



MUSICAL FAMILY—Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Huffman with children, Lona and Mervin N., at their 1006 West Rankin street home. They like music with a Christian message.

Plants In France And India In Vast Expansion Program

A multi-million-dollar manufacturing operation in France is the most-recently-scheduled facility to be built in the company's world expansion program. Plans for the unit include a tire factory and a plant for production of synthetic latices and copolymers of butadiene and styrene.

Company chairman Harvey S. Firestone Jr. said that a full line of tires and tubes for passenger cars, trucks, buses, farm equipment, motorcycles, and scooters will be produced. This will be Firestone's 18th tire plant outside the United States.

Location of the unit had not been determined in mid-October, but plans call for construction to begin as soon as a site is selected. The tire unit is expected to be in production by late next year.

In France: Opportunities

Mr. Firestone noted that many raw materials for production are available in France, and pur-

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Synthetic Rubber Plant For India

In the company's latest expansion program is a \$30,000,000 project, which includes plans for production of butadiene and styrene, the main raw materials, as well as a copolymer unit to manufacture styrene rubber.

The operation in India will be that country's first synthetic rubber project, with an annual capacity of 30,000 tons, and an initial production of 20,000 tons. The plants, now being established in the heart of the sugar cane and alcohol-producing area in the United Province, are scheduled for operation within a year.

Butadiene, chief ingredient of synthetic rubber, will be made from the alcohol obtained from sugar cane. This will utilize part

of supplies will be made from sources within the country as much as possible.

"This will result in indirect employment for many people besides those directly employed in our manufacturing operation," he said.

Of opportunities in France, Mr. Firestone made these observations:

The country is third largest market for tires in the world. France has a rapidly-growing motor vehicle export business—third in the world behind West Germany and the United Kingdom.

French industry has greatly expanded since the end of World War II, and the automotive industry is the fourth largest in the world—after the United States, West Germany and the United Kingdom.

Mr. Firestone added: "The French people have an outstanding reputation for being efficient, hard-working, and adaptable to the complexities of modern manufacturing methods."

of the large unused supply of alcohol in India.

Employ Native Skills

Firestone, participating with private banks in the United States and the United Kingdom, will provide half the initial capital, and India will raise the remainder. The company plans to train Indian technicians and operating personnel for the plants.

It is estimated that the project will save India some \$10,000,000 in foreign exchange each year.

Firestone has been established in India for many years, first as a distributor and since 1939 also as a manufacturer. In Bombay there are facilities for production of tires and tubes for passenger cars, trucks, buses, farm equipment, off-highway machines, and motor scooters. Recent expansion in the Bombay facilities is meeting India's growing transportation needs.

This Doffer in Spinning Also A Song Weaver

Mervin Huffman's skilled hands doff yarn on first shift Spinning. Off the job, you'll find those hands turned to another kind of artistry which is constantly enriching the field of popular gospel music.

The composer, whose songs have been recorded by "big-time" singing groups and widely printed in sheet music form, has a new release on the Bibletone label. The song, "Do You Go To Church to Worship?" featuring the famous Cavaliers Quartet, is currently being played on radio stations and sung in churches and gospel concerts across the land.

Mr. Huffman's interest in combining lyrics and melody for songs with a Christian message began several years ago. Inspired by hymns and gospel tunes heard in church, he learned to play the guitar at 14, later took to the piano.

Then he began playing songs of his own creation.

IN 1949 his work gained attention of publishers. This led to a contract with a New York recording company, under which agreement he and Mrs. Huffman recorded "Finding Jesus Wonderful" and "Freedom and Right."

By the time he had added a few other songs, including "He Prayed 'Forgive Them, Father'" and "He's My Saviour", he had signed them to Decca Records. Another one, "Just A Little More of Jesus", was produced about the time he entered a con-

tract with Lynn Publishers of New York. Now, he has a contract with BMI (Broadcast Music Inc.) which brings a royalty on his songs when played over radio and TV.

