

Firestone NEWS

Vice President Diversified Products

Jack M. Cornely, at one time the chief accountant at Firestone's Gastonia and Bennettsville textile plants, is now the parent company's vice president of diversified products. He was elected at the company's board of directors meeting in January.

Cornely, who was advanced from president of Firestone Plastics Company, succeeds Frank A. LePage who was appointed president of Firestone International Company. LePage continues as a corporate vice president.

The new vice president of diversified products is 49. He started with Firestone as a member of the company's 1949 college training class and a year later became chief accountant for the Firestone textile plants at Gastonia, N. C. and Bennettsville, S. C.

RETURNING to Akron in 1955 he held a series of accounting assignments until he was appointed vice president and general manager of Firestone Plastics Company at Pottstown, Pa., in 1963.

He was named executive vice president of the division in 1969 and president a year later. He

was appointed president of Firestone Steel Products, with headquarters in Akron, in early 1971.

Cornely is a graduate of the University of Akron with a degree in business administration. He also is a graduate of the Harvard Advanced Management Program.

Among the several non-tire divisions under Mr. Cornely's guidance are Firestone Textiles Company with units at Gastonia,

JACK
M.
CORNELY



Bennettsville, and Bowling Green, Ky.; and Firestone Synthetic Fibers Company at Hopewell, Va.

The company's DP operations manufacture a wide variety of non-tire products—some 46,000 for the consumer market.

Certificates For Learning

Thirty-six persons at the Gastonia Firestone plant earned certificates in five subjects, the courses completed at Gaston Community College, Dallas; and Belmont Abbey College, Belmont. James B. Call, Firestone Textiles Company president, presented in January the 37 certificates (Donald Hedges finished two courses).

Those who received the certificates, and the courses completed:

Employee Interviewing & Evaluating • Windom Jones, James M. Smith Jr., TC Twisting; Charles K. Cauthen, James S. Meeks, Warehouse; Thomas A. Grant, Methods-Time Study; Alvin V. Riley, Division Personnel; Ralph Johnson, Dock Reynolds, Industrial Relations;

H. G. Hall, Production; Donald Hedges, Traffic.

Occupational Safety & Health Act • T. E. Gibson Jr., Freddie Elkins, Earl Clark, Carl Rape, Joseph Harrison, Benjamin Massey, TC Weaving; W. T. Kirby, Clee McCaslin Chafer Weaving; Alvin Dill, Horace Hughes, J. E. Fletcher, J. B. Mitchell, Shop.

• More on page 2

THIRD Harold Mercer Award

Dr. Gary Levinson, Gastonia optometrist, received the Harold Mercer Memorial Award at the 19th annual meeting of United Community Services of Gaston County, Jan. 19.

James B. Call, Firestone Textiles Company president, presented the award to the outgoing UCS president in recognition of his outstanding leadership during 1971.

Dr. Levinson is the third USC president to receive the award which honors the memory of the late general manager of Firestone's Gastonia plant and president of Firestone Textiles Company at the time of his retirement in 1968.

Others who have received the award are Hugh J. McArver and William S. Holland.

Mr. Mercer was a Firestone official and community leader for more than 38 years. He was one of the founders of the local United Fund and served one term as its president.

Incoming UCS president for 1972 is David Allen Smith.

pany's employees showed a better knowledge of the profit picture than did people questioned in an Opinion Research Poll of the general public, showing that it is believed American industry averages 28 per cent profit on each dollar sales.

• More on page 3



Teresa: Beam knitter to storekeeper

BG Storekeeper

Teresa Leonard recently became the first woman supply-room storekeeper in the company's textile division. Before her current assignment, Teresa worked as a beam knitter in Cable Twisting at Bowling Green.

Teresa's husband "Buddy" Leonard is an "A" Crew section supervisor in Cable Twisting. The Leonards have a daughter, Janel.

Rosie C. Francum, with Firestone in Gastonia for 33 years, has a job similar to Teresa's at Bowling Green. Mrs. Francum has been Gastonia toolroom clerk in the Shop for several years.

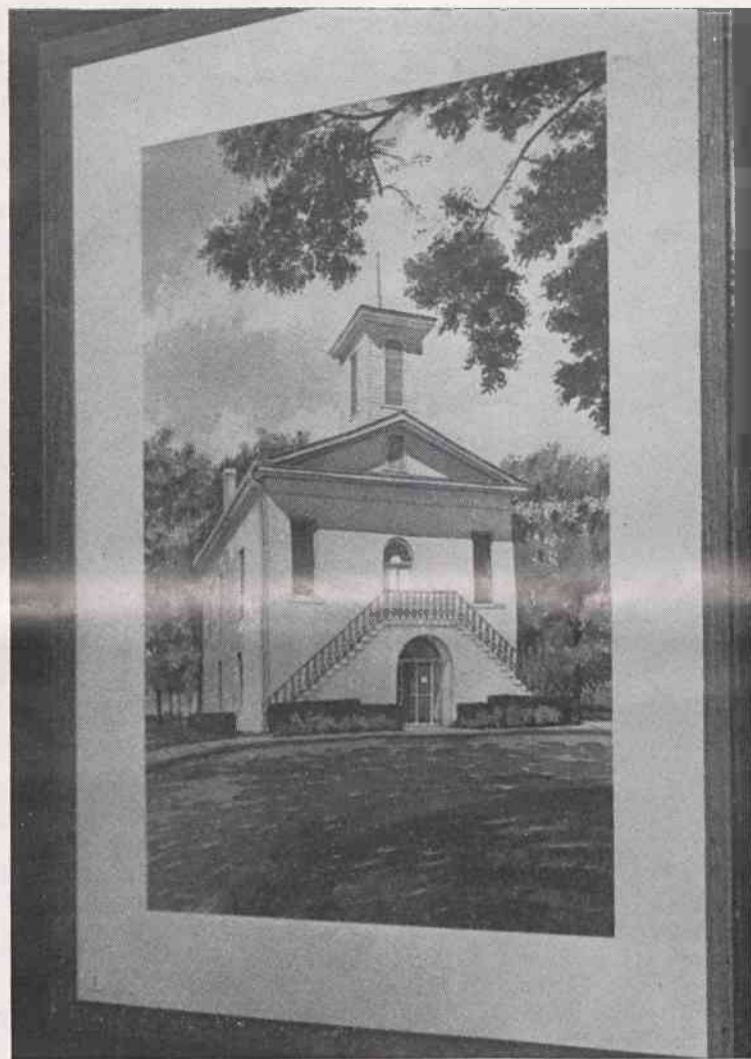
GASTONIA

Four Retired

Floyd L. Kelly, for many years a shift foreman in Chafer (cotton) Weaving, is the most recent to officially end his work career at the Gastonia Firestone plant. Upon his retirement at the end of January, he "marked up" 35 years and 8 months of service, all at Gastonia.

Kelly followed close after three others who retired in late 1971 at Gastonia:

Joseph C. Ruff of the Shop, with 29 years; Harry B. Groves, TC Weaving (splicing), 22 years and 6 months; Nervie Barbee, TC Weaving, 22 years and 5 months.



• Gaston County Court House: 1848-1911. This Firestone News photo is from a watercolor by Al Fincher. Charlotte artist known as "the historian with a brush."

The Dallas Court House is one of many Piedmont Carolinas

landmarks which Fincher has painted with keen perception (he plans to do many more.)

A January story in The Charlotte Observer noted that Fincher's work captures "a kind of visual detail that most students of history never acquire."

Cherished Gaston Landmark

In the Dallas, N. C. area, the Old Court House is considered best-known of several landmarks "steeped in history." Dallas is a "Firestone hometown" for some 70 employees of the Gastonia plant.

Named for George Mifflin Dallas, U.S. Vice President to James K. Polk (1845-49), the town has retained its touches of an Earlier America. It was Gaston's county seat to 1911.

In 1846-47 Gaston County was created from Lincoln County and Dallas became the seat of government. It continued as county seat until Aug. 1909 when an election was carried for removal to Gastonia. Removal was completed on New Year's Day of 1911.

THE FIRST Gaston County Court House was built of logs in 1847 and located on the Dallas "square." A permanent build-

ing of handmade red brick was completed in 1848.

In Dec., 1874 the Court House was rifled by fire, the foundations and walls remaining.

The Court House was rebuilt in 1875, incorporating the old walls and foundation. Stairways were placed on the outside and the "town bell" was located in a cupola on the building instead of in a separate bell tower.

At one time after 1911 the building was used as a Farm Life School for Gaston County. The Town of Dallas now owns the Old Court House and "the square." It is cherished as a "shrine to the past" and a choice part of the county's heritage.

Not as Much as They Thought

A recent survey of 170 employees in 11 U.S. Firestone plants showed an average guess of 16.8 profit for the company on each dollar of sales, after taxes. Guesses ranged from one-half of one percent to 67 cents on each dollar.

The survey was made of employees throughout the country a few days before the 1971 company annual report figures were released. Employees, both salaried and hourly wage, were surveyed in Firestone plants at Akron; Albany, Ga.; Bloomington, Ind.; Russellville, Ark.; Decatur, Ill.; Des Moines, Iowa; Memphis, Tenn.; Salinas and Los Angeles, Calif.; and Gastonia, N. C.

The Gastonia plant was represented by 10 of the 170 people queried. Asked: "As a guess, what per cent profit on each

dollar sales do you think Firestone makes, after taxes?" Gastonia employees' answers yielded an average 7.5 cents profit per dollar sales.

This was nearer the actual figure of 4.8 cents on the dollar sales for Firestone for fiscal 1971. In 1970, the company's profit was 4.0 per cent, the same as the average for all manufacturing profits in America, after taxes, that year.

The NON-SKID, company employee publication distributed nationwide, made the survey. Its editors learned that the com-