

•• It is the consumer for whom goods and services are produced. The producer must provide in goods and services that which consumers demand for their 'money's worth.' So, when it comes to products and services, quality is always a priority demand of the customer.

GASTONIA  
NORTH CAROLINA

BENNETTSVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

FEBRUARY • 1973

BOWLING GREEN  
KENTUCKY

# Firestone

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## NEWS

### 21,765 'Good Ideas'

Gastonia's Firestone Textiles Company plant was among the leading five diversified products facilities of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company for the number of ideas submitted in the company's worldwide suggestion program during 1972.

Employees of the NC headquarters plant in the textiles division turned in 524 suggestions for the fiscal year ending Oct. 31.

Iowa, 1,464 suggestions; Dayton, Ohio, 1,230; Akron Plant 2, 1,164; and Albany, Ga., 1,147.

In Firestone's diversified products plants, employees at the Hopewell, Va., synthetic fibers plant led in the number of ideas submitted, with 737 suggestions.

In the parent company's total suggestion program for 1972, a record 21,765 "good ideas" came from employees.

Suggestions for fiscal 1972 increased 44 percent over the 15,035 ideas submitted in 1971.

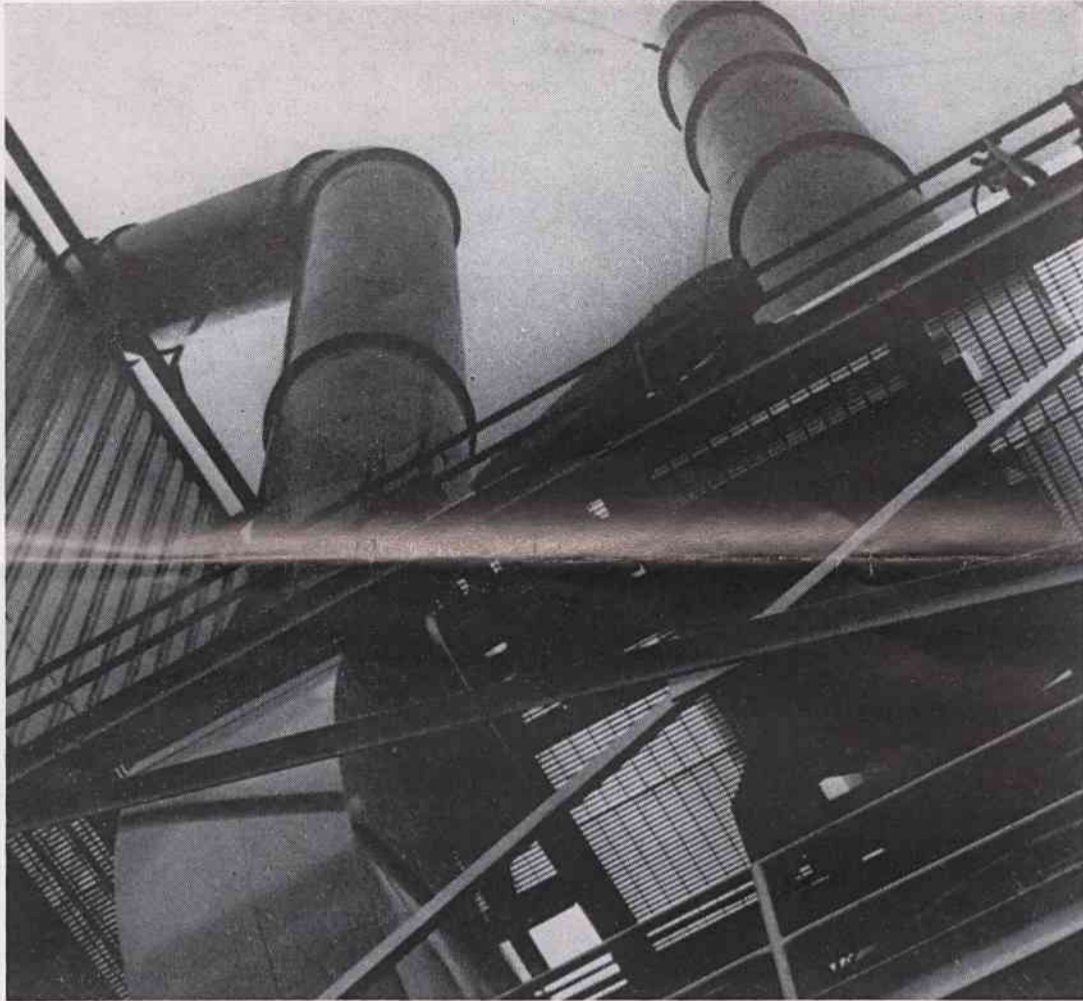
The company adopted 5,075 suggestions during 1972, up nearly 36 percent from the 3,737 put into effect the year just before that.

