



RETIREE Alva Bryant (center), Edward Crisp, doffer-creeler (left), and Quality Control Supervisor Carl Guffey discuss the quality of a package of twisted synthetic cord. Picture was made on Mr. Bryant's last day of work.

Former Twisting Inspector Has Variety In Retirement

Alva C. Bryant grew up in the Deep South, but he was 30 years old before he looked inside a textile mill. Once he tried his hand at a twister-tender job, he liked the work well enough to give 34 years of his life to the industry.

Recently Mr. Bryant retired, after putting in the past several years as an inspector in twisting. He had first come to the job here in 1924, after two years at a cotton mill in Winnsboro, S. C.

In Gastonia, after one or two interruptions, he settled down to the past 13 continuous years of work at Firestone. Much of that time was spent in the job of inspecting in Twisting.

About 66 per cent of American workers drive in automobiles to their work.

Plant Garden Club In National Contest

The Firestone Variety Garden Club has concluded an avocado-growing project by entering a photograph of accomplishments in a national contest.

Members of the dirt-dobbing organization here planted avocado seeds in water and nurtured the sprouts in humus soil. The resulting small shrubs were

WHEN the Dublin, Ga. native wrapped up his last day of employment here, he had an imposing schedule of things to get his years of retirement off to a lively, interesting start.

There were volunteer tasks to be done at Unity Baptist Church, where he is a member. Some traveling was on the schedule. With a brother in Florida and a lot of kinfolks in Georgia, he was anxious to take to the road. There were plans for the ardent pursuit of his gardening projects each summer at home, 115 East Fourth avenue. Hunting, fishing and playing checkers were also on schedule. The fact that he has won a number of first-place honors in checkers competition made him even more interested in keeping up this pastime in his retirement years.

"It's a good way to keep the mind whetted," he figured.

put on display at the March club meeting in the Recreation Center.

Of the several seeds started, there were four plants—eight to ten inches high — which were brought to the display. Main feature of the March meeting was a luncheon "playing up" the avocado theme.

THE FOUR avocado plants were grouped at the center of an arrangement built of greenery, tropical fruits and spring flowers. Fruits included avocados, lemons, oranges, and bananas.

A photograph of the arrangement was submitted to the Florida Avocado and Lime Commission, sponsor of the national contest which was open from last October through late March. All federated garden clubs were eligible to enter. The Firestone group is affiliated with the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.

Mrs. Carl Rape of Quality Control, president of the Variety Club, said the avocado-growing project had been one of the most interesting and informative ever undertaken by the organization.

"The avocado is a tropical fruit native only to the American hemisphere. It thrives in

Beach Season Arrives With Pirates Jamboree

Showy blossoms from coast to mountains, good fishing, festivals and a round of sports events are a few of the attractions that beckon Firestone travelers to the out-of-doors in April.

The Recreation Travel Information Service posts the reminder that golf and riding are excellent in the mid-South resorts of Pinehurst, Southern Pines and Tryon.

Along the North Carolina Coast from the Outer Banks to the beaches near Wilmington and Southport, April is a top month for surf fishing, and all ocean fishing piers open during the month. Deep-sea fishing is prime by mid-May. The mountain trout season opens in early April.

Dogwood is blooming profusely throughout eastern North Carolina, and moving west to the Appalachian foothills by early April. Across Western North Carolina, where the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky ranges soar up to the highest peaks in Eastern America, the spring flower parade begins with the appearance of small ground flowers in April and the white drifts of shadblow and dogwood by early May.

All sections of the famous Blue Ridge Parkway are open for motor travel by late April, with recreation facilities along the Parkway and in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in full use by May. In the mountains, as well as along the coast, there is a good choice of accommodations year round, with all hotels and motor courts opening for the summer season in May and June.

ARRIVAL of the surf-and-sun season on the Outer Banks beaches will be celebrated April 24-27 this year, with the fourth annual Dare Coast Pirates Jamboree. The program features special events which usher in the spring and summer vacation season from Kitty Hawk to Cape Hatteras. Fishing contests, pony and jeep races, fish fry on Hatteras, model plane contest at Wright Memorial and a Pirate's Ball at Nags

Head will be outstanding on the program.

Highlight of this year's Jamboree is the dedication of Cape Hatteras National Seashore on Bodie, Hatteras and Ocracoke Island. Here is a picnic and camping area. Ocracoke, now accessible by free automobile ferry from Hatteras, has a new paved State highway running from the northern tip of the island to the village of Ocracoke. A Museum of Natural History has been established at nearby Bodie Island lighthouse. Like the Maritime Museum at Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, it is an all-year attraction in the seashore park.

A DISPLAY of famous gardens enlivens the April scene in North Carolina. Duke Gardens at Durham, gardens in the Sandhills resorts of Southern Pines and Pinehurst, Reynolds Gardens at Winston-Salem and other famed beauty spots offer a brilliant show of spring blossoms.

