

Service Years GASTONIA

Of the several people who "hired on" at Firestone in Gastonia during August of 1943, three of them stayed on and are now into their 31st year of employment. They are Elsie K. Cole, TC Twisting; Robert Nichols Jr., Chafer Weaving; and J. L. Patterson, Shop.

While these were marking long work records last month, seven others at Gastonia joined them for service spans of from 5 to 25 years. That list:

Twenty Five
Years • Beatrice S. Player, TC Twisting; Lee R. Sims, Shop.

Twenty
Years • Grady G. Wylie, TC Twisting; Marlene E. Stewart, TC Weaving.

Fifteen
Years • Bobby Joe Duncan, TC Weaving.

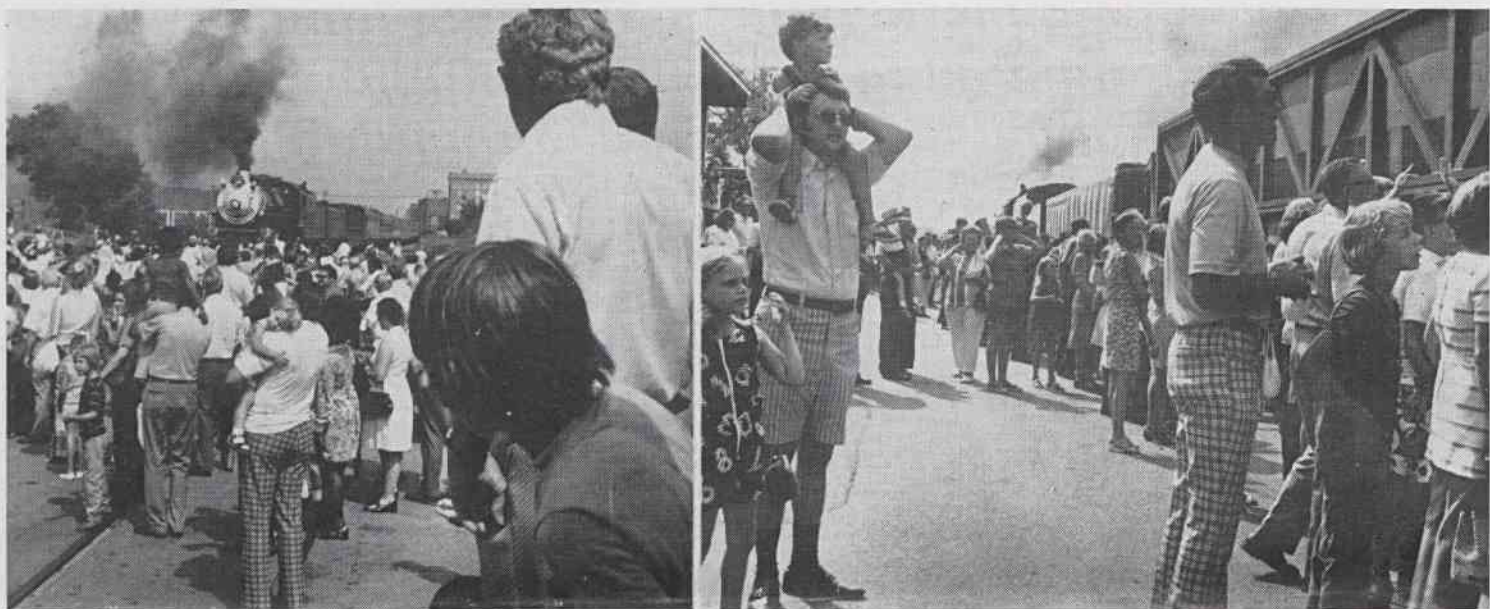
Ten
Years • Moetell P. Stiles, William D. O'Neal, TC Weaving.

Five
Years • Bonnie L. Servis, TC Twisting; John V. Mitchen, Chafer Weaving; Denoise Meeks, James S. Meeks Warehouse.

Scrimshaw, bookbinding, bur-lap-crafting, ceramics, claywork, doll-making, wirecrafting, tie-and-dye, sculpture, repoussage. And lots more.

If you're looking around for a hobby, a 'goldmine' of suggestions and introductions will be found in the big book **PRAC-TICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CRAFTS**, compiled by Maria Di Valentin and others.

Check your public library.



