



Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Floyd (at left, back and front row), visit with three of their six children, a daughter-in-law, and a grandson. Helen, holding Jon, sits beside his mother, at right. Behind Jon is his father, Dr. C. W. Floyd. The Floyds' youngest son, Benjamin, is at right.

This Employee In Twisting Has Family Of Superlatives

Down on Route 2, Clover, S. C., there is a "two-mule" farm where corn reaches tall and watermelons grow sweet in the sun. Wallace Floyd's 29 acres are enough in themselves to keep a man busy. But somehow the Firestone employee-farmer manages to cultivate about eleven acres, a "sideline" to his good performance as a cleaning hand on the first shift of nylon cable Twisting.

Mr. Floyd came to his job here in January of 1942. In the intervening years two of his sons—William and E. J., worked for some time in the plant.

The Floyd farm is an ideal family-reunion setting for their five sons and a daughter, and the eight grandchildren.

You'd have to look a long time before finding a more impressive record of accomplishments of the children in one family.

WELL KNOWN around Gastonia is the second son, Dr. C. W. Floyd, a dental surgeon who has his office on West Page avenue, Gastonia. An ardent civic worker, he was this year chairman of the Negro Division of the Gaston County March of Dimes. Now he is chairman of the Gastonia Citizens' Committee, and president of the Charlotte Medical Society.

Active in the program of Gastonia's St. Stephen's AME Zion Church, Dr. Floyd is a standby teacher of an adult Bible class and a member of the church board of stewards. He is a graduate of Howard University, Washington, D. C., and served for two years as a senior-grade lieutenant in the Navy Dental Corps during World War II.

The Floyds' youngest son, Benjamin Franklin, has been an outstanding student at Livingston

College, Salisbury, where he received the bachelor of science degree this spring. He is now studying toward the masters degree in chemistry at Howard University. Benjamin hopes to remain at Howard and attend the college of medicine.

While at Livingston, he was a teacher in the Sunday school on the campus. On the honor roll his last two years there, he was elected to the 1958 list of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. He is a member of Beta Kappa Chi, honorary science fraternity, and of Omega Psi Phi, social fraternity.

ANOTHER of the Floyd sons, William, is a graduate of Teachers State College, Montgomery, Ala. For several years he has been teaching biology in the public school system of that state.

The Floyds' other sons live near the parents. They are E. J. of Clover and James Lee of Kings Mountain.

The daughter, Helen, is a graduate of Cortez Peters Business College in Washington, and is employed in the District of Columbia.

Besides his busy schedule on the first-shift job at Firestone and the work on the farm, Mr. Floyd doesn't neglect his church. He and Mrs. Floyd are members of Trinity AME Zion congregation in the Pisgah section of Gastonia. He is a member of the board of trustees there.

"My more than 16 years at Firestone have been very rewarding," he comments. "Everybody I have worked with has been friendly and helpful. Especially is this so of the overseer in Twisting, Mr. Hobart Aldridge; and the first-shift second hand, Mr. Claude Taylor.

Joseph McCormick, assistant to the president of Milligan College near Johnson City, Tenn., was a visitor at the plant in mid-August.

A former employee of the Firestone company, Mr. McCormick worked at Plant 1 in Akron during the early 1920s. He left an executive position with a Johnson City laundry company to become assistant to President Dean E. Walker at the East Tennessee liberal arts school, operated by the Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ).

Plant Featured In Magazine's Special Issue

Firestone Textiles was featured in a full-page advertisement in the 25th anniversary edition of THE STATE, published at Raleigh last month. The magazine issue of August 9 was called "An Omnibus of North Carolina."

Under the title, "Contributing to the Progress of North Carolina for More Than 20 Years," the ad described the Gastonia plant as one of the largest producers of tire cord fabric and yarn in the world.

"In producing a superior product, employees have greatly contributed to the tire industry. Because of better and stronger tire fabrics, the motorist drives with greater peace of mind; trucks haul more goods at high speeds; and huge earth-moving equipment builds giant dams and super-highways in record time."

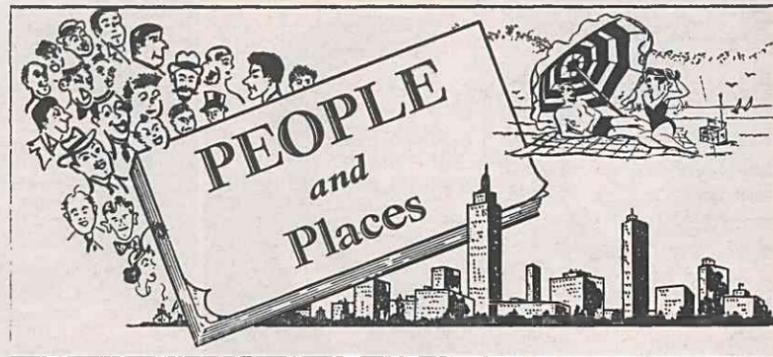
The ad concluded: "Because of employees' skills, loyalty and fine record of accomplishment, the company looks forward with enthusiasm and confidence to continued progress in this great State."

Featured in the ad layout were an aerial view of the plant; a photograph of Vivian Metcalf at her job on a loom in SYC Weaving; and representative photographs of Firestone tires for automobiles, trucks, aircraft and other off-the-road equipment.

ARRIVALS...

