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United Appeal

FIRESTONE GOAL: 100 PER CENT PARTICIPATION, OCTOBER 6-20

The Gaston County United Appeal aims at a goal of \$512,000 in its funding campaign beginning this month, to support the work of 36 services for people of all ages in 1971.

The 36 agencies provide youth help; health, family-assistance and rescue-squad services—and all are made possible through citizens' gifts to United Appeal.

With a bigger county goal this year to provide more services and offset increasing operating expenses, more than 900 volunteer UA workers over the county are soliciting with the appeal: "Give as generously as you can."

At Firestone, the UA solicitation is the only general fund-gathering campaign of the business year.

CONTRIBUTIONS provide these services on the 1971 schedule:

American Cancer Society, Gaston Unit; American National Red Cross, Gaston Unit; Boy Scouts of America, Piedmont Council; Cherryville American Field Service; Cherryville Rescue Squad; Children's Home Society; Community Relief of

Mount Holly; Dallas Township Recreation; Family Counseling Service; Florence Crittenton Home; Flynn Fellowship Home; Gaston Boys Club; Gaston County Association for Retarded Children; Gaston County Mental Health Association.

Gaston County YMCA; Gaston Life-Saving and First-Aid Crew; Gaston Skills, Inc.; Girl Scouts of America, Pioneer Council; Junior Optimist Boys Club; Mount Holly Life-Saving Crew; North Carolina Council on Crime and Delinquency; North Carolina Mental Health Association.

The Salvation Army; The Salvation Army Boys Clubs; Stanley Civil Defense-Rescue; United Community Services of North Carolina; United Health Services of North Carolina; United Service Organizations (USO); also seven smaller national agencies with localized work:

American Social Health Association; International Social Services; National Travelers Aid Association; National Council on Crime and Delinquency; National Recreation and Parks Association; National Association for Hearing and Speech; National Assembly for Social Policy and Development.

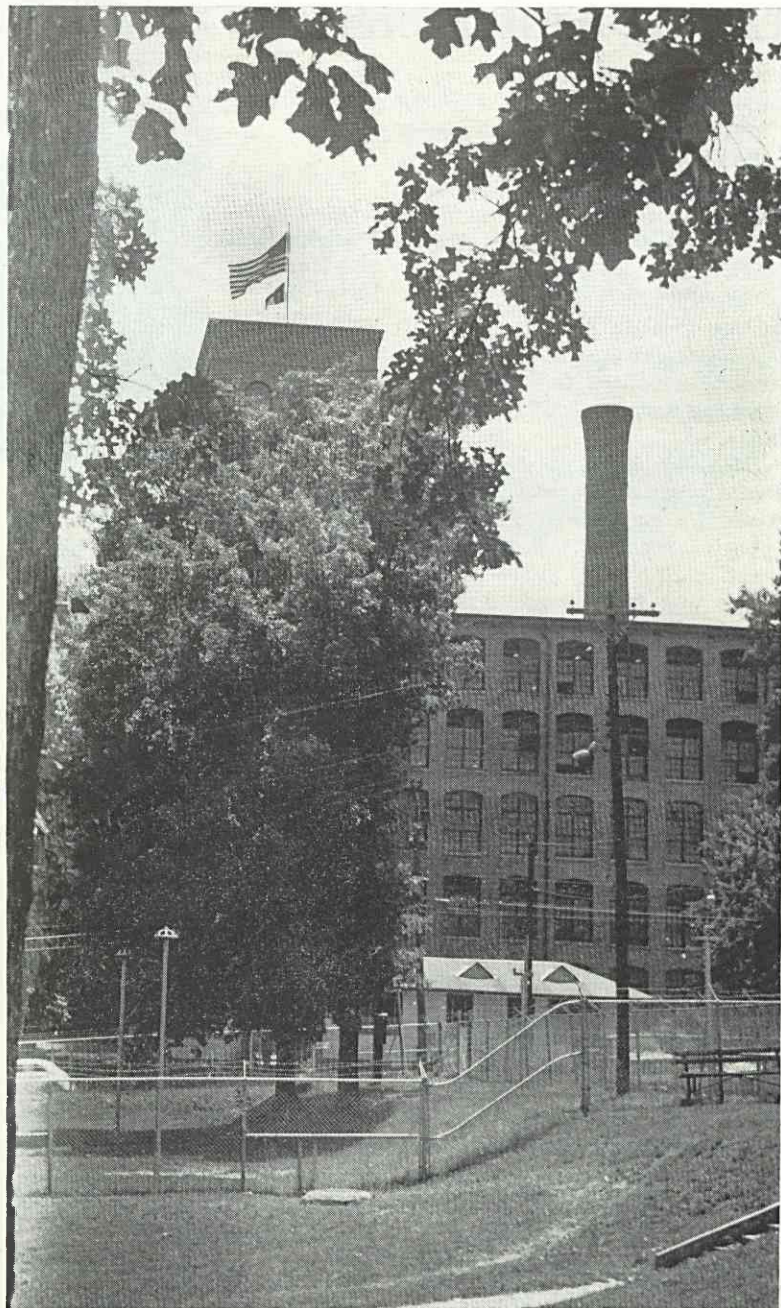
Farewell To A Landmark

One old-timer, overheard reminiscing last month, turned his recollections backward to the construction of the giant brick smokestack at the Gastonia plant, the original facility built around 1900 and owned by Firestone since 1935.

As the workmen capped off the top with its graceful "flare-and-choke shape," he remembered, "the 'help' on looms, carders, twistors and those at other jobs crowded at the windows to gaze at the operation. It was a monumental landmark and the people who built it were so proud of their work."

