



THE GIFT of money which overseer R. S. Conrad delivered to Mrs. Morrison on her last day of work, meant added enjoyment to her first days of retirement. Money was from fellow workers in Weaving (synthetics).

## Lula Morrison: She Enjoys Life's 'Many Nice Things'

In November Lula E. Morrison spliced her last piece of synthetic tire cord. Then she went home to her favorite hobby which is much akin to the work she did here for many years.

Her sewing machine now stitches out many of the nice things she has wanted for a long time — dresses, quilts and fancy work for her own use and for some relatives.

The retiree entertains memories of around a quarter century in the textile trade, most of that time as a splicer here. She came to work at the old Manville-Jenckes plant in 1923, later took a break from the job before returning in the 1930s to stay until last month.

**TWENTY YEARS** were spent as a Weaving (synthetics) splicer, the last three years on a sewing machine in that department.

Her husband, deceased since 1937, was a welder at Firestone, and two of her sons worked here several years ago.

Mrs. Morrison's working years saw changes for progress. "I was too busy to notice many of the changes, but some of the big ones I saw — like improvement in quality of products, modernization of machines and other

equipment, and the general layout of my department."

Her home at 205 South Liberty street was one of the first to be purchased from the company.

**BESIDES SEWING**, crocheting and other handwork, Mrs. Morrison finds time to tend an every-summer crop of flowers, watch TV and keep abreast of the times through reading. She is active in the program of Pisgah AR Presbyterian Church, where she has worshipped since childhood.

For added variety, there is traveling in her plans. In the first week of retirement she went with relatives on a tour of the "Sapphire Country" of Southwestern North Carolina.

"The beauty of autumn landscape," she recalls, "with the clear streams and waterfalls, made me appreciate the many nice things there are to enjoy—even a few miles from home."

### Thoughts While Laying Up Roving

The only way to learn to remove mountains is by beginning on grains of sand.

Looking ahead is a good way to keep from falling behind.

Firestone News. Plant photographer Charles A. Clark recorded the arrangement by Mrs. W. H. Chastain of Weaving (cotton), who is a member of Variety Garden Club of Firestone. Artist James Barnette of Charlotte added the color and combined the elements with the first portion of the St. Francis prayer.

Concluding words of the classic petition are:

"... O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

## In the spirit of an Eternal Message...

### To The Men And Women Of Firestone Textiles:

Shepherds watched their flocks and Wise Men followed their Star to the place where a Babe was born almost 2,000 years ago.

In 1959, another Day of Commemoration brings renewed need for reverent observance.

Our preparations for the Advent Season naturally remind us that Christmas is the most joyous time of the year. It is a time to pause in a busy world, to be humbly thankful for the countless material joys that have enriched our lives during the year.

But beyond this, let us remember that we grasp the deeper meaning of Christmas only after we have lifted up our eyes to spiritual values.

The birth of Jesus Christ is humanity's greatest Gift. Similarly, the anniversary of His coming is traditionally a time of sharing with others—of dedicating ourselves anew to the eternal ideals of Peace and Good Will, and to the principles which champion the dignity and worth of every individual.

As we think on these things, we are forcefully reminded of how fortunate we are to live in a country where the

teachings of Christ have profoundly influenced our individual and national lives. Remembering this blessing, we are reminded also that there are vast areas of the world where His birthday is not observed, His message unheard and His image erased.

As powerful forces threaten to deny and destroy human freedom and brotherhood, each of us is challenged to resist these dangers with all our material and spiritual strength.

Looking toward the New Year, we can be grateful for the opportunity to produce for ourselves and our loved ones, to work ably together at our jobs and in our communities, and to share what we have with those less fortunate than ourselves.

With these thoughts, made in the spirit of that Message which is age-old yet ever-new, I wish for you and your family a Christmas rich in the joy of blessings received, glowing with the promise of happiness through all the years to come.

*Harold Mercer*

General Manager

## Home Fires Can Strike Many Ways

Home fires can attack you in hundreds of different ways.

Unfortunately, too few people take these dangers seriously enough to stay alert to the causes of fires. Last year, fire killed more than 11,000 persons in the United States and caused more than a billion dollars property damage.

Ninety per cent of these fires could have been prevented, safety observers point out.

As a part of off-the-job safety month observance for Firestone employees, safety leaders offer these timely reminders:

- o One-fourth of all fires are started by carelessness with matches or smoking; a large number by the misuse of electricity.

Home fires are more frequent in winter months, with defective heating units causing a lion's share of them. Take these precautions:

- o Never overwork a heater or furnace. Keep open fires screened; keep wood, coal and other flammable materials away from the furnace or stove. Dis-



"PLEASE, DAD, DO SOMETHING BEFORE SANTA CLAUS COMES!"

pose of trash regularly. Be careful with portable heaters; never fill them with oil when they are hot or in use. Vent gas heaters; have plenty of fresh air in the room. Keep all heating units a safe distance from bedding, furniture, clothing.

- o Use care in wearing loose clothing around heating units.

- o Don't overload electrical circuits; keep fuses the proper amperage. Let only competent repairmen correct trouble in electrical installations.

**FIRE HAZARDS** at Christmas time are oft-repeated. Always practice safety measures which have to do with Christmas trees, remembering to stand them in water, and to get them out of the house as soon after December 25 as you can.

## Completes Term As NCRS Chief

Plant recreation director Ralph Johnson presided over business sessions of the 15th annual conference of the North Carolina Recreation Society, at Wilmington, November 15-18.

The meeting, which drew 300 leaders from all parts of the State, developed the theme, "Recreation for Community Happiness". Among those appearing on the program was Jesse Reynolds, president of the American Recreation Society.

At the meeting, J. B. Gillette of Wilson took over as president of NCRS, succeeding Mr. Johnson. The Firestone man had served a regular one-year term as top leader of the State organization which exists to further the cause of recreation in industrial, business, civic, church, school, military and municipal circles.

Follow instructions on safe lighting of trees. Keep them away from heat sources. Inflammable decorations of glass or metal and fireproof "snow" add safety.

Dispose of Christmas gift wrappings outside of the house.

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### DECEMBER COVER

## His Prayer Is Christmas Itself

St. Francis of Assisi, Italy, traditionally exemplifies the spirit of peace and good will which found fulfillment in the birth of Jesus of Nazareth almost 2,000 years ago.

One of the great figures of Christian history, the saint's original name was Giovanni di Bernardone, but he was called Francesco (Frenchman) because of his father's travels in France.

At 22, he turned to a devout life. Setting out to preach in the year 1209, he won others by his humility, joyful poverty, singular devotion to mankind, and his religious fervor.

The oft-quoted prayer of St. Francis has suggested the front page theme for this year's December edition of