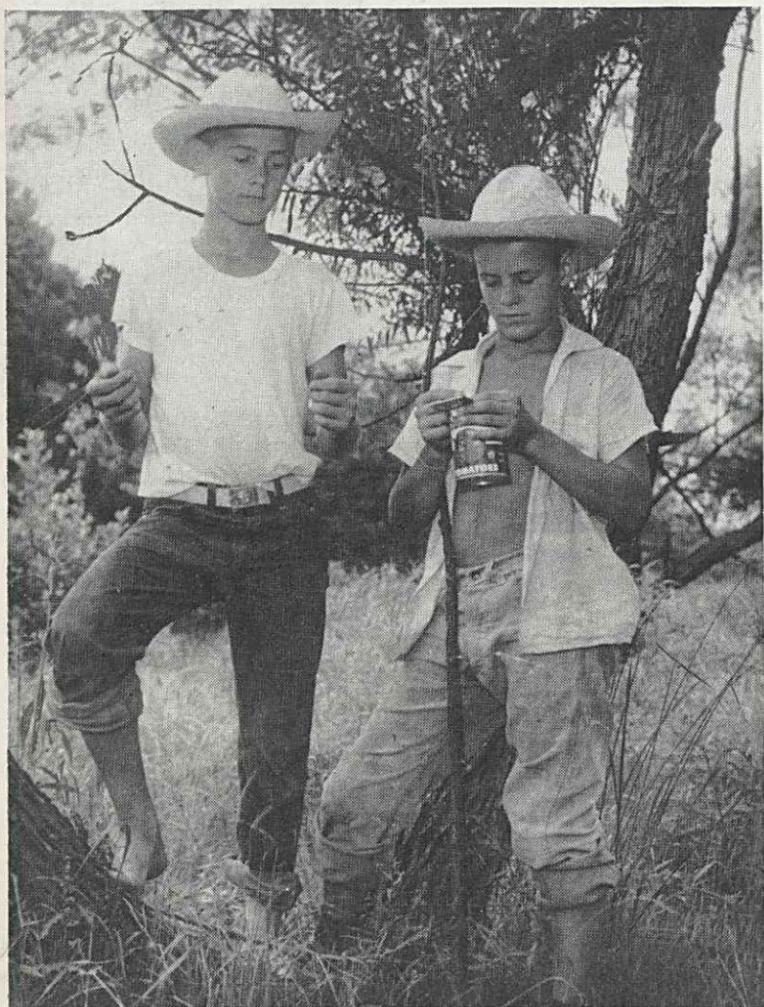
GASTONIA, N. C. JULY, 1957

No. 7

Our liberty can never be safe
but in the hands of the people
themselves. —Thomas Jefferson

Democracy is a method of our
getting ahead without leaving any
of us behind. —T. V. Smith

VOLUME VI



JOHN CHARLES CONE: 1957

Top Honor Given For Scouting Excellence

"It's usually crowded at the bottom of the ladder, but there aren't nearly so many competitors when you are nearing the top rung." So philosophized President Charles Bryant of the Piedmont Council, BSA, upon congratulating the 1957 winner of the Company's highest honor in Scouting.

John Charles Cone, rated outstanding in all phases of the Boy Scout program, has become the 12th Gastonia area recipient of the award named for the Company Chairman. The 16-year-old boy from Troop 11, Gastonia, is an Eagle Scout with 22 merit badges.

At the annual Scout Banquet on June 13, the winner received from General Manager Harold Mercer a silver medallion, a Certificate of Merit, a \$100 U. S. Savings Bond and a check for \$25.75 for expenses of two weeks at Camp Lanier for Boy Scouts, near Tryon, N. C.

Each of the other 49 boys received from Cotton Division Superintendent F. B. Galligan, a Merit Certificate and a check for \$25.75 for camp expenses or for purchase of scouting equipment.

IN ANNOUNCING the winner of the top award, Recreation Director Ralph Johnson commented: "Each one of the 50 Scouts nominated, and who qualified for this year's awards, was a top winner. But the winner of the medallion had just a little more on the ball than the others."

This year's award winner is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cone of 1025 South Belvedere avenue, and is a student at Ashley High School. After joining the Boy Scouts four years ago, he became a Star Scout, a Life Scout, then an Eagle.

The Harvey S. Firestone, Jr. Award provides an incentive for Scouts to work a little harder toward improvement and at-

tainment. It was originally named for John W. Thomas, honoring a former Company Chairman. Since Mr. Thomas' death, the present Chairman has promoted Boy Scout interests in U. S. cities where the Company operates major plants.

SCOUTS contesting for the Firestone award are appraised on their Scout record, church record, school record and their scoutcraft project. Cone's project was a picnic table which he built in 33 hours. It consists of dual sections which convert to

two benches when not in use as a table.

An added feature of the Scout Banquet this year was the special recognition given previous winners of the top award. Five of the eleven were present.

