



# Firestone

Textiles  
Company

NEWS

Gastonia  
North Carolina  
Bowling Green  
Kentucky

Bennettsville  
South Carolina

## CLUB MEMBERS TO SC COAST

Members of Loray Senior Citizens Club of Gastonia went on their late-summer trip to Myrtle Beach and Charleston, S. C., in early September. They traveled in the Loray Baptist Church activities bus. The church, in the Firestone community, sponsors the group which has a goodly number of Firestone retired people in the club membership.

On the 3-day trip, travelers "took in" sand-surf and amusements at the Beach, went by Murrells Inlet fishing village and on to historic Charleston. There, they visited landscaped gardens, parks, and many more places of interest—The Battery, Catfish Row, old buildings and other landmarks.

## Films In Schools: A Commendation

Gaston is among the counties of Firestone plant locations receiving company-sponsored Screen News Digest Films for use in public junior and senior high schools. During the last school year there were 6 Screen News documentaries on U. S. history, social issues, government, technology and other subjects.

Textiles division president James B. Call last month received a letter commending the film program. This from the letter by Jerry Bostic, social studies supervisor of Gaston County schools:

"Speaking as a social studies teacher in Gaston schools for more than a decade, I and my peers consider the contribution of these films considerable and appropriate. Topics were suitable in many areas of our Social Studies curriculum, particularly our World Studies as well as our U. S. Studies courses at the senior level. . . .

"I as well as other educators in the County system appreciate and applaud the generous interest shown by you and your firm."

At The Year's Turning • Summer's leaving regretfully and Autumn's at hand. That's September—golden month of mellow sunlight, but with first hints of Winter on days that are chilly at the 'edges.' And things like ripened pokeberries and rustling grasses along a country fence—this one by the wayside in Watauga County, N. C. Firestone News photo.

## FIRESTONE CAMPAIGN TO LATE SEPTEMBER

# United Way-Gaston

•• Final report date is September 26 for the 1978-79 Firestone Textiles in-plant United Way campaign which began September 5. The plant UW solicitation is a month earlier than in past years.

Firestone people's participation is a major part of United Way of Gaston County's effort to reach a goal of \$1 million to finance health, welfare, recreation and other community services during 1979.

Honorary chairman of the County campaign is Buddy Baker, NASCAR racing driver, who volunteered to promote the local funding program. His winnings on the NASCAR circuit are about the same as this year's United Way goal.

At Firestone the campaign aims for 100 percent participation and everyone giv-

ing Fair Share. Leading the program are Max Graham Jr., employment interviewer in Industrial Relations; and James G. Burr, junior engineer in Industrial Engineering. Helping them are other volunteers in all departments.

Firestone people at the other 2 U.S. plants of the Textiles Division have beginning-in-October community-service funding campaigns. At Bennettsville, they contribute through the United Fund of Bennettsville and Marlboro County (S. C.); and at Bowling Green, United Way of Bowling Green and Warren County (Ky.)



•• A Gastonia Farmers Market in business Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays is located at Marietta Street and Airline Avenue. One of the market's

regulars selling the season's harvest is retired Firestone Textiles groundskeeper Frank Sparrow (left in right photo).

Visiting with him was Reid Crouch, a former Firestone employee at Gastonia for some 10

## 'Salute To Textiles'

An award shared by Firestone Textiles, Gastonia, has been displayed since last year in plant First Aid. The "Salute to Textiles", came from 18 chambers of commerce in Mecklenburg and 11 other area counties in North and South Carolina.

The Salute to the textile industry is for "its longtime contribution to the economies of North and South Carolina."

Prominence and impact of textiles in and on the economies of the Carolinas is impressive. The industry employs 1 out of 20 persons now employed in manufacturing in the U.S. The textile segment of manufacturing in the Carolinas is much greater—some 32 percent.

Within a 100-mile radius of Charlotte, about 40 percent of all U.S. textile workers are employed. Gaston and Cabarrus counties have first and second-highest percentage of textile workers per capita among all counties in the nation.

Firestone Textiles' Gastonia operation put upwards of \$15 million into the area economy



ADAMS with "Salute" plaque. She is a cleaner in sanitation service of Shop.

last year. More than \$12.6 million was paid to about 1,170 employees and nearly \$2 million was spent for local goods and services.



## Harvest Of Summer

years. Reid's wife Nora is retired with 36 years service.

Frank's brother, Fred Sparrow, retired last year with 26 years at Gastonia. During Frank's more than 35 years with Firestone he continued to op-

erate his Route 3 farm, back then with the help of sons and daughters.

These days, Frank and Mrs. Sparrow work fulltime with the crops and animals, including 18 head of cattle this summer.