

# Firestone NEWS

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*HARVEY S. FIRESTONE JR., COMPANY CHAIRMAN*

## '59 Seen As Good Year For Rubber Industry

The best sales year in the history of the rubber industry was envisioned for 1959, when Harvey S. Firestone Jr., issued his statement to the public at the beginning of the year.

The company chairman based his outlook upon continued growth of unit tire sales, increased sales of all other divisions in the rubber industry, and the encouraging rate of foreign-operation expansion.

Mr. Firestone pointed to the rising dollar volume in the industry during the last half of 1958, and observed that the rubber industry began the new year with all factors favoring a continuing increase in dollar volume. The demand for tires in the present year will be greater because of increased production of automotive vehicles and a greater number of cars in use.

For the Firestone organization, the chairman said:

"Competition for the anticipated business increases will be more intense in 1959 than ever before.

"This will be a year of great challenge, with every company in the industry working hard in the race for business. I am sure our people will meet this challenge."

He stressed the importance of every producing member of the Firestone organization making higher quality products and, through increased efficiency, attaining the lowest possible manufacturing costs.

Mr. Firestone also urged that

Eight million bales of cotton were processed and marketed in the United States during the 12 monthly reporting periods ending July 31 of last year, according to the US Department of Commerce. During this time exports of cotton amounted to 5.7 million bales.

all employees intensify their efforts to take part in the company's sales program by "Selling Firestone" to acquaintances and to people with whom they do

business.

"With the help of all, there is reason to expect that 1959 will be the best sales year in our company's history," he said.

## Plant Commended By Travel Group

The Travel Council of North Carolina has commended Firestone Textiles for its contribution to the "See North Carolina" project last summer. A recent statement from the Council expressed appreciation to Fire-

stone News for the publicity space it gave to the first annual "See North Carolina" promotion last August.

Firestone's Gastonia plant was among a number of industries which helped to promote the special month designated by Governor Luther Hodges to point up the variety in travel attractions in North Carolina.

## Year-Long Safety Contest Offers Five Cash Prizes

Will you do your part to make the cash thermometer rise in 1959? This question is being posed as the plant's safety record this year is well on its way toward the first 1,000,000 manhours without a lost-time accident.

In the cash-prizes safety contest which got underway in January, all employees except members of supervision will have an opportunity at a year-end drawing. At that time, whatever amount of money has been collected in a "kitty" will be distributed on a percentage basis to five lucky persons.

Safety director A. V. Riley has explained that when the first million manhours without a lost-time injury are recorded, the company will deposit \$100 in the contest "kitty." Every month thereafter for the remainder of the year, \$25 will be added for each month the plant operates free of a lost-time injury.

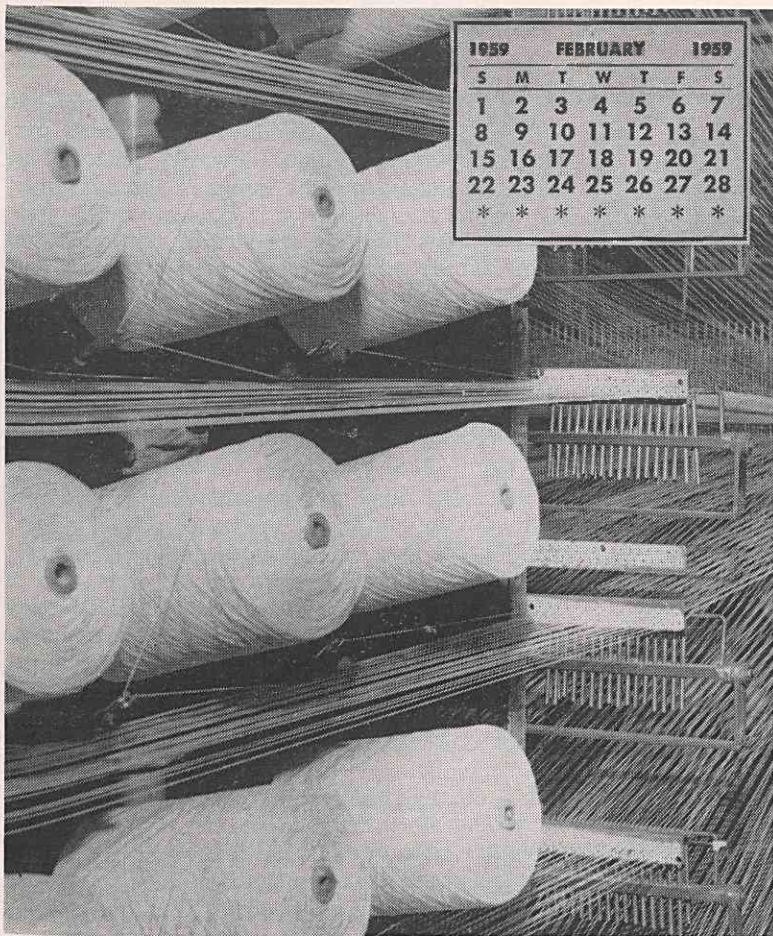
In event of an accident involving lost time to a worker, no money will be placed in the collection for the month in which the accident occurs.

