

# Firestone

GASTONIA

NORTH CAROLINA

APRIL • 1969

## NEWS

### Lakeside Camp Opening Early May

Now that April's come, it's make-ready time at Camp Firestone for opening of the company-operated recreation facility May 5. This will be the 34th season of the camp on Lake James at Bridgewater-Nebo in Burke County

The mechanical department, under guidance of plant engineer J. G. Tino, this month will complete maintenance and general fix-up on buildings, grounds and equipment. This includes restocking and standardizing life-saving equipment, firefighting and firstaid supplies.

At the camp on a secluded cove of Lake James, employees of the Gastonia plant and members of their families have ac-

cess to the recreation-relaxation facilities through an application program at the plant's industrial relations office.

**LAKE JAMES** is one of the South's outstanding aquatic recreation areas in a scenic location on the southern tier of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The area is rich in vacation attractions, accommodations and scheduled special events from spring through autumn.

Many Firestone people plan sightseeing trips within the Highlands region, making Camp Firestone the point of departure.

The industrial relations department has scheduled the 1969 camp season to run into mid-October, at the time when the Southern Highlands are at the peak of their autumn grandeur.

Earl Crooks is resident manager of Camp Firestone. He is employed as a member of the Gastonia plant industrial relations department.

**TO SCHEDULE** a stay at the camp, make application in person at the plant industrial relations office. This practice affords the camp facilities to the most people possible.

Says the IR office: When your reservation is scheduled, make use of the camp on dates as scheduled, so it won't interfere with someone else's use of the camp.

If your plans should be changed and that leads to cancellation or re-scheduling of your camp trip, let the IR office know as far ahead as you can. That way, someone else can enjoy the camp facilities originally reserved for you.



**"ONE-CORNER" VIEW**—Hugh Wright, department manager of fabric treating at Gastonia, conducting business by telephone near the major control panel of Firestone's newest Gastonia unit which electronically dips and heat cures synthetic fabrics.

The process adds wear and performance qualities to tire fabric.

This photo, made from the second level of the multi-story unit, is a "one-corner" view of the maze of structural layout and equipment placement. The new plant, in operation a little more than a year, is the second of two electronically, dip and heat-tensioning units at Gastonia. The original one became the world's first of its kind when it began production in 1955.

Besides the two dip-tensioning plants at Gastonia, Firestone operates fabric-treating factories in Akron and Dayton, Ohio; Memphis, Tenn.; Woodstock, Canada, and in two other countries outside the United States.

Latest to join this family of factories will be the unit nearing completion at the company's textile plant outside Bowling Green, Ky.

THEY HELPED

### Y Membership Drive

Thomas A. Grant, manager of methods-time study, led the volunteer organization for Firestone's in-plant YMCA membership solicitation in March. As a "Colonel" in the campaign, Grant served with two "Captains" and more than two dozen "Lieutenants" representing all departments of the plant, warehouses, shop and offices.

"Captains" were Rick McCurry, shift foreman in twisting (TC), and Fred Hardee, shift foreman in weaving (TC).

Firestone this month shares in Gastonia's Industry Appreciation Week, April 13-19. A highlight of the week is the Industrial Safety Awards Dinner, April 17.

"Lieutenants" representing the various departments were Pat Lewis, Virginia Bradley, Hazel Foy, Joe Brooks, Sam Guffey, Bill Parham, Wade Stiles, Belon Hanna, Rosie Francum, Louella Queen, Earl Clark, Floyd Ratchford, Bill Passmore, Vauda Clark, Bea Carver, Roddy Gemayel, Terry Kirby.

Also Freddie Kessell, Jarvis Plemmons, Freddie Elkins, Oliver Hardee, Joe Adams, Tracy Whitener, Floyd Kelly, Clee McCaslin, Inez Rhyne, Roy Davis, Raymond Hoots, and Elene Dodgen.

The Firestone volunteer effort included some outside-plant membership solicitation. It was a part of the countywide annual campaign which sought 2,600 new or renewed memberships in the Y.

