

JULY
1974

Firestone

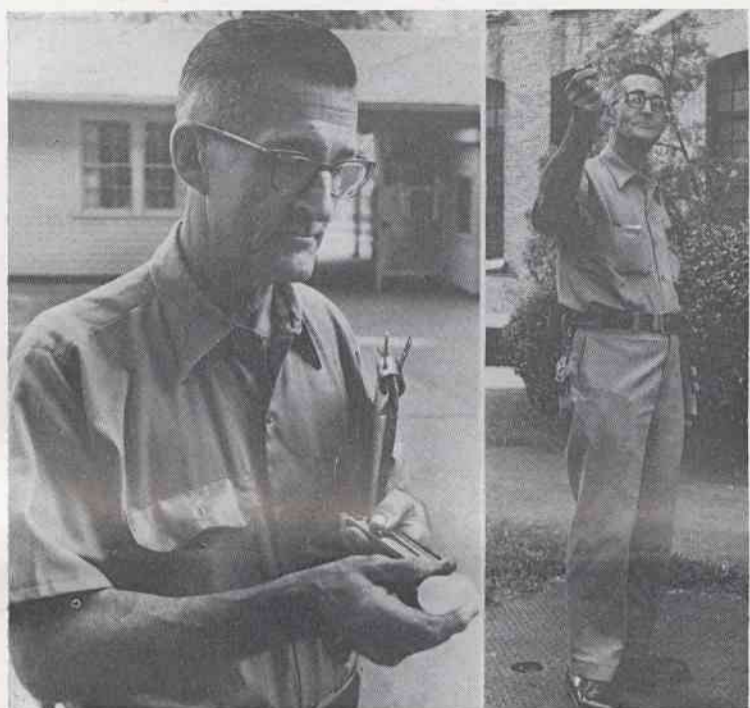
GASTONIA
NORTH CAROLINA

Textiles Company **NEWS**

BENNETTSVILLE • SOUTH CAROLINA

BOWLING GREEN • KENTUCKY

☆☆☆



Keeping Up With Humidity

Taking account of the humidity outside and in the fabric-producing areas inside plant and treating units helps in efficiency of operation and quality control of finished product.

This vital job, going on every day the plant is in operation, involves the skilled work of a humidifier technician and regularly five helpers who attend the automatic humidifier equipment. Sometimes the additional part-time work of others is involved.

Earl Redding, Gastonia humidifier technician, has been on this assignment most of the 32 years he has worked at Firestone.

On a typical working day, he makes temperature and humidity readings at 36 stations twice daily. The two outside stations are in front and behind the plant. Others are at places

• Earl Redding wets bulb on one side of gauge before swinging the measuring device in the air to learn temperature-dampness figures. He uses sliding scale to find relative humidity.

When not working at Firestone, Redding finds time for things to do at home and to serve as pastor of Love Valley Baptist Church on Rt. 2, Kings Mountain. He will have been with the church 30 years in September.

Mrs. Redding (Mildred) has a 36-year service record with the company at Gastonia. She works in Payroll.

where people and machines process materials from yarn to finished product.

READINGS are made and noted on the prevailing weather, and actual temperature and moisture content of the atmosphere. Relative humidity is calculated on a psychometric scale.

Redding files the daily reports with the Quality Control laboratory and the machine shop. **More, Page 3 •**

discussed events and programs over the preceding 12 months.

A highlight of the year's program was a trip with the pack to Clemson, where members attended a football game.

At the end of the May meeting the Cubs enjoyed a party. They played games and had refreshments.

Cub Scouts Had Good Year

Pack 631 Firestone Cub Scouts completed a successful year in late spring. At a meeting ending the year on May 30, Cubmaster Charlie Sweatt Jr.,

These Three Came Back

Three men who retired from Firestone Textiles Company are back working at Gastonia as members of the plant protection service staff of Security Forces, Inc.

Howard McCarter, Grady Johnson and Charlie O. Stiles work a limited schedule at Firestone and sometimes do other jobs "on the side."

Stiles first came to work at the Gastonia plant in the 1920s, more than 10 years before it became a Firestone operation. His service with the present company dates from 1941 to 1967. He retired as a weaver in synthetics.

He is from a family that has been well represented at Firestone through the years — at Gastonia and at Akron. Charlie's brother Hershel worked at Gas-



GRADY

HOWARD

CHARLIE

tonia several years. Bertie, a sister, retired at Gastonia, as did a brother, Vaughn. Currently employed are Ray and Cloyce, Charlie's nephews.

Grady Johnson retired seven years ago, with 30 years on his record. He had several jobs in production—one of these over several years was doffing spinning. He was operator of a freight elevator when he retired.

