

Russell Conrad: Time To Develop His Hobbies

Shop

Painter foreman Homer Harmon and Mrs. Harmon visited in Augusta, Ga., in January. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Anderson, who live in Augusta, traveled to Georgia with the Harmons after visiting them in Gastonia. Mrs. Anderson is the Harmons' daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurston Gilliam and family from Albany, Ga., were recent guests of plant engineer W. G. Henson, and Mrs. Henson who works in the Cloth Room.

Recent guests of Mrs. Rosie Francum, tool room clerk, were Mr. and Mrs. John H. Thoni and son Stevie of Brodowntown, N. J. Mrs. Francum is Mrs. Thoni's mother.

Millwright Joe Burroughs and Wayne Stewart of Franklin, N. C., went on a game-hunting trip in Southwestern North Carolina recently. They rounded up several wild boars. The remainder of their report: "No bears."

Mrs. B. W. Beckham of Lancaster, S. C. spent several days recently with assistant plant engineer H. A. Cauthen and Mrs. Cauthen. She and Mrs. Beckham are sisters.

Weaving

Thomas Taylor, loom fixer in Weaving (cotton), recently visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rollin Taylor at Murphy, N. C.

Warp hand Warren Jackson recently accompanied his brother to Baltimore, Md., where they visited their sister.

Mrs. Eula Dunlevy, weaver, with son Joey and daughter Barbara, visited recently with relatives in Jacksonville, Fla. Barbara works in Main Office.

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Fate Was Unkind; Neighbors Cared

In January, Firestone Textiles people reached a helping hand to a former employee here whose encounter with fate left him with both legs amputated just below the knees, and an assortment of towering bills unpaid.

The hand which Firestone neighbors held out to Judd Whitaker of 1116 West Seventh Avenue had \$1,434.73 in it. The Industrial Relations department, which administered the employee contributions, applied \$1,177.73 of the money to pay Mr. Whitaker's account at Garrison General Hospital through January 18.

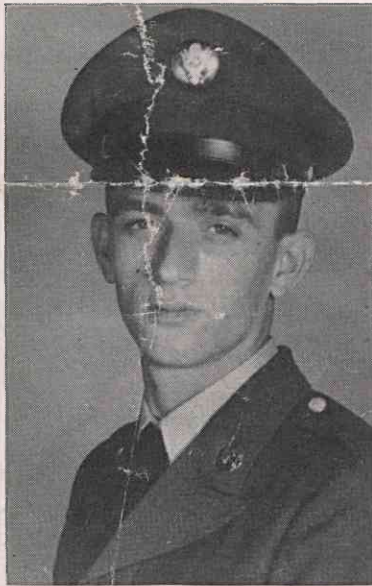
Another \$257.25 was turned over to his wife, employed here in Splicing (synthetics). The Industrial Relations department said that \$410 of insurance money had been applied to Mr. Whitaker's bill also.

Mr. Whitaker had put in 12 years at Firestone when ill health forced him to retire in 1957.

Late last year, he went to Garrison Hospital with pneumonia. Then doctors discovered he had a blood clot in the legs, and amputation came in December. By Christmas, he had been in the hospital more than a month.

Many individuals and organizations, including church groups, have collected money for the patient. How much more will be needed depends on how much longer he has to remain in the hospital.

A higher percentage of residents is employed by the textile industry in South Carolina than in any other state in the nation.



Former Employee At Fort Jackson

James C. Barker Jr., whose father is a carpenter in the mechanical department, was graduated in late January from the basic military course in the Fifth Training Regiment at Fort Jackson, S. C.

The young infantryman was employed in Carding here for two months just before he entered the service last November. He expects to be assigned at Fort Jackson until around April 1. His address:

Pvt. James C. Barker Jr., Co. A, 10th Battalion; Fifth Training Regt., Fort Jackson, S. C.

Quality and You

To keep the quality of our products at its highest, every manufacturing step must be performed with the thought in mind that you are the one who is responsible to the customer.

For Russell Conrad, the last day of 1959 marked "finish" to a career in textiles which spanned the age of the hand-threaded shuttle to the era of man-made wonder fibers and machines that lift loads from workers' shoulders.

The overseer in Weaving (synthetics) for almost 25 years since Firestone has owned the mill, started work here in 1906. He quit school that year to take a job in the spinning room of the old Loray operation. At the time of his retirement recently, he had completed 53 years' work within the same walls.

