

Oct 1975

The Autumn was so gloriously attired in orange, scarlet, gold and russet brown. . .

Alma Childress Brown

Gastonia North Carolina

# Firestone

## Textiles Company NEWS

Bennettsville South Carolina

Bowling Green • Kentucky

### 27,664

### Suggestions First Nine Months

Employees of the Firestone company turned in 27,664 suggestions in the first nine months of the fiscal year which began last November. That was the greatest number ever turned in during a similar period in Firestone's suggestion program 57-year history.

Number of suggestions up to beginning of August of fiscal 1975 was up nearly 5 per cent over the 26,373 in the same period of 1974.

John T. Cahoon, vice president of personnel and planning, attributed the increased participation to company-wide emphasis on encouraging employees to help find job-related cost reductions.

OF THE NEARLY 28,000 ideas shared, 6,337 were adopted and put to use by the company, resulting in corporate savings amounting to a little more than \$2 million as of late Summer.

Of chemicals and raw materials facilities under diversified

products, Firestone Textiles Company's Bennettsville plant was second in rate of suggestions turned in. People there submitted 496 ideas during the nine-month period.

### 20 SERVICES

### Marlboro UF

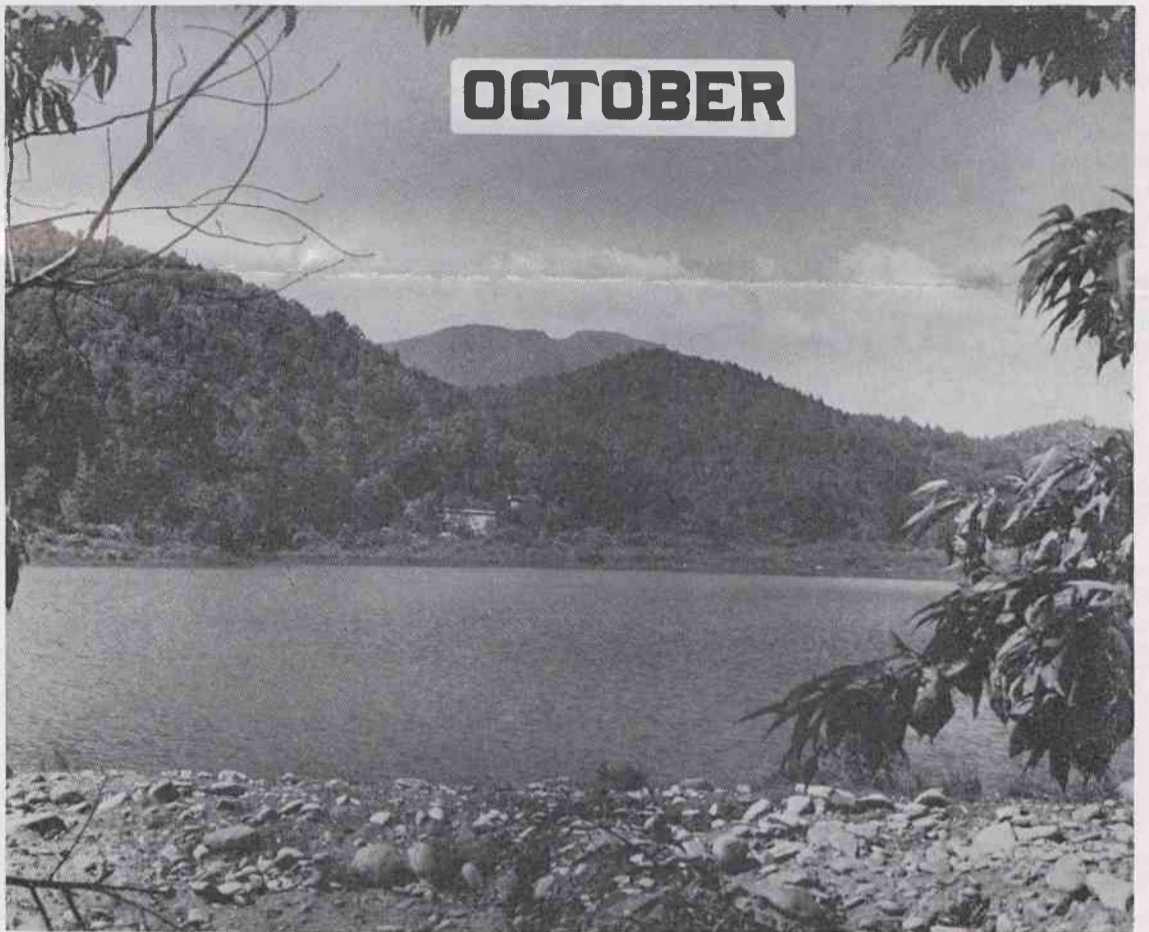
A goal of \$54,000 to aid 20 participating community agencies is being sought in the 1975-76 Marlboro County (SC) United Fund Drive. The funding program began Sept. 29.

