

# Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

The heart of a wise man should resemble a mirror, which reflects every object without being sullied by any.

—Confucius

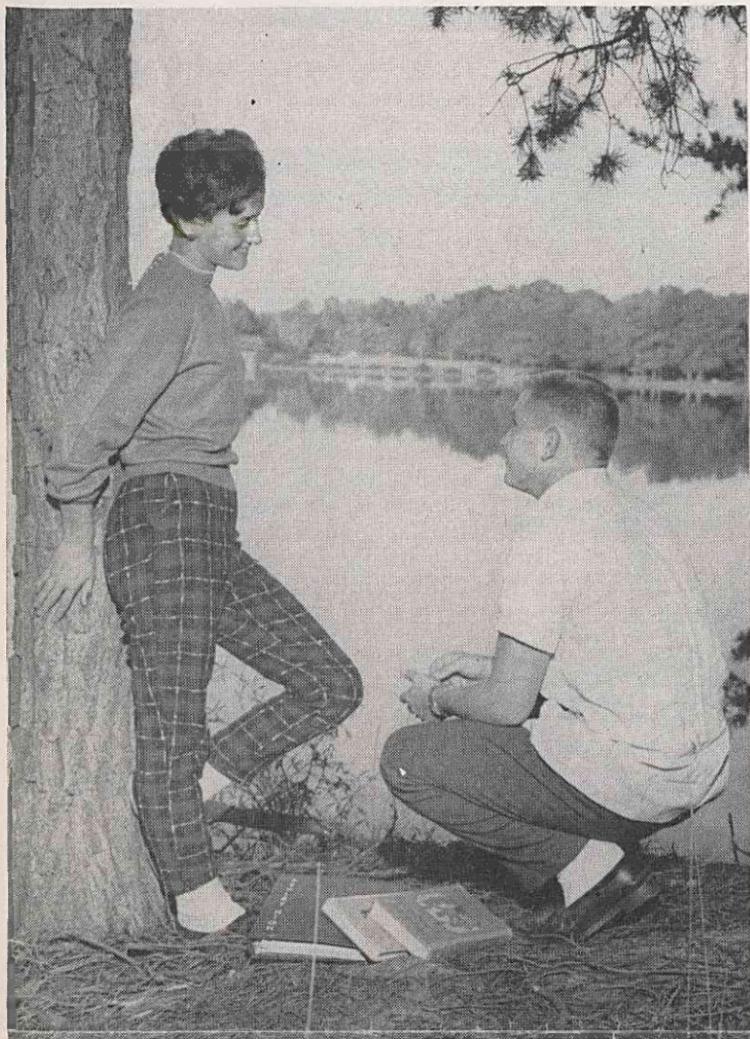
So long as one does not look upon life bitterly, things work out fairly well in the end.

—George Moore

VOLUME VII

GASTONIA, N. C., NOVEMBER, 1958

NUMBER 12



## ERE GOLDEN DAYS ARE ENDED

For all its tangy disposition and the richness of its harvest glory, there's a gloomy note in November's 30-day tramp across the stage of the seasons. For ere long, the curtain will come down on the greatest show in the land. The coming of October has already brought the fall festival of Nature's colorama down from the Carolinas hill country into the Piedmont—and onward to the Coast. Here and there, November has laid out her trademarks of Winter—rustling leaves, the chill breath of frost, and a quickening touch to the air not yet experienced in September and October. On a sunny afternoon at Rankin Lake, Judy Shehane and Gene Dodgen are agreed that November has a nice way of balancing off the transition from the "Golden Days" of Autumn to the months of cold moons ahead. Judy's father, Jesse L. Shehane, works in Twisting (cotton); Gene's mother, Mrs. Harold Dodgen, in Twisting (synthetic).

## December Is Off-Job Safety Month

In an effort to promote safety in the home and on the highway, the Gastonia plant will join other Firestone factories in the United States to again observe December as "off-the-job safety month."

During this period, employees

will be reminded of safety practices concerned with life away from the job. This will be done through personal contact by supervisors, employee publications, posters, bulletin board notices and other means of communication.

"By making safety a vital, day-to-day living activity, our employees have become safety-conscious on the job," executive vice president J. E. Trainer points out.

The December emphasis on accident control aims to convince the employee that it is vitally important to take home from the job the safety-consciousness practiced while at work.

"A worker injured by carelessness on the way home from his job brings on suffering and hardship for his whole family," Mr. Trainer adds.

"Firestone people have proved that they can work safe on-the-job. Let's meet the challenge of being safe off-the-job also."



"Don't you know better than to leave a loaded weapon where a child can find it?"

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

## United Fund Contribution Pledges Total \$15,920.70



Employees here reached new heights of sharing in the Greater Gastonia United Fund, when they pledged \$15,920.70 in the plant's seventh annual campaign during October.