Debra Charline Shiles arrived July 30 at Gaston Memorial Hospital, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Shiles of Bessemer City. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Taylor, both of Spinning.

Charles Lee Smith was born to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Edward Smith on August 20. The father is employed in rayon Weaving.



Main Office

Miss Peggy Hanna chose Cherry Grove Beach, S. C., for her recent week of vacation.

Mrs. Roy Price Roe, Jr., is a new employee in Main Office. The Roes live at 108 East Third avenue.

Miss Jerry Barton, Payroll, spent several days in late summer at Myrtle Beach, S. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sanders and daughter Katherine spent a week in Daytona Beach, Fla., recently. Mrs. Sanders works in Main Office.

Miss Doris McCready of Main Office accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Johnson and their son Buddy to Houston, Texas last month. Before returning to Gastonia, the group visited in Pensacola, Fla., and New Orleans. Mr. Johnson is recreation director at the plant.

Mr. and Mrs. James Dunaway and sons Jimmy and Billy, and Mrs. Dunaway's niece, Scarlet Fisher, all of Ripley, Tenn., visited Mr. and Mrs. Paul Alexander this summer. The Dunaways and Miss Fisher went with the Alexanders on a trip to Myrtle Beach during the visit to the Carolinas.

Shop

Millwright J. N. Crawford, Mrs. Crawford, and their son J. N., Jr., spent a recent vacation at Folly Beach, near Charleston, S. C.

Vacationing at Myrtle Beach, S. C., recently were W. G. Henson, plant engineer; Mrs. Henson; James Price, painter, and Mrs. Price.

Electrician Ray Pearson, Mrs. Pearson, and their sons made Currie Beach on the North Carolina Coast their vacation headquarters this summer.

A trip to Minnesota was highlight of a vacation trip for Bernard Alm, carpenter, Mrs. Alm, and their son David. They were house guests of Bernard's mother, Mrs. Hattie Alm, at Hinckley, near Lake Superior.

Going to Carolina Beach for a summer vacation were Ralph Dalton and members of his family. Ralph is a lathe operator.

Mrs. Rosie Francum, tool room clerk, and her daughter Jane vacationed at Myrtle Beach, S. C., in August.

Howard Moore and members of his family have returned from a trip to Franklin, N. C. There, they visited Howard's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Moore.

Miss Phoebe Pearson joined her sister, Mrs. W. B. McQueen of Columbia, S. C., for a late-summer trip to Myrtle Beach, S. C. Miss Pearson is Shop Secretary.

—More on Page 6

Cure Flowers For Touch Of Summer Beauty

Have you ever pressed a flower between the pages of a book, in an attempt to preserve some of Nature's beauty long after summer has gone? Then, maybe you haven't tried the newer method of curing flowers. The Firestone Variety Garden Club has the reminder that preserving flowers by sand-drying is an interesting art, yielding almost magical results.

Members of the Club say that flowers dried or baked in sand retain their natural form and color, so they lose very little of their beauty, present at the full-bloom stage.

Want to experiment, now that many suitable specimens are in season? The Variety Club gives this rundown on materials you'll need for two drying methods, and how you can go about this fascinating procedure.

Materials: Containers for curing specimens, such as kitchen pots, cardboard boxes, coffee cans; clean, fine sand with no salt content; and florist's wire.

GATHER FLOWERS at prime, fully opened. They must be thoroughly dry.

Fragile blooms such as larkspur and Queen Ann's lace should be cut with stems as long as you can manage in the sand. But flowers such as zinnia, marigold, carnation, chrysanthemum and camellia are best managed on short stems. For

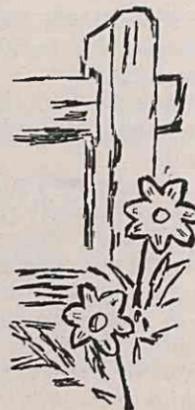
longer stems, you'll need to substitute artificial stems of wire. For this, cut florist's wire about a foot long and bend a small hook on one end. Push straight through center of flower and pull until hook is buried in the bloom. After curing blossom, green floral tape may be wrapped on the wire stem.

There are two common methods of curing your flowers: Natural drying in sand, and sand-baking. For natural drying, take sand and sift with grocer's borax in equal parts. Place flowers in the dry mixture, so they are allowed to keep natural shape. Put aside in dry, shady place for four or five days. If longer, borax may "brown" petals.

THE OVEN METHOD: Put one-half inch of sand only in bottom of container. Place sprays of flowers on sand lengthwise or place large blossoms face-down, taking care not to let flowers touch. Carefully pour on more sand, covering flowers to a depth of not more than one-half inch over highest point of blossom. Make one layer only in each container. Put in pre-heated oven not above 125° F., for 20 minutes. Turn off heat and when container is almost cool, move to dry, shady place. Go through this routine twice for each of five days.

Carefully pour off sand, gently lift flowers and dust with soft brush. Your handiwork, whether by the natural-drying or the baking method, can then be fashioned into arrangements to lend beauty the year-round.

The plant garden club suggests that you check the public library for reference material on arranging dried flowers.



August Visitors At Factory

The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Leo Hawkins and his brother, Ronnie, were visitors at the plant in August. Mr. Hawkins, a graduate of Wake Forest College and Yale Divinity School, is pastor of the First Baptist Church of Southport, N. C. He grew up in the Firestone community and during summer vacations from college, was employed in the plant.