At the end of the year, names of all employees, excepting su-

pervisors, will be placed in a box, and a drawing of five names will be made. The person whose name is drawn first will receive 30 per cent of the total amount of money in the collection. The next four persons whose names are drawn will be awarded the percentage of the money in this order:

Second — 25; Third — 20; Fourth—15; Fifth—10.

The safety director has noted that the first plateau of 1,000,000 manhours of operation this year normally would be reached around April 1.



## PATTERNS IN PRODUCTION

This beaming operation of plied yarn furnishes an interesting pattern on which to mount a calendar of the second division of the year. "February, fortnights two—briefest of the months." The plied (twisted) yarn is here being transferred from packages to large beams from which it will be woven into cotton chafer fabrics for outside sales.

## February 15-22 Is Brotherhood Week

Nationwide observance of Brotherhood Week this year will be February 15-22.

"Brotherhood for Peace and Freedom—Believe It—Live It—Support It!" is the 1959 theme. President Dwight D. Eisenhower is Honorary Chairman of the observance, which is sponsored

each year by the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Special events in more than 10,000 communities throughout the United States will mark Brotherhood Week. Programs will extend the work of the National Conference which stimulates year-round programs in schools and colleges, churches and synagogues, labor-management and community organizations, and in newspapers, magazines, motion pictures, radio and television.

**PURPOSE** of Brotherhood Week, according to Dr. Lewis Webster Jones, president of the National Conference, is to give people an opportunity to re-dedicate themselves as individuals to the ideals of respect for people and human rights.

"We try to dramatize the practical things that people can do to promote understanding and realization of those ideals.

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## List All Earnings On Tax Returns

When you report your Federal and State income tax return, you must include information from all the statement-of-earnings forms you have received during the past year.

This reminder comes from the Payroll Department, where frequent inquiries on the income statements are being received. The standard W-2 Federal Tax form is ordinarily mailed to an individual within 30 days after the last payment of wages—in case of either temporary layoff, or termination of employment.

If a person is recalled to his job, he is furnished another W-2 form covering additional wages earned. Remember that statements of earnings on all forms you may have received last year must be included when making your tax return.

## Bloodmobile Here February 25

Employees will have opportunity to make a life-saving gift when the Red Cross bloodmobile comes to Firestone February 25. Hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Recreation Center.

The local unit of the Red Cross emphasizes that its services in Gaston County will continue, contrary to a recent announcement that its program might be closed, due to lack of operating funds.

Plant management is hopeful that the February 25 blood donation will exceed the August, 1957 total of 175 pints—a Firestone record in recent years.

## Application For Scholarships

### Must Be Submitted By March 1

March 1 is closing date for 1959 Firestone college scholarship applications. The scholarship program is open to high school seniors, sons or daughters of employees whose base pay does not exceed \$800 per month. The employee and parent of an applicant must have completed five years of continuous service with the company by June 1 of this year.

Also, to be eligible for a scholarship, the applicant must be a high school senior in the upper half of his or her class on grade standings.

The program, begun in 1953, provides for a minimum of 15 four-year scholarships each year. At present, there are 93 attending college on company scholarships. Six winners have been from Firestone Textiles families.

The scholarship plan is designed to encourage and to aid financially the sons and daughters of employees. It provides advanced educational background to worthy young persons, that they may be helped to become outstanding citizens of this country and of their respective communities.

Each scholarship pays the cost of full tuition, fees and books and a sizeable part of living expenses at the college of the winner's choice.

The grants are awarded in the various sections of the country on the basis of proportionate Firestone employment. This way, children of all employees have equal opportunity to win.

Booklets describing the program are available at the Industrial Relations office.



Bill Gamble (left), shows the contest progress gauge to F. B. Harrison of Main Office, and Mildred Smith of Twisting (rayon). Mr. Gamble's mechanical drafting department prepared the thermometer which will register achievement each month during the safety contest.