### People-Saving 'March' in April

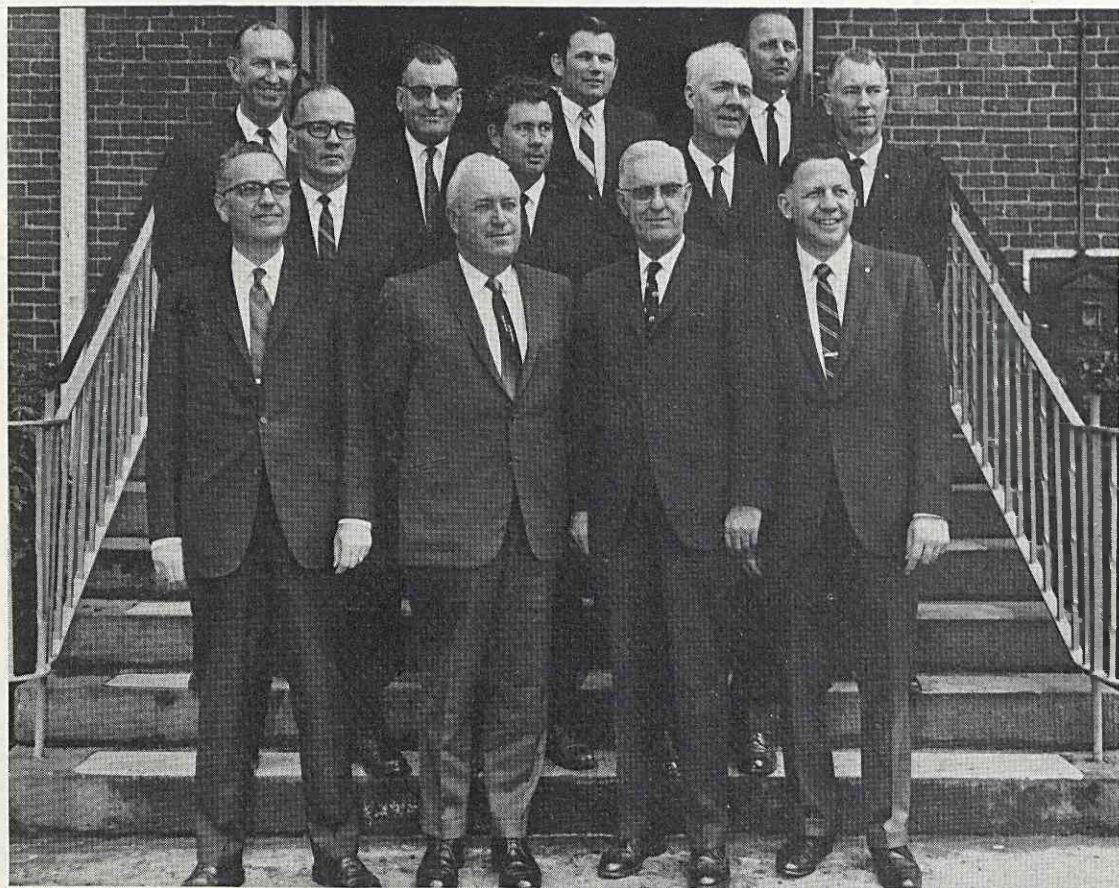
The Gaston County unit of the American Cancer Society will conduct a "protest march" on April 22. Main objective of the program is "to save people from untimely death by cancer—and this, through education of the public," according to Mrs. Mickie Dunson, president of the local unit.

Saving lives from cancer, says the ACS, can be achieved by early detection and prompt treatment through knowledge

of the seven warning signals and a detection examination.

The protest march against cancer is a follow-up of the Gastonia visit of J. Arch Avary Jr. The cancer crusader came here promoting the cause "to keep people talking about cancer and to have them do something about it."

The local unit of American Cancer Society is a participating agency of Gaston County United Community Services (United Appeal).



### Leadership Meeting

Richard A. Riley, Firestone vice president of diversified products, and other company officials from Akron and Hopewell visited the Gastonia plant in late March. They met with management leaders of the Gastonia and Bennettsville plants, observed office and production facilities and attended a luncheon at Holiday Inn.

At plant main entrance, visiting officials posed with Gastonia and Bennettsville factory leaders. Here (front, from left): Robert W. Rice, president of Firestone Synthetic Fibers and Tex-

files Company; Richard A. Riley, company vice president of diversified products; John V. Darwin, Gastonia plant manager; Walter Smith, coordinator of manufacturing-chemical operations for the parent company's diversified products division.

And (back, across from left): Alvin V. Riley, manager of industrial relations, Gastonia; Philip R. Williams, production manager, Gastonia; R. B. Hull, manager of quality control, Gastonia; Ralph King, Bennettsville factory manager; H. G. Hall, plant technical manager, Gastonia; E. J. Mech-em, comptroller, Gastonia; J. G. Tino, plant engineer, Gastonia; L. B. McAbee, manager of production planning and control, Gastonia.