Now, after all these years, "Big Chim" has to go. So this picture of the landmark, to the right of the plant tower and the proud-waving flags, is the last one Firestone News made before a late-summer gas blast set up the whole sad ending to the 197-foot stack.

The next photos were of the chimney being demolished. The safety-banding which demoli-



tion workmen placed around it to make safe the two deep crevices, until the orderly take-down could begin.

It cannot be a dramatic fall-down project. Bricks will be lowered through the inside and removed at the bottom.

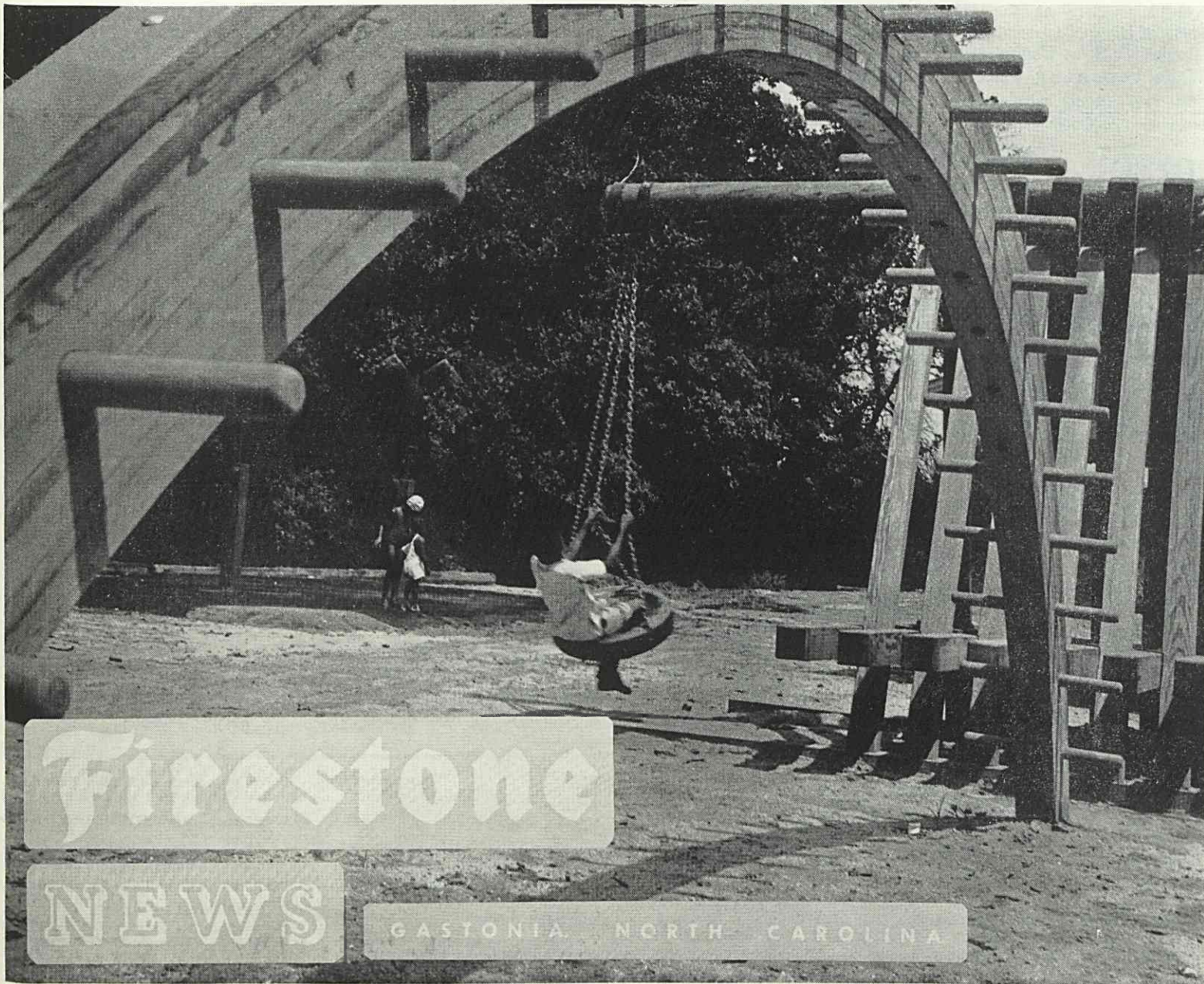
Laver New Comptroller

Harry S. Laver Jr., has been appointed comptroller of Firestone Textiles Company, succeeding Everett J. Mechem, who retired Sept. 30 after more than 33 years with the Firestone Company.

Laver, 43, transferred to the Gastonia plant from Firestone, Bowling Green, Ky., where he had been comptroller for the past three years. T. J. Koen is the new comptroller at Bowling Green.

Announcing the appointment, Firestone Textiles president James B. Call said that Laver, as Mechem's successor, directs financial accounting operations for all three units of the di-

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A Better Place To Play

Youngsters enjoy swings and other equipment at Meeks Park in what used to be a wasteland in Gastonia's Tanyard Row section. This giant laminated-wood arch is one of several major play structures in the park. Other facilities are an asphalt basketball court, picnic shelter, two cooling water sprays, drinking fountain, rustic bridge and landscaped grounds.

Meeks Park, first small recreation facility of its kind in Gastonia, has been in service a year. The park honors the memory of Johnny Lee Meeks, a Gastonia Marine sergeant who died in line of duty in Viet Nam in 1968. Johnny Lee's brother, Marvin Theodore Meeks, is a Firestone fork-lift operator.

The park, which transformed the blighted tract of land into an inviting place for youngsters' play, was made possible largely through materials and labor contributed by many people from among city employees, Boy Scout troops, Boys Club and Youth Powers; other young people's organizations and adult civic and church groups.

Firestone

NEWS

GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA