



NOVEMBER
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Firestone

GASTONIA
NORTH CAROLINA

Textiles Company **NEWS**

BENNETTSVILLE • SOUTH CAROLINA

BOWLING GREEN • KENTUCKY

☆☆☆

Woodstock With Textiles Company

Yarn-fabric production facilities of Firestone's Woodstock, Ontario, Canada operations have been reassigned organizationally to Firestone Textiles Company, with division headquarters at the Gastonia, N.C., plant.

Division president James B. Call announced the organizational change effective in October; also the appointment of Hugh H. Dorman to the newly-created position of general manager of the Woodstock facilities.

The original Woodstock plant began producing tire fabric for Firestone in 1936. Units constructed since then comprise a fiber-textile complex of two textile mills producing tire fabric, and a nylon-yarn factory.

The Woodstock plants are the only company facilities of Firestone Textiles Company operating outside the U.S. They prin-

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• Bumper sticker on pickup truck traveling toward Bessemer City: **TITHE IF YOU LOVE THE LORD. (HONKING'S TOO EASY—AND NOISY!)**

• A Gastonia Firestone employee reported seeing this on a signboard in front of an Atlanta church: **HALLELUJAH ANYWAY!**

cipally supply Firestone's plants at Hamilton, Calgary and Joliette in Canada.

DOMESTIC units of Firestone Textiles Company are at Gastonia, Bennettsville, S.C., and Bowling Green, Ky. All of them produce tire fabrics for the company's tire plants and for sale to other tire companies.

As a division, Firestone Textiles Company is among seven divisions within a broad diversified-products (non-tires) area of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company's operations.

This organizational arrangement was made in late 1973, when Jay H. Rosenson was appointed a company vice president for operations of the newly-designated Raw Materials and Chemical Group. A second grouping under diversified products has Leon R. Brodeur as president.

THE WOODSTOCK textile plants in years past have been a part of the textile division with

Gastonia and Bennettsville before the Bowling Green plant was constructed. This was before division headquarters were moved from Akron to Gastonia. For the past five years the Woodstock plants operated under the International Company.

Besides Firestone Textiles Company, other facilities operating under the Raw Materials and Chemical Group are: Firestone Synthetic Rubber and La-

More on Page 2

They'll Roll With The Tires

•• A thick slab of steel has been rolled into a circle and the seam welded. It's the first step in what will become a 625-pound wheel for a giant earthmover.

A Firestone worker inspects

the center band as an automatic welder does its work at the Quincy, Ill., Firestone Electric Wheel Company plant. At the Quincy facility—a major manufacturer of wheels for agriculture and industrial equipment—plans call for fabricating more than 130,000 tons of steel into wheels and farm wagons by the end of 1974.

Troop 631 Scouts To Clemson

Members of Firestone-sponsored Boy Scout Troop 631 of Bennettsville attended a Clemson-Georgia Tech football game at Clemson recently.

Accompanying the boys were Charles Sweatt Jr., leader; Otis

Watson, John H. Sweatt and Floyd Huggins.

While at Clemson the group toured the University and Fort Hill, home of John C. Calhoun. Fort Hill is one of Upcountry South Carolina's outstanding heritage preservations. Its original portion was built in 1803 and Calhoun enlarged it in 1825. Most furnishings are original.

Calhoun, the "states rights" champion, was in the U.S. Congress, was Secretary of State and Vice President.

The National Board of Fire Underwriters suggests: Having fire extinguishers and knowing how to use them could mean the difference between a minor fire and a major disaster.

From Cotton To Computers EULA WILSON

Her career spanned the nostalgic days of cotton textiles to the exciting age of the computer. Eula Wilson is retired (if that's what you call it.) Anyway, she closed a 39-year work record at Gastonia, Firestone, Oct. 31.

She continues busy at home projects, in her church and community; hopes to "work in" some well-deserved rest and recreation "in time."

"**THEY SAY** she came with the building, was a part of the deal," some have joked, referring to the beginning days of Firestone in Gastonia and transition of plant property owner-

ship-operation in 1935.

Her association began with the Old Loray Mill successor company, Manville-Jenckes which had ceased operation in 1934. Firestone purchased the plant and other buildings and surrounding mill village in early 1935 (village homes were later sold to employees).

Eula Bradley (she married

Clayton Wilson in 1940) was working at the old plant. She stayed on with the new ownership to do payroll, shipping records, even to operate the telephone switchboard.

SHE RECALLS the visit of company founder Harvey Firestone a little while before the Gastonia property was acquired. "He stopped by my desk and asked: 'Young lady, will you continue working here, keeping my books?'"

"I thought Lord, have mercy! But I was glad that the mill was going to run again. What a blessing it has been to so many people and to this area. I'm so glad I've been a part of it through the years," she says.

Across the decades Eula has had responsible jobs, and the one she held for the past many years was supervisor of factory payroll. At one time the assignment also included supervision of data processing.

More on Page 2

Bobby Nichols In BG Exhibition

Bobby Nichols, host pro at the Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio, led a clinic and played an 18-hole exhibition round at Bowling Green (Ky.) Country Club, Oct. 14.

Nichols, a native of Louisville, is one of the winningest profes-

sional golfers on the tour, with a dozen titles. His appearance in Bowling Green was Firestone-sponsored. While there he visited the Firestone Textiles Company plant on Louisville Road.

In August, Nichols came to Gastonia for a plant visit, a clinic and exhibition round at Gaston Country Club.



• Just before her retirement, Eula Wilson reviewed an old scrapbook of items from the 1930s when she began working at Firestone—in the days of cot-

ton textiles. John Ragland of the Data Processing staff, had some programming sheets, representing the age of the computer.

A Cookout At Bennettsville

The bog pot was enjoyed by all; the recreation and fellowship were fine.

Bennettsville Firestone employees had a cookout on a Sunday afternoon in October, on the Firestone field beside the plant.

People played softball and pitched horseshoes later in the afternoon.

Prentiss White, George Woodberry and Marvin Dowdy prepared the chicken bog.

And what's bog? In this case, chicken and rice cooked together ('bogged'), with a touch of herbs and spices tossed in. Says Joyce Miles of Bennettsville Main Office:

"It's 'favorite fixings' in South Carolina Low Country and Upper Coastal Plain area. Bog's easy to prepare and sort of 'standard' for serving a lot of people."

Firestone people at the Gastonia Plant
made pledges of \$49,640.47
in the October United Appeal Campaign