

September, 1980

Gastonia
North Carolina

Firestone textiles COMPANY NEWS

Bennettsville
South Carolina

Bowling Green, Kentucky

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NC gas plan: Your comments invited

• Many of us have heard about the Emergency Energy Conservation Act of 1979, the legal basis for the President's gas-rationing plan. Under this act, gas rationing can become a reality when gasoline supplies fall short of projected demand by 20 percent.

Of course, there can be serious consequences due to smaller shortages and under this Act each state must develop plans to conserve and distribute gasoline supplies when the shortage is less than 20 percent. North Carolina had proposed a plan and is asking for public comments.

AS GAS LINES become longer and more frequent during a shortage, North Carolina proposes to implement more of the following steps. For a mild shortage:

1. Increase enforcement of the 55 MPH speed limit. (Nationwide, approximately 50 percent of interstate drivers exceed 55 MPH).
2. Implement an extensive public information campaign to promote conservation.
3. Ask employers to voluntarily replace company-provided free parking with standardized parking rates. Carpools would receive reduced rates.
4. Encourage measures which increase gas mileage by promoting engine tune-ups, proper tire pressure, front-end alignment, etc. during annual vehicle inspections.
5. Improve traffic flow by replacing some stop signs with yield signs, removing unwarranted traffic signals, etc.
6. Require a minimum purchase of \$5 for 4 to 6-cylinder vehicles and \$7 for 8-cylinder vehicles.
7. Allow gas purchases only on every other day by using the odd/even tag system (that is to say, License numbers ending in an even number could buy gas only on even calendar days.)
8. Employers could have to compress their work week or increase the number of people riding to work in each vehicle (carpooling, employer-provided bus, etc.). For a severe shortage:
9. All vehicles in a household or business could not be driven for one day each week. A sticker would have to be displayed showing which day the vehicle could not be driven.
10. Limit schools to a 4-day week.

What do you think of these measures? Do you have other and better suggestions? Write the Energy Division, N. C. Department of Commerce, Box 25249, Raleigh, N. C. 27611, before October 3, 1980.

Suggestions: Look around, think & figure

In September 142 years ago, Ephraim Morris of Bloomfield, N. J., was credited for having invented the first workable mechanical railroad-car brake. A breakthrough. John McTammany of Cambridge, Mass., patented the player piano in September of 1867. And G. K. Anderson of Memphis, Tenn., patented the typewriter ribbon in September, 1886.

Think what great contributions these developed ideas have become.

And how about your ideas conceived of experience and observation at work? Even the simplest and most obvious may have been overlooked. Like, for example, one Gastonia Firestone employee recently had an approved suggestion that said: "Do away with the lights that are no longer needed on the unused loading dock."

Look around. Think and figure. Describe your ideas on Suggestion blanks always conveniently located at or near your workplace. Share your ideas. Approved, they can make a "big difference for the better." And you'll be paid for them.

Every person should believe in something. I believe I'll go fishing. —Henry David Thoreau

THE FABRIC'S VITAL

Since late 1979, the tire industry has been concentrating major production developments on helping motorists and auto manufacturers meet goals of getting the most work/travel from a gallon of fuel. This "tires rolling smoother" emphasis will go to 1985.

Design engineers at Firestone and other manufacturers are helping to improve fuel mileage by designing tires to roll more easily on roads and highways. It means that a vehicle can travel a given distance on less fuel.

Cutting down on tire weight is another saving factor. Engineers say that areas to work in at cutting rolling resistance are: Types of construction, tire air pressure, tread

'Tires rolling smoother'

compounds, and components inside tires. This includes quality fabric reinforcements as a vital part.

RADIAL TIRES can improve mileage by as much as 10 percent compared with conventional bias tires at steady highway speeds. Company engineers expect that radials will be developed that allow higher air pressures.

Firestone has been working with various tread compounds

to learn of rolling resistance, and is refining the internal components so they help cut down rolling resistance.

The radial will continue the major tire for many years, predicts John D. Kelley, Firestone's tire development director. He said "We see no drastic changes in tire types over the next decade. There will be a number of tire developments, most of which will center on refinements of the basic radial tire."

Recent Deaths—Gastonia • Mausby E. Hyleman, 73, retired Firestone Textiles doffer; had 35 years and 6 months company service. Emory McDaniel, 73, retired Shop millwright; had 20 years service.

Firestone Textiles-Bennettsville is donating the use of its activities building as a site for the Marlboro County Council on Aging nutritional program.

FIRESTONE BUILDING 40 hot meals

The building, next to the Firestone plant on State Street, has been the nutritional site since June 20. Having use of the spacious building is making it possible for the Council on Aging to serve more people than in the past.

Each week, some 40 hot meals are served to elderly persons daily, Mondays through Fridays. Those participating are brought to Firestone by bus and other vehicles from different areas of the county.

The Department of Social Services, Clemson University Extension, County Health Department and Marlboro County Recreation Department provide their services to the nutritional program.

YMCA award

An 'Appreciation' Award from Gaston County (N. C.) YMCA was presented to "Firestone Textiles and its dedicated employees" earlier this year. It recognizes "numerous years of devoted services to the Gaston County YMCA."

Firestone volunteers help in the annual Y membership campaign. The last program at Firestone was led by Jimmie Lou Hartgrove, supervisor-inspection in Quality Control; and Vernon Carver, manager of Production Planning and Control.

• With YMCA award plaque: Tina R. (left) and Jimmie L. Neal. The Neal sisters are re-spooler operators in TC twisting.

Vacation travel, Georgia-bound? A few September special events: Pecan Festival, Albany, 19-21; Buggy Days, Barnesville, 20-21; Central Ga. Fair, Thomaston, 22-27; Cedar Valley Festival, Cedartown, 27-28. Early October: Deep South Fair, Thomasville, 2-6; Apple Festival, Ellijay, 10-12; Fall Festival, Jonesboro, 11-12.

