

## Main office addition

When these photos were made in mid-May, Firestone-Gastonia Shop workmen were on schedule with the addition to the plant Main Office. The project, planned for completion by mid-June, will provide 1440 square feet floor area.

The added part will make space for Accounting, and the area which that department vacates will be offices for Firestone Hopewell (Va.) personnel. They will transfer to Gastonia later this year, when the textile and fiber groups are consolidated.

The Textiles Division (headquarters at Gastonia, and other

plants at Bennettsville, S.C., Bowling Green, Ky., and Woodstock, Canada) and the Hopewell Firestone Synthetic Fibers Company will become a new division. It will be known as Firestone Fibers and Textiles Company, headquartered at Gastonia.

Both operations are being combined because of the complimentary nature of the business. All plants will continue to turn out the same products as usual. Consolidation is expected to be completed by early September.

Synthetic yarns are produced from "scratch" (the chemical mix) at Hopewell, and one plant of the Woodstock complex. Plants at Gastonia, Bennettsville, Bowling Green and the other Woodstock units either process yarns into cord and fabric or dip and stretch-treat finished fabric principally for tire reinforcement.

### A PATTERN OF PIRNS

Forms wound with synthetic yarn produced at Firestone-Hopewell. The Hopewell plant 'creates' nylon, polyester and other scientifically engineered fibers from a chemical mix.

The mix — in liquid state — is transformed to a strand construction when forced through the minute holes of a spinneret. Emerging into the air, the melt-spun material becomes solid fiber — taking on strength, wearability and other characteristics.



## 28 scholarships to students in 21 states

Twenty-eight high school seniors received college scholarships in the Firestone company's 1981 awards program. The outstanding students are all sons and daughters of Firestone employees or retirees.

Besides the scholarships, a certificate of merit and 10 shares of Firestone common stock were awarded in May to each of 56 applicants in recognition of their outstanding high school records. The 84 scholarships and merit winners are from 21 states.

### 'Dividend Hoax'

The U.S. Veterans Administration does not pay dividends on lapsed GI insurance policies. A rumor in recent months has been circulating among businesses and industries, veterans organizations and even veterans groups.

"Old Dividend Hoax" the VA calls it. The story promising that vets of WW II can collect a dividend based on their GI insurance, even if they haven't kept their policies in force.

## Amusement parks discounts

If you visit a family amusement park near home or one on vacation travel faraway this summer, you can save money with discount coupons/cards available at Firestone plant Personnel offices. The visitor attractions vary by location, so check with Personnel on what's available at Firestone Textile plants.

This season from Memorial Day through Labor Day, popular places like Six Flags in Atlanta, St. Louis and Arlington, Texas are included on the discount program.

Some others are Astroworld at Houston; Opryland, Nashville; Old Country, Williamsburg, Va.; Busch Gardens, Tampa; Cypress Gardens, Winter Haven; Walt Disney World, Orlando and Circus World, Orlando.

This year there are no scholarship nor merit winners from the Textiles Division areas — Gastonia, Bennettsville, Bowling Green. The North Carolina winners — Susan Boswell and Lisa Crecch — are from Wilson. The Virginia winner — Sharon Doherty — is from Hopewell.

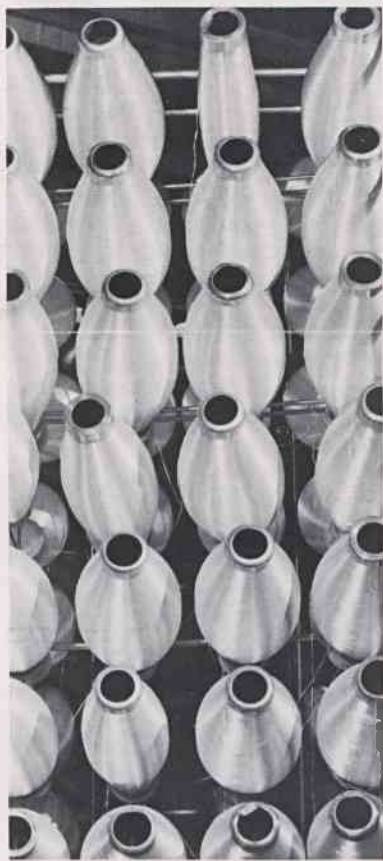
Firestone scholarships are worth up to \$13,600 toward tuition, fees, textbooks and expenses of room and board during 4 years college.

From the Textiles Division the most recent scholarship winner is Tina Renee Collins of Gastonia. She has completed her first year at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem.

Jacqueline Beth Wyatt of Bowling Green, Ky., was graduated May 9 from Western Kentucky University. She majored in business administration with emphasis on computer science.

Scholarship winners may attend any accredited college or university in the United States and may study any courses leading to a degree. In 1981 winners will get up to \$1,700 a year if the student attends a tax-supported college or university, and up to \$3,400 a year if the student attends a private college or university. In the 29 years Firestone has made awards in this program, 984 college scholarships have been awarded.

This program for employees/retirees' sons and daughters is but one part of the company's overall aid-to-education program. Firestone's financial support of education also includes a matching-gift plan, special education programs, direct grants to institutions, seminars and research support, grants to associations of non-tax-supported colleges and cost-of-education supplements.



## \$9.6 m energy savings

The Firestone Company realized a \$9.6-million saving on energy use in operating costs worldwide in the first quarter of fiscal 1981. Savings exceeded the goal for the quarter, even though there was a 19.3 percent jump in energy costs from a year earlier, according to Donald R. Kline, the company's manager of energy use.

First-quarter savings, he said, represent a 24-percent cut in Firestone's energy use, based on federal requirements for measuring energy conservation for comparative production periods.

The company is into a 5-year program of energy conservation, its plan to save \$250 million by 1985.

"If we reach our 1985 goal, we will have saved 1.8 million barrels of oil at an estimated cost of around \$73 million," Kline said.

By meeting its previous 5-year (1975-80) energy-conservation goal, Firestone saved \$118 million in operating costs.

Of saving energy, Kline said

"Our people are committed to it. At Firestone it gets top priority at all our plants and installations all over the world."

During the 1981 first quarter, savings in the textiles division were 32.7 percent. Dan Cronin, energy-use coordinator, said this represents nearly \$500,000 savings in operation of the Gastonia, Bennettsville and Bowling Green plants. He noted this conservation came mostly through continued improvement, practices, techniques and projects.

Examples are the use of cord-twisting travellers of lightest weight without sacrificing production.

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N.J., the company operates the parking lot, and sponsors an antique-car ride at World of Fun, an independent park near Kansas City, Mo. All 9 parks are open daily through Labor Day.