

CHECK For a picture, this huge 'check' was presented to suggester BIG McDaniels (middle) by Firestone Textiles Company president James B. Call (left). With them was BG plant manager Thomas Yelton.

## \$5,870 For Suggestion

• Largest award paid in The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company for the 1976-77 fiscal year up to late May went to Harry McDaniels of Firestone Textiles Company's Bowling Green (Ky.) plant.

The \$5,870 payoff is the largest ever for all three U.S. plants of the textiles division—Bowling Green, Gastonia

(NC) and Bennettsville (SC).

McDaniels' idea will effect an estimated annual savings of \$59,000 for the company. His suggestion provided a modification to the supply system of Utex ply twister machines, resulting in extensive waste reduction.

McDaniels has been employed at Bowling Green since March of 1969. He worked in Weaving and Fabric Treating departments before his present job as strobotac operator in Quality Control.

#### THREE \$20 Million Paid

Almost \$20 million. The amount that Firestone Textiles Company added last year to the economies of its three U.S. plant communities.

Adding the largest amount was Gastonia (NC) (headquarters of the division): \$12 million. The company's 1,261 factory and office people earned \$10.3 in wages and salaries during 1976.

puring last year the plant processed more than 75 million pounds of textiles, shipped throughout the United States and to several other countries. The company spent \$1.7 million for goods and services in the Gastonia area.

The Bowling Green (Ky.) plant put more than \$6 million into the economy there in 1976.

The 738 employees earned \$5.8 million in wages and salaries during the year, and the company spent nearly \$500,000 for goods and services in the Bowling Green area. It processed almost 52 million pounds tire fabric which was shipped principally to U.S. central states.

The Bennettsville (SC) operation added in excess of \$1.4 million to the economy there last year. Employees earned \$1.1 million in wages and salaries during the year. The company spent about \$360,000 for goods and services in the Bennettsville area.

Bennettsville's 1976 production volume: 16 million pounds textiles processed, shipped principally to North Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee.





• A new \$3-million warehouse complex will replace the two rows of aging warehouse behind the Gastonia Firestone mill. Costs include purchase of nine houses and lots on the side of Third Avenue opposite existing warehouses.

Construction is planned to begin in early July. The new facility will extend from near Fourth Avenue, include Third and the space now occupied by the old warehouses.

#### From Page 1 Tuition Refund Helps Your Learning

which would contribute to a more satisfying and fulfilling retirement. Those within five years of normal retirement age will not be reimbursed for courses taken for the purpose of earning a college or university degree before their normal retirement.

For reimbursement, make application in writing by the end of the second week of each school term. To get company reimbursement, submit at the end of each school term proof that you have paid your school tuition and show a record of subjects satisfactorily completed.

"Satisfactory completion" means the grade for a course is "C" or better (letter grade system) or "Pass" (Pass/fail sys-

The studying you can do under the Tuition Refund Program includes courses in the public school system, undergraduate and graduate study in colleges

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and universities; and instructyourself programs.

Information and application materials for Tuition Refund Program study are available

from the training coordinator or industrial relations department of all three Firestone Textiles Company plants—Gastonia, Bennettsville and Bowling Green.

# 'Finis' To Five Careers

•• When D. Ray Thomas 'closed out' his career in textiles on May 31, he had devoted 41 years, 11 months and 25 days to Firestone. He had been supervisor-controlled maintenance at Gastonia, but earlier was in a number of job assignments.

Henry Boyd, Shop millwright, but for many years in the canteen service, retired at the end of May with 41 years and 6 months. Ray, Henry, and the three others whose retirement began June 1, spent all their employment years at the Gastonia plant.

Dorcas E. Sutton, respooler operator in TC Twisting, finished with 36 years and 11 months. Vincent Jones, twister bobbin changer in TC Twisting, put 24 years and 2 months on his record.

Roy Marr, twister bobbin changer in TC Twisting, also has 24 years and 2 months service.

Two of those who retired May 31 have a family member continuing to work at Gastonia: Vincent Jones (wife Irmgard, QC inspector in TC Twisting); and Dorcas Sutton (husband Jack, frame mechanic in TC Twisting).

