

Firestone

APRIL • 1977

Textiles Company NEWS

Gastonia
North Carolina

Bennettsville
South Carolina

Bowling Green
Kentucky

So, COLA Helps A Little

What it costs to live just keeps going up. The latest (February) report shows it had climbed another percentage point. The way it's been going: A representative outlay of goods and services in 1967 (a reckoning-point year) that cost \$100, today costs \$177.10.

So, COLA (Cost Of Living Allowance) is here, as a way of helping Firestone People keep pace with inflation.

"Be glad you're getting it. But also be concerned that you're having to receive it," said James B. Call. The Firestone Textiles Company president was speaking of COLA "pass-through-pocket money" in a series of employee meetings in March. COLA pay dates from April 1, 1977.

Added to a person's basic earnings, COLA is figured on the U.S. Department of Labor's current CPI (Consumer Price Index). The pay it represents is subject to withholding taxes, Social Security takeout, etc., just like all other income.

Student Tour

Fourth and 6th grade students of Marlboro Academy visited the Bennettsville plant March 14, accompanied by Mrs. B. W. Anderson, 6th grade teacher; and Ron Evans, athletic coach and economics teacher.

Plant manager C. W. Smith talked briefly on tire cord fabric before the group went on a tour of plant and facility. Guides were several members of plant management. The visitors were served refreshments at a question-answer session.



Working Up High

• William A. (Bud) Wentz (left) of Shop helped Industrial

Piping workmen connect the first of two discharge stacks of No. 8 fabric-treating unit. Then one of the Industrial men attached drain pipes.

'Smog Hog' In & Going

• Installation of new pollution-abatement equipment of Gastonia No. 8 Treating Unit was completed in March with placing of two discharge stacks. Testing and limited operation of the system had begun in January.

Major "working part" of the cleaning equipment, trademarked "Smog Hog," was manufactured by United Air Specialists of Cincinnati and installed by Industrial Piping of Charlotte-Pineville, N. C. Some sub-contractors helped in the project.

Precipitators (or pollution-collecting units) work on the principle, for example, of a static-charged comb that picks up bits of paper "like a magnet." Or like a stroked balloon that clings

to a windowpane.

E. H. (Chip) Hurst, plant projects engineer, explains that the Hog electrically charges objectionable particles (mostly in smoke form) as it comes from the unit ovens. This way, the particulates are gathered on thousands of vertical plates for removal and disposal, before they reach the environment.

THE LARGE down-pipe that brings discharges from the unit to the precipitator cools the hot gases before they enter the cleaner.

Discharge stacks release heat and water in vapor (steam). This is what emits from the stacks when atmospheric conditions allow vapor formation. Caps of the stacks condense, collect and drain much of the vapor. On a bright warm day, there would be little or no steam showing "at the top," Hurst said.

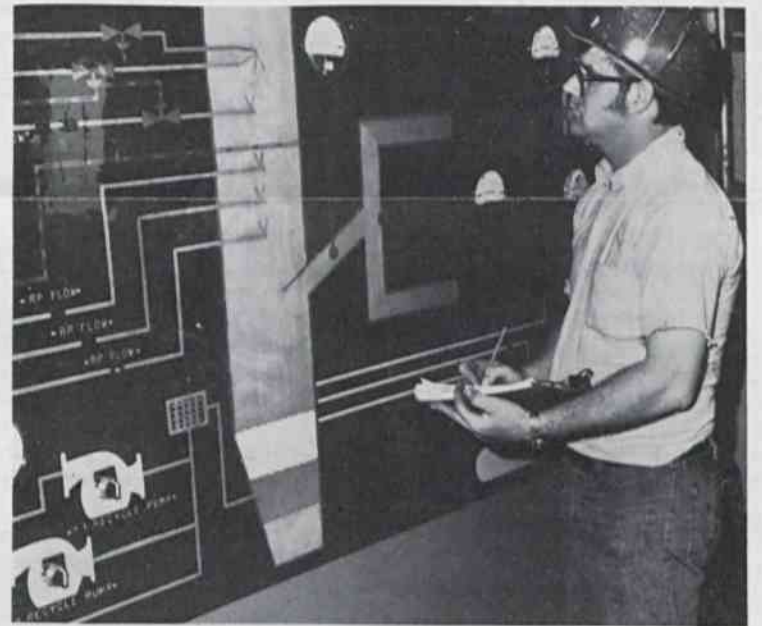
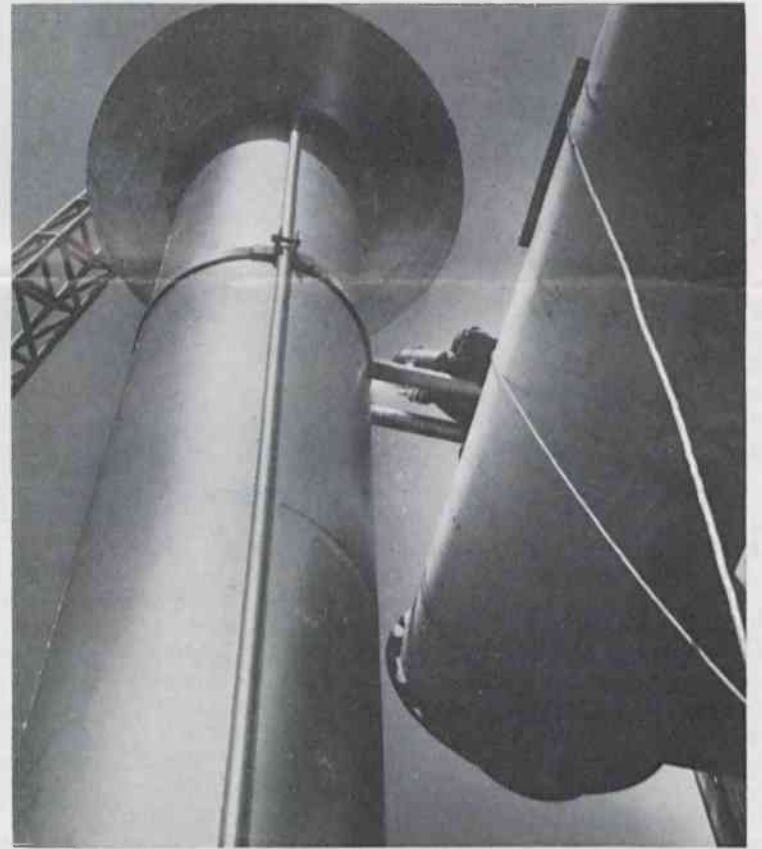
Scout Notes

