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# Firestone NEWS

GASTONIA

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VOLUME IX

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## Sports Banquet At Gastonia Y

Handing out honors for recreation achievement and a witty speech by a famous athlete-sportsman headline the schedule at Firestone Textiles' 24th annual All-Sports Banquet. The program is set for the YMCA building at 7:30 p.m., April 16. This is the first time the banquet has moved away from the mill, since the first one was held in the spring of 1936.

When N. V. (Swede) Nelson comes to Gastonia, it will be the third trip he has made to Firestone here to address the traditional top event of the plant's calendar year. Mr. Nelson appeared at the banquet here in 1951, and again in 1957.

The famed Boston wit belongs

### Five Awards Made For Scouting

Robert B. Hull Jr., whose father is manager of the Quality Control department at Firestone, was among five Boy Scouts who received the God and Country Award on March 13, at Gastonia's First Associate Reform Presbyterian Church. The other Scouts were: Calvin Todd, Charles Todd, J. Y. Todd Jr., and Boyce Wilson.

The God and Country awards, representing the Scouting program's highest church achievement, were presented during the church service.

to an illustrious list of personalities who have helped to make the All-Sports Banquet one of the outstanding events of its kind in the Southeast.

Mr. Nelson will be featured speaker at the program which pays tribute to employees and members of employee families who take part in sports-recreation activities at the plant.

**Traditional on the program will be the awarding of trophies and other recognition to individuals and teams with achievement records in sports during 1959.**

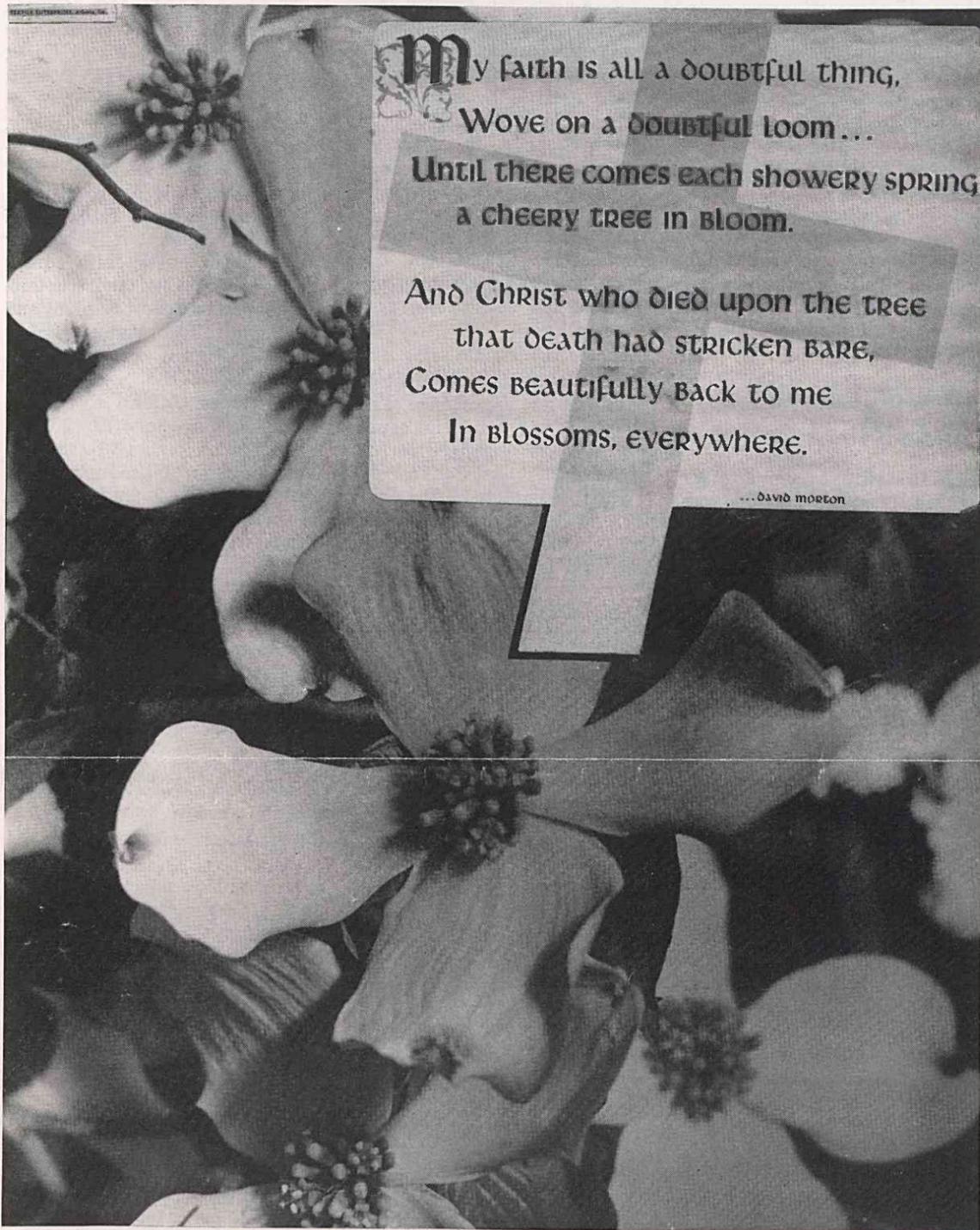
Chief of these honors is the Supremacy Trophy, which symbolizes the most outstanding record of all for a department—or departments, in case of a tie.