Contributions promised this year through the payroll deduction plan will be allocated to the support of 20 community, health, welfare and recreation services.

As in past years, volunteer solicitors distributed contribution cards among employees in the UF campaign, headed again this year by Nelson Kessell, general superintendent; and F. B. Galligan, superintendent of the Cotton Division.

The chairmen of the fund-gathering effort were enthusiastic in their praise of every employee who contributed toward the success of the drive.

"The UF response this year once more bespeaks the deep concern that our people have for their neighbors in need," they said.

"We wish especially to express appreciation to the dozens of volunteer solicitors whose help made it possible for Firestone Textiles to 'go over the top' in measuring up to its com-

munity responsibility," they added.

As this edition of the plant newspaper was being prepared, the Greater Gastonia United Fund was in the final stages of its campaign which sought to raise \$119,500, under the slogan "One Goal, One Gift, One Time."

Employees contributing to the fund on a "fair-share" basis were given tickets for prizes, in a drawing held at the end of October.

Winners of the prizes were:

First Prize: Roy Carver, Shipping, deep-freeze unit.

Second: Miss Phoebe Pearson, Shop, high-fidelity radio and record combination.

Third: Mrs. Eula Wilson, Main Office, vacuum cleaner.

Fourth: Carl Rape, Carding, electric blanket.

Fifth: Charles Clark, Industrial Relations, electric food mixer.

Sixth: Mrs. Lois Woolley, Industrial Relations (first aid nurse), electric clock.

## Textile World Gets 1888 Card Manual

James M. Cooper, chief engineer of Methods and Standards at Firestone Textiles, has presented the library of Textile World with a collector's volume on cotton carding.

The manual, published at Philadelphia in 1888 by the Textile Record of America, is titled "Practices in Cotton-Carding: A Complete Guide for the Card Room of the Cotton Mill." It is authored by John Lindsay, carding master.

The paper-bound book of 142 pages features a front and back section of advertising announcing the latest in machinery, supplies and equipment for the industry at the close of the 19th century.

The Textile Record, publisher of the book, described itself as "a practical journal for the finisher, merchant, manufacturer, planter, artisan and the flock-master." The Record was merged in 1905 with what is now Textile World, a leading trade magazine of the industry. This year Textile World is celebrating its 90th year of publication.

## Heads Industrial Nurses' Group

Mrs. A. T. Newton, a Firestone first-aid nurse, has assumed duties as president of the North Carolina Association of Industrial Nurses. The third-shift nurse took office at the last regular quarterly meeting of the association, held at Charlotte on October 11.

Some 50 registered nurses employed in North Carolina industries attended. The program was highlighted with two talks by physicians. Also included was a question-answer period in which the whole group considered topics pertaining to various phases of industrial nursing.

Contrary to popular belief, owners of industry do not get the lion's share of profit from products marketed. Actually, about 90 per cent of the amount of the product goes to the workers.

The amount that accrues to the owners of the tools (investors) is about 10 per cent. Yet the tools do more than 95 per cent of the work of production.

## Production VP Speaks In Gastonia

Joseph A. Meek, vice president of production of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, visited the plant November 6. He came to Gastonia to deliver the principal address at a semi-annual joint meeting of the Advisory Council of North Carolina State College of Engineering and the Engineering College

Staff.

The meeting was held in Gastonia at the invitation of General Manager Harold Mercer, who is chairman of the Advisory Council. Among events of the two-day meeting were tours of three local industries and a luncheon at the Firestone Recreation Center.

## Nine-Month Report Shows

### Sales And Net Profit Down

Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., chairman, and Raymond C. Firestone, president, made the following announcement, Thursday, September 11:

"Net sales of the company and its subsidiaries amounted to \$759,719,839 for the nine months ended July 31, 1958, compared with \$844,603,697 for the same period last year, a decrease of 10.1 per cent. Estimated net profit was \$35,118,046 compared with \$44,583,808 for the same period last year, a decrease of 21.2 per cent. Provision of \$34,400,000 has been made for domestic and foreign taxes on income as compared with \$44,250,000 for last year."

Nine Months Ended July 31

	1958	1957
NET SALES	\$759,719,839	\$844,603,697
OTHER INCOME	2,521,208	2,097,005
TOTAL INCOME	\$762,241,047	\$846,700,702
Deduct:		
Cost of Goods Sold, Depreciation, Selling, Administrative and General Expenses, and Interest	\$692,723,001	\$757,866,894
Domestic and Foreign Taxes on Income	34,400,000	44,250,000
	\$727,123,001	\$802,116,894
ESTIMATED NET INCOME	\$ 35,118,046	\$ 44,583,808