

March Brings Another Play Season Outdoors

In the Mid-South, March empties her treasure chest to bring the spring flower and outdoor season of pageantry, festivals, tournaments and other special attractions. Nature, up from her winter slumber, slips into her gayest outfit, bringing to Firestone travelers the urge to take to the road and enjoy another play season outdoors. That's the way Plant Recreation puts it, in posting some travel cues for March.

Outstanding on the travel scene are flower shows and home and garden tours, which have become traditional in North and South Carolina. Leading off in the North State is the Charlotte Men's Camellia Club Show, March 12-13; Albemarle Camellia Show, Elizabeth City, 12-13; Eastern Carolina Camellia Society Show, Rocky Mount, 19-20.

The North Carolina Azalea Festival, March 31-April 3, is historic Wilmington's biggest annual event.

Boat Show This Month: Other Sports Events

Of special interest to many employees are the boat shows, outstanding of which is the Mid-Southern Sportsman's Show sponsored by Piedmont Boat Club, Winston-Salem, March 17-20.

Other sports events include 14th annual Fayetteville-Fort Bragg Dog Show, Fayetteville, March 27; 100-mile trail ride, Tryon, March 29-April 1; Azalea Open PGA Golf Tournament, Wilmington, 31-April 3; and Tommy Steiner Rodeo, Greensboro coliseum, 31-April 3.

Charlotte will be host to Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus, March 16-20.

"Easter the Awakening," perennial springtime favorite program at Morehead Planetarium of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, begins March 15 and lasts through April 25.

Southern Pines has scheduled its Antique Show for March 23-25. It is sponsored by Moore County Historical Association.

The State Choral Concert at Greensboro is set for March 31 through April 3.

At the North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, the "New European Painting and Sculpture" exhibit, which began in February, will continue through April 30. The Museum, outstanding cultural center and favorite travelers' attraction in the State Capital, contains a \$5,000,000 permanent collection of masterworks. Open free the year round, admission hours are: 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. each weekday except Monday; and 2-6 P.M. Sundays. The building is on

Capital Square in downtown Raleigh.

New Season for Surf, Freshwater Fishing

Anglers will welcome the surf and freshwater fishing season, when late March brings the big spring run of channel bass to coastal waters, and bass and panfish show greater interest in lure or bait. Early April brings a new season to ocean fishing piers, and the opening of some trout streams in the Blue Ridge and Great Smokies.

A request to the Wilmington chamber of commerce will bring you a copy of a fishing map, complete with tide tables, location of inlets and wrecks that are good fishing spots, tips on when and where to catch 'em and recommended baits.

You can now travel by car all of North Carolina's Outer Banks from Kitty Hawk to Calabash. On the new island-to-mainland ferry, you can take your car across Pamlico Sound, then drive to the lower coast of North Carolina.

Firestone travelers interested in this historic area of the State — with its fabulous fishing, sand beaches and colorful villages — may have a free pictorial booklet on the Ocean Highway (US 17). Write to Chesapeake Research Bureau, 207 East Redwood avenue, Baltimore 2, Md.

Firestone Scholar On Dean's List

Peggy Davis, senior student on a Firestone scholarship, was one of three from Gaston county who was included on the dean's list for the semester ending early this year at High Point College. To earn this distinction, a student must pursue at least 12 semester hours of academic work, and attain a grade average of 2.5 points.

Peggy, one of six from the Gastonia area to win Firestone college scholarships through the year 1959, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Davis of 219 West Seventh avenue. Her moth-

er is a quiller operator here.

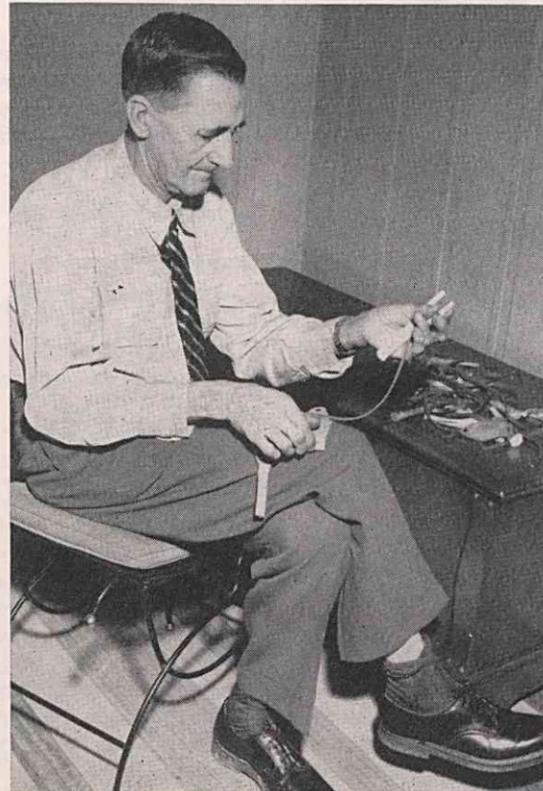
The scholar's program at High Point is leading to a major in elementary education and a minor in religion. She is doing practice teaching in the public school system, as a part of the requirement for her degree and certification in education.

ROBERT RHYNE, RETIRED

His First Job In Textiles Paid 18c A Day

When he was five years old, he watched men and mules dig the foundation for what is now the main section of the Firestone plant in Gastonia. That was 1900. Three years later Robert Rhyne was keeping up two sides of a spinning frame at a Lincolnton mill and earning 18 cents a day.

On December 17, 1903, someone ran between the spinning frames, shouting the news that the Wright brothers at Kitty Hawk had successfully flown the first powered aircraft.



From those beginnings to his retirement here in early February, Rhyne logged 56 years in textile mills — more than 24 of them at Firestone.

He has known a variety of jobs: oiler, sweeper, card stripper, speeder tender, carding overhauler. Besides Firestone and the mill where he had his first job, he worked at several other places — one as far afield as Danville, Va. He used to come home to Gastonia on week-ends, making good time in his Model T.

HIS YEARS of mill life harbor other memories, too. There were the "railway" cards before the revolving machine in general use today . . . the age of steam-power manufacturing . . . and days when a man could leave his machine to pluck a few blackberries or run an errand, returning in time to doff a frame of yarn.

More significant are recollections of change — to better machines and improved working conditions, increased quality, better employee benefits and more pay. "And it's all to the good," he says.

On his last day of work here, Mr. Rhyne recalled that he had never had an injury on the job, nor had he missed a week's work because of sickness. Upon his leaving, friends on the job presented him a gift of money. Someone guessed he'd spend a little of it to buy natural rubber for some slingshots — the kind he had been making for more than 55 years, as target-shooting pieces.

Beyond his hobby, he will paint his house on Club drive, dabble in the garden, and spend some time this summer at Balls Creek Methodist Camp Ground, where he and Mrs. Rhyne have a cabin.

SLINGSHOTS — At home on Club drive, retiree Rhyne checks materials for his pastime craft — making slingshots of wooden forks, leather, thongs and strips of rubber. He has made hundreds of slings for use in target shooting. In proper hands, the piece drives with amazing accuracy.



BAY STREET SOUVENIRS—Firestone people (from left) Roy Fullbright, Boyd Bolynn and P. E. Savage line up some of the Bahamas souvenirs they brought back from Nassau's famed straw market on Bay street.

Bahamas Trip For Employees

Members of four Firestone families were among more than 750 persons from the United States who attended special meetings earlier this year in Nassau, marking the Golden Anniversary of planting Church of God mission stations in the Bahamas.

Making the trip to the British crown colony islands in the South Atlantic were Mr. and

Mrs. Roy Fullbright of Spooling, Boyd Bolynn of Twisting (cotton) and Mrs. Bolynn of Twisting (synthetics), P. E. Savage of Twisting (synthetics), Mervin Huffman of Spinning and Mrs. Huffman; and the Huffman children, Leona and Mervin L.

These were among several persons from Gastonia Church of God congregations joining others from the area and across the country for the trip by chartered boat from Miami. They traveled on the Bahama Star the 190 miles to Nassau, capital of New Providence Island, and were quartered on the vessel the three days they were there for the meetings in churches and a special rally in an open-air sports field.

The Firestone people, attending the meetings as lay leaders of the Church of God, took a hurried sightseeing tour of historic landmarks in Nassau, commercial and social center of the colony.

Mr. Yelton was graduated from high school in his hometown of Rutherfordton, N. C., and received the bachelor of science degree in textile engineering from Clemson College in 1952. Before entering Clemson, he served two years with the U. S. Marine Corps.

In manufacturing since graduation from Clemson, Yelton has been associated with three of the country's leading textile producers of cotton and synthetic materials.

Mr. and Mrs. Yelton and sons, Bruce, 10, and Gary, 4, live on Craig avenue in Gastonia. The family has already begun to attend to details associated with their upcoming trip to South America.

Oldest fiber-yielding plant for use in weaving fabrics is thought to be hemp, a tall annual native to Asia, but cultivated elsewhere for its bast (inner fiber) content. Artisans in China were producing hemp fabrics on their crude looms almost 3,000 years before the birth of Christ. Hemp is today a major source of fiber for making paper, and such textile products as cordage, utility bags, and canvas.



Thomas L. Yelton who with Mrs. Yelton and their two sons, will go to Argentina in May.

Yelton To Join Argentine Staff

A position on the management staff of the company's textile plant in Argentina is the upcoming assignment for Thomas L. Yelton, who joined Firestone at Gastonia in January this year.

Until early May, when he will leave for the Argentine plant, Mr. Yelton will be in a training program, familiarizing himself with all phases of the Gastonia operation, as background for his work at the Llallavoll factory, a few miles from Buenos Aires.

IN HIS new assignment he will succeed Jesse Williams, who went from Gastonia to Llallavoll in March of 1958. Mr. Williams is being transferred to the company's textile plant at Sao Paulo, Brazil.