

Buster Allen & His 'Buggie'

Efficient, thoughtful, loyal, dependable, seemingly untiring. Words that describe Buster Allen, office messenger at the Bowling Green Firestone plant.

"He's an unforgettable person," says F. B. Galligan of Allen, who's been employed at Bowling Green since March, 1968.

The Firestone Textiles Company general factories manager goes on to say that Buster is highly-thought-of by plant management and fellow employees.

AS OFFICE MESSENGER. Allen delivers the mail over the more than 700,000 square feet of floor space of factory, treating unit and offices. In the company car, he makes routine daily trips to the postoffice.

Back at Firestone, Buster transfers the mail to his newly-acquired "Buggie" (painted red,



white and blue) and makes the rounds with haste and efficiency.

Keeping a neat appearance of the administrative offices is an additional duty for Buster.

He and wife Helen have seven children. Helen cooks and bakes

things "something wonderful." The Allens live in the Smiths Grove community. One fellow employee said:

"Buster's remarkable ability to remember names, indicates something of his genuine interest in people."

William Berrier, N. L. Harris

William Freeman Berrier, one of the earliest to retire from Firestone at Gastonia, was buried Dec. 3 in Gaston Memorial Park, following the funeral in Carothers Colonial Chapel.

Berrier, 93, retired from Firestone in 1951. Survivors are a son, Harry Berrier; and a daughter, Mrs. Lucille Connor.

A memorial service was held in Greenville, S. C. for N. L. Harris, 84, who died in late November. Burial in Poplar Springs Baptist Church Cemetery, Shelby, N. C.

Harris was retired from Firestone, Gastonia. Mrs. Harris, who died early in 1972, was also retired from Gastonia plant.

Survivors are daughters Mrs. N. N. Nolen and Mrs. Coy Elvis; a son, Sgt. Joe Harris; sisters Mrs. John Bridges and Mrs. Otis Bridges; brothers Gaither and Garcie Harris.

Service Records

•• Maude D. Bryson and Nora J. Crouch were settled down to work at the Gastonia plant several days before Christmas of 1937. So, these two employees in TC Twisting had their 35th work anniversary last month. They received their service pin and \$100 company appreciation gift from J. B. Call.

The Firestone Textiles Company president also presented service pins and the \$100 checks to six others with 30 and 25 year records. And to three of the longtimers last month, Mr. Call presented the service pin and engraved watch, for 20 years work record.

Also, in December, there were 7 employees with work anniversaries of from 5 to 15 years.

Thirty Years • William O. Allen, C. A. Faulkner, Garfield Thomas, all TC Twisting.

Twenty Five Years • James T. Wright and Myriel M. Horton, Chafer Weaving; A. D. McCarter, Shop.

Twenty Years • William G. McLeymore, Colene M. Bennett and Ruth Carpenter, all TC Twisting.

Fifteen Years • John R. Mercer, Shop.

Ten Years • Milas Barnett, TC Weaving; William C. Webb, TC Twisting.

Five Years • Mathalena T. Bell, Reba Johnson, TC Twisting; Jimmy E. Hughes, TC Weaving; Shirley H. Walker, Quality Control.

They All Had Fun

Annual entertainment and gifts distribution to children of Firestone Textiles Company employees is a tradition dating back 37 years at Gastonia.

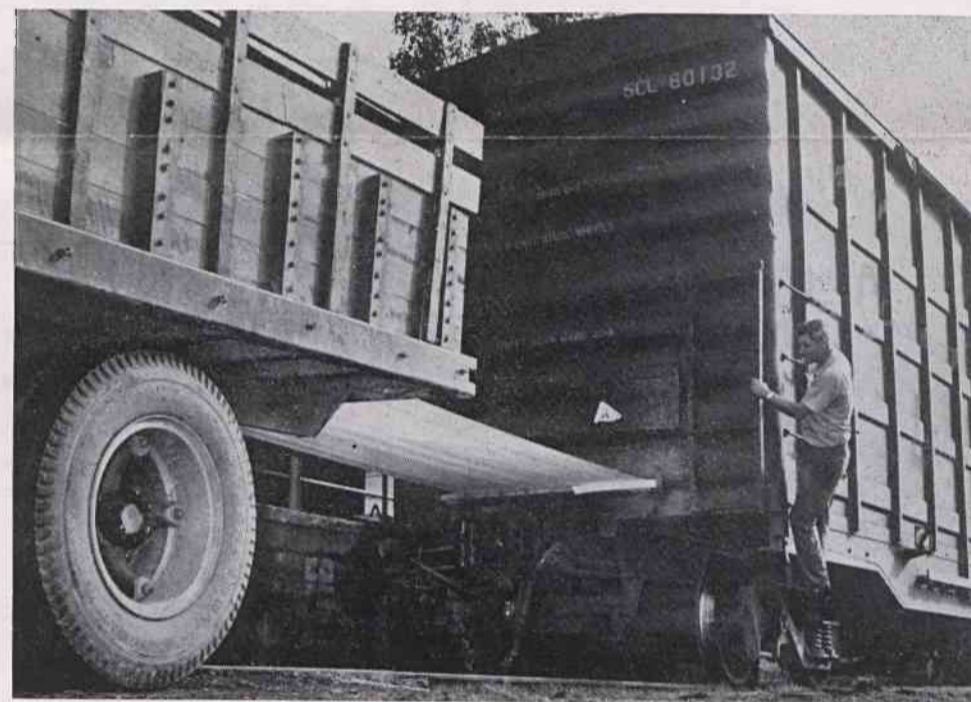
The Bennettsville plant has been staging parties for 25 years. The Bowling Green unit has had parties for the past four years.

