

# Firestone

## Textiles Company NEWS

Gastonia  
North Carolina

MARCH 1975

Bennettsville  
South Carolina

Bowling Green • Kentucky

That's  
Great!

☆ ☆ ☆



• Plaque representing upwards of 5 million people hours operation without a chargeable injury was presented by Firestone Textiles Company to employees of the Bennettsville plant.

Here (from left): James B. Call, division president; and Bennettsville employees Boag Smith, Margaret McCaskill, Freddy Stubbs, Howard Herndon and Vera Joyce Lloyd.

### Bennettsville Safety

## For More Than Nine Years

•• "In industrial safety, I don't like the term 'record' in its usual sense—going out to make a showing. But when a record symbolizes the real care, effort and doing of safe performance at work—that's great!"

Firestone Textiles Company president James B. Call told Bennettsville people "Your outstanding record is a monument to the good attitude of each person on the job taking care of himself and herself—consequently each other."

The division president spoke to the staff and guests at a luncheon and later to the people on the job during the plant's

safety-recognition day, Feb. 12.

The program took note of Bennettsville Firestone people's 9 years on-job operation free of a chargeable injury. That time represents more than 4,400,000 people-production hours of safe operation.

Former Bennettsville plant manager Ralph King also spoke at the luncheon. He is now division general factory manager. King, Mr. Call; R. E. Mack, the

Gastonia safety manager, and other Gastonia staff members shared in the program. Local guests were Bennettsville Mayor Hollis and other civic and professional leaders. Special guest was E. F. Sweeney, retired Bennettsville plant manager.

During the day, people at work on all shifts were served a barbecue meal.

### Forsyth Promoted

John R. Forsyth is general foreman in Warehouse & Shipping, Bowling Green plant. His promotion came in January.

John has been with Firestone at Bowling Green since July of 1968. In February, 1969 he was transferred to the salaried job of shift foreman in Weaving.

The Forsyths have a daughter, Rhoda, 10, who attends Bristow Elementary School.

Red Cross Bloodmobile received 167 pints blood on February visit to Firestone Community, Gastonia.

### BOWLING GREEN

## 'All-Kentucky City'

Bowling Green earned its second consecutive "All-Kentucky City" award from the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, it being among 28 cities honored with the award for 1974. Nearly 100 communities entered the annual competition.

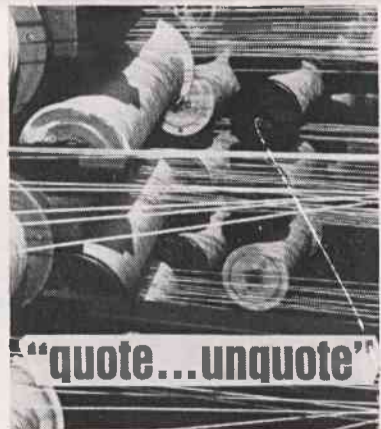
If Bowling Green should earn the award for the third time within the 5-year period, it would qualify for the "All-Kentucky City Hall of Fame."

Hall of Fame awards for 1974 went to 3 cities. Besides these and the "All-Kentucky City" awards presented at an early-1975 luncheon, the State Chamber of Commerce presented certificates of excellence to 20 communities, honorable mention to 27 others and certificates of participation (for above-average results in community development) to 4 communities.

Entries consist of written reports on various facets of community development and citizen

participation, the reports supplemented by slide and tape presentations.

The Bowling Green report which brought the All-City award illustrated accomplishments in the community from Oct. 1973 to Sept. 30 of 1974.



"The textile industry in this country is the most modern and most productive in the world and our workforce is the best.

With these assets and with prudent management, the industry should remain relatively stable through this economic slowdown." —Robert P. Timmerman, president of South Carolina Textile Manufacturers Association.

"Some years ago, one of my work associates told me that 'retirement is something you talk about but it never comes.' If she were still here today, I'd tell her that it does. Time's got to pass, and if you stay on the job, retirement will surely come. . . . I'm going to enjoy it! —Miss Marguerite Styers, speaking at a luncheon in her honor when she retired from Firestone at Gastonia, Feb. 14.

## UW Award Of Excellence

Firestone Textiles Company Gastonia plant was among the 20 industries, businesses and institutions receiving the 1974-75 United Way of Gaston County Award of Excellence. The award recognizing outstanding participation in and contribution to the United Way, is the highest UW honor.

It was presented at the UW annual meeting and luncheon earlier this year. In the most recent United Way funding campaign, Firestone people pledged

\$49,640.47 toward support of 32 people-helping services.

At the annual meeting, Firestone Textiles Company president James B. Call presented to Tom D. Eford the Harold Mercer Award, recognizing him as outgoing 1974-75 president of United Way of Gaston.

### ACS Information Sunday In April

The American Cancer Society Gaston County Unit will conduct a county-wide campaign the last Sunday in April to distribute educational materials to homes. Some 2,000 volunteer workers will help in the mass distribution of materials, so every family in the county can have information on early warning signs of cancer.

Crusade chairman is Roland Lanier. Co-chairpersons are Mrs. Myrtle Collette and her sister Mrs. Eula Wilson (Firestone Retirees) for the City of Gastonia portion of the effort. Chairing the crusade for other communities in the county is Mrs. Lois Owens.

THE AWARD, presented each year to the retiring UW president, is sponsored by Firestone in memory of Mr. Mercer, one of the founders of the United Way-type program of community service in the country.

Mr. Mercer was associated with the Firestone company in Gastonia for more than 36 years—as plant general manager and as textile division president at the time of his retirement. His widow, Lucia Mercer, was recognized during the awards presentation.

Philip R. Williams, Firestone factory manager, is one of 13 newly-elected members of the board of directors of United Way of Gaston County.

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• In splicing reclaiming, short "mill-end" lengths of plied tire cord are transferred from small or scant spools to full spools suitable for creeling and weaving into fabric.

### From Scant To Full . . .

Length of cord on full spools ranges from 5,000 to 10,000 yards. Spliced ends are overlapped and sewn on the machines.

Joyce A. (Mrs. Raymond) Younce is a splicer operator-reclaimer in Preparation. She has been with Firestone at Gastonia since October of 1973.