

# Firestone NEWS

Those who make the best use  
of their time have none to spare.

—Thomas Fuller

A man who has mastered him-  
self has won life's fiercest battle.

—W. R. Walker

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## A REWARDING PASTIME

The zinnias, marigolds and sultana will likely be gone by October. But the chrysanthemums and the amaranth will last into early fall, furnishing exhibition material for the first standard flower show ever to be staged at Firestone, Gastonia.

It will be developed around the theme, "Variety in Autumn." Sponsored by the plant garden club, the show will be conducted according to standards set by the North Carolina Garden Club, with which the "green-thumb" organization here is affiliated.

Mrs. W. R. Turner, Sr., general chairman of the event scheduled for October 4 and 5, has announced that entries will include horticulture pieces, arrangements and compositions, and potted plants that will have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least three months prior to the show.

Typical of employees who derive pleasure from growing flowers are Mr. and Mrs. James L. Capps, here looking over their garden at 401 South Dalton street. Mr. Capps, a drawing frame tender in Carding and a 20-year employee, has for many years cultivated a variety of flowers, plants and shrubs.

## TAKE TIME TO LIVE...

## Safe Driving Is Good Citizenship—Tompkins

Firestone Textiles people and the more than 43,000 other Company employees in factories, warehouses and sales offices throughout the United States have been alerted in the battle against traffic accidents.

On July 15, H. D. Tompkins, Company vice president and chairman of the Inter-Highway

Safety Committee, urged members of the Firestone organization to "Take Time to Live."

Mr. Tompkins observed that more motorists will be using streets and highways during the next few months than ever before in the history of this country.

"I am sure that Firestone em-

ployees will want to do what they can to reduce the 40,000 highway death toll recorded in 1956," he said.

MR. TOMPKINS pointed to the low industrial accident rate for Firestone plants, and added:

"We are certain that the same thoughtfulness that leads to accident prevention on the job can lead to accident prevention on the streets and highways.

"There is no single effort that can reduce highway accidents. Fewer accidents depend on a combination of things that require thought on the part of the person behind the wheel."

Mr. Tompkins termed the observance of traffic laws a part of good citizenship.

"I want to call upon every Firestone employee to make certain that he or she observes the traffic laws of the community and the rules of the road wherever the motorist may travel. Courtesy costs nothing and it may mean a life saved."

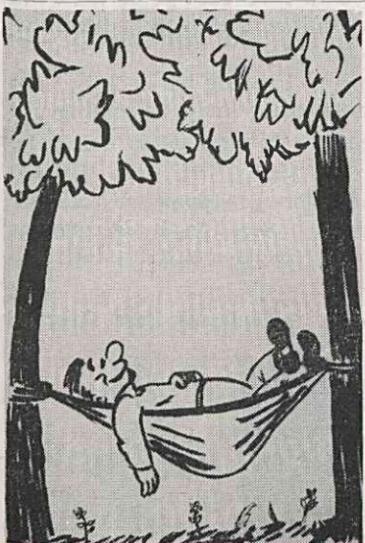
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## Be A Lazybones— And Last Longer

☆ ☆ ☆

In your battle against summer heat, playing lazybones has its advantages. Whenever possible, take it easy in the shade or other cool place—even if but for brief sketches of time. Especially, leave off any strenuous exercise just before meals and for at least an hour afterwards.

☆ ☆ ☆



## COMPANY CHAIRMAN

## Economic Progress Seen Continuing In South

Prospects for continued economic progress in the South are encouraging, according to observations of Company Chairman Harvey S. Firestone, Jr. In an article in the July issue of *Manufacturers Record*, Mr. Firestone said:

"I am certain that this progress, perhaps accelerated, will continue into the future, provided the conditions which contributed so greatly to it remain relatively constant."

Plants in the South, said Mr. Firestone, have been highly successful because they are in an area of "adequate physical resources" and "a good business climate."

These two conditions account to a great extent for the progress of the South, he said.

He referred to Firestone Textiles, Gastonia, and the other Company plants located at Bennettsville, S. C.; Memphis, Tenn.; Lake Charles, La.; Magnolia, Ark.; Orange, Texas; and a test center under construction at Fort Stockton, Texas.

CAPITAL invested in new construction in the South increased 129 per cent in only five years, from 1947 to 1952, the Chairman noted. The number of manufacturing plants rose more than 25 per cent and the number of employees in these plants increased 15.5 per cent from 1947 to 1954. Each of these figures is higher than the comparable national figure.

Mr. Firestone listed diversification of Southern agricultural products as an indication of higher income.

"This is an excellent insurance against the risks taken by any large area when its livelihood depends on a one or two-crop economy," he observed.

The magazine article cited examples of how the standard of living of individual Southerners

has been elevated in recent years.

"It is the individual upon whose economic well-being the structure of prosperity must be

erected," Mr. Firestone wrote, and concluded:

"I look forward to constantly accelerated progress in the South in the years to come."

## Men From Plant At IR Meeting

Four men from the plant were among the approximately 1200 Southern businessmen and industrialists who attended the 38th annual Southern Industrial Relations Conference at Blue Ridge, N. C. The conference, held July 17-20, drew representatives ranging from plant foremen to top executives from more than 20 states.

About 350 organizations were represented at this year's meeting.

Those attending from the plant here were: F. B. Galligan, superintendent of the Cotton Division; T. B. Ipock, Jr., director of In-

dustrial Relations; R. E. Conrad, overseer in Rayon Weaving; and Charles M. Ferguson, Employment manager.

"Broadening Understanding—The Key to Good Human Relations" was the theme of the conference, which featured 12 nationally-known speakers headed by Ernest G. Swigert, president of the National Association of Manufacturers.

The SIRC was first promoted under the auspices of the Industrial Department of the National Committee of the YMCA in 1920. Since 1939 the conference has been sponsored and promoted by a separate board of directors made up of 28 outstanding Southern industrialists and businessmen.



Fred Davis shows the number of miles on the life of his set of Firestone Imperials, as of July 18.

## A Set Of Firestone Imperials Packed With Sterling Quality

Fred Davis of the Shop sanitation department drives a 1950 model Customline Ford, equipped with Firestone Imperial whitewall tires. And each of them has racked up more than 66,000 miles of wear.

The automobile was purchased last May from Jack J. Moore, Shop millwright. At the time Mr. Moore sold the vehicle the tires had registered service to the tune of 51,000 miles, with a record of just three flats and no retreads.

The original owner put the set of long-wearing tires in service in 1951. While Mr. Moore

operated the car, it took the family on routine local trips and several long hauls to points in South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee and Virginia. Driving was done under all kinds of weather and road conditions.

Under Fred Davis' ownership the car has furnished transportation to and from work and has made several out-of-town trips.

Some of the original tread remains on the tires. The owner plans to have them retreaded, for a second lease on an already remarkable life.