

DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS

Bradshaw, McSwain Members Of 'Rambling Rebels' Band

There will be two Firestone employees marching proudly when the Gastonia American Legion Rambling Rebels Drum and Bugle Corps joins the mammoth parade at the national American Legion Convention in Atlantic City, N. J., this September.

James A. Bradshaw III, Carding; and Bill McSwain, Main Office, are members of the crack-performing outfit that has gained national prominence since it was organized in the Spindle City in September of 1946.

The Drum and Bugle Corps of American Legion Post No. 23 has performed at national and N. C. state Legion conventions every year since the group was activated. It has appeared at national conventions in Miami, New York city, Philadelphia and Washington.

A highlight of Rambling Rebel history was the appearance five years ago with the Oasis Shrine Band at the Presidential inaugural parade in Washington.

THE CORPS, which at full strength numbers 48 persons, has appeared at many of the outstanding festivals, parades and sports events in the South and Southeast in recent years. Once the Rambling Rebels represented the University of Maryland at a Maryland-Wake Forest football game in Winston-Salem.

In recent months the group drew acclaim of spectators at the State American Legion Convention in Durham, the Stanly Centennial Celebration at Albemarle, and the Watermelon Festival at Pageland, S. C. It is booked each year for the Carolinas Carrousel, staged in Charlotte on Thanksgiving Day. For the past two years it has had the honor of leading the parade at the Carrousel.

McSwain is a star performer on the Corps team. The Main Office accountant has been a part of the Rambling Rebels organization since 1953. He is a graduate of Gastonia (Ashley) High School, where, in the band, he played the sousaphone and the bass horn. After World War II service with a heavy tank battalion in the European Theater of Operation, he joined the Firestone office force. With



The Drum and Bugle Corps of Gastonia has won national acclaim through its outstanding performance at festivals and other special events. Here the Rebels line up to lead the parade at

last year's Carolinas Carrousel in Charlotte. Insets: James Bradshaw III (upper left), and Bill McSwain.

the Rambling Rebels, he plays the baritone.

Bradshaw, a summertime employee in Carding, was graduated from Ashley High School last spring, where he played

bass drum in the school band. Before that, he had studied trumpet for four years. With the Drum and Bugle Corps he has been playing the cymbals since he joined the group last March. He plans to commute to classes at Kings Business College, Charlotte, beginning with the fall term.

In addition to its scheduled appearance at Atlantic City,

September 15-19, the Drum and Bugle Corps has accepted invitations to play at other special events on stops along its return trip to Gastonia. Chief of these will be a performance at the Jamestown Festival of 1957, where the nation is celebrating its 350th birth anniversary. This engagement has been set for the famed Mall at Jamestown, Va., September 19.



Ideas, Lucky Number Pay Off In Contest

Five employees were winners of prizes in the last plant Suggestion Contest which closed earlier this year. In the ideas competition—begun late last year but concluded only recently because of the time needed to process suggestions—premiums were awarded on the basis of amount of money paid for total number of ideas submitted during the contest period.

Above: Comptroller E. J. Mechem (left center), presents an automatic toaster-oven to E. G. Bulman, as other winners look on. They are Clyde Moss, Jr. (left), who won a Firestone clock radio; and Mrs. Betty Martin and M. F. Goins, who each received an electric food mixer-grinder.

Each person who turned in one or more suggestions in the contest was given a ticket for each idea submitted, for a lucky-number drawing. Upper right: Cramer Little looks



at the winning ticket bearing his name, drawn from the deposit box. In the picture with Mr. Little is his prize, a portable charcoal brazier.

Pottstown Sets High Safety Record

When its Pottstown, Pa., plant set a world's record for on-the-job safety recently, Firestone earned the distinction of being the safest firm in the rubber industry.

The Pottstown plant completed more than 7,800,000 man-hours without a lost-time injury.

"This surpasses the previous safety record of 7,722,000 no-injury man-hours established at the Memphis, Tenn., Firestone plant in 1953, and sets a new world's safety record for tire plants," Executive Vice President J. E. Trainer said.

Pottstown is the fourth Firestone tire plant to establish new injury-free records for the tire industry in the past ten years. In addition to Memphis, previous record holders are the Des Moines, Iowa plant and Plant No. 2, Akron.

"The worldwide safety program of our Company is saving lives just as surely as modern medicine," Mr. Trainer pointed out.

HE NOTED that during the past 12 years the Company has received the highest award of the National Safety Council nine times in recognition of the firm's outstanding safety record in all of its plants.

Firestone Textiles shared in this honor last year because of its program of safety in 1956. The plant here was third highest on no-injury rate in the United States among textile establishments employing 1,100 persons or more. For this accident-prevention achievement the plant was one of the Company's

42 plants which were accorded the honor.

Three of the Company plants finished the year 1956 with no-injury records of more than 5,000,000 man-hours. Ten plants in the United States and in foreign countries also established injury-free records for the year.

Commenting on the safety record achieved by the Pottstown plant, Mr. Trainer observed:

"Safety is an individual responsibility. One man's carelessness could end a record of millions of injury-free man-hours."

Cooper On Board Of Textile Group

Chief Time Study Engineer James M. Cooper is serving on the six-member board of directors of the Southern Textile Methods and Standards Association. Mr. Cooper is one of two members chosen at a recent semi-annual meeting of the group, held at Clemson College, Clemson, S. C. His term expires in 1960.

The Southern Textile Methods and Standards Association, a non-profit organization, exists for the purpose of advancing sound and equitable principles of industrial engineering as used in the field of methods and standards in the textile industry of the Southern states.

Its activities center primarily in conducting inquiries, research projects, educational programs and conferences.