Akron Plant 1 led Firestone's North American tire plants in suggestions submitted, with 1,583 ideas. Others in the top five tire facilities were Des Moines,

Besides Gastonia (textiles) in the leading five diversified products plants, top suggestion records were Wyandotte, Mich. (steel products), 451; Lake Charles, La. (synthetic rubber), 375; and Orange, Texas (synthetic rubber), 332.

**LARGEST AWARD** of the year went to Grace Fagan, Akron offices of Firestone International, who received \$10,000 for her suggestion concerning

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• Portion of the Gastonia Firestone Textiles Company equipment installed in 1972, to capture and clean smoke and fumes at one of the largest cord-treating units in the textile-rubber industry. The huge electrostatic precipitator is the first of its kind to be operated in the tire fabrics field. A similar unit will be installed at the di-

vision's fabric-treating facility at Bowling Green, Ky.

The components isolate solids or particulates, cleaning them in a washing process, to release emissions complying with standards of the Federal Environmental Control Agency.

#### LAST YEAR

### Pollution-Control Projects

An irrigated electrostatic precipitator installed last year at Gastonia was among major pollution-control projects completed in 1972 at six of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company's domestic manufacturing plants.

The projects are part of the company's continuing effort toward clean environment in and around its facilities.

The cleaning unit in No. 8 fabric-treating plant at the Gastonia Firestone Textiles Company location, is a first in the rubber-textile industry.

With the new equipment, fine dust particles from drying operations are captured by hitting them with small droplets of water—first, to slow them down and then to allow them to combine with other collected particles.

Plant engineer J. G. Tino Jr., further explains that these particles are then electrostatically struck by a 60,000-volt charge

and are collected on an oppositely-charged plate.

The clean water is separated and recirculated through the system and the contaminants that are removed as a sludge.

According to Tino, the unit operating at peak, delivers 99 percent pollution cleanup. Final emissions released to the environment are in the form of invisible water vapor and carbon dioxide.

Testing on the unit began last July and a number of changes and adjustments were made before the installation was operating efficiently.

Construction of a similar installation is planned at the Firestone Textiles Company plant at Bowling Green, Ky. A large

treating unit for processing Fiber B fabric is being built at Bowling Green.

The Firestone Company's other major pollution-control projects accomplished last year:

- A multi-million-dollar rubber processing system at the company's Los Angeles, Calif., plant. The system prevents dust-fine particles of carbon black from floating into the plant.

- A special control system to separate storm and industrial

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The season's first snowfall which came to the Carolinas and other parts of the Mid-South January 7, brought along the usual winter-wonderland look. But the freezing temperature and snow of around six inches deep meant travel inconveniences for almost a week.

Some Firestone people walked to work. Some didn't make it at all. Others did some mode-of-travel substituting.

James G. Burr of Methods-Standards made it to and from his job quite well, before any shoveling, plowing or melting had been done.

### Four Retired

#### GASTONIA

To travel, work at part-time jobs, develop hobbies and other interests, and to do other things that have had to wait through the years. Such were in the plans of four persons who 'graduated' from long careers at Firestone, Gastonia, in January and early February.

Of these retired, Myrtle Bradley Collette of Main Office had the longest service record: 37 years and 6 months.

Next was Clarence W. Donaldson of TC Twisting, with 36 years, 8 months; followed by Bertie Styles of TC Weaving, with 36 years.

And Jack Wellmon, Warehouse (shipping) had 22 years and 5 month's service.

One  
Way  
To  
Come  
To  
Work

IN  
THE  
SNOW