

Washington Sightseeing

☆ ☆ ☆

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Gibson went to Washington for some sightseeing in August. For some of their touring, they had as guide Congressman Basil L. Whitener of Gastonia. Here Mr. and Mrs. Gibson pose with the Hon. Whitener (right) outside the White House. Mr. Gibson works in Nylon Treating at Firestone. He and Mrs. Gibson came back with this report from Congressman Whitener:

"To Homefolks in North Carolina: When in Washington during a Congressional season, look me up. I'll do my best to help make yours a memorable visit to the places of interest associated with our Federal Government."



Company's 60th Year —from page 1

\$800,000,000. The company has paid dividends regularly every year since 1924.

During the first six months of this fiscal year, net sales and net income were the highest ever attained by the company and its subsidiaries. Sales amounted to \$581,129,397 as compared to \$568,158,972 for the same period last year.

Facilities expansion beyond Akron began as early as 1919, with incorporation of the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company of Canada, Ltd., Hamilton, Ontario.

During the past decade 13 facilities have been added to the Firestone organization. Within the past five years, \$274 million have been spent, with this year's appropriation of an additional \$120 million for construction of new plants and mod-

ernization of existing ones.

Although tires have constituted Firestone's principal product for 60 years, the firm manufactures and markets approximately 12,000 other products in six major industrial fields: Rubber, metals, plastics, synthetics, textiles and chemicals.

From Firestone—Many "Firsts"

From the company have come many developments and "Firestone Firsts" which have highlighted the vehicular age. These included the first angular non-skid tread; the first commercial demountable rim; and the first practical pneumatic tractor tire; in 1955 the development of a man-made rubber—Coral—a complete replacement for natural rubber; and in 1958—Diene—a partial replacement for natural rubber.

During his career, Harvey S. Firestone pioneered in many important transportation and industrial movements. In 1918 he organized the "Ship By Truck" movement which gave impetus to the nation's vast trucking industry. He was a leader in the "Good Roads" movement; and his campaign "Americans Should Produce Their Own Rubber" led to Firestone's extensive plantations operations in Liberia, West Africa.

By 1936, two years before Harvey Firestone's death, the five sons of the founder had joined him in the management of the business. Harvey S. Firestone Jr., now chairman, joined the company in 1920. Two years later the late Russell A. Firestone followed his brother and became head of the mechanical rubber goods division.

In 1931 Leonard K. Firestone became associated with the firm and is now president of the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company of California. Raymond C. Firestone joined his brothers in 1933 and is now president of the parent company. Roger S. Firestone, starting in 1936, is now president of the Firestone Plastics Company and the Firestone Synthetic Fibers Company.

Another Honor For Scout Quinn

Eagle Scout Ralph Edwin Quinn Jr. has been awarded the Bronze Palm for having earned five merit badges beyond the requirement for attainment of Eagle rank. His two latest merit qualifications were in bird study and electricity.

Young Quinn, a member of Troop 35 of Gastonia, is the 15th boy from the Gastonia area of the Piedmont Council to have received the Harvey S. Firestone Jr. Award for Scouting excellence. At the time this honor came to him in May of this year, he ranked a Life Scout and an Eagle, and owned 20 merit badges in 20 areas of Scoutcraft.

The Harvey S. Firestone Jr. Award, presented each spring at a banquet, is the highest com-

pany-sponsored recognition for excellence of achievement in the senior Scouting program.

Little Tar Heels Season's Winner

The Firestone team in the Harold Mercer Little Tar Heel League (baseball) ended the season in first place, with only three games lost during the summer schedule.

Victors in the inter-industry tournament which ended in late July, the Firestone team had five members chosen for the all-star playoff.

Besides the plant team here, members of the Harold Mercer Little Tar Heel League were a team from Sunrise Dairy, Optimist Boys Club, and Crowders Creek Presbyterian Church.

Championship To Girls Team

Firestone Girls Softball Team added another inter-industry league championship to its list of victories in the season just ended. The team, coached by Bob Purkey, wrapped up the season's play in the Gaston County Girls League with only one game lost out of a heavy schedule of summer play.

To wrap up the accomplishment for the year, the Firestone girls took the honors for the league playoff championship.

This year's accomplishments were but another chapter in the girls team performance in recent years. They won the county league championship in 1958 and again in 1959.

UF Appeal Begins In October

Coming: Opportunity to cheer a life . . . to lift a burden . . . to give wings to hope . . .

The ninth annual Employees United Fund campaign here is set for early October, when Firestone Textiles joins in the Greater Gastonia United Fund and Council's appeal for operating funds for the 1961 year.

Dates for this year's campaign are October 4-November 2. A minimum need of \$179,815 has been announced. For this goal, your one gift, one time, will help next year's operation of all these services:

American Red Cross of Gaston County, Boy Scouts of America—Piedmont Council, Children's Home Society of N. C., Florence Crittenton Home, Gaston Big Brothers, Gaston Life Saving Crew, Girl Scouts of America—Pioneer Council, Junior Optimist Boys Club.

N. C. Mental Health Association, Red Shield Boys Club, Regional Mental Health Center, Salvation Army, United Cerebral Palsy Association, United Medical Research Foundation of N.C., United Service Organizations, Young Men's Christian Association.

A Giant Barracuda Was On The Hook

An unusual catch brought a round of excitement to a group of Firestone fishermen off the South Carolina coast one day in August. A 37-pound barracuda 58 inches long was hooked in Little River, from the deck of a rented boat.

Those in the "barracuda hunt" party were S. P. Bolding of Industrial Relations, his son-in-law Bennie Robinson; Horace Robinson, Gene Carson, Brady Robinson, all Shop; Brady's son Butch, and Leroy Posey, Weaving.

Seven national agencies: American Hearing Society, American Social Hygiene Association, International Social Service, National Probation and Parole Association, National Recreation Association, National Social Welfare Assembly, National Travelers Aid Association.

Since its beginning here in 1951, the Employees United Fund has realized a steady growth, each year keeping pace with increasing needs of the community. Last year, Firestone's record gift of \$17,867.85 was appropriated toward the 1960 operation of the 20 participating community-welfare Fund agencies.

In the 1959 campaign the Greater Gastonia United Fund reached more than \$160,000—largest goal ever set for this community.

Oliver G. Willitts, chairman of the board of Campbell Soup Company, is 1960 chairman of the United Community Campaigns of America. This is the overall organization which leads thousands of United Funds and Community Chests in gathering volunteer contributions for operation of neighborhood, health, welfare, recreation and character-building services on the local, state and national level.

The "whopper" catch first tangled with the fish hook while Gene Carson was holding the pole. The struggle brought fatigue, so he turned over the fight to Leroy Posey. In the tussle, the fish wore out the reel. His captors let him expire and entered him in the fishing rodeo contest at Little River. They'll know how he made out sometime in September.

The barracuda, inhabiting tropical and sub-tropical seas, has a long snout, large sharp-edged teeth and projecting lower jaw. Swift and voracious, it kills other fish and is often a hazard to human bathers.

SEPTEMBER, 1960 Firestone NEWS PAGE 2



☆ ☆ ☆

Ten Were In Class For Loom Course

Cotton Division manager P. R. Williams congratulates Worth

Honeycutt, along with nine others of the two weaving departments, who recently completed a 40-hour course in loom-fixing at Gaston County Industrial Education Center.

At left is G. A. Perry, overseer in Weaving (synthetics), who was instructor in the night

classes over a period of ten weeks. Receiving certificates, front row (from left): Harold Braswell, Carl Taylor, Wayne Odell, Worth Honeycutt. Back row (from left): Lacy Nall, Ernest Jolly, Clyde Phillips, Paul Neal, Clee McCaslin and Carl Smith.