

COMPANIES or other organizations producing goods and services, are a combination of people, money, materials, machines and other tools. Of these "standard ingredients", people are paramount. "People power" is the greatest determiner of the good operation and progress of any organization.

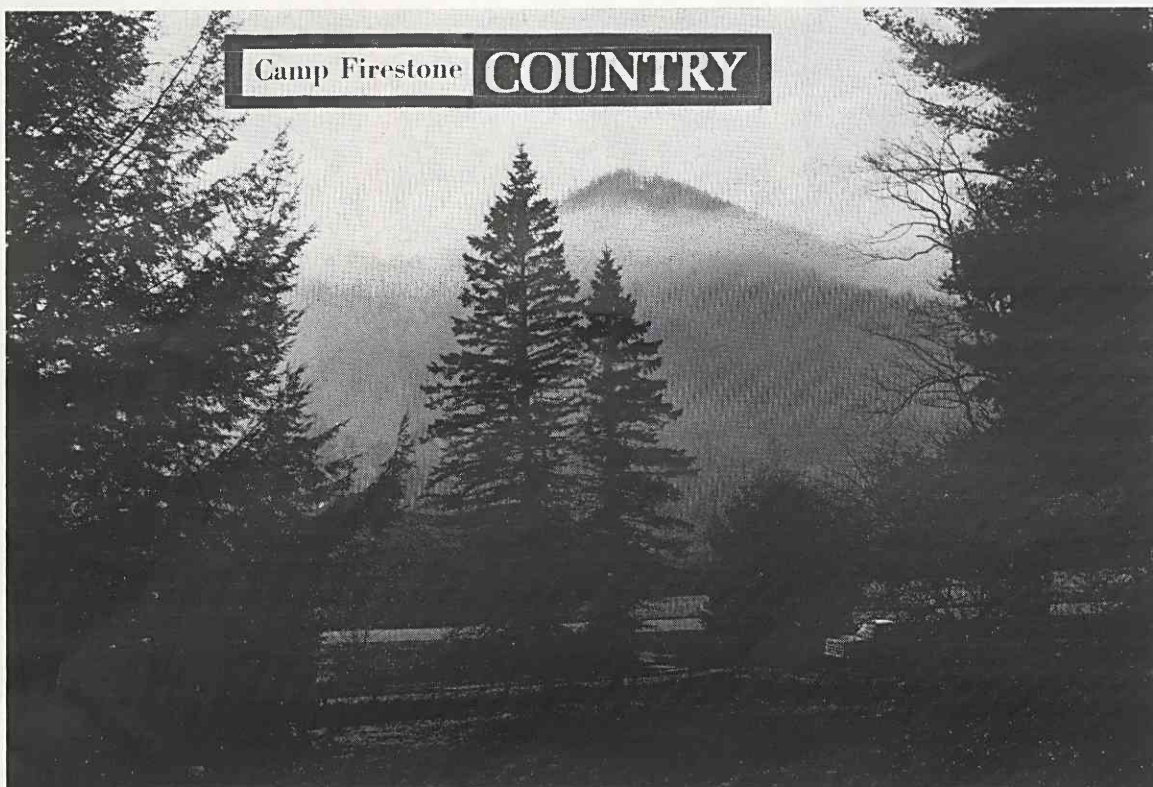
Firestone

NEWS

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NORTH CAROLINA

JANUARY • 1971

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1971



"**T**ALL, somber, grim against the sky they rise. . ." wrote Paul Hamilton Hayne in his poem "The Pines." • This early-morning scene of pines and mist-shrouded hills is a familiar one in the Blue Ridge Country around Camp Firestone on Lake James in the NC mountain counties of McDowell and Burke. • This Firestone News photo was made after the employee recreation retreat closed its last-year season in October.

OFF-SEASON IN THE HIGHLANDS

★ ★ ★

Suggestions: \$945.

Don't use it any more—for under the circumstances, the dip works just as well without it. And most of all, there'll be an annual saving of around \$6,000.

The idea was one which Darrel Walker, dip mixer in fabric treating, shared with his company last year. Because of its involvement, it took the Suggestion Board several weeks to check it out for approval. It was worth \$600.

Walker, who has earned a number of lesser suggestion awards, on this one suggested deletion of the volume of anti-foam chemical from all polyester dip mixtures here.

He explained how the product could be "done without". Walker, who knew the chemical in question floated on the surface of the dip unless agitated, noticed once that the foam in the dip had not increased when the agitator mechanism failed to work.

His observation and reasoning led to a saving of nearly 25,000 pounds per year of anti-foam material.

WALKER'S suggestion turned out to earn the second-largest payoff in the history of Firestone's Gastonia plant. The largest was \$850 in 1956. It went to James Reel for a suggested method of saving waste in rayon and nylon tire cord in a creeling operation.

Walker's "big idea" was among 32 suggestions processed in the November-December period, 18 of which were approved.

Next biggest payoff in this period—\$110 — went to Horace R. Hughes, chief pipefitter in the shop. The amount was for two suggestions—\$60 and \$50. He proposed a changeover from a type of rubber washer to washers of a composition fiber on certain plumbing applications in fabric-treating. It promised a saving of \$600 per year.

Hughes' other suggestion, to install a pump for removal of unused dip in nylon treating,

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TEXTILE SCHOOL Expanded Program 'Will Fill A Need'

Beginning in September this year, high-school graduates can start a two-year course leading to an associate degree at North Carolina Vocational Textile School. The new program, announced in December, will be the school's first fulltime course of study limited to high-school graduates.

NCVTS in Belmont, training textile people since 1943, was the area's pioneer state-supported trade school.

Students completing the associate degree course will be equipped to go into good-paying supervisory jobs, said John Jenkins, the school director.

For the past 27 years, NCVTS has been drawing its students

from people employed in textiles and related industries. Many Firestone Textiles employees are alumni of the school.

"With the new plan", said Jenkins, "we will be recruiting high-school graduates for a program which we think will fill a definite need."

The new program, built around textile manufacturing

technology, will involve 30 class hours per week. As in the past, there will be no tuition for NC residents.

Jenkins expects to have 30 fulltime students for the September opening.

THE ASSOCIATE degree program will be conducted separately from the regular schedule which has been in operation throughout the years. Current enrollment in that program is around 300.

The director points out that the upcoming course for high-school graduates will not duplicate nor compete with any program at NC State University, in Gaston County public schools, nor at Gaston College.

Neither will this program interfere with the school's long-standing function of preparing

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Textile Progress In 1970

The textile 'end of the business' shared in a review under "Diversified Operations" in the Firestone Company's 1970 Report, issued in December.

The Annual Report noted that Firestone's diversified-products divisions produce more than 44,000 different products in textiles, rubber, metals, plastics and chemicals.

Introduction of new nylon resins and yarns for home furnishings, fashion and automotive industries highlighted the year at the Synthetic Fibers Company headquartered at Hopewell, Va.

Three new Nytelle textile nylon products for use in texturized hosiery were developed and marketed. A special nylon resin was developed for the automotive industry's use in gasoline-emission control devices; and a new resin was marketed for carpeting customers who produce colorfast yarns.

Production capacity at the Hopewell plant was increased for nylon textile and tire yarns to meet expected needs in these areas. Added the review:

THE THREE units of Firestone Textile Company at Gastonia, N. C.; Bennettsville, S. C.; and Bowling Green, Ky. were expanded to keep pace with tire plant requirements for nylon, rayon and polyester cord fabric.

In line with programs on environmental control, during 1970 coal-fired boilers at Bennettsville were replaced with oil-fired equipment.

SUSAN
GAIL
CHASTAIN
Checking
a copy
of the
student
newspaper
at ASU



GAIL
AT
ASU

RESOLUTION:

Join Payroll
Savings — for
U. S. Savings
Bonds.

• Make the world a better place? See "Almanac" on page 4.

The Gastonia-area 1970 Firestone College Scholarship winner is a freshman at Appalachian State University, Boone, N. C.

Susan Gail Chastain, the 16th Scholarship recipient from a Firestone (Gastonia) employee family, is one of 39 college and university freshmen in several states attending school on a Firestone Scholarship this year.

Susan spent the recent holidays in Gastonia with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James P. Chastain. Mr. Chastain, a powerhouse operator, marked his 35th

anniversary of employment at Firestone, Gastonia, in September.

SINCE the company began its education-help program for sons and daughters of employees in 1953, it has awarded 521 Scholarships.

Susan plans a career in teaching Spanish.

One other 1970 Scholarship winner is from the Carolinas. Tony G. Waldrop of Columbus is a freshman at NC State University, Raleigh. His father, H. C. Waldrop works at the Spartanburg, S. C. metals-products plant.