

GOING PLACES... SEEING THINGS

In January See Fort Raleigh Historic Site

Outdoor activities of appeal to travelers are not curtailed in the Mid-South during January. Especially is this so of "Down Home in North Carolina," for here, during the first month, there is a variety of things to do and places to go. The calendar has room for sports events and historical tours, for examples.

In the "Land of the Long Leaf Pine", spring is never far removed from outdoor playgrounds. There is only a brief period between the Christmas season and the appearance of signs of spring on the Southeastern Coast, the Sandhills and Thermal Belt sections to the West.

In the Carolinas—the area most-visited by Firestone travelers—every month brings a series of lively festivals, celebrations and other special events.

Plant Recreation, year-round sponsor of the employee travel information service, has some suggestions for your enjoyment during the first month of the New Year.

FOR EXAMPLE, there is a trip to Chapel Hill and the Morehead Planetarium at the University of North Carolina. Throughout the year the planetarium presents a daily schedule of programs which bring into focus man's picture of God's universe. "Scouting the Skies" runs from January 6 through February 23. Its title is suggested by the Boy Scouts of America national theme. This presentation is especially suited to students. Special programs Wednesdays through Sundays at 4 p.m. are for Cub, Boy and Girl Scout groups, and school groups visiting the State Legislature. For these, advance registration is necessary.

Traveling toward the Coast and the Outer Banks in January? One of the most interesting tours you can take is a trip to Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, three miles north of Manteo, N. C. The Site is on the north end of Roanoke Island, scene of Sir Walter Raleigh's ill-fated

attempts to establish an English colony in America. Here, the agents of Sir Walter Raleigh and the subjects of Queen Elizabeth suffered or died in efforts to begin the conquest of the greater part of the North American Continent. Hardship came to the first colony of 1585-86. Here was the birth of Virginia Dare, first child to be born of English parents in the New World.

THE FIRST colony was abandoned. Raleigh's attempt at founding a second colony, in 1587, ended in tragedy. Disappearance of what has been called "The Lost Colony" has never been explained.

To commemorate these chapters in America's past, Fort Raleigh was designated a national historic site in 1941. Its area of more than 18 acres embraces part of the settlement sites of 1585 and 1587. Objects uncovered there in excavations of 1947-48 are on display in the Site museum, in the area of the restored fort.

You may visit Fort Raleigh daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you plan to visit in a group, you may have special service if advance arrangements are made with the superintendent.

The Site, administered by the National Park Service, may be reached on State Route 345. It is 92 miles southeast of Elizabeth City. Travelers from the south and west can reach the Site by US 158 from Elizabeth City; or from Washington, N. C., over US 264; or from Williamston, N. C., over US 64.

Some employees have planned trips to Florida for January. Plant Recreation has this reminder: Holiday rates in the "Land of Sunshine" began in December. Travel seasons in Florida do not follow the calendar. For example, October marks the end of the summer rates, the lowest of the year. November 1 through December 15 is autumn, pricewise. The winter season begins in mid-January, and runs into March. In Florida, the winter season is the most expensive of the travel year.



It was a time for reminiscing when General Manager Harold Mercer presented a gold watch and 20-year service pin to Pearlle S. Cantrell, and James C. Barker. Looking on at right is F. B. Galligan, superintendent of the Cotton Division.

Two Set 20-Year Records; Others Have Long Service

The employment office signed up several people for jobs here in late 1938. Of that number, two employees are still on the job, having completed 20 years of service with the company last month. They are Pearlle S. Cantrell of Spinning; and James C. Barker of the Shop. While these two joined the growing ranks of two-decade employees, a number of others passed service milestones of 15, 10 and 5 years. Service pins have

been presented to these on the December, 1958 list:

Fifteen Years

Tom McClure, Twisting (rayon); Jasper McCollum, Warehouse; Edna M. Smith, Quality Control.

Ten Years

Blonzeen P. Mauney, Violet P. Painter, Hilliard E. Terry, all Twisting (rayon).

Five Years

Dewey L. Smith, Twisting (rayon); Virginia M. Thomas, Twisting (cotton).

Factory Manager, Production Head Appointed At Des Moines Plant

Appointments of E. H. Strobel as manager of the Des Moines (Iowa) plant, and of James E. Trainer, Jr., to succeed him as production manager have been announced by J. A. Meek, vice president, production. Mr. Strobel, with Firestone 17 years and in Des Moines since 1954, moves into the top Iowa post, succeeding J. C. Blue who retires January 31. Mr. Trainer has been with the

Des Moines plant since 1955. He joined Firestone ten years ago and worked in Firestone plants in Akron and Memphis before assignment to Des Moines.

An engineering chemist, Mr. Strobel was with the company's tire plant in Buenos Aires, Argentina, as plant manager when he was assigned to Des Moines.

