



Mission TO LENS

Dennis Johnson, a Product & Process Development engineer, was scheduled to go from Gastonia to Lens, France, in early February, to help put into operation a wire-weave loom.

The loom, first of its type to operate at the Gastonia plant, was moved to Lens in late 1972. This equipment will take its place in a major expansion program at the company's wire and cable division.

When the expansion program is completed, the Lens facility will increase production capacity of steel wire by 300 percent.

The Lens plant began operation in 1971. It is being enlarged to meet increasing demand of the company's foreign tire plants for steel cord material.

Some Steel Fabric To Go

•• Sandra Huss (left), draw-in hand, checking warp packages as they feed wire to loom. Right photo: Fabric baler Erman Busby placing a package of moisture-control material on roll of wire fabric. Helping package the roll is Y. Moissard (right) of Firestone's wire and cable plant at Lens, France. He was at the Gastonia wire-weave

operation on a technical assignment in January.

Firestone was first U.S. tiremaker to have steelbelt radial tires approved by an auto company. Use of steel-belted radials on new cars is expected to increase from about 2 percent of the 1972 total to at least 10 percent in 1973.



Control

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effluent and to provide continuous treatment of plant waste water at the Noblesville, Ind., Firestone Industrial Products Company plant.

- An advanced water treatment system at the Akron Firestone Synthetic Rubber & Latex Company's plant.

- A system which filters water back into the ground at the Salinas, Calif., Firestone tire plant, using a series of earthen lagoons.

- Pollution control through preventive maintenance at the

Firestone tire plant near Nashville, Tenn.

Joseph R. Laman is the parent company's manager of environmental engineering. Concerning company projects during 1973, Laman says:

"Firestone will continue to upgrade, develop and expand its pollution-control facilities and technologies throughout the world.

"The company also will continue its research and development of new products and processes to assist in solving new environmental problems as they arise."

Mixed Tires:

A 'No, No'

Advice on this point: If your car is equipped with radials, and you need snow tires for the rear wheels, buy radial snow tires. It is very unsafe to mix radials with non-radials.

"It is sort of like wearing a tennis shoe on one foot and a ballroom pump on the other," says the Tire Industry Safety Council. "You get different types of traction and that's dangerous."

First At BG

Jodie Fulkerson (center) was the first salaried person hired at Firestone Textiles Company, Bowling Green, Ky., five years ago. Eugene Hanner (left) was the first clock employee hired a few days after the plant began production in early January of 1968.

Here Jodie and Eugene talked of their five years at Firestone and looked over their service pins presented by Ralph L. King, plant manager.

At the time Jodie and Eugene started work, the plant manager was F. B. Galligan. He is

now General Factories Manager.

Jodie, first hired as secretary to the plant manager, continues in that assignment. The mother of three children, Jodie is president of Bowling Green chapter, National Secretaries Association. She's been president for two years.

Eugene was first assigned to balance bobbins in the Maintenance department. At present he is in charge of working on the scales and mono rail systems throughout the plant. Eugene, wife Betty and their one child live in Scottsville, Ky. He is a deacon in Oak Forest Baptist Church, Allen County.

Almanac

•• February is the last full month of Winter (if you go strictly by the calendar). The daylight hours are lengthening now, which means that out ahead is Spring. But there are other signs too—such as the buds on the trees, if you look close-up.

Long, long ago, February was the last month on the calendar, March beginning the new year at the vernal equinox.

February gets its name from a Latin word meaning "to cleanse", associated with the ancient Roman feast of purification.

February is most distinctive of the months. For one thing, it is the shortest. It has an extra day added on leap years (next one will be 1976).

Two of our most folksy "days on the calendar" are in February: Groundhog Day and Valentine's Day.

OF THESE two February days, Groundhog Day is most deeply entrenched in American

lore. One story is that early Pennsylvania settlers brought from Europe the belief that hibernating animals such as bears, wolves and badgers could foretell the oncoming spring weather conditions, as they emerged from winter sleep.

In time, the lore became associated with the native woodchuck. These little burrowing animals are also known by such names as whistlepig, marmot, and monax (an old Indian word meaning "the diggers").

Groundhogs go into a suspended life state in their burrows in the fall. But it's in April—not February—that they fling their shadow across sunny mountain slopes of the Southland.

Color, History, Handicrafts

FOR FUN & ADVENTURE

Call February the threshold of the outdoor travel-play season, where in the Mid-South a display of early-blooming flowers and shrubs are signals of Spring.

Of special interest are camellias at gardens and plantations along the coast of the Carolinas and westward toward the Piedmont of both states. Notable of camellia centers are Southport, Wilmington, Pinehurst, Whiteville, Georgetown, Beaufort and Charleston.

February is a good time to visit Charleston. If a visitor for the first time, or for the first time in a while, you'll notice considerable progress in restoration of landmark houses in the downtown area.

From the wide variety of places of interest in the Charleston area, pick little-publicized Summerville. It has color, history and beauty.

"Flowerstown In The Pines" • Summerville is 25 miles NW of Charleston. Close by are such renowned beauty spots as the magnificent gardens located south toward Charleston.

Most famous gardens in the region are Mateebe, Middleton, and Magnolia; also Cypress Gardens and old Mulberry Castle, built in 1714. The Georgian structure, with its landscaped grounds, is on the Cooper River.

Too, near Summerville are the remains of Tabby Fort, one-time site of the Town of Dor-

chester. Old Dorchester has remains of a half-bastion style fort dating to the French and Indian War.

Headlining the special events in North Carolina this month: Southern Living Show in Charlotte, Feb. 24-March 4.

At Gaston College, Dallas, guitarist David Pengelly will give a concert the morning of Feb. 20.

Art, Sports And History • In Kentucky: The J. B. Speed Art Museum in Louisville has changing exhibits throughout the year. Open daily except Mondays. Free admission. Prints and drawings by Rudy Pezzatti are on exhibit through February.

Student ceramics are on display through Feb. 20 at the Art Gallery of Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green.

And these Kentucky events in February: Field Naturalist Weekend at Gilbertsville, 23-25; U of Kentucky Symphony, Lexington, 22; Rod and Custom Car Show, Louisville, 23-25.

The Textile Museum • Firestone Textiles people stopping in Washington, D. C., can gain an appreciation of the art and industry of which they are a part, by viewing exhibits at the Textile Museum. At 2320 S St. NW, the Museum has begun an expanded schedule to meet public demand. It is open Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sundays, 1-5 p.m.

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