The annual Scout Exposition for the Bennettsville (SC) area will be held at the Florence fairgrounds April 29 and 30.

Scouting units are being encouraged to step up participation in the "Save Our American Resources" projects, particularly in April.

At Camp Coker there will be a troop leader development course June 5-10. Scoutmasters will send senior patrol leaders or assistant patrol leaders for this training. Explorer Olympics for youth 15-21 years will be May 13 and 14.

Firestone Textiles sponsors Boy Scout Troop 631 of Bennettsville.



Bud Wentz, pollution control technician, regularly monitors No. 8 panel inside top of unit. Schematic on panel shows whole emissions-cleaning process; gauges and other indicators tell air and water pressures and flow rate.

'Radials Roll More Freely...'

• Even though radials cost about one-third more than bias-belted tires the highway motorist can expect "the money's worth": At least 33 percent better mileage from the radials. Reason: Radials roll more freely than other type tires and that means less gas used.

These facts are from a recent report on automotive operating costs issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The study learned that replacement tires cost less than one-half cent per mile over the 10-year life of an automobile.

Radial tires can mean 5 to 7 percent more gas mileage than with bias-ply tires in over-the-road passenger-car driving, said the DOT report. It agrees with Firestone's tire development findings that radials save on gas and 'wear and tear.' So, the

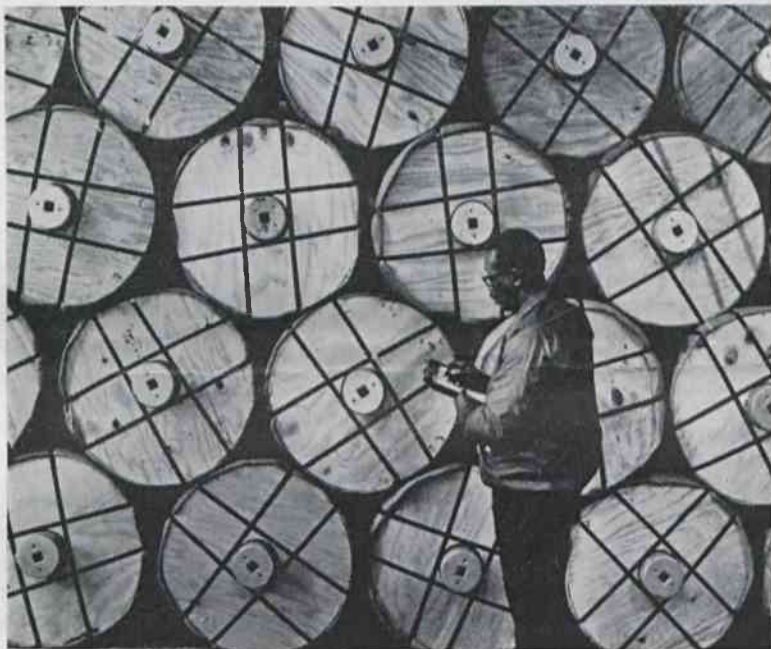
added tire mileage and reduction in gas use make the radial an economical investment.

DOT says that of a car's operating costs, depreciation, repair and maintenance, parking, gasoline and insurance are the highest. Only oil and accessories—such as floor mats and seat covers—rank lower than tires on a cost-per-mile basis.

Plant Visitors

Members of the Southcentral Kentucky section of American Society for Quality Control toured the Bowling Green Firestone Textiles facility, following a dinner meeting at Greenwood Holiday Inn in March.

Plant manager Thomas Yelton explained to the visitors "what goes on" in tire-fabric production.



EXPORTS

•• A growing volume of tire fabric is shipped from Gastonia Firestone Textiles Company to outside-U.S. Firestone tire plants and other customers. During last fiscal year Gastonia exported more than 11 million pounds fabric, most of this going to Bra-

zil, Canada, Chile, Kenya, Ghana, Uruguay, Venezuela and New Zealand.

Of the textiles division's three domestic plants, Gastonia is major exporter. Here, shipping supervisor George Jackson Jr. made an inventory check of beams ready for overseas travel.