**AS GUEST** speaker, Mr. Nelson will lead the roster of a number of well-known personalities of the sports-recreation field, invited to be present for the banquet. Among other special guests will be civic and other professional leaders of Gastonia and nearby communities.

N. V. Nelson years ago earned a place of renown in the sports world, for his performance as a brilliant field coach at Harvard University for 15 years, and as head coach of the College All-Stars for three years.

A past president of the Gridiron Club of Boston, an outstanding businessman and community leader, he is known internationally as sponsor of the

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### ETERNAL PROMISE

Another Spring and new life on the land speak again of God's Presence in His Creation, His reassurance of man's belief in immortality. The "cherry tree in bloom" of David Morton's verse, the snowy-white dog-

wood of the Southland and a million other symbols of the Resurrection Season remind us that God's love is a living reality. The good tidings that "Christ is risen indeed" echo across the centuries, renewing His Eternal Promise: "Because I live, ye shall live also."

### LAST 3-MONTH PERIOD

## Net Company Sales \$273,921,522

Net sales for the Firestone company and its subsidiaries amounted to \$273,921,522 for the three-month period ended January 31, 1960. Sales for the same period of last year amounted to \$272,471,860.

Estimated net income for the first quarter was \$13,564,023 compared with \$14,304,391 last year. Earnings on the common stock were equivalent to \$.51 per share compared with \$.54 per share last year. Provision of \$13,200,000 has been made for domestic, state, and foreign taxes on income as compared with \$14,350,000 for last year.

Sales were the highest ever attained by the company for a first three months' period. Sales to original equipment manufacturers were materially reduced due to the effect of the steel strike on automotive production during this period. Profits were slightly lower for the quarter as compared with last year, due to increased natural rubber and labor costs and lower domestic replacement tire prices. On February 13, 1960, tire price increases ranging from three to five per cent were announced.

## Safety Contest Has Merchandise For Prizes

The second-year version of a repeating safety campaign here aims at the Million-man-hour mark at the close of April without a lost-time injury.

As the new contest went into its second month for 1960, safety director Ralph Johnson announced three outstanding changes in rules regarding prizes, distribution and number of winners:

- That \$200 will be placed in the "piggy bank" for prizes, instead of the \$100 which was the standard amount the

company contributed to lead off the contest last year.

- Prizes will be merchandise instead of cash. Last year five employees shared in a \$300 cash giveaway through a names drawing.

- There will be ten winners instead of five, as was the case last year.

WITH the \$200 ready for the prizes collection, another \$25 is waiting to be added at the end of May—if the month goes on record without a lost-time injury. Each month thereafter to the end of the year, \$25 will be added if the record remains ac-

cident-free. In event of a lost-time injury, no money will be added to the prizes reserve for that month.

At the end of December names of all employees, except supervisors, will be included for the drawing. Each of the ten persons whose names are drawn will receive ten per cent of the total amount in the collection, in the form of merchandise.

"Insofar as possible, we will allow the winners to select their prizes in merchandise," said Mr. Johnson. "We believe this is still another good feature of this year's contest rules," he added.