

Plant Gets Safety Citation

During the 1960 calendar year Gastonia Firestone Textiles recorded 2,893,551 production hours free of physical injury resulting in lost time on the job. For that accomplishment in safety, the plant has received its ninth award in the Textile Section of the North Carolina Industrial Commission's citation program conducted jointly with the NC Textile Manufacturers Association. When an injury in September interrupted the record, the plant had marked up 5,345,243 hours of safe operation. The previous figure of 9,217,145 hours was at that time a world record for a single plant in the industry.

The citation plaque was presented recently at a dinner meeting of supervisory personnel at the Gaston Country Club. Among company officials attending other than from the Gastonia plant were:

James E. Trainer, executive vice president; W. A. Karl, president of Firestone Textiles Company; J. A. Meek, vice president (production); R. M. Sawyer, assistant manager textile division—all from Akron, Ohio. Others were William Astle, manager of Firestone Textiles Ltd., Woodstock, Ontario, Canada; and E. F. Sweeney, manager of Firestone Textiles, Bennettsville, S. C.

H. S. Baucom, safety director of the NC Industrial Commission, presented the award plaque.

Departmental Records

Mr. Karl presented framed Certificates of Merit to 7 departments for safety records of 5 and 15 years. They are (15 years): Main Office, Industrial Relations, and Quality Control; and (five years): Twisting (ply); Twisting (cable); Weaving (synthetics); Weaving (cotton); Multi-Stage Nylon-Treating Unit; Warehouse; and Winding.

FEATURED SPEAKER at the awards meeting was Mr. Train-

er, who declared: "People on the job make safety records. That's what I'm awfully proud of."

"Practice safety on every level of life," he pleaded. "There were still 93 thousand persons killed and 45 million injured in this



OFFICIALS VISIT GASTONIA FACTORY

Edward Tart Jr. of Weaving (cotton) explains the moisture monitor on a slashing installation, to company officials on a recent production tour of the Gastonia plant. They are (from left): J. E. Trainer, company executive vice president; W. A. Karl, president of Firestone Textiles Company; and J. A. Meek, vice president for production.

country last year. All the things that have been done in the interest of safety are not enough. In most cases it isn't you who are to blame—but the damage is still being done. Let's see if we can find out who is doing it!"

In the course of his talk, Mr. Trainer pointed out that a good safety record in industry goes hand-in-hand with efficiency in production.

"We can have fine buildings and other facilities and turn out lots of goods, but if people don't buy what we produce—we're in trouble. So, if we're to make a go of our business, the things we manufacture must be produced efficiently and in the best tradition of high quality," he said.

Warp and Filling Of The Passing Scene

A Lonesome Place Against The Sky

• "A pine tree is a poet's tree and when it is cut down, it leaves a lonesome place against the sky," says American folklorist Otto Ernest Rayburn. The pine's evergreen cousin, the cedar, is not so famous in poetry, but both share honors in folklore surrounding observance of Christmas in such areas of the

United States as the Blue Ridge Country and the Ozark Mountains.

Used with mistletoe, cedar makes a fine Christmas decoration, but it is considered bad luck to take it into the house until the beginning of the Yule season. It must be removed from the house before the eve of Old Christmas, Jan. 5. Says Mr. Rayburn: "If these directions are followed, even the most superstitious need not fear." The folklorist would modify this edict of legend to add a safety reminder at Christmastime: "Mistletoe is safe when hung at the traditional height in the house. The berry-like fruit is toxic, and if eaten by small children, can cause vomiting and perhaps more serious effects."



Coffin On Wheels?

The heater makes your car cozy on nippy mornings. But if you aren't on guard against the danger of carbon monoxide (CO), your auto can easily become your coffin on wheels. And so far as danger goes, your comfortable home can be a death-box, too.

In this season, when CO begins to take its deadly toll, practice of some simple precautions can save many a life.

This odorless, tasteless, colorless gas is a sneak thief—a waste product of burning gas, wood and coal. It has a way of being breathed into the blood stream so gradually that the victim may not know what's happening.

When the CO reaches a 25 per cent saturation in the blood, a person can pass out. Before that, he may stagger and vomit. Lower than 25 per cent saturation can lead drivers to highway accidents.

Here's what experts advise, to help you stay alive:

1. Be sure each house or apartment has adequate fresh-air ventilation when heating equipment is in use. Have all home heating equipment properly vented.

