



'IN HOPES THAT ST. NICK...'

Margaret Helms and Richard Green entertain visions of a joy-filled Christmas, as they explore the exciting display of toys at the Gastonia Firestone Store on Franklin avenue. Richard's father, Owen Green, works in Twisting. Margaret's father, Drifford Helms, works in Carding; Mrs. Helms, in Spinning. The number of toys carried in Firestone's network of retail stores this year has been increased by more than 50 items. Home and auto supply division officials expect heavy sales of toys, especially those of a scientific and electronic nature.

Plant Joins Wise Owl Club

Firestone Textiles is one of the latest industrial establishments to receive a charter membership in the Wise Owl Club of America. The charter presentation was made to General Manager Harold Mercer in mid-November, by Mrs. John B. Brown Jr., Chairman of the North Carolina Committee, National Society for

the Prevention of Blindness. The society sponsors the Wise Owl Club.

Membership of the Wise Owl Club is made up exclusively of working men and women who have saved themselves from eye injury or loss of vision, through the wearing of protective equipment at the time of an on-the-job eye accident.

The club has enrolled more than 15,600 members. Safety director A. V. Riley points out that the Wise Owl safety incentive plan is used as an educational tool by industry in the hope of eliminating an estimated annual toll of 200,000 eye injuries in the United States. Authorities believe that 90 per cent of these eye injuries are preventable.

Total membership of the Wise Owl Club represents a compensation saving in excess of \$78,000,000. Savings in production, purchasing power and family welfare are too great to be calculated, Mr. Riley noted.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred T. Morrow II are parents of a son, Fred T. Morrow III. The youngster arrived on his father's birthday, October 9. The grandfather, Fred T. Morrow I, is Warehouse supervisor.

Emmet D. Anderson, son of Pearly Anderson of Carding, died from a fall while at work in Flint, Mich., late this year. The deceased is a former Firestone employee, having left here to go to Michigan in 1952. His wife, Juanita; and baby son, Andrews, survive him.

Winter Killer: Carbon Monoxide Fumes

To play with dynamite is not wise. But it is far more unwise to use defective gas stoves or furnaces and run automobile engines in closed garages, especially in winter. Danger of carbon monoxide poisoning increases in winter because houses and garages are likely to be closed tight, not allowing fresh air to circulate.

Carbon monoxide is odorless, tasteless and colorless—but deadly. With small amounts present there are warning signals—dizziness, nausea, headache, muscular weakness. In large amounts, carbon monoxide can produce unconsciousness quickly, without warning. These reminders will help guard against carbon monoxide poisoning:

Have plenty of ventilation. See that heaters are in good working order, that they have outlets for fumes. It is best to run the motor of your car in the open. Check autos to safeguard against faulty mufflers or exhaust pipes.

FOR THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS...

Look Beyond Material Values

To The Men And Women Of Firestone Textiles:

Once again we find ourselves in the midst of the Christmas Season. As preparations for the holiday go forward in our homes, in stores and on the main streets of the communities where we live, we are made aware that Christmas is the happiest time of all the year.

It is natural that we pause this time of year to give humble thanks for the many material joys which Christmas brings. Yet we must look beyond material values to discover the true spirit of Christmas.

The anniversary of the birth of Christ is traditionally a time for giving: the giving of ourselves to a great spiritual ideal which up-

holds the dignity and worth of the individual, whoever it be. Christmas is a time to reflect soberly on the freedoms that are ours—the personal, social and economic freedoms which enrich our lives throughout the year.

As we prepare for this Christmas of 1958, we cannot help being aware of the existence of powerful forces and ideas in the world which seek to destroy the things we hold dear. We are reminded of our obligation to resist these dangers with all our material spiritual strength.

The new year will bring great opportunities to produce for ourselves and our families. We will have opportunities to share a part of what we have, with persons less fortunate than ourselves. And we will again have the opportunity to work ably together at our jobs and in our communities.

With these thoughts go my warm wishes to you and your family for a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with happiness.

Harold Mercer

General Manager

Scouts Exploring Helps Young Men To Grow

The Boy Scouts of America is a well-known and widely-recognized organization that has been serving boys in the United States for 48 years. Although we call it old because of the time it has been in existence, it is amazing how fast Scouting changes from year to year in its endeavor to train more boys in self-reliance and good citizenship.

Now, something new has been added. The Exploring program has been created by the Boy Scouts. It is designed exclusively for boys of high school age.

Launched this fall, it offers six fields of experience in which a young man can grow. They are: Social experiences, service opportunities, citizenship growth, vocational exploration, personal fitness, and outdoor activities. Surrounding these six fields are the overall objectives of the Boy Scouts of America—character building, citizenship training, and physical fitness—all geared to the high school age group.

THE EXPLORER program originated from suggestions by boys of this age group, who were surveyed on what they liked and needed. Besides the six fields of experience mentioned, boys indicated that there were many that they wanted but that were not ordinarily available.

Exploring offers an unlimited number of specialties ranging from falconry to agriculture; rockets to skin diving. Any Exploring unit can call itself by its specialty name, for examples, "rocket post" and "radio post." This special interest can be engaged in for any length of time and offers great flexibility to the program.

People who have worked in Scouting through the years see the possibilities which the Exploring program offers to young men. The program is based on what high school boys want and need. It includes the high ideals of Scouting with the modern environment of our society. It is flexible enough to interest any young man. And once an Explorer, it can keep him interested.

Congratulations, Exploring! We wish you well.

Communications Students Needed

The Gastonia area Civil Defense program now operates ten radio base stations throughout Gaston County. The department expects to add other outlets to its Radio Amateur Civil Emergency network, as more citizens become interested in enrolling in the training classes to be conducted at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

Instruction, provided through Civil Defense, is part of Gaston Memorial's extensive disaster program.

As students are available, the local CD office will conduct the

training of staff operators, and familiarization with communications equipment. Enrollment requirements are that an applicant be an American citizen and age 16, or older.

Local CD communications facilities are inter-connected

with the Raleigh headquarters, and the national headquarters of Civil Defense.

Interested in the training program? Inquire of Ronald Heffner at the Gastonia CD office, or Edgar Lineberger at RD 1, Box 424, Gastonia.

To Help The Spreading Of Liberty

The United States, as a first colony in modern history to win independence for itself, instinctively shares the aspirations for liberty of all dependent and colonial peoples. We want to help and not hinder the spread of liberty . . . That is the spirit which animates us. And if we remain true to that spirit, we can face the future with confidence, knowing that we shall be in harmony with those moral forces which ultimately will prevail.—John Foster Dulles

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CORD WEAVING—Irene Odell, Mary Johnson, Samuel Hill.

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