



Left to right—A. Batson cutting Fishermen's Smocks with Wolf Cutting Machine; Foreman Anderson supervising pattern measurement; D. Bonella, along with J. Gieczewski, checking chest measurement on coat pattern.

SPREAD CLOTHING SECTION.—Table in foreground (left to right)—J. Carter trimming Surgeons' Overalls; M. Brownlee hemming Skirt of Coat; E. Campsie stripping double-texture Police Coats. Table in background (left to right)—G. O'Donnell, M. Dickson, M. Sinclair and M. Brownlee assembling double-texture Police Coats.

**TAILORING IN RUBBER** By T. W. Murray

ONE of the earliest applications of rubber to a practical use was in the field of waterproof garments, and our Clothing Department is, therefore, one of the earliest of the many lines of rubber products associated with Castle Mills.

Here in this department we see the best of materials and rubber proofing techniques combined with all the skill of modern tailoring, to provide well-fitting waterproof garments for many purposes and in many sizes.

Undoubtedly the corner stone of the Clothing Department is the pattern-cutting unit operating under the expert hands and long experience of Davie Bonella, who is a tailor by trade and came to this Company some 30 years ago from a well-known George Street establishment.

**All shapes and sizes**

Master patterns are developed in this unit where material is cut into various shapes which are required to make up the wide variety of waterproofs which the department produces. For many years Davie has acted as the leading hand and instructor in this section. All shapes and sizes come his way, and no matter what the task, Davie's ingenuity and skill can cope.

Patterns have been developed here to provide garments for all shapes and sizes of people including Teddy Brown the famous xylophonist, whose jacket would encompass two normal men.

Assisting in this unit is Joe Gieczewski, who is also a tailor by trade. Joe is an ex-Polish Army officer, who suffered imprisonment during the war in Russia, and was later released and with others made his

way through the Middle East countries to join up with the British Forces for the invasion of Italy. He was wounded during the homeric battles at Mount Cassino and has now made his home in this country. He is a member of the Edