GASTONIA NORTH CAROLINA
BENNETTSVILLE SOUTH CAROLINA
BOWLING GREEN KENTUCKY

JULY • 1972

# Firestone news

a 'first' in rubber industry

# To capture and to clean...

Technology to capture and clean smoke and fumes from one of the largest cord-treating units in the textile-rubber industry was scheduled for tryout in early July at Firestone Textiles Company's Gastonia plant. The equipment is installed at No. 8 unit.

**The emissions-capturing device is the first of its kind in the rubber industry, accoring to J. R. Laman of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company's environmental engineering service.**

To develop the pollution-control installation, said Laman, the company's environmental engineering department evaluated on the plant site seven pilot-size units.

**SIGNIFICANT** information obtained from each of the pilot-unit studies contributed to the design and selection of equipment for the construction project which was started in June and completed in early July.

Tailor and Company of Bettendorf, Iowa, supplied the equipment and materials. Industrial Piping Company of Charlotte installed it. The project cost in excess of $140,000, according to J. G. Tino Jr., Gastonia plant engineer.

Laman explained that the company did not choose a basic incinerator type (one that works principally on gas burners) because of the efficiency rate of such equipment.

The device selected promises 99 per cent efficiency of pollution cleanup because it processes the emissions through a "scrubber" stage and incinerates whatever solids are collected.

**This "scrubber"** is incorporated into the main component of the capture equipment—an electrostatic precipitator which isolates solids, or particulates. The remaining solid wastes are burned, so that final emissions released to the environment are in the form of invisible water vapor and carbon dioxide.

Testing of the pollution-cleanup facility scheduled for early this month was expected to meet standards set by the Federal Environment Control Agency.

When the Gastonia unit has proved successful, the company will finalize plans for construction of a similar installation at the fabric-treating facility of the Bowling Green, Ky., Firestone plant.

## Precipitator

**••The huge drum-like electrostatic precipitator is the main working portion of this, the first pollution-control device in the rubber industry. Giant ducts collect emissions from stacks of No. 8 fabric-treating unit and send them to the precipitator, mounted on a steel framework above trafficway between unit and plant warehouses. This photo, made during construction, does not show stack which releases cleaned-up emissions.**

## Courses In First Aid

With the completion of the most recent course in June, 83 men and women at the Gastonia Firestone plant had earned the American Red Cross Standard Course in First Aid for the Injured.

Courses qualifying these employees for certificates in the Multimedia First Aid training were conducted at the Recreation Center and at Gaston Community College, with C. E. Boney of the college faculty as instructor.

**THE INSTRUCTION,** part of the plant safety department regular program, is in continuing compliance with standards and requirements of the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act. R. E. Mack, safety supervisor; and S. E. Crawford, plant training director, coordinate the safety-instruction program which will qualify others as time goes on.

The Bowling Green and Bennettsville units of Firestone Textiles Company also have qualified personnel in first aid, and additional courses will be conducted at these plants.

As of June, these employees from management, production, warehouse, offices and service departments had received First Air Certificates:

**GASTONIA** • Joe Adams, Charles Allen, Howard Allen,

• More on Page 2

**GASTONIA • Taking written exam in first aid course were these representative employees of a large class in June. From left: Earlene Fitzgerald, Lois Whitfield, Betty Phillips, Grace Christopher, Helen Dial.**

## NCVTS: 98 Diplomas

North Carolina Vocational Textile School at Belmont awarded 98 diplomas at its June 22 graduation exercises. Diplomas were in the school's five areas of specialization: Yarn Manufacturing, Weaving & Designing, Knitting & Designing, Mill Maintenance, and Tailoring.

It was the largest graduating class in the past five years, with a significant increase in the number of students completing the Knitting & Designing course.

During the year, the school also awarded 55 certificates for various short courses. Seven high school students—by attending the entire school year—received units toward their graduation.

Throughout the years, North Carolina Vocational Textile School has been a major force in the development and progress of textiles and related industries in the North Carolina Piedmont area, where there is one of the country's largest concentrations of diversified textiles manufacturing.

Many employees of Firestone Textiles Company's Gastonia operation have upgraded their job skills through study at the Belmont school.

### Yarn Mfg. II: Stevens

**Larry H. Stevens was awarded a diploma in Yarn Manufacturing II, at the June 22 graduation program of North Carolina Vocational Textile School. The mechanic in TC Weaving at Firestone, Gastonia, last summer received the diploma for Course I, Yarn Manufacturing.**

**At Firestone since 1968, Stevens first worked in Fabric Treating, later as a clerk in Quality Control, before his present assignment.**

**His studies at NCVTS have been in evening classes. His plans are for additional study at the school, perhaps in Weaving & Designing; and to attend Gaston College.**