

Gastonia  
North Carolina

JULY 1975

Bennettsville  
South Carolina

Bowling Green • Kentucky

# Firestone

## Textiles Company NEWS



### 25 YEARS AGO

#### Many Will Remember . . .

• It was 1950. Barnum & Bailey Circus, "the greatest show on earth," gave exclusive performances to more than 100,000 Firestone employees and members of their families in celebration of the company's 50th anniversary.

The shows, paid for by the company, played for employees in Akron, Ohio; Gastonia, N. C.; Bennettsville, S. C.; Des Moines, Iowa; Fall River, Mass.; Lake Charles, La.; New Castle and Noblesville, Ind.; Pottstown, Pa.; Wyandotte, Mich.; and Memphis, Tenn.

The midway and menagerie, clowns, and animals with their trainers and riders highlighted the exciting shows.

At all performances in the different

• Elephants and their riders entertained Firestone Gastonia and Bennettsville people at Southern States Fairgrounds 25 years ago.

plant locations a baby elephant wearing a banner proclaiming "Firestone 1900" followed by a full-grown animal with "Firestone 1950" told of the company's growth in a half century.

Gastonia and Bennettsville people were transported by chartered bus to the circus at the Southern States Fairgrounds near Charlotte.

Richard Cernik of the company's Akron public relations department made many photographs of the historic event. A quarter-century later, the company is marking its 75th year of "quality and service" business—"making and selling useful things for others," as Founder Harvey S. Firestone said.

### A Summer Place TO PLAY

Firestone Playground 1975 season which opened in mid-June will continue through August. The facility in front of the Gastonia plant serves youngsters in the plant community and West Gastonia.

The company-owned playground for many years each summer has been operated as a part of the City of Gastonia Dept.'s system of parks and playgrounds.

An announcement in May listed the Firestone facility as one of 16 in the city system

that would not operate in summer, because of recreation budget cutbacks. But by mid-June, money was allocated for its operation "as usual."

Three City Recreation employees oversee the playground operation Mondays-Saturdays in daylight hours.

Besides the wading pool as main attraction, there are seesaws, horseshoe pits and swings. On designated days during the season, the supervisory personnel offer crafts instruction.

City Recreation employees for the playground are Ellen Lowery, Audrey Miller and Antwone Camp.



### MANAGER

#### Industrial Relations



• Samuel E. Crawford has been appointed manager of Industrial Relations at the Gastonia plant, the announcement from Philip R. Williams, factory manager. Crawford, who began working in the refreshment service, had been advanced to several assignments since his employment in early 1950.

**IN HIS JOB** as manager of Industrial Relations, he succeeds Ralph F. Johnson who died June 8.

Crawford is a graduate of Clover, S. C. High School and earned a diploma in business administration from Evans College of Commerce, Gastonia.

After two years as a refreshment-service clerk, he took a leave for service in the Air Force. He returned to Firestone in 1954 and soon thereafter was appointed plant protection officer.

After nearly eight years in that assignment he was made employment manager, staying in that job three years. For two years he was Zero Defects co-

ordinator, followed by two more years as waste control manager in Quality Control.

**IN 1971** he was promoted to supervisor of training and employee relations, the assignment he had until May this year, when promoted to assistant manager of Industrial Relations.

Mr. and Mrs. (Eva Nell) Crawford are active members of Linden AR Presbyterian Church, Gastonia. He is an elder and a past president of the men's Bible class.

Crawford is a member of Optimist Club of Firestone and has served on the board of directors.

He is active in Boy Scouts, and in programs of YMCA and United Appeal.

### Savings Bonds

100 PER CENT  
AT BENNETTSVILLE

Firestone people at Bennettsville have completed their 1975 Savings Bonds Campaign with 100 per cent participation of all clock and salaried employees.

Bennettsville has maintained this Bonds-purchase level in campaigns for the past several years.

"We are proud of our employees' achievement in the 'Take Stock in America' program," said Frances Fletcher, who was leader of the Bonds effort. Ms. Fletcher is senior payroll clerk.

Plant manager Edwin E. Fuller and these of the supervisory-management staff were canvassers: O. E. Frye, J. A. Anderson, J. W. Mudd, Henry J. Odom, Lemont F. Williams and M. D. Coleman Jr.

### The Bulletin Board

• In case you didn't notice this on the plant News Center boards in June: "Look out to the Future. It's made of many Today's. The 'Boss of the Universe' has delegated you the job of making the most of it."