YONDER COMES THE TRAIN

They liked
the ride
when the
lonesome
whistle
blew

Rails clickety-clacking, the hiss of steam, cinders flying and the wail of a lonesome whistle. It was something to reminisce about, to enjoy—and remember when the steam 'special' puffed down the line from Salisbury, N. C. to Greenville, S. C. on a Sunday afternoon in August.

Some Firestone people from Gastonia got aboard for the ride.



Southern Railway's classy locomotive No. 4501, which appeared in the movie "Fool's Paradise," pulled a line of coaches to give rail buffs and others an opportunity to live (or relive) history of a bygone era.

A much-traveled engine on special excursions in recent years, No. 4501 is one of the first Mikado-class locomotives used by Southern. Built in 1911, it ran

until 1948 and was sold as surplus to Kentucky and Tennessee Railroad which used it to haul coal from the mines until the mid-1960s.

It was then retired a second time and sold to the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum at Chattanooga. When it made the Salisbury-to-Greenville run in August it was on its way back to the museum.

Hayes DP Manager

Floyd Hayes, with Firestone Synthetic Fibers Co., Hopewell, Va., for the past 10 years, last month became manager of data processing at the Gastonia plant of Firestone Textiles Company.

Hayes' hometown is Hopewell. He attended high school there. Hayes worked for Allied Chemical for 10 years and during that time attended Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, receiving the BS degree in business.

At Firestone, Hopewell, he was supervisor of systems and programming.

• **Manager Data Processing**



Hayes and his wife, Joyce, have five children—three married and living in the Richmond area; and two, ages 10 and 11, with their parents in Gastonia.

Hayes' position at Gastonia was created when the data processing department was expanded and installed in the new offices on third floor of the factory.

First Long Interstate

The Lincoln Highway was the first coast-to-coast paved road in the United States and the first real interstate. It reached 3,300 miles across 13 states.

Proclamation for opening of the Lincoln Highway from New

York to San Francisco was made Sept. 10, 1913. The superhighway traversed the states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada and California.

At 1913 prices, the road cost around \$10,000,000—a "drop in the bucket" to what that many miles of interstate would cost today.

Marlboro County, S. C.: More Find Leisure

•• Hometown. Bennettsville, S. C. A recent story in Marlboro HERALD-ADVOCATE was headlined "More here find 'leisure'; either retired or just lazy."

The feature pointed out that in Marlboro County, S. C., a growing proportion of the male population over age 16 is, by choice, not going to school, not working and not choosing to work. It went on:

"There are some 1,472 local residents in this non-work category, according to figures from the Department of Commerce. Included are 826 who are between 16 and 65, and 646 who are above 65.

"THEY REPRESENT 18.4 percent of the over-16 population. Nationally, the average is 14.9 percent. The majority of them are retired persons who have sufficient financial assets or sources of income to enable them to lead lives of leisure.

"There are others of course who are able-bodied but who are neither self-supporting nor interested in working. But they

represent a small portion of the total.

The news item noted that throughout the country, in the over-16 male population, there

Joins Gastonia Staff



Guido Martinelli of Red Bank, N. J., last month joined Firestone at Gastonia as an industrial engineer trainee.

Martinelli attended Middletown Township High School in New Jersey, and is a 1973 graduate of North Carolina State University, Raleigh. He received the BS degree in industrial engineering.

With Firestone, Gastonia, he is assigned to special engineering projects, working out of the office of factory manager, Philip R. Williams.

are nearly 10 million in this non-school, non-work group a big increase over the 6,800,000 reported in 1960.

Much of this is attributed to the fact that more men are quitting their jobs when they reach retirement age. Less than a fourth of them continue to work beyond 65.

Of Marlboro County's male population over 65, approximately 21.2 percent are still on the active list, according to the Commerce Department. Compare this with an average of 24.8 percent throughout the U.S. as a whole. Said the story: "MAJOR FACTOR in enabling people to retire, in many instances before reaching 65, is the rapid expansion and scope of private and public pension programs in recent years.

"Besides pensions there are other sources of income, such as interest on savings, dividends, life insurance annuities and the government's so-called 'transfer payment'."

"These payments which include social security, welfare, unemployment insurance and veterans benefits, provide them with a large part of their income."

In the past year, \$104 billion came from these transfer payments, reports show. Related to the total personal income of Americans in 1972 (\$936 billion), it appears that \$1 out of every \$9 is provided in that way.

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• GASTONIA

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