

# Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

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11 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

## Bloodmobile Visit Scheduled February 22

The first of two 1960 visits of the American Red Cross bloodmobile to Firestone is set for the plant Recreation Center February 22. On that day, employees making their life-saving gift to the Piedmont Carolinas regional blood bank will be helping to uphold the outstanding blood-giving record here.

Hours of the February 22 visit here are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Gaston County Chapter of the Red Cross points out that a decided increase in interest has been shown in the bloodmobile program during the past two months.

### Generous Response

Reviewing the program here during the past three years, industrial relations manager T. B. Ipock Jr. noted that Firestone employees and community residents have contributed 931 pints, on the schedule of two visits a year.

Record collection in recent years was 180 pints. On the most recent stop—last August—the bloodmobile took back 126 pints.

"It is commendable," notes general manager Harold Mercer, "that our people have always

met—or exceeded—the quota of each blood collection since we went on the twice-a-year schedule."

In addition to the usual blood lending, the Red Cross is particularly interested in collecting these rare types on the Firestone visit:

	Pints
O negative	7
B positive	10
AB positive	2
AB negative	1

Those who have never become donors are especially invited to participate. According to the

Red Cross, to be successful, a bloodmobile visit should have among the donors 40 per cent who have not given blood before. The figure now stands at 16 per cent for first-time donors.

### Group Donor Plan

As a part of the Piedmont Carolinas regional blood bank arrangement, establishments in business and industry may participate in the group credit-card plan. Through this program, an entire plant or business having 1,000 or more employees can

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**LUCKY-NUMBER WINNERS** who shared in \$300 giveaway, study a poster message with Ralph Johnson (front right), newly-appointed safety director. Clockwise, they are: Sara Smith, Winding, who received \$60; Leonard Green, Twisting (synthetics), \$45; Ray Arrowood, Twisting (synthetics), \$30; Frank E. Capps, Weaving (cotton), \$75; and Judson Bert Looper, Weaving (cotton), \$90.

## Second Year-Long Contest Offers Prizes For Safety

The second year-long safety campaign which offers cash prizes for added interest, set March 31 as its first major goal of 1,000,000 manhours without a lost-time accident.

Safety director Ralph Johnson has noted that the first plateau of a million manhours of operation at the plant this year normally would be reached around the end of the third month.

The first year of continuing safety emphasis closed with the awarding of \$300 distributed among five employees whose names came out in a numbers-drawing.

The plant closed the year with only one lost-time injury for a 12-month period, and a safety frequency rate of 0.28. This is the ratio figure representing accidents occurring per million manhours worked.

In the cash prize contest, all employees except members of supervision were eligible for the year-end drawing for whatever amount of money had been accrued on the basis of the plant's safety performance throughout the year.

**LAST-YEAR** rules of the contest provided that when the first million workhours free of a lost-time injury was recorded, the company put \$100 in the "kitty". Each month thereafter throughout the year, \$25 was added for each month the plant operated free of injury resulting in lost time to an employee. In case of an accident leading to lost-time, no money was added to the "bank" for the month in which the mishap occurred.

## New 'Old Glory' On Mill Tower

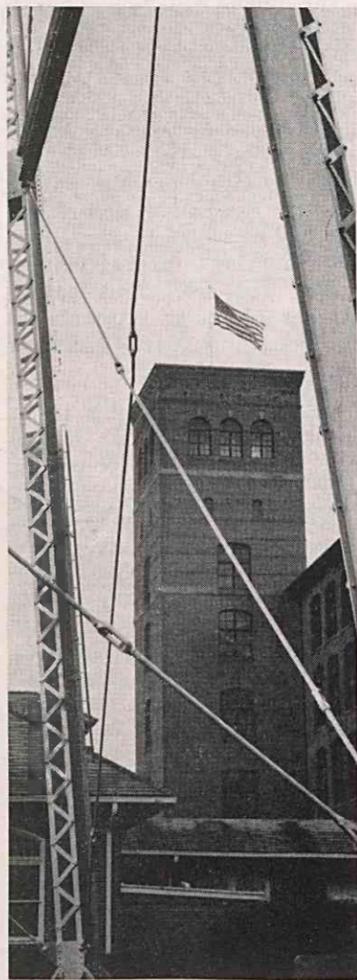
This out-of-the-ordinary view of the 49-star American flag flying atop the mill tower was photographed through the structural supports of the 160-foot water storage tank near the west gate, front.

The 49-star version of Old Glory was for the first time flown officially in Washington on Independence Day last year. The new design of the flag's face—marking admission of Alaska as the 49th State—represents the first change in the banner since admission of Arizona as the 48th state in 1912.

Admission of Hawaii as the latest state of "the Land of the

At year's end, names of all workers except the supervisory staff were placed in a drawing. The person whose name came up first received 30 per cent of the amount in the collection. The next four persons whose names were drawn were awarded, in order, 25, 20, 15 and 10 per cent of the money.

Rules for this year's contest will be worked out later, safety director Ralph Johnson has announced.



Free and the Home of the Brave" will be recognized by the 50-star ensign to be made official on July 4 this year, the date which will commemorate the 184th year of American independence.

## Famous Sports Leader Coming Here In April

N. V. "Swede" Nelson of Boston, world-renowned sports and recreation figure, has a return engagement at Firestone in Gastonia, April 16.

That is the date of the 24th annual All-Sports Banquet this year, according to recreation director Bob Purkey.

This will be the third time the famed Bostonian wit has been the featured speaker at the annual event which honors noteworthy achievement for employees and their families' participation in sports-recreation activities here.

Mr. Nelson appeared at the banquet here in 1951 and again in 1957. He is remembered as a brilliant field coach at Harvard University for 15 years, head coach of the College All-Stars for three years, one-time president of the Gridiron Club of Boston, and as sponsor of the Nelson Award for Sportsmanship, presented by the Gridiron Club of Boston.

Presented each year since 1946, the award goes to a college athlete who makes the greatest sportsmanship gesture during a collegiate football season. To select recipients of the award, the Gridiron Club polls more than 1,000 coaches and sports writers throughout the United States.



**BEST WISHES**—Firestone Textiles president W. A. Karl (left) came from Akron, Ohio, to attend a testimonial dinner honoring Mr. Kessell. Here, Mr. Karl congratulates Mr. Kessell upon his retirement, after 35 years with the company. Members of supervision gave the retiring superintendent a power lawnmower.

## Life Took On New Dimension For Retired Superintendent

A few days of leisure under Florida skies was first on the calendar of events for Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Kessell, at the time he retired as general superintendent here on February 1. On that date, Mr. Kessell's service record showed 35 years with Firestone.

Mr. Kessell came to the Gastonia plant as a superintendent in 1935. When he turned over the job to F. B. Galligan this month, he took the job title into history with his record. As of February 1, Mr. Galligan's title became that of production manager.

On his retirement, Mr. Kessell listed, in addition to the Florida trip, a visit to New England and

the scenes of his boyhood there. "Other things—like hobbies—will have to be developed gradually," he confessed.

The retired general superintendent became associated with Firestone on December 13, 1924, when he was first assigned to the plant at Fall River, Mass., original textile operation of the company.

**WHILE WORKING** at Fall River, he attended Bradford Durfee Textile School. Later he worked at the New Bedford and Newburyport, Mass. plants of the company before coming to Gastonia in 1935. He supervised operation of the company's synthetic plant at Roanoke, Va., until that project was consolidated.

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