Mr. Strobel, 40, is a native of Boston, Mass. He is a graduate

of Ohio State University and holds the master of science degree in rubber chemistry from the University of Akron (Ohio) where he attended on a Firestone Fellowship.

Mr. Trainer, 31, was born in Akron. He is a graduate of Culver Military Academy (Indiana) and attended Cornell University.

He has held production management positions in both the Memphis and Des Moines plants of the company, and leaves the post of assistant production manager in Des Moines to take his new post.

Brubaker Heads PR Program

A. E. "Scotty" Brubaker is the new director of public relations for the Firestone company. He was transferred from the post of retail advertising manager, after 17 years' service with the company.

Mr. Brubaker, from Litchfield, Ill., was graduated from the University of Illinois in 1937 with the degree of bachelor of arts.

Before joining Firestone, he was four years in sales and advertising work with Montgomery Ward in Chicago.

In World War II, Mr. Brubaker served two years as a Navy communications officer, attaining the rank of Lieutenant j.g.

He came to the advertising department at Firestone in 1942, after having worked as a budget supervisor in company stores in Rock Island and Galesburg, Ill. After holding various positions in the advertising department, he was made sales promotions manager in 1947. Six years later he was named retail advertising manager.

He is chairman of the Inter-Industry Highway Safety Adver-

tising and Promotion Committee. He is a trustee of the Community Church, Congregational, of Akron, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Brubaker and their three children live in Akron.

To improve the golden moment of opportunity is the great art of life.—Samuel Johnson

The Whiddens Live In Paris

Mrs. Edgar A. Whidden arrived in Paris, France, December 15, where she joined her husband who is serving with the US Air Force there. She is the former Betty Dixon, a daughter of Mrs. James G. Dixon and the late Mr. Dixon of Gastonia. Mrs. Whidden's mother is a respoiler tender in Twisting here. A brother, James G. Dixon, Jr., also works in Twisting.

Mr. and Mrs. Whidden are living in the Fontainebleau, Seine-et-Marne department Southeast of Paris. They plan to be living in France for three years. Their address: A/2C Edgar A. Whidden, Box 606, Det. No. 2; 1141st USAF, Spactyran APO 11, New York, N. Y.

Sports Writer Lauds Firestone Racing Tires

It takes rare know-how to make racing tires of high quality. Of the hundreds of firms in the world that manufacture tires, there is only a handful that chooses to build or is capable of building, reliable high-speed tires.

This was what Griff Borgensen had to say in an article published in the December issue of Sports Car Illustrated.

"As for the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, it is safe to say that for sheer vastness of track racing know-how, it is second to none. . ."

The Borgensen article backgrounds the company's racing tire development. About the Indianapolis race in 1913, he wrote: "Jules Goux, running on French tires, time after time burst them in the turns. Mid-race, he switched to Firestones. He had no more tire trouble and won the race.

"AFTER THIS, drivers and owners descended on the company in droves, all wanting Firestones and wanting them free. Harvey S. Firestone stated, 'If we can't make tires good enough for you to buy, we aren't interested in making them.' That policy has been adhered to ever since."

About the company's use of the Indianapolis Speedway as a proving ground the article says, "Many Firestone firsts, later copied by the world tire industry, were proved there.

"Firestone became the U. S. specialist in the building of high speed tires.

"One of the greatest and most dramatic

achievements in racing tire history was Firestone's seemingly effortless conquest of the exotic problems presented by the first Monza (Italy) 500-mile race.

"When the race was first announced it was clear that this would be the fastest race in the world. One of the most crucial questions was 'where do we get tires?' The problem was dropped in the lap of the late W. E. Lyon, who was director of tire engineering and development."

THE ARTICLE tells results of the testing program at Monza. It quotes the late Pat O'Connor, the company's test driver, whose death occurred in 1957, at Indianapolis.

"Said O'Connor, 'They sent me over there with a tire that hit the requirements right on the button'.

"The race itself was one of the great experiences of O'Connor's career. Pat said, 'On race day the air temperature was 108 degrees and the surface of the track was 128; terrible for tires. Bryan, who won at a race average of 160 mph, often topped 190 in the straights. We just ran as fast as we wanted and the tires took it'.

"This is the status, to date, of the evolution of safe and dependable extreme high-speed tires in America. Firestone's habitual pursuit of improvement is not likely to let the evolution stand still. Neither will the competition they are getting. . ."

News Of Warehouse Employees

Warehouse employees who took two-week vacations in late December were Erwin Worthy, Ernest Harris, Robert Lee Setzer and Ellie Hue Easter.

Tom Meeks of New York City spent a vacation in late December with his brother, Albert Meeks, a conveyor tender here.

Mr. and Mrs. John Moore, son-in-law and daughter of Jack Wellman, spent ten days visiting with Mr. Moore's family in New York City in December. Mrs. Moore is a registered nurse on the staff of Gaston Negro Hospital. Her husband is a teacher of French at Lincoln High School near Gastonia. Mr. Wellman is a utility man here.