

Progress For Rubber Industry

New materials combined with advanced technology will give the rubber industry a rate of progress in the 1960s that will far outstrip past performances. Dr. J. N. Street, director of chemical laboratories for the Firestone company, made this prediction in speaking to delegates attending the Eighth Highway Transportation Congress in Washington recently.

In the course of his talk, he traced development of modern tire cord from rayon to nylon, to steel. He noted that these advances "have opened the door to new developments which promise a greatly increased safety margin for passenger car tires." He also predicted improvement in carbon black and cord fabric used in tires.

Speaking of new types of synthetic rubber, Dr. Street said that modern polymerization techniques pave the way to a

whole family of rubber developments. "The next few years hold promise of further significant developments. These additional tools will enable tire engineers to build an improved product," he added.

Coral and Diene

Firestone in recent years has developed two types of synthetic rubber which can make the United States independent of foreign sources of rubber, in event of a global war. The first type, Coral, is a man-made equivalent of natural rubber. It has been tested extensively in truck and military tires. The other, Diene, is a rubber extender. It can be blended with either natural or synthetic rubber. Diene is more "lively" than natural rubber, decreasing rolling resistance and power loss in tires.

Dr. Street remarked that both Coral and Diene have been subjected to extensive road tests, and now are in limited use on commercial truck and taxi fleets.

Mr/s. C. W. Thomas Live In Staunton

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil W. Thomas Jr. went to live in Staunton, Va., following their June 25 wedding ceremony in Bradley Memorial Methodist Church, Gastonia.

Mrs. Thomas, the former Miss Peggy Jean Davis, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Davis of 219 West Seventh avenue. Her mother works in Quilling and Beaming.

A few days before her marriage, Peggy was graduated cum

laude, with a BA degree in elementary education from High Point College. Her minor studies were in religious education.

At High Point, Peggy established an outstanding record as a student attending the college on a four-year Firestone scholarship. In Staunton, she will teach in the public school system.

Her husband is the son of Mrs. C. W. Thomas and the late Mr. Thomas of Roanoke, Va. A graduate of High Point College in the class of 1957, he is a sales representative for Lever Brothers Company.



MAN WITH A HOE

D. L. Dunlevy stays on friendly terms with The Good Earth at his "little homeplace" on Route 1, Dallas. His memories of a half century in textile mills have not dulled his rich retirement life of rewarding hobbies and other worthwhile endeavors.

Mr. Dunlevy retired from the mechanical department here almost 15 years ago. He and Mrs. Dunlevy moved from Gastonia to their present house in 1945. Since then, their creative hands have improved the neat little white house and its backyard workshop, and have transformed the grounds into a model landscaped garden of flowers, shrubs, grapevines, fruit-bearing trees, a vegetable plot.

Don't Let Grass Grow Under Your Feet

Have an idea? You can cash it in for money—and at the same time, improve your job or the job of your fellow worker.

Look around. Think. There may be a better, more efficient way to do the job than you did it yesterday. There may be a safer way. Suggestions leading to these goals will contribute toward making Firestone Textiles a better place to work, while helping the company to serve its customers with the best in quality products at fair market prices.

Many award-winning suggestions come from the average person on the job. Whatever your task in keeping the wheels of progress going at Firestone, there is rich reward for you—if you keep alert to ways of doing your work better . . . a new use of a familiar tool . . . or a new product nobody ever dreamed of . . .

When you share ideas with your company, your accepted suggestions help to build a better place of employment . . . increase the security of your job. Ideas put money in your pocket, too—in more ways than just the payment at the time your suggestion is adopted.



- Think it through
- Write it down
- Turn it in

Textiles Through The Ages . . .

Textiles became a silent witness to the remote past when Israeli archeologists recently discovered at least seven letters of Bar Kochba, unsuccessful leader of a Jewish rebellion against the Romans from 132 to 135 A.D. The letters, tied in a bundle with a thread, were packed in a goatskin bag along with several items including mirrors, spindles of woven wool and a quantity of dyed but unwoven wool.

