

Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

VOLUME VIII

GASTONIA, N. C., JANUARY, 1959

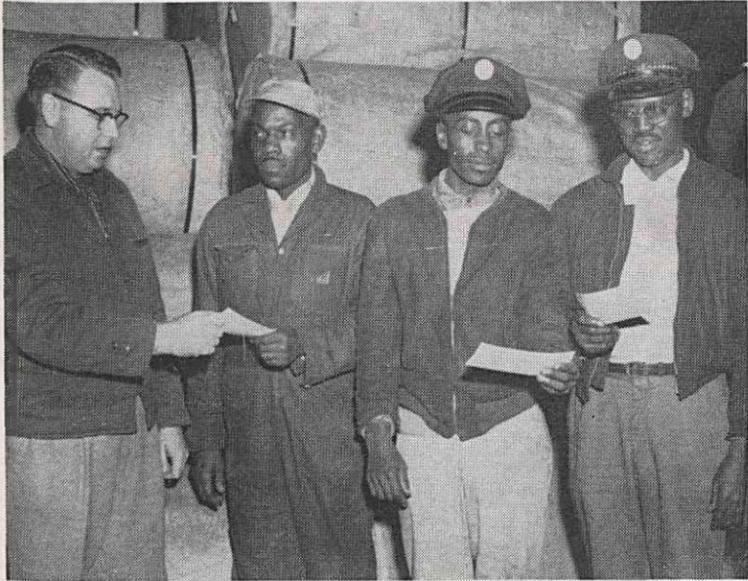
NUMBER 1

When you feel too old to do a thing—do it. As soon as you feel critical, say something kind about someone. When you feel neglected, send a cheery note to a friend.

—Oliver Wilson

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt. You are as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your hope, and as old as your despair.

—Albert Ulmann



Lift Truck Operators Honored

Three Warehouse men who operate fork lift trucks have received commendation for their outstanding safety practice and performance on the job during 1958. George Harper, Jr. was awarded a \$25 Savings Bond; Ben Byers, a check for \$10; Alonzo Setzer, a check for \$5.

This is the second award for Mr. Byers. When the recognition program was begun two years ago, he was the first to be honored, as the plant's outstanding fork-lift truck operator.

At the year-end presentation, safety director Alvin Riley had words of praise for the drivers who had shown a "growing consciousness of safety on the job." Warehouse manager Fred T. Morrow commended the men for "noteworthy achievement in operation practices."

Mr. Riley pointed out that the award-winning drivers had set a good example in maintaining the trucks assigned to them. "Each truck," said Mr. Riley, "represents a company investment of several thousand dollars.

TOP PERFORMANCE—Shipping foreman Harold Robinson (left), presents a \$25 Savings Bond to George Harper, Jr., honoring him as the outstanding fork-lift driver of 1958. Also honored were Alonzo Setzer (second from right), who received a check for \$5; and Ben Byers, whose performance was recognized with a \$10 check.

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Your excellent care of this equipment actually represents a tremendous savings in operation, maintenance and replacement costs."

For the awards, the operators honored are chosen on the basis of each individual's safety performance on the job. Among points of consideration are: Observation and practice of all safety rules, alertness, maintenance of vehicle assigned to the operator, and pride on the appearance of the driver's assigned truck.

Throughout the year, fork-lift truck drivers are under constant observation on the job, and operation records are maintained on each individual. To ascertain the operators' worthiness for the awards, records of drivers are carefully checked, with the top three scorers being designated for the honors.

3,178 SUGGESTIONS

Company Paid \$69,340 For Ideas Last Year

The 40th anniversary of the founding of the company's suggestion system was marked in 1958 by the adoption of 3,178 new ideas and the awarding of \$69,340 to employees in plants and offices throughout the United States, Canada, and five other countries.

In making the year-end announcement, L. J. Alger, manager of the suggestion system, pointed out that more than \$1,185,000 has been paid out to employees since the system was established in 1918.

Top award of the year, and one of the largest on record, went to Robert E. Weir of the Plant 2 tread making department. Mr. Weir's suggestion, which earned him \$2,500, involved the relocation of tread slitting for more efficient operation.

OTHER outstanding awards in the Akron plants and offices went to W. R. Ahern of defense products, who received \$1,000; Vito Anello, Plant 1, \$700; J. F.

Fitzpatrick, Plant 2, \$650; A. G. Murphy, Plant 1, \$450; P. R. Price, Plant 1, \$400; and P. V. Schember and K. T. Grosenbaugh, voucher department who shared \$400.

Those who received high awards at other plants include G. L. Burkhart, Pottstown, Pa., \$1,200; S. H. Place and A. P. Ballog, Los Angeles, \$1,000 and

\$400 respectively; John DePaola, Fall River, Mass., \$500; A. Kornov and M. Morris, Noblesville, Ind., \$475 and \$450 respectively; J. W. Krotzer and D. D. Haughton, Memphis, Tenn., \$450 and \$400 respectively; and R. D. Cox, Des Moines, Iowa, \$420.

Participation amounted to 347 suggestions per 1,000 employees.

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Progress Report In February

The company's 1958 year-end progress survey and report to stockholders will be made available to employees through the special annual issue of Firestone newspapers in February. The stockholders report will be presented by Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., chairman and chief executive of the organization.

The Gastonia Firestone Textiles edition of the publication will be mailed to employees shortly after February 15. This issue of the several plant publications is produced in Akron, Ohio. Members of the Firestone Non-Skid and the department of public relations at the headquarters offices edit and publish the report.

Each February, this edition of Firestone Newspapers highlights significant points of the company's history during the preceding year. The Gastonia plant is customarily featured in the special edition in February.

1959							JANUARY							1959						
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Snow Had Begun In The Gloaming

In the Mid-Southland where spring is not far away — even in January — snow sometimes comes as an afterthought of Mother Nature. But the white of winter did come to the Carolinas in December, leaving both states uncomfortably situated under a pretty—if not snugly—blanket of fluffiness. And speaking of beauty, nobody never laid eyes on snow so appealing as that which descends upon the North State Mountain

Country, according to Silas Buchanan. A boiler tender here, he was re-living in memory the full-blown winters common to his home county of Swain in the southwestern corner of the state. "Up there, winter means the whisper of a blizzard and the snow romping along the fence rows, across the garden patches and along the fir-clad hills and about the barn," he recalls. Mr. Buchanan—among a number of Firestone Textiles employees from the Altamont region of the state—lends his approval to the beauty of this highland snow scene, recorded for the plant newspaper. The place: A few miles from Blowing Rock on the Crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

New Term At Textile School

New classes in all departments of the North Carolina Vocational Textile School near Belmont began January 2. Departments of instruction include yarn manufacturing, weaving and designing, knitting, mill maintenance (machine shop), and tailoring. Classes meet from 8:20 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For students who work in textile plants until 3 p.m., classes are held from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

When the new term at NCVTS opened, principal Chris E. Folk emphasized the urgent need for trained textile workers below the college level.

"At the school here, an employee in a textile mill may work a full shift in the mill,

study textiles in a technical way three or four hours a day, and still have time at home with his family," Mr. Folk said. He added:

"We try constantly to make it clear to employees that there is no tuition for a resident of the state of North Carolina, if the student is a non-veteran. Quite often we hear non-veteran students say that they are surprised to learn there is no tuition fee."

The only charge is the cost of the books, which amounts to \$12 to \$15, depending upon the course of study. Students attending the school under the veterans educational benefit program have to pay tuition, which is figured on the actual cost of operating the school, Mr. Folk pointed out.