THOSE YEARS hold memories of a variety of jobs — sweeping, loom fixing, doffing, roving, weaving; as section man and second hand. He moved to cotton weaving in the 1930s, where he became a loom fixer.

At about the time Firestone bought the plant from the Manville-Jenckes interests, Mr. Conrad recalls that the superintendent one morning assigned him as overseer in the department which was later converted to rayon and nylon production.

"Handle it the best you can, until we get a permanent man," he quoted the superintendent.

"I stayed on that job for more than 24 years of my remaining time at Firestone — all along wondering when they were go-

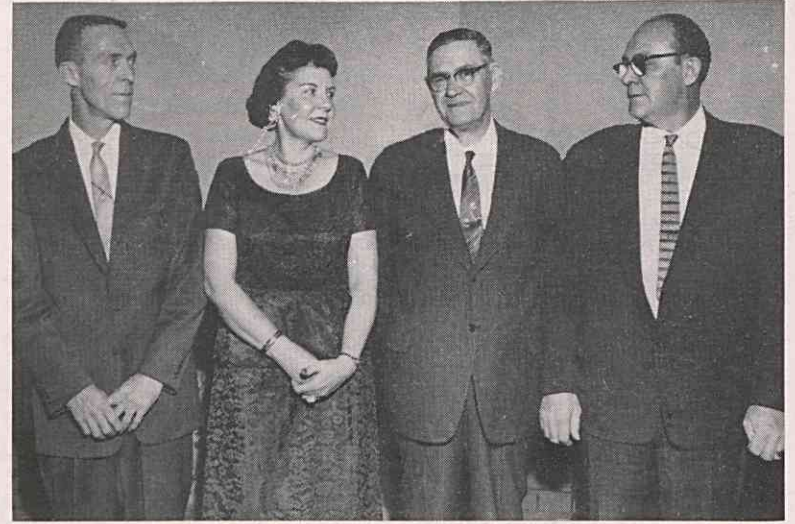
ing to replace me," he joked.

Since he had quit school to take his first job here, Mr. Conrad has tried to bridge the gap by attending night school, and by studying at home all these years.

At the time of his retirement, folks in Weaving (synthetics) expressed their best wishes while presenting him with a gift of money. A tenth of this he straightway appropriated to

Firestone Wesleyan Methodist Church, his regular place of worship.

There was a good guess that the remainder of the money would go for something relating to his hobbies of hunting and fishing, and cooking. Anyhow, in his plans for the near future are some trips to the Coast for deep sea fishing, and to Camp Firestone at Lake James for some freshwater angling.



IN ONE FAMILY—96 YEARS OF SERVICE—Russell Conrad (second from right), poses with his children whose Firestone service, added to his, amounted to 96 years and 6 months at the beginning of 1960. They are (from left): Roland, 23 years and 9 months; Clara, 24 years and 6 months; and Earl, 24 years and 7 months. The retiree has two sisters and several other relatives who work at Firestone.

SCOUTING

Adventure In Friendship And Brotherhood

Almost 34 million Americans have been identified with the Boy Scouts of America since Scouting had its beginning in this country February 8, 1910. During that half century, this youth movement has brought the great adventure of the out-of-doors and the lure of unblazed trails.

It has brought the adventure of citizenship, the motive to serve other people, the Daily Good Turn, and helpfulness to the nation in time of war and peace. These and other adventures have captured the imagination of boys.

One of the greatest of them all has been the adventure of friendship—of brotherhood that speaks around the world. In almost every country of the free world today, there are Scouts who are dedicated to tolerance, good will, and friendliness.

There are five million Scouts and leaders in the United States, and three million more brother scouts in other lands.

The Boy Scouts of America, through its World Friendship Fund, aids Scout associations of other lands. American Scouts have participated in ten World Scout jamborees, and this year will be hosts to Scouts from all over the world, at the national Scout jamboree in July.

SCOUTS of many countries are working together to help build a better world. Their high ideals and spirit of service are significant factors in these efforts toward improved understanding among peoples of the world.

Responsible American citizens commemorate the glorious history of the Boy Scouts organization, as it marks its Golden Anniversary. The thousands of citizens who share in promoting the Scouting program would add: "We wish that more men of character, more organizations and groups would help observe the 50th year of Scouting, by enlisting in active support.

"Training which Scouting offers our youth is one of the best means of perpetuating good citizenship and the ideals of brotherhood."

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