### Hoss-Tradin'? See You In Owingsville FOR FU ADVENT

"Travel's something good you give to yourself," remarked a millwright who goes with his family "seeing the country near and far." They'd just returned from a camping trip to the NC Outer Banks and stopped by Seagrove on the way home, to visit the Pottery Museum.

Firestone News offers in this usual 'corner' some notes on events and places in the Carolinas and Kentucky, June and early July.

NC: Rhododendron, Mountain Singing & A Wagon Train ● One of the State's most interesting events is the National Hollering Contest with all the attendant 'color' at Spivey's Corner, June 18.

Mid-June through August, Wilmington has music, dance and drama in "Monday Nights in the Park." Other events in June: Sailing Regatta, Henderson, 18-19; Mount Pilot Bluegrass Festival, Pinnacle, 22-25; NC Rhododendron Festival, Bakersville, 22-25; Bluegrass Festival, Coats, 23-25; Pirate Invasion re-enactment, Beaufort, 24-25; Oldtime Railroaders Day, Blowing Rock, 25.

More: State Singing Convention, Benson, 25-26; Singing on the Mountain, Linville, 26; Blue Ridge Wagon Train, North Wilkesboro to West Jefferson, 26-July 4. July 4th Celebration, Waynesville, 27-July 4.

"Strike at the Wind," outdoor drama of Lumbee Indians, Pembroke, 30-Aug. 13. Other outdoor drama beginning mid-June: "The Lost Colony," Manteo; "Unto These Hills," Cherokee; "Horn in the West," Boone.

NC: Early July—Antiques Fair Fleamarket, Blowing Rock, 2; Threshers' Reunion, Denton, 2-4; July Fourth celebrations at Belhaven, Blowing Rock, Raleigh, Faith, Winston-Salem, Fontana, Banner Elk, Morganton, Cary, Clemmons, Wake Forest.

Squaredance Festival, Highlands, 5-7; Coon Dog Day, Saluda, 9; Highland Games on Grandfather Mountain, 9-10; Crafts Fair, Morehead City, 9-10; Oldtimers Reunion, Climax, 9-10; Craftsman's Fair of Southern Highlands, Asheville, 11-15.

SC: Watermelon Festival. Open House & Hillbilly Day • Watermelon Festival, Hampton-Varnville, June 20-26, has lots of 'color.' Trenton's Ridge Peach Festival is 17-18; the SC Cinderella Girl Pageant, Due West, 22-24; Arthur Mideleton Day, Charleston, 26; "Starving Artists'" Sale, Seneca, 26.

SC: Early July—'Fourth' Celebration at Charles Towne Landing, 2-4; American Days, Landrum, 4; Peach Festival, Gilbert, 4; Old-Fashioned 'Fourth', Aiken, 4; Weekend Festival, Williston, 14-17.

Ky.: Outdoor Drama, Early Fairs & Hoss Tradin' • Woodford County Horse Show, Versailles, is June 15-18; Salt River Canoe Race, Shepherds-ville, 18-19. The National Mountain Style Square-dance Festival at Slade, 17-18; Antique Auto Show, Midway, 18.

Morehead has a Crafts Exhibit, 19-July 15; Trading Days, Booneville, 22-29; Afrikan Heritage, Louisville, 25-26; Morgan Horse Show, Louisville, 23-24; Singing on the Lakes at Gilbertsville, 30-July 2; Antiques Festival, Lexington, 29-July 2.

OUTDOOR DRAMA beginning in June: "Stephen Foster Story," Bardstown; "Legend of Daniel Boone," Harrodsburg; "Wilderness Road," Berea; "Book of Job," Pineville; "Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," Van.

Ky.: Early July—Hoss Tradin' Day, Owingsville, 2; Sidewalk Sale, Lebanon, 14-15. Early Ky. Fairs this month: New Castle, 1-9; Winchester, 5-9; Cynthia & Sturgis, 11-16.

Paris has the Oldtimers Steam & Gas Engine Show, July 8-10. "Some Place Special": My Old Kentucky Home at Bardstown, extensively refurbished, has guided tours daily with extra tours evenings, June 11-Sept. 4 season of drama "Stephen Foster Story."

FIRESTONE TEXTILES

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