



## Main Office

Miss Helen Spencer of Main Office was organist at the Steele-Edwards wedding in Gastonia's Unity Baptist Church, February 7. Two others from Main Office, Misses Peggy Hanna and Doris McCready, were bridesmaids at the rites which united Miss Mary Katherine Edwards, who formerly worked in Main Office, and Jack Edwin Steele Jr. of Burlington. The Steeles are living in Burlington.

Bill McKee is a new employee in the Shipping department, having come to work here in February. He lives at 322 Linwood road.

Miss Jerry Barton was back at work in late February, after having undergone surgery.

Debbie Creasman, daughter of Mrs. Lane Creasman of Main Office, marked her fifth birth anniversary recently. Thirty youngsters helped Debbie celebrate the occasion with a party in the Creasman home at 1810 McFarland avenue, Gastonia. They had ice cream, cake and soft drinks. Favors were balloons, hats and candy.

## Winding

Bernice Roland and members of her family were recent visitors with relatives in Murphy, N. C.

Going recently to Columbia, S. C. were Bertha Dettmar and her daughter, Peggy. There they visited Mrs. Judith Scott.

Ruby Scism was at home in late February, on sick leave from her work in this department.

Faye Kennerly was admitted as a patient at Gaston Memorial Hospital in February.

## Warehouse

Rosevelt Rainey of the Cotton Office had his sister and nephew as recent week-end guests from New York.

Ervin Worthy was back at work in late February, after having spent a week in the hospital. He is a fork truck driver in the shipping department.

## Employee Featured In Progress Issue

Did you recognize the Firestone Textiles employee featured on the cover of the February 16 "Company Progress" special issue of Firestone News?

The front-page layout of the company's annual-report edition featured Carl Smith in a weaving operation for synthetic cord fabric at the plant here. Since the special issue of the plant publications was produced in Akron, Ohio for U.S. and foreign distribution, the cover layout did not require identification of employees appearing in the pictures.

The photo from the Gastonia plant represented textiles—one of the six major fields of the

company's operation. Other fields are rubber, metals, plastics, synthetics, and chemicals.

## Wildlife Week

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we require to live. Every citizen has a stake in the future of our resources. The job of caring for them is one that our young people can best learn in school. Their natural interest in nature, science, and the outdoors provides real opportunity to do this," he added.



NEVER PARK

- ✓ Double on the street
- ✓ Near a fire hydrant
- ✓ Beside a safety zone
- ✓ On a cross road, cross walk or sidewalk
- ✓ On a highway, pull off on the side
- ✓ With any part of the car too far out into the street.

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staggering \$1,305 million—was the highest in history. It was an increase of approximately \$25 million over the 1957 figure.

## Heavy Fire Toll For Year 1958

Fire killed almost 1,000 persons a month in the United States during 1958, according to a report from the National Fire Protection Association. Monthly property losses ran to more than \$100 million.

US fire deaths for the past year totaled 11,500 based upon preliminary estimates by the NFPA's fire record department. This was an increase of approximately 200 over 1957, but under the 12,100 record of 1954.

The property loss total — a

## This Employee Mixes Fabrics And Books

Education leads upward to life's opportunities, said a wise man long ago. And perhaps no one is more convinced of this truth than is Reggie Davis, who works second shift in the Cloth Room. Mondays through Fridays he comes on the job straight from Ashley High school, where he is rounding out his senior year.

Reggie had his first working experience here when school was out in the spring of 1957. He worked that summer, skipped the next one. Then last August he came back for a regular job, which he tucks into his compact schedule of school, and a balance between some sleep, homework, and recreation.

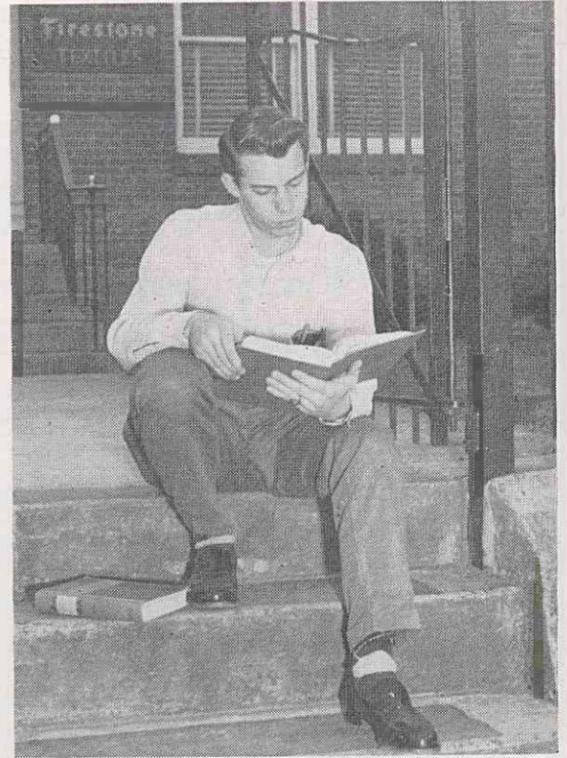
The student-employee works from 3 to 11 p.m. At home, he sometimes catches brief snatches of preparation for the next school day—then off to bed. Up before 7 a.m., he is in class by 8:20, working in his four subjects by the time the 2:05 p.m. bell rings.