Also attending was John Lester Cloninger, Eagle Scout of Dallas, who last summer won the Medal of Honor for Life Saving. He is the only Scout of the Piedmont Council to win this medal. Governor Luther Hodges has nominated him for the Young American Award for Heroism.



John Charles Cone receives congratulations and the medallion of the Harvey S. Firestone, Jr. Award from General Manager Harold Mercer. Another Scout Banquet picture is on page 8.

IN LIBERIA

Edifice Memorial Of Company Founder

The Harvey S. Firestone Science Building at the University of Liberia in Monrovia is said to be the finest edifice of its kind in the West African republic where the Firestone Company has extensive rubber-growing interests.

The structure, dedicated recently, was made possible largely through a gift of \$50,000 from Harvey S. Firestone, Jr. The Company Chairman participated in the cornerstone-laying ceremonies of the science building in October of 1955.

At the recent dedication ceremonies, Mrs. Ross Wilson, wife of the vice president and general manager of the Firestone Plantations Company, cut the ribbon, thus officially opening the building as a memorial to Harvey S. Firestone, who pioneered in rubber-growing in Liberia as early as 1926.

Liberian President William V. S. Tubman was among those present at the opening exercises.

Nine More Shows On Starlight Fare

Nine full-length movies remain on the schedule of free outdoor theatre entertainment at the plant. Besides the regular feature presented each Friday evening at dusk in front of the plant and near the recreation park, there will be the last nine chapters of the serial "King of the Congo."

July 12: To Hell and Back (technicolor), Audie Murphy.

July 19: Count Three and Pray (technicolor), Van Heflin and Joanne Woodward.

July 26: Ma and Pa Kettle at Waikiki, Percy Kilbride and Marjorie Main.

August 2: Far Country (technicolor), Jimmy Stewart and Walter Brennan.

August 9: This Island Earth, Jeff Morrow and Faith Domergue.

August 16: Last of the Comanches (technicolor), Broderick Crawford and Barbara Hale.

August 23: It Came Beneath the Sea, Kenneth Tobey and Faith Domergue.

August 30: Saturday's Hero, John Derek and Donna Reed.

September 6: Forbidden Land, Johnny Weismuller and Jungle Jim.

OF BEST THINGS IN LIFE...

School has been out long enough to be a pleasant—and remote—memory. September is yet too far away to cause the younger set much concern over such space-binding things as classrooms, textbooks and homework.

Midway in the summer season comes July, renowned for hay-time and early harvest, ripening blackberries, camp meeting days and a million other pleasantries that add goodness and variety to life.

Traditionally, in the seventh month the old swimming hole is one of the most cherished blessings of the youngster whose hopes are quickened by activities in the out-of-doors. Then too, there's the cool retreat of a creek bank, with a good fishing pole and a supply of the best bait in the land.

What better way to challenge the heat of a July afternoon under the Piedmont sun?

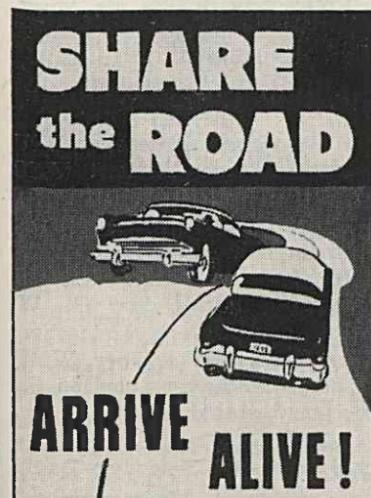
These sons of W. G. Queen, Spinning, and Mrs. Queen of Rayon Twisting, 1123 West Seventh avenue, are typical of Huckleberry Finns and Tom Sawyers in Firestone families.

Randy (left), and Bobby are making the best of vacation days, before returning to Wray Junior High school, come next September.

SLOW DOWN AND LIVE

Traffic Safety Program Emphasized

The annual "Slow Down and Live" summer traffic safety program will be observed through Labor Day, September 2. The



program, begun on Memorial Day, is an added effort to reduce the rising traffic death toll in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico.

"Slow Down and Live" is aimed at curbing the "Fatal Five," one or more of which are present in over 90 per cent of highway fatalities.

These five include:

1. Excessive speed; 2. Failure to yield right-of-way; 3. Speed too fast for existing conditions; 4. Improper passing; 5. Following another vehicle too closely.

The Highway Departments of both North and South Carolina are supporting this program through stepped-up enforcement of traffic laws, radio and television programs on safety, and other advertising means.

Promotion materials are being placed in the hands of mayors and other persons working in the field of traffic safety. The Highway Department of both Carolinas and many local agencies and firms in the two states are distributing posters, leaflets and bumper strips in the interest of the "Slow Down and Live" campaign.

At Girls' State

Shirley Ann Love, 16, served as delegate to the All Girls' State meeting on the campus of Shaw University, Raleigh, June 16-21. Miss Love, a rising senior at Lincoln High School of Bessemer City, represented Gastonia American Legion Post No. 23.

Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Howard Love, Sr., of 1917 Wingate street. The father works in the plant interoffice mail service.