

## Tire Manufacturing Moving To Increased Mechanization

Tires stacked 95 miles high. That's 24 hours of production in today's manufacturing plants of the world. These one million tires—varied in sizes and shapes—are turned out by 190 plants in 51 countries. Factories in the United States produce more than half the total.

To increase this production, tire plants in changing markets all over the world will become increasingly mechanized, C. W. Rippey, Firestone project engineer, told the Akron (Ohio) Rubber Group at a recent meeting.

"Even in foreign countries, we are not going to be able to build a simple tire plant as has been the practice in the past," he said. These new plants will "not only make fullest use of each production minute, but will improve the quality of the tire as well."

### Soviet Technology Could Outstrip Us

Mr. Rippey noted that the Russians are building a plant in the Ukraine which was designed in England. This facility is the last word in tire-producing engineering. The plant is equipped with punch-card-operated Banbury mixing machines, electronic thawing ovens for natural rubber bales, push-button stock servers for tire assembly machines, automatic curing, loading and unloading—even automatic production controls.

The Russians claim a 20 per cent increase in quality, using the advanced techniques and improved equipment, Mr. Rippey

reported. But Americans who have inspected the products are not particularly impressed.

This is strong evidence that the Russians intend to rise to the level of our tire production efficiency, he observed. "They bought this plant as the West's latest and best design, with the admitted intention to operate and study this factory and copy the equipment and methods for their other tire-producing facilities."

### Tiremaking Should Pace Automotive Production

Mr. Rippey made these additional comments:

» Trends in tire manufacturing must follow trends in automotive production. World production of cars, trucks and busses progressed from 12 million in 1955 to 13 million in 1959. North American automotive production shows little increase, while most foreign auto plants are increasing output every year.

» West Germany, for example, produced 100 per cent more units last year than in 1955. Automotive production in England shows an increase of 72 per cent, and the French are up 70 per cent during the same period. United States production during the same time declined 26 per cent.

» Increased foreign automotive output has already created a need for expanded tire production in foreign areas. Nine new plants are being built in foreign countries and many more are undergoing expansion.

### POLIO PROTECTED?

## You Can't Afford This Negligence

Of the past 22 years, 1960 ranks among the lowest in polio incidence, reports the Public Health Service. But cost of repairing polio-ravaged lives this year remains high, according to the National Foundation.

The March of Dimes organization says the reason is that the physical damage caused by polio often takes long years to repair. Even though there were only an estimated 3,100 new polio cases in 1960, there were still about 40,000 polio patients, most of them stricken in previous years, who needed financial aid to continue their rehabilitation.

These statistics lead to the direct appeal: Get your Salk vaccine now. Don't let polio knock you out for 10, 15 years—maybe for the rest of your life. Don't risk polio devastating your life—shattering your hopes.

FIGURES bear out another

warning of the National Foundation:

Even though the Salk vaccine has sharply reduced polio cases, polio continues to strike among the unvaccinated. This was reflected in reports of polio flare-ups this past summer and fall from Rhode Island, New York and Puerto Rico.

Now is the time to start your series of Salk shots. Don't wait for the live virus vaccine, already proved effective, but not yet available to the public.

March of Dimes month is coming in January. The dimes and dollars you've given over the years have helped develop the Salk "killed-virus" vaccine and the Sabin "live-virus" polio vaccine.

Dimes and dollars you give from now on will be fighting on two other fronts besides polio—birth defects and arthritis.

## Some Mixed Yarn?

An inquisitive member of a tourist party was viewing a museum collection of Indian relics. She pointed to a large decorated skull in one of the show cases and asked the guide if he knew whose skull it was.

Tiring of answering an endless line of pointless questions, the guide replied:

"That's the skull of the Emperor Montezuma."

"And who was that?" the tourist persisted, pointing to a smaller skull in an adjoining case.

Answered the guide: "That, Madam, is the skull of Montezuma when he was a little boy."

A lot of our so-called "reasoning" is made up of finding arguments for going on believing as we do.—Starter Maker



DONORS with one-gallon records (from left): John Mercer, Frank Capps, Jack Faile, C. M. Ferguson, J. E. Fletcher, Dorothy Couick, Robert

Jones, Edward Taylor, F. B. Harrison, Grady Church, Fred Davis, W. F. Hogan and Roy Chastain.

## Blood Donors Recognized

A recent dinner meeting at the Recreation Center honored all employees here who had, of late, joined the one-two-three-gallon donor group.

General manager Harold Mercer presented sterling silver mechanical pencils to one-gallon donors; sterling silver ballpoint pens to those with two-gallon records; and leather billfolds to those who had joined the three-gallon group.

Harold T. Sumner, vice chairman of the Gaston Chapter of American Red Cross, talked briefly on the Carolinas Regional Blood-bank program. He commended Firestone's record for the outstanding contribution employees here are making to this vital phase of the Red Cross work.

The Red Cross bloodmobile makes two visits to the plant here each year—in February and in August.



RED CROSS THANKS—Gaston Chapter Red Cross vice chairman Harold T. Sumner (center right) presents Marvin McCurry with a Red Cross certificate recognizing him as a contributor of three gallons of blood. Plant production manager F. B. Galligan (next to Mr. McCurry) is also a three-gallon record holder. Others in picture with two-gallon records are (from left): Archie Deal, John Mitchell, Thomas Grant.

## William A. Spencer

William Milton Spencer, 70, father of Robert Spencer, supply manager at Firestone Textiles, died Dec. 12 at his home on Hedgewood Circle in Gastonia. Burial was in Gaston Memorial Park, following funeral services conducted Dec. 14 at Bradley Memorial Methodist Church, where Mr. Spencer had been an

active member for many years. He had served on the official board, board of trustees, and building committee. A former member of the choir, throughout the years he took an active part in the Men's Bible Class activities.

Those remaining of his family are his wife Esther McGuire Spencer; a daughter, Mrs. Clemmer Rhyne, Gastonia; four sons, Robert G., Hazel and LaFon Spencer of Gastonia, and Marshall Spencer of Petaluma, Calif.; two brothers, C. D. and John Spencer, Gastonia; four sisters, Mrs. C. E. Wright, Mrs. A. L. Falls, Mrs. Will Whitesides and Mrs. Mott Foy of Gastonia; and 10 grandchildren.

The first motion picture was a "talkie", although sound pictures did not come into general use until 1927. Thomas A. Edison made the first movie in 1889. It was accompanied by sound synchronized from a phonograph record, another Edison invention.

### IN THE NEW YEAR

## Refill Spiritual Wells

At no other time in history have church rolls grown so large as now. But along with the attendance, are people becoming more religious?

Methodist Bishop Hazen G. Werner of Columbus, Ohio, has some doubts. He sums up the situation this way: "Redemption has come to mean turning in trading stamps, and dedication means that a person likes his job—so thin has our religion grown."

It's worth some serious thought—something each individual ought to take unto himself. If our spiritual wells have run dry, what better time than the early days of the New Year to replenish them?

Find the strength for your life—in spiritual things, the only values that are eternal.

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