2. Make certain flues at home and exhaust pipes in cars are in good condition.

3. Never sit or sleep in a parked car with motor running and windows closed all the way.

4. Never start a car with garage doors closed.

5. Keep at least one car window open at least a crack while driving.



Christmas Thoughts

The stars stand out in space. The moon casts a holy glow, as light shines through the darkness. For this is Christ's birthday.

Hate gives way to love. Intolerance fades into tolerance. Unhappiness becomes joy. Turmoil is lost in peace.

We pray to God that people everywhere remember that each day is a renewal of the Birth of the Prince of Peace.

—Iris Higgins

Don't Let Fire Ruin Yule Joy

Fire destroyed the holiday joy in hundreds of American homes last Christmas. The grim story will be repeated this Yule season—unless people at home take precautions to prevent it. That's the word from the National Fire Protection Association, with this reminder:

Christmas is a time to be especially cautious of fire dangers. Many of our traditional Christmas customs—trees, lights, decorations, Yule logs—add greatly to fire hazards at home.

Sometimes a combination of active children and preoccupied parents results in the moment of carelessness which is all that fire needs to start.

These basic rules are nothing new, but could well be the most important thing you could read—and obey—this Christmas season:

Tree: Pick one fresh-cut with no needles shedding. Stand trunk in water until tree is brought into house, and keep in water as long as it is in the house. Support it well; never locate it where it might cut off escape in case of fire. Take tree out no later than Dec. 26.

Lights: Check sets for frayed wires, loose connections and broken sockets. Never use candles on or near tree. Make sure tree lights are turned off before going to bed or leaving house. For outdoor lighting, use only weatherproof equipment and cords. Have electricity turn-

Winter Sports-Recreation On

More than 110 employees and members of their families are participating in the winter-season bowling program here. They represent all three shifts at the plant.

In addition, there are six teams in billiards play, nine in table tennis, and eight in pinochle. Other sports-recreation activities are centered in volleyball, ceramics, art-flower-making and arranging, Firestone Retired Employees Club, and Variety Garden Club.

Basketball for both sexes among employees and members of their families is scheduled to begin the latter part of December.

ed off when setting up or adjusting, to avoid shock hazard.

Decorations, Wrappings: Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant decoration materials. Dispose of gift wrappings promptly and safely. Careful with smoking around the tree!

Plan in advance what you must do for the life safety of your family in case of fire.

Plant In Japan

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plant. Firestone will set up a sales organization to market its products in Japan, and will export if the demand warrants.

Firestone foresees new tire markets in the extensive road-building program underway in Japan. The agreement with Ohtsu, which has been approved by the Japanese Government, gives Firestone 17 overseas tire plants.

The growing Japanese tire market is the largest in Asia, with 1,696,500 cars, trucks and buses registered in 1961.

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A Gift From The Hills

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the battered old car, members of the thin and ragged family—and the singing little girl with the large, lonely eyes.

The trail here ended so far as the background of this beloved folk-carol is concerned—unless history, yet unwritten, adds another chapter.

Was the song really old as the plaintive tune suggested? Had little Annie Morgan composed it as she sang along, and hesitated to take the credit for it? Or, had she learned it from her family and others who had perpetuated it as a popular song that had drawn upon an ancient style that goes back to the time of Chaucer?

JOHN JACOB NILES did considerable research, and so far as he could find out, the song had never been written down. Nobody with whom he talked had ever heard of it.

It was introduced to the world in sheet music by the Schirmer company in 1934. Since then, the carol sung by a little wandering girl in the hills of Cherokee County and recorded by a man whose life was dedicated to preserving a part of the American heritage, has become a beloved Christmas favorite around the world.

Nowhere is it more at home than in North

Carolina, and especially in the pine-clothed hills and rhododendron-carpeted ravines, where a little wandering girl named Annie Morgan sang it 30 years ago.



Now as much a part of the Christian world's heritage as "Silent Night" and "O Little Town Of Bethlehem", the carol "I Wonder As I Wander" will again be heard many times this Christmas season. Here are the lyrics as Annie Morgan sang them:

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die
For poor on'ry people like you and like I,
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall,
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from God's heav'n a star's light did fall
And promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing—
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing,
Or all of God's angels in heaven to sing,
He surely could have it, 'cause He was the King.