In the three plant cities the Christmas parties entertain with movie cartoons and gifts, the distribution presided over by Santa Claus himself.

At the 1972 parties the company entertained more than 1600 children through age 14.



• One little girl waited for the show to go at first of two Christmas parties for Firestone children at Gastonia.



•• Strength of nylon tire cord fabric is illustrated here, showing the material (1,482 separate cords) connecting a truck with the 68,000-pound railroad boxcar. Pulling stress is close to 100,000 pounds.

About 13 million pounds of the nylon material is produced annually at the Bennettsville, S. C., Firestone Textiles Company plant. This fabric is used primarily in the production process of Firestone truck tires.

The Big Pull

Good Basketball

Tony Byers, student at Wake Forest, Winston-Salem, is a sharpshooting guard on the University's team, the Deacons.

Tony, son of Mrs. Ida Byers of the Firestone, Gastonia, industrial relations department, developed into a basketball all-star while playing for the Bessemer City High School Yellow-jackets.

In a December game, Tony scored 40 points in Wake Forest's upset of the Alabama Tide in the finals of the Twin City classic.

He starred for two years at Vincennes, Ind., Junior College.

B'ville Notes

Most recent Bennettsville Firestone employees to mark long service anniversaries:

Fifteen Years • Marie T. Herndon, Cord Twisting.

Twenty Years • Robert H. Hailey, Maintenance.

Lemont E. Williams was recently promoted to maintenance foreman at the Bennettsville Firestone plant. Williams joined Firestone in Sept., 1944. He served in the military, returning to Firestone in 1946, where he

worked in the maintenance department as an electrician.

His hobby is piloting airplanes. He serves in promotional work for the annual Bennettsville airplane show. He is a member of the National Guard.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams have one son.

Retiring at the Bennettsville plant Jan. 1 were: Walter J. Quick, section supervisor, with 27 years service; and Dozier John, janitor, with 27 years service.

Resolves For 1973 WORTHY & WORKABLE

New Year's resolutions come easy with people who make them; maybe not so easy to carry them out. Cross-section interviews with people at the Gastonia plant yielded a long list of "good intentions spelled out"—ranging from the near-common to some of life's noblest goals.

If you did not make any for 1973, will some of these resolutions do?

For 1973 I resolve to—

... Develop and cultivate at least six new friendships that go beyond the superficial level.

... Make no resolutions at all at year's beginning. But now and then, make some resolves that are attainable. I can manage better one day at a time.

... Unclutter my life. Practice throwing some things away. Cancel some memberships and subscriptions. Cut out "deadwood." Learn to say "No." Have only projects, plans, goals that are most worthy and important to me.

... Retire. Develop a program that will keep me active. Begin with a tour of the Holy Land.

... Learn to play the five-string banjo—a little bit, anyway.

... Take a trip with my family to St. Louis, especially visit the Gateway Arch and Six Flags Over Mid-America.

... Make 1973 the year of renewal of my faith. One way, resolve to get more out of church

attendance and involvement in church activities.

... Be more selective in watching TV.

... Develop a program to better relationships with significant people in my life—family, close relatives, friends.

... Take my job more seriously and get more meaning out of work. But resolve to leave my job at the office, so I can have more peace of mind and better relationships with my family.

... Do more with less in family financing. Spend less and save more.

... Trim at least one-third of the names off my Christmas-card list.

... Improve my understanding and concern for people. Try more to assist people to wholeness; help them realize hopes and dreams, and rejoice with them in life's good things.

... Be more alert than ever to job hazards. I purposed this one day when I came mighty close to getting my finger cut off.

... Learn to like myself better, so I can like others better.