Among the more than 20 songs now in preparation are "I'm Talking About Jesus", "Just A Few Days Away", and "What Would It Profit You Then?"

Of his favorite singing groups that are popular today the employee-composer lists the Rebels Quartet, the Blue Ridge Quartet, and the Blackwood Brothers.

WHENCE COME his ideas for a song? Many sources — some

unsuspecting ones, such as while driving down the highway, or doing the chores at home. His procedure is to write down some words, review them with the family, discover a fitting melody on the guitar or piano, then record it on tape.

At Gaston Avenue Church of God, where he is a member, inspiration came for "Do You Go To Church To Worship?"

"Other songs have had their origin while I was reading the Bible, listening to a teacher at Sunday school, or just recalling memories," he says.

And it may be while the spindles are whirring that a song is born.



Main Office

Miss Helen Spencer traveled by airplane to Greensboro recently for a visit with Mrs. Walter Hiatt.

Leonard Saleeby of the shipping department went to Wake Forest to attend the recent Wake Forest-Carolina football game.

Personnel

Plant safety director A. V. Riley attended the 47th National Safety Congress and Exposition in Chicago, October 19-23 at the Conrad Hilton Hotel.

Mr. Riley appeared on the program of a section devoted to accident prevention in the textile industry. In other sessions, he met with several Firestone people from the company's various plants in the United States and Canada. Eugene S. Sweeney, plant manager at the company's Bennettsville, S. C. plant, was among those attending from the South.

Mrs. Robert Pence, industrial relations, Mr. Pence and their son Bobby spent a week in Akron, Ohio in late October. On their motor trip north, they stopped in Harrisonburg, Va., and in Roanoke on the return trip.

While in Akron they visited Mrs. Pence's brother, S. F. Honeycutt and his family. Mr. Honeycutt, employed at the Gastonia plant for 20 years, was transferred to the textile division of the home factories in 1956.

Warehouse

John Bryant, Shop; Arthur Moore, Boss Moore Jr., Callie B. Moore, and Henry J. Moore went to Brooklyn, N. Y., in late October for the funeral of Banks Moore. Mr. Moore, a brother of Mrs. Bryant, was once an employee of the warehouse here.

Albert Meeks, warehouse, and Mrs. Meeks spent a late-October week end in Winston-Salem, where they visited a niece, who is a student there.



Giant Potato

This Puerto Rico sweet potato missed the area fairs by a few days. But John P. Smith—the man who cultivated it—is convinced that it would have commanded a prize in anybody's exhibit.

Here Mr. Smith, Cloth Room clerk, suggests the enormity of the choice tuber. With some of the taproot lost in digging, it still measured 9½ inches long, 4½ inches diameter at its widest point, and 18½ inches in circumference. It weighed 4¾ pounds.

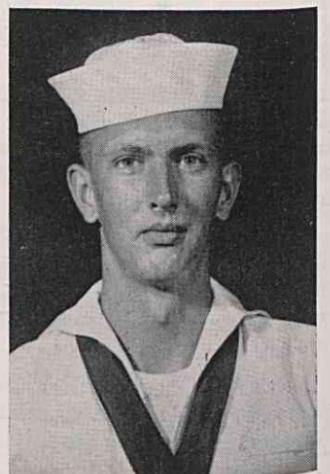
Although the biggest specimen, this was not the only hefty potato in Mr. Smith's crop this year. From 50 plants there was a five-bushel harvest. The gardener pampered the plants with nitrate of soda, but hoed them only twice.

A Former Creeler On USS Whetstone

SA Robert L. Ramsey has completed preliminary training at the San Diego, Calif. Naval Base and is now assigned to the USS Whetstone, with San Francisco the home port.

Robert is the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Ramsey. The father is second shift clerk at the Recreation Center. Robert himself was employed here as a creeler in Weaving (synthetics) for several months before joining the Navy in early summer this year. His address:

SA Robert Leon Ramsey, Di-



vision X; USS Whetstone LSD-27; San Francisco, Calif.