

Scholarships

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Winners are sons and daughters of Firestone employees. It was the largest number of awards presented in the 21-year history of the Scholarship program.

GRANTS which students receive are worth up to \$7,000 toward tuition, fees, required textbooks and room and board expense during four years of college.

Scholarship winners may attend any accredited college or university in the United States and pursue any desired course leading to a degree.

In addition to the 46 scholarship recipients, 203 applicants were selected to receive Certificates of Merit and \$100 United States Savings Bonds, in recognition of their outstanding high-school records.

The 249 Scholarship and Certificate of Merit winners for 1973 live in 31 states and were selected from 372 applicants. Of the 46 scholarship winners, 24 are girls and 22 are boys. The 203 Certificate of Merit winners include 126 girls and 77 boys.

In the 21 years Firestone has made awards in this program, 649 college scholarships have been awarded. Winner this year from Gastonia is the 19th scholarship recipient from employee families of Firestone at Gastonia.

PURPOSE of the Firestone program is to provide financial assistance to worthy sons and daughters of Firestone employees who seek college educations.

The scholarship program for employees' children is but one part of Firestone's overall aid-to-education program.

In 1972, the company's financial support of education included other scholarships and fellowships, special programs,



Barry Richard Robinson
Gastonia



Charles Melvin Willis
Bowling Green

MERIT WINNERS

Janice Rebecca Stiles
(left)



Rachel Elizabeth Whitworth



direct grants to institutions, grants to associations of non-tax-supported colleges and cost of education supplements.

Also of note is the company's share of the matching-gift plan, the program whereby the company will match, above a minimum of \$25, an employee's gift of up to \$1,000 to a tax-supported college or university and a gift of up to \$2,000 to a non-tax supported institution.

Last year this plan enabled

249 education institutions in the U. S. to receive \$206,032 in donations, half from 526 contributing employees and half from the company.

Long-Service List GASTONIA

•• Luell E. Thomas of the Shop became the 115th person to observe a 35th work anniversary at the Gastonia Firestone plant. In April a week earlier, James O. Thomas of TC Twisting also completed a 35-year employment record.

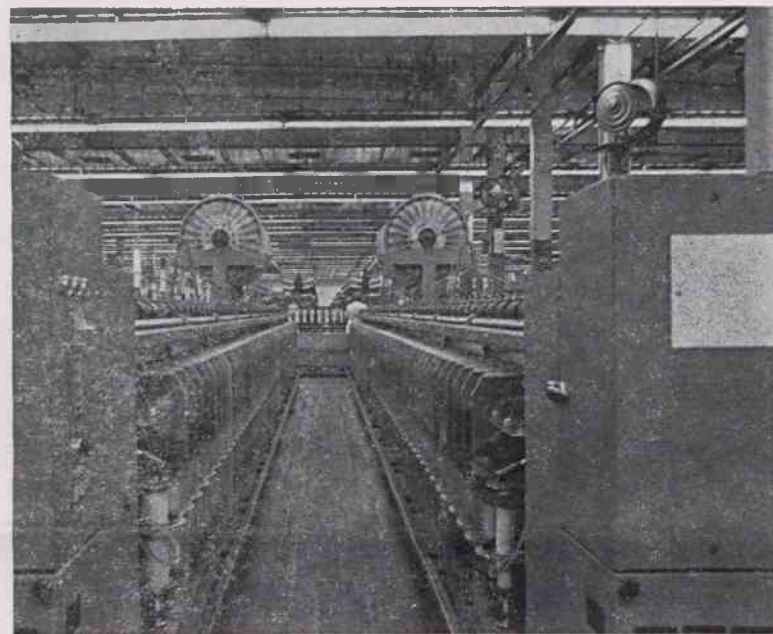
And there were more with work careers at Firestone from 5 to 30 years as of April. The list:

Thirty Years • Edna Dawkins, TC Twisting; Marie J. Jones, TC Weaving; Vivian S. Metcalf, Chafer Weaving.

Twenty-Five Years • Ophelia I. Wallace, Preparation; Harold Robinson and Trula B. Ball, TC Twisting; Mae M. Jones, Chafer Weaving.

Twenty Years • Bobby A. Rogers and Ethelda Robinson, TC Weaving.

Fifteen Years • Bobby D. Neal, TC Twisting.



Some of 18

Eighteen new Allma ply twist-ers have been installed at the

Bennettsville plant. These machines have many improved features and are some of the most modern available to the industry.

Steel Wire

to come from Danville, Ky.

Next February is scheduled as time for beginning production of steel wire for tire cord at the Danville Wire & Cable Company plant, Danville, Ky.

J. M. Cornely, vice president for diversified products of the Firestone company last month made announcement of the new facility. Representing a multi-million-dollar investment, the manufacturing plant will occupy 160,000 square feet of floor space in a building already existing.

Installation of manufacturing equipment and initial hiring and training of some 125 employees will start in late fall this year, and operation will begin about a year from now. When full production is reached in 1975, the work force will be some 250 employees, with an estimated payroll of more than \$2 million.

"**RADIAL TIRES** are expected to constitute 73 per cent of the tire market by 1975," Cornely said, "with a growing percent-

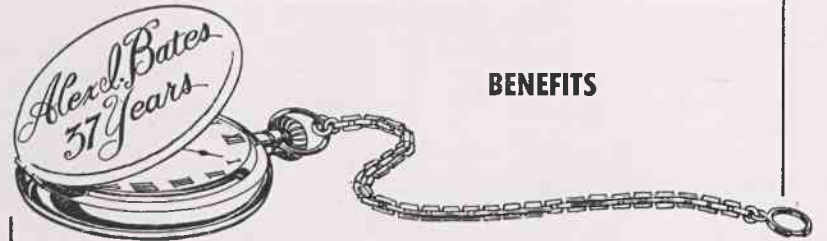
age of these radials expected to be in steel-belted construction. The Danville plant plays an important part in company planning to meet our anticipated tire customer needs."

The Danville steel tire cord plant is the first to be announced within the U.S. tire industry.

It will produce steel cord used in Firestone's growing steel-belted tire line which now includes the Steel Radial 500, the 500 Steel Belt and Radial V-1 Steel passenger tires, and the Transteel Radial truck tire.

Firestone also operates a steel tire cord plant at Lens, France.

The Gastonia plant of Firestone Textiles Company produces Firestone's major volume of fabric from steel cord.



BENEFITS

All A Pretty Nice Gold Watch

During 1972, the Firestone Company contributed more than \$78 million toward employment retirement benefits—\$36.4 million to our own company plan and another \$41.9 million in social security taxes.

That's 60 per cent more than the \$47.9 million the company paid to stockholders as dividends on their investment in Firestone—the sole income the owners got from their company in 1972.

Who benefits from the program?

Last year 10,453 retirees shared \$26.7 million in pension payments. They live in 49 states and nine foreign countries.

In 1972 the company put in \$36.4 million on this.

In order to insure that the fund grows and its assets continue to keep pace with future commitments as they come due, pension funds are carefully invested in a variety of profitable areas including U.S. government securities, preferred and common stocks, corporate bonds and notes, and real estate.

All this a pretty nice gold watch.

Suggestion Progress

At Bennettsville in March almost one-third of the employees submitted ideas in the plant's suggestion participation.

During March the suggestion program was stimulated with a 40 per cent increase of suggestions received. The number of March suggestions received was the highest total in a five-year period.

Among the Diversified Products plants of the parent Firestone company, Bennettsville ranks second in the Suggestion Progress Comparison. In a previous year, it had ranked first.

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• GASTONIA

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