

APRIL
1978

• Closeup of a "rick" of wooden shell rolls at Firestone Gastonia Warehouse. Metal-ferrule ends allow rolls to "work right" on take-up and let-off stand; protect from splintering and wear. Main use of wooden rolls is for transferring fabric from looms to treating unit. Out of treating, fabric is wound on-to steel shells for shipping to tire plants.

Firestone Textiles Company

Gastonia, North Carolina

Bennettsville Bowling Green

South Carolina Kentucky



Help For Older Adults Through GCO/A

There is a growing awareness of the challenges and opportunities facing our senior citizens today. Elaine M. Handley, director of Gaston County Office on Aging, says the service seeks to assist Gaston County's older adults, so they may live as independently as possible while maintaining a higher standard of living in their own homes.

"To reach as many of those who may benefit from Office on Aging services, we are sharing information through as many sources as we can," says Ms. Handley. She points out:

THE OFFICE on Aging is a clearinghouse of information for and about older adults. Too, the Office provides help in planning and coordinating programs for older adults. A number of direct services are provided to people 60 years and older. These include information and referral, outreach, counseling, senior citizens discounts, in-home services, volunteer opportunities, Congregate Meals, Meals on Wheels, transportation, and Senior Community Service Programs.

The Office publishes a newsletter, **COMING OF AGE**, received by some 3,000 older adults by direct mail. The newsletter is also distributed to local

more on page 4

\$25 Million Last Year

Operations of Firestone Textiles Company added \$25 million to the economy of its 3 U.S. plant communities in 1977. Division president James B. Call points to these figures for last year:

• **GASTONIA**—More than \$14.6 million paid. Of this, about \$12.6 to 1,170 employees' wages and salaries, and nearly \$2 million more for local goods and services.

• **BOWLING GREEN**—More than \$8.6 million total. About \$7.7 paid to 700 employees, and approximately \$900,000 for local goods and services.

• **BENNETTSVILLE**—More than \$1.8 million paid out. Wages and salaries paid to about 130 workers amounted to more than \$1.2 million, while the company spent about \$600,000 on local goods and services.

Clocks Go 'Fast'

This Month

Clocks go forward 1 hour to Daylight Saving Time at 2 a.m., Sunday, April 30. For those who won't be awake at that time, set clocks and watches up before going to bed Saturday night.

Daylight Time is a provision of the Uniform Time Act of 1966. "Fast" Time "runs" to the last Sunday in October. Although it's called Uniform Time Act, all of the U. S. is not uniform about "keeping" it. The few exceptions are some U. S. territories, a state or so, and several counties that have by local law, exempted themselves from Daylight Time.

AT THREE PLANTS: APRIL-JULY

Safety Promotion

• A division-wide promotion to emphasize the safety program and identify Firestone with our employees and the community, will continue through July at Gastonia, Bennettsville and Bowling Green. Main features of the program which began April 10:

• A Safety Slogan contest, April 10-May 5. Prizes are a \$25 U.S. Savings Bond and a Firestone-design T-Shirt.

• The Firestone T-Shirts presented to all employees who submit a suggestion or suggestions on safety subjects between

Carol Gunter shows front of shirt. This sample is too big for her, but shirts are soon to be available in all sizes. Carol is a respooler operator in TC Twisting. Other photo is back of shirt. Plant Safety engineer E.W. Passmore who designed the shirt, says it may be available later in red on white (initial) order placed for white on red).

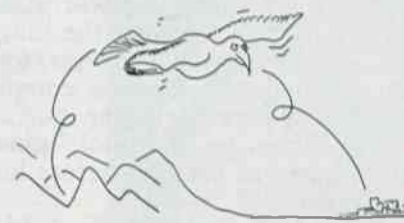


June 1 and July 31. One shirt per employee regardless of number of ideas submitted.

Beginning Aug. 1, the shirts will be stocked in Supply at all 3 plants, for sale to employees at cost (about \$2.45). The shirt, designed by Gastonia plant safety engineer E. W. Passmore, is produced by a Gastonia-owned company. They are supplied in all sizes—small, medium, and extra large.

To select the winning safety slogan at the 3 plants, a special contest committee has been established. At each place, the committee is made up of the safety engineer and 1 other salaried employee and 1 hourly-paid employee representative from each department.

Back in January, a dark blue and white-breasted carrier pigeon appeared at the Gastonia plant pipe shop, in and out and staying about 4 weeks. Early in its sojourn, it flew into a forklift and injured a wing. Employees in the pipe shop helped it along to recovery.



At month's end, an insurance adjustor was leaving the plant for Boone, about 85 miles away. Horace Hughes, lead pipefitter, suggested that he take the pigeon along and set it free up there, "to see if it'd make its way back."

Traveler and pigeon got stalled in the snow at Lenoir, 60 miles up the road. The bird went free, and by next day Hughes saw it perched on the pipe rack behind the mill. It moved into the maintenance shop for a few more days. Then it flew away and didn't return.

Scholarship Winners In May

Announcement of winners in the 1978 Firestone College Scholarship Program is expected around May 15—a month later than the announcement for the past several years.

Closing date for high-school seniors' scholarship applications this year was moved from March 1 to April 1, to give more time for students to complete test scores. More time was needed because unusually severe weather in several sections of the country caused cancellation of some SAT test dates. These tests were rescheduled during March.