



**Firestone**  
Textiles Company  
**NEWS**

**November**

Gastonia  
North Carolina

NOVEMBER  
1977

Bennettsville  
South Carolina

Bowling Green  
Kentucky

*Firestone people at the  
Gastonia Plant made pledges of  
\$40,796.25 in the  
October United Appeal Campaign*

This amount is among the larger group contributions in the Gaston County United Appeal effort toward the goal of \$888,000 for the 1978 operation of "helping people" services.

There were 1,070 contributors—or 91 per cent participation of the employment. "Fair Share" gifts reached 673. Contributions averaged \$34.81.

This year the UW in-plant solicitation was conducted in October, with Ralph Reep, shift foreman in TC Weaving; and James G. Burr, engineer in Industrial Engineering, as chairmen of the campaign.

Helping them were many volunteers from most departments of the plant, warehouse and service units.

IN THE county-wide United Appeal campaign, factory manager Philip R. Williams Jr. was volunteer chairman in the in-

dustrial division. Helping him were Thomas A. Grant, manager of Industrial Engineering; S.E. Crawford, manager of Industrial Relations; E. H. Passmore, plant safety engineer.

The United Appeal service area includes all of Gaston County except Belmont, McAdenville and Bessemer City—communities which have United Fund programs of their own.

Since quite a few Firestone people live in these and other communities, some give at the plant as well as in their home towns. Among others of such employee towns are York and Clover in South Carolina; Lincolnton, Kings Mountain and Shelby in North Carolina.

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**IN TEXTILES...**

The U.S. textile industry is made up of some 6,000 companies operating 7,000 plants concentrated in the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic areas. As of July this year, the industry was employing a million people—54 per cent men and 46 per cent women.

Major producing states are North Carolina (first) and (in order) South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama.

These are some statistics from "Textile Facts," a booklet published this fall by American Textile Manufacturers Institute for its members and others interested in the textile industry.

The wallet-card-size booklet has basic statistics on sales volume, number of employees, geographic distribution, fiber consumption, profits, and others. It also contains summary descriptions of industry positions on imports, occupational areas such as cotton dust, noise, flammability, energy use and water preservation.

**P. O. Box  
616**

"Firestone Tire Cord Fabric, Bennettsville, S.C. USA," the letter was addressed. The request in September from Krakow, Poland, was for complimentary advertising items. Wrote Jan Katana:

"I am collecting various advertising items (decals, badges, patch jacket emblems, tab embroidery, key-ring holders, ashtrays, ballpoint pens, calendars, postcard folders, etc.) and have a large collection now.

"Would you please send me a set of your advertising materials and list addresses of your branches or companies?"

"Already now thank you very much and please do reply to me."

Jan's request was forwarded from Bennettsville to Gastonia. The personnel department replied, sending a tire-replica key ring, windshield ice scraper, ballpoint pen, book-match cover and a knit shirt imprinted with "Ask a Friend . . . Firestone."

**Get Involved For 'A Better Life'**

"Don't Walk Away—It's Yours" was the subject when Charles Hagel spoke Oct. 11 in Bennettsville, S.C. The associate manager of government affairs for the Firestone company in Washington, D.C., addressed salaried personnel at the Ben-

nettville plant and spoke at meetings of the Kiwanis and Rotary clubs.

Hagel talked about legislation before Congress, and how citi-

zen and corporate involvement in government affairs can help to bring about "a better life for us all." He concluded: "We're embarked on a great adventure—stand up to it. Do your part. It's an exciting time to live. Don't walk away—it's yours!"

Before joining Firestone earlier this year, Hagel served as administrative assistant to John Y. McCollister during McCollister's three terms as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. McCollister is now manager of government affairs for Firestone.

Hagel was a radio and TV newsman in Omaha, Neb., before going to Washington in 1971. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska; is a graduate of Brown Institute for Radio and Television in Minneapolis.



Charles Hagel

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**BG 'Long Years'**

Two at Bowling Green recently observed long service anniversaries. Jesse Liles, 35 years, is a foreman of special projects in Weaving. Sarah T. Crisp, 30

years, is training instructor in Cable Twisting.

Jesse and Sarah worked many years at the Gastonia plant before going to Bowling Green. So did Sarah's husband, J.C., now retired. Sarah and J.C. live at Smiths Grove, Ky.

**Track  
Down  
8  
Feet**

Southern  
Railway  
service  
track to  
Firestone

will be lowered approximately 8 feet, as part of the new-warehouse project now underway at Gastonia, and scheduled to be completed by late



next summer. The lowered railroad will extend inside the new structure at the side nearest Vance Street.