Firestone, Bennettsville, plant manager Edwin E. Fuller was 1974-75 president of the Marlboro County UF, and this year is co-assistant in the county effort with the Industrial Division.

The Bennettsville plant is aiming for 100 per-cent participation and Fair Share contributions. Employees have been 100 per-cent participants for a number of years. Last year, 74 per cent were Fair Share contributors.

Chairing the current plant UF campaign are Frances Fletcher, senior clerk in Payroll; Ezra W. Perkins, Department manager; M. D. Coleman, Laboratory and Safety supervisor.

ed others for the programmed tour by bus. It was Carl's first trip of this kind, but Nellie's second. In Summer of 1974 she went on a bus tour of New England and Nova Scotia.



### Autumn Hills

In the processional of seasons, the great wheel of Earth has turned and from now until Dec. 22, it will be tilted away from the sun. Each day will become shorter and each night longer until just before Christmas (Winter solstice) when days once again begin lengthening toward Spring.

•• Along NC 105, looking toward Grandfather Mountain, Sugar Mountain and Hanging Rock. Hiking and walking trails, footpaths and backroads lead through forested areas, to lakes,

waterfalls, overlooks and bluffs. Grandfather Mountain's Callo-way Peak is highest point in the Blue Ridge range of Southern Appalachians.

Firestone News Photo.

### Wish You Could Have Gone Along

Nellie and Carl Stowe Sr. returned home to Gastonia in mid-September from a 10-day group tour which took them through the eastern Midwest and on to the North Country of Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Their "farthest-up" stop was at the Dells of the Wisconsin (River) which has cut a gorge through sandstone and carved it into caves, pinnacles and curious shapes beautifully-colored.

The touring group saw a lot of other interesting things along the way.

Mrs. Stowe is retired from Industrial Relations of Firestone, Gastonia. Mr. Stowe is a retired electrical contractor. They join-



### They're Generous With 'Life'

•• Donors with one gallon or more blood given through collections at the Firestone Bennettsville plant. Front (from left): Otis W. Frye, shift foreman; Lemont F. Williams, Maintenance foreman; George Woodberry, Section supervisor; and Back (from left): Jasper M.

Driggers, Supply clerk; Benny L. Hendrix, Maintenance mechanic; William Ainsworth, weaver.

Plant manager Edwin E. Fuller presented each of these donors a sterling silver Cross pencil as a token of their one-gallon contributions. M. D. Coleman, Safety supervisor, has donated more than a gallon of blood to the American Red Cross Blood-bank.

### RETIRED

George Davis was "done for good" with changing bobbins on frames in TC Twisting in late Summer. His retirement as of Aug. 1 put him on record with 32 years and 6 months company service — all of it with Firestone's Gastonia plant.

Sermon topic listed on Charlotte church bulletin board: "The Filling That Makes the Pie."

### Your UW Gift To 32 Agencies

The Firestone (Gastonia) United Way funds solicitation which started Oct. 6 will be completed by Oct. 23. Beginning of the employees' giving to Gaston County United Way was moved up from the originally-planned Sept. 29 date.

Firestone people are sharing in the county-wide campaign to raise \$742,000 toward operation of 32 participating community services.

Clyde Thomasson, shift foreman in TC Weaving; and Thomas A. Grant, manager of Industrial Engineering, are campaign chairmen. Several dozen volunteer workers are helping.

Firestone is aiming for 100 per cent participation, with as many Fair Share contri-

butions as possible. As in past years, the company is sponsoring prizes to go to Fair Share givers. The prizes, which have been on display in the factory main entrance since Oct. 2, will be awarded Oct. 30.

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### Eight Services 22 Years Ago

In 1953 the first Firestone (Gastonia) Employees' Community Fund for Charities raised \$11,696.42. The campaign conducted during January that year had general plant superintendent Nelson Kessell as chairman. Mr. Kessell has been retired a number of years.

The consolidation of all charity drives in 1953 introduced the innovative practice of payroll deduction on contributions, although cash gifts were accepted.

THAT FIRST United Way-type drive received gifts for support of eight agencies listed on the pledge card—Salvation Army, Cancer Fund, American Red Cross, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Heart Foundation, March of Dimes and U.S.O.

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### 'Firestone Around The World'

"Generations in Speed" and "21 Days in May," both on the Indianapolis 500 auto race, have been added to the stock of 16-mm films collection in the Gastonia plant Industrial Relations office.

"21 Days" is the 1974 "500" race filmed history marking the end of Firestone's participation in the Indy competition over more than a half century.

These and the other films in the IR library stock are available free for showing to civic clubs and other group meetings.

Many of the films on file and still more that can be ordered are supplied through Associa-

tion-Sterling Films which distributes the sound-sight productions on a free-loan basis.

ONE NEW catalog of these A-S films, "Cinema 76" has more than 40 titles on business, industry and economics. Among the titles is "Firestone Around the World" which will be available after Nov. 1 this year.

This 28-minute color production presents the company and its people, jobs, quality products, inventories, stockholders, customers, corporate responsibility, environmental engineering, youth programs and community involvement, in a

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