Most of his time for class preparation is in the school library, where he has as much as 45-minute segments to study, read and to do research. When he arrives at Firestone with a few minutes to spare before 3 p.m., he brushes hurriedly for a tomorrow's lesson or a quiz.

With all this, somehow Reggie finds time to kindle his interest in aeronautics, by adding to his extensive collection of articles on airplanes and pictures of aircraft which run into the thousands on hand already.

At Ashley, he is most interested in mechanical drawing. Upon this subject hangs the hopes of his life's work.

"I hope to attend Gaston Technical Institute



Reggie Davis: A page of American literature before the second shift begins.

and major in mechanical drawing," he says, and adds: "Maybe some day I can be a draftsman at Firestone."

Reggie's interest in the plant here follows in the tradition of others of his family. A grandmother, Mrs. L. C. Pope, used to be employed here. An uncle, Clee H. McCaslin, is a loom fixer in Weaving (cotton); and a great-uncle, W. E. Pope, is a doffer in Spinning.

## Sports Banquet

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At the banquet, Mr. Grayson's address will come before the presentation of awards to some 200 persons in the various sports—including bowling, softball, basketball, billiards, checkers, cards, horseshoes, golf and shuffleboard.

Honors will range from recognition for catching the largest fish to the Supremacy Trophy—top departmental cup for superlative achievement in recreation here. The prized trophy will go to the department which captured the greatest number of honors and acquired the most outstanding record in all recreation activities during 1958.

Last year, Carding won the trophy—breaking a winning tradition in the Spinning department, which had captured the honor for ten consecutive years, except in 1954 when it tied with Twisting.

AMONG other honors to be handed out at the banquet will be the title "Ideal Athlete of 1958" conferred upon four men and four women selected from among employees of all three shifts at the plant. Ideal Ath-

letes are chosen each year by secret balloting of employees who take active part in the recreation program. Those who vote must have participated in at least one approved sports and recreation activity during the preceding year. Employees are selected for this honor on the basis of sports participation, sportsmanship, and achievement in the sports-recreation program.

Those named Ideal Athletes are not eligible for the honor a second time.

Recreation director Ralph Johnson and assistant Bob Purkey will preside at the April 4 program, scheduled for the lower level of the Recreation Center at 7 p.m.



United Press-International

Harry Grayson . . . coming here April 4.

## Textile Products: Today's 'Best Buy'

At the close of 1958 the wholesale price index showed prices of cotton products to be 88.6 per cent of the 1947-49 level. Man-made fiber prices were at 79.4 per cent on the index, prepared by the US Department of Labor. In view of the 88.6 per cent figure, a cotton textile item that cost \$1 in 1948, cost 88 cents in December of 1958.

Significance of these figures can be noted in light of the fact that the index of all manufactured products had risen in late 1958 to over 125 per cent of the 1947-49 period.

Reviewing this picture, the American Cotton Manufacturers Institute commented: "Textile products are still today's best buy."

## Firestone NEWS

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### DEPARTMENT REPORTERS

CARDING—Edna Harris, Jessie Ammons.  
SPINNING—Lillie Brown, Mary Turner, Maude Peeler.

SPOOLING—Nell Bolick, Ophelia Wallace, Rosalie Burger.

TWISTING—Elease Cole, Vera Carswell, Katie Elkins, Annie Cosey, Catherine Fletcher.

SALES YARN TWISTING—Elmina Bradshaw.

SYC WEAVING—Maxie Carey, Ruth Veitch.

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

QUALITY CONTROL—Sally Crawford, Leila Rape, and Louella Queen.

WINDING—Mayzelle Lewis, Ruth Cloninger.

CLOTH ROOM—Margie Waldrep, Mildred McLeymore

SHOP—Rosie Francum.

PLASTIC DIP—Jennie Bradley.

MAIN OFFICE—Doris McCready.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS—Flora Pence.

WAREHOUSE—George Harper, Albert Meeks, Roosevelt Rainey, Marjorie Falls.

Claude Callaway, Editor  
Charles A. Clark, Photographer