Howard McCarter began

working at Firestone, Gastonia, in the summer of 1935. At the time he retired in 1972 he was working in Spinning.

Howard's wife, Beatrice, now with 38 years service, is in Payroll. Howard's brother, William L. McCarter, is employed in TC Twisting; and William's wife, Helen, is in the Cloth Room. Howard's grandson, Rusty Ford, is working at Firestone during summer vacation from school.

\$135,702 For Suggestions

People of Firestone Textiles Company's Gastonia and Bowling Green Plants earned special mention for suggestions submitted and adopted during the first half of fiscal 1974.

Employees of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company shared \$135,702 in awards in the company's suggestion program in the six-month period ending April 30 this year. This was an average of more than \$5,000 a week.

John T. Cahoon, vice president for personnel and planning, reported that during the first half of the current fiscal year, employees turned in 17,880 suggestions, an increase of 25 per cent over the 14,234 ideas for the same period last year.

OF ALL suggestions submitted, 4,179 were adopted this year, compared with 3,363 for the first six months of the company's fiscal 1973—an increase of 19 per cent.

Akron's Plant I leads the tire plants in number of suggestions, with 1,235 submissions, of which 410 were adopted. Others in the top five tire plants were Pottstown, Pa., 1,104 suggestions, 432 adoptions; Memphis, Tenn., 1,058 suggestions, 221 adoptions; Decatur, Ill., 864 suggestions, 184 adoptions; and Des Moines,

FIRST HALF OF 1974

Iowa, 837 suggestions and 201 adoptions.

Of Firestone's diversified products facilities, employees at the Electric Wheel Company plant in Quincy, Ill., were leaders with 888 ideas, and 132 adopted.

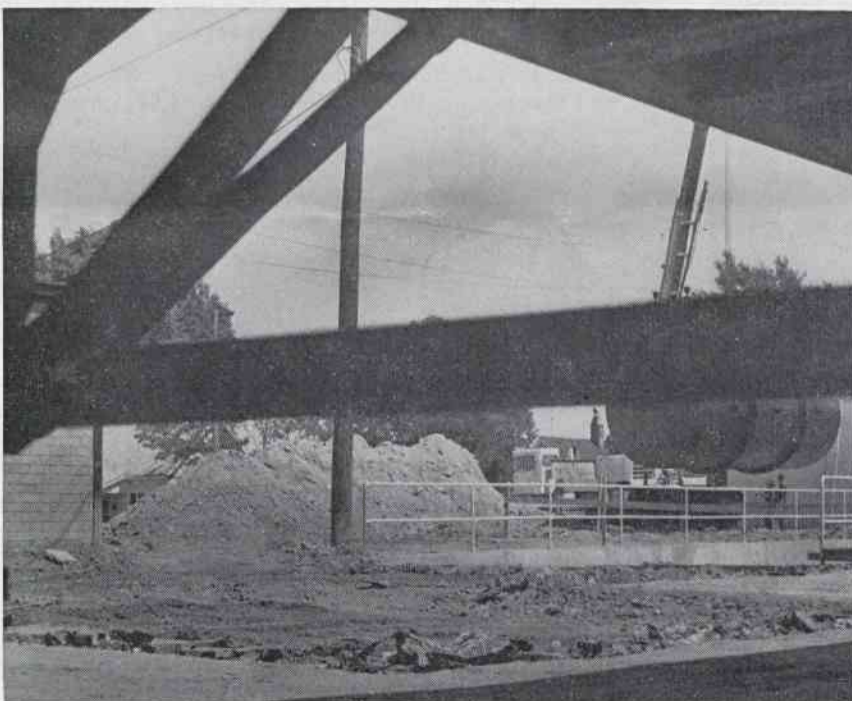
Other high-ranking diversified products plants were Hamill Manufacturing Company, Washington, Mich., 410 suggestions, 44 adoptions; Firestone Steel Products Company, Spartanburg, S.C., 351 ideas, 58 adoptions; Firestone Steel Products, Wyandotte, Mich., 224 suggestions, 56 adoptions; and Firestone Industrial Products Com-

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treating unit LATEX GOING UNDERGROUND

•• A 15,000-gallon steel tank was placed underground in front of the new warehouse at No. 8 treating unit, Gastonia, in June. This allows storage of liquid latex used in treating rayon fabric. Previously, the latex had been stored in 55-gallon drums.

Storage tank and newly-completed warehouse free up considerable valuable space in production and warehouse areas of the Gastonia operation, said factory manager P. R. Williams.



•• Through parking gear of cargo trailer, the huge tank dwarfed workmen who directed crane operator in lowering storage unit into its 'grave' at east side of No. 8 Treating Unit.