At Winston-Salem, Salem Tavern, in the 18th Century restored Moravian community of Old Salem, will be the setting for a Flower Fair April 16-17.

Garden Club chapters across the state schedule flower tours in April, May and June to coincide with peak bloom of annuals, perennials and flowering shrubs.

Many other attractions help to make the April travel calendar a lively one. Some of these are: Do-It-Yourself Home Show, Asheville, April 14-18; NC Federation of Women's Clubs convention, Charlotte, 15-17; NC Music Festival (Instrumental), Greensboro, 15-18; Fourth annual State Science Fair, Durham, 17-19; Sixth annual Country Club Lawn Bowling Tournament, Pinehurst, 21-25; Horse and Hound Show, Tryon, 23; NC Garden Club convention, Raleigh, 23-25; NC Federation of Music Clubs convention, Gastonia, 23-26; Spring Music Festival (Vocal), Greensboro, 24-25; Fine Arts Festival, Leaksville, 25-27; Gospel Sing, Asheville, 26.

Enterprising Employee Sells Firestone Tires

On the average working day Clarence Houser handles two jobs. When he walks out of the mill at the end of the first shift, he goes to his auto service station on West Franklin avenue and Weldon street.

The Rayon Weaving employee with more than 22 years of service in the plant has been operating his present business for around two years. His son, Wayne, is in partnership with him. Before the Housers came to the present location, they operated another station in the same block of Franklin avenue.

MANY of the Houser customers are people who work in the plant.

Wayne is manager of the sta-

tion. He and his father are proud of the Firestone dealership for tires and auto accessories.

"If we don't have an item in stock, we can get it quickly from Company suppliers in the area," says Mr. Houser.

The employee is no newcomer to experience in the auto servicing business.

"I've been operating a car since 1924, and any old timer will recall that cars in that day required a lot of attention.

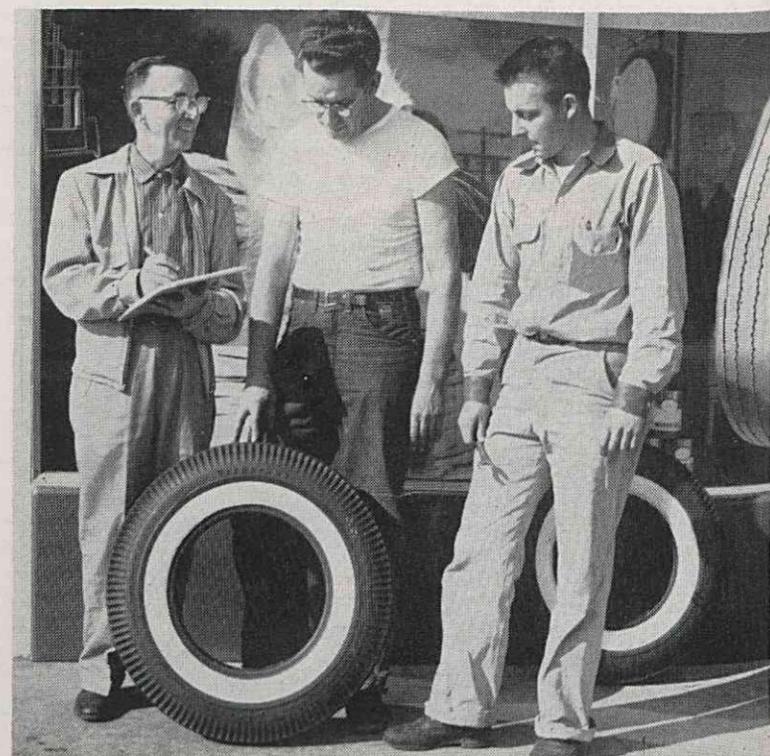
"In all those years since 1924,

I have always bought Firestone tires. Several times I traded cars but had the tires changed over."

Being on the cord-fabric production line here enables Mr. Houser to especially appreciate the quality that is built into that portion of a Firestone tire.

It goes to remind us, says the employee, that the very product one helps to make here, may very likely wind up in a tire on his own automobile.

"Then, we can really appreciate its quality," he adds.



Clarence Houser, Rayon Weaving, (left), talks over the merits of a Firestone DeLuxe Super Champion tire with Jesse Jones, Carding (center), and Wayne Houser, at the Housers' Franklin avenue service station. The father-son business has a Firestone dealership in tires and auto accessories.

Firestone Depends On Small Business

Pointing up the mutual dependence of large and small businesses in our country, surveys of some of the largest U. S. companies reveal that they depend upon many thousands of smaller companies to supply them with the goods and services they need.

A recent survey at Firestone reveals that 13,423 suppliers scattered throughout the country furnish materials and services needed by company plants. The survey further revealed that a total of 10,032, or more than 74 per cent, of the supplying companies employ less than 250 persons.