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Firestone

GASTONIA

NORTH CAROLINA

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NEWS

"One of our goals in Zero Defects is to recognize the employee who is doing top job performance. It's a way to give our workers something positive to aim for, instead of something negative to avoid."
—From a ZD Committee letter to supervisors



We Travel the Lanes of Autumn

• Majestic Grandfather Mountain and surrounding scenic beauty of the Blue Ridge High Country present a "grand finale" vantage point of the Autumn color parade. This Firestone News

photo was made on NC 105 up the road north of Linville Falls and a few miles from Camp Firestone on Lake James. The 33rd season of the company-operated camp for employees and their families, closes in October.

STE Goes International

For the first time, Firestone people attending the 25th Southern Textile Exposition this year will share the international flavor of the Greenville, S. C. show.

The STE, begun in 1915 as a regional event, grew to national scope, and this Oct. 21-25, goes international.

Flags of 13 countries will fly alongside the U.S. flag. The flags, flying from the roof of

Greenville's Textile Hall, will honor those countries represented by overseas exhibitors at the show.

Parking facilities at Textile Hall have been enlarged to a 3,500-car capacity. Other conveniences this year: Timesaver admittance cards, five food-service locations, a first-aid room, and several hundred outside seats for visitors with tired feet. A number of Firestone people

from Gastonia and Bennettsville attend the exposition, staged every two years.

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Many Firestone people were among the 403 who were examined in an oral cancer-detection clinic at Firestone Recreation Center in September.

The free examination in "Operation Look-See" was sponsored by the Gaston County Dental Society and the local unit of American Cancer Society.

BENNETTSVILLE SUGGESTION RECORD

Best in Company

The leader among production plants of the Firestone company's worldwide organization.

That's the record the Bennettsville plant has established for having the most successful Suggestion System program.

Confirmation of this high achievement came recently in a letter from H. B. Palmer in Akron, where he is manager of the company's Suggestion System.

Notes the Bennettsville Suggestion Committee: This means that the South Carolina plant of the company's synthetics-textiles division has received and adopted more suggestions per 1,000 employees than any other Firestone production plant.

Said a Suggestion bulletin: "We congratulate all our employees who have helped us reach this apex. We are proud of this outstanding record, and feel that our Bennettsville Suggestion program will continue to rank high."

Yonder Comes the Train

Tweetsie at Blowing Rock, the venerable sidewinder at Bear Creek Junction in the Nantahalas, and the old "chug chug" at Stone Mountain. Firestone people know these and other steam-driven iron horses which have been revived for short runs and tourist developments in the South.

Comes now the good news that there's a widespread revival of the exciting days of the steam locomotive. In dozens of places across the country you can take short trips through the countryside or in recreation areas, for the thrill of riding behind a powerful steam engine.

And you can revel in the music of the hiss of the steam, the pounding thrust of the wheel drivers; the wail that only steam can impart to a lonesome whistle.

The Firestone company has had a part in bringing back some of this past glory. In many places railroad enthusi-

asts are recovering the "steam days" for oldsters to recall and for youngsters to experience the first time.

One of these trains had a comeback the past summer, when a group of railroad fans in Akron, Ohio acquired a 22-ton, 110-foot engine that gets up a good head of steam to run special excursions throughout the East and Middle West.

Steam Tours, Inc., a group of some 100 railroad buffs, bought the locomotive last year from the Reading, Pa., Railroad for \$18,000. They spent thousands more to restore it "right." As the largest operating steam

engine in the country, it is reviving the past, in time, for millions of people.

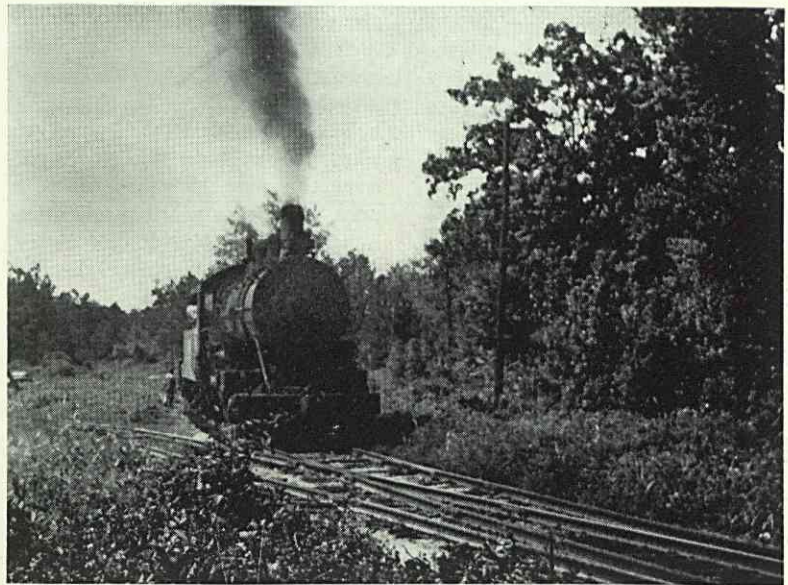
ENGINE 2102 first had a test run between Akron and Hudson, Ohio. In July it made a run from Chicago to South Bend, Ind., and in August, a run from Detroit to Durand, Mich., and return.

On both trips it had gondola cars, coaches and baggage cars to serve the hundreds of passengers.

Part of the train was a 20,000-gallon tanker with the Firestone name emblazoned across it — the kind of tank often seen bringing materials into the Gastonia plant. Normally the company uses this kind of tank to ship chemicals, latex, dip, and other materials used in manufacturing.

ON THE Steam Tours Train the Firestone tank hauls water to feed the giant steam engine.

CASEY JONES WOULD BE PLEASED



This way, it can take water "on the run" and not have to make stops which might tie up the railroad lines.

The steam locomotive started declining about 1925 and by the early '50s there were more diesels than steam engines. Most re-

maining steam engines are resting in museums or running on short lines.

But not Old 2102. It will be out on the Grand Trunk lines letting you see and experience how things used to be.

Did somebody say "Casey Jones would be pleased"?