The find, well preserved in the extreme dry air, was made during an expedition last April into remote coves of the Judean desert along the western shore of the Dead Sea.

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VISITING LEADERS—From left: General manager Harold Mercer; H. G. Hall, synthetics; Dr. J. T. Caldwell; Philip R. Williams, cotton; F. C. Martin, synthetics; Price Sherrill Jr., mechanical; Dr. J. H. Lampe; and C. C. Dawson. Hall, Williams, Martin and Sherrill are all graduates of State College.

NC State College Officials Here

Five men of the Firestone Textiles, Gastonia, management staff joined two top officials of North Carolina State College and a Gastonia textile manufacturer in a brief "reunion" at the plant here one day in June.

Dr. John T. Caldwell, chancellor of N.C. State College and former president of the University of Arkansas; and Dr. J. Harold Lampe, dean of the School of Engineering at State College, were in Gastonia for the second annual commence-

ment exercises of Gaston Technical Institute. With them at Firestone was C. C. Dawson, chairman of the advisory board of GTI. He and Firestone Textiles general manager Harold Mercer have been members of this board since its formation.

At the commencement in First Baptist Church, Dr. Lampe introduced Chancellor Caldwell who delivered the main address, after which 62 seniors were awarded associate degrees in applied science. Gaston Technical Institute, in quarters which were once a part of the Firestone property here, is a division of the School of Engineering, N.C. State College.

37th '500' Win On Firestone Tires

Rolling on Firestone's newly-designed 1960 Indianapolis tires, Jim Rathmann—a second-place finisher three times — outsped defender Rodger Ward by 13 seconds in this year's Indianapolis 500-mile Memorial Day race.

It was the 37th consecutive "500" victory for Firestone tires.

Rathmann's record-setting average speed, watched by some 200,000 spectators, was 138.767 miles an hour. With the new Firestone tires, the first seven finishers charted speeds greater than the 135.857 record which Ward set last year.

Heretofore, the Indianapolis tire has been identified by three circumferential grooves extending from the low shoulder to the center, leaving the left side smooth. The new tire's tread design is a series of grooves that vary in skid depth over its entire tread surface. Other improvements include tighter control on the selection of nylon and increased adhesiveness of tread to tire body.

Lyon Trophy Awarded For Qualifying Win

Besides the 500-mile record, the fastest qualifying time was

set this year by rookie Jim Hurtubise who turned the two and one-half mile oval in 149.056. For this, he won the Walter E. Lyon Memorial Award trophy, presented by W. R. McCrary, field manager of Firestone's Racing Division.

Rathmann, runner-up in 1952, 1957 and 1959, beat Ward in the second closest racing duel in the 44-year history of the track. The two veteran drivers were still taking turns leading as late as the 197th lap of the 200-lap contest.

Rathmann's time was nearly three miles an hour faster than the record set last year. Ward's second-place speed was 138.631.

To Scout Jamboree

David Alan Darwin, son of plant sales manager J. V. Darwin, is among 74 Scouts and Explorers from the Piedmont Council who will attend the Fifth National Jamboree of Boy Scouts of America. The Jubilee Jamboree of this Golden Anniversary of Scouting is set for Colorado Springs, Colo., July 22-28.

PLANT REPORTERS

Carding—Edna Harris, Jessie Ammons
Cloth Room—Margie Waldrep
Industrial Relations—Flora Pence
Main Office—Doris Corell
Quality Control—Sallie Crawford, Louella Queen, Leila Rape
Spinning—Lillie A. Brown, Maude Peeler, Mary Turner
Spooling—Nell Bolick, Rosalie Burger, Ophelia Wallace

Mechanical Department—Rosie Francum
Twisting—Vera Carswell, Elease Cole, Annie Cosey, Katie Elkins, Catherine Fletcher
Twisting (Sales)—Elmina Bradshaw
Warehouse—Marjorie Falls, George Harper, Albert Meeks, Roosevelt Rainey
Weaving (cotton)—Ruth Veitch
Weaving (synthetics)—Mary E. Johnson, Irene Odell
Winding—Ruth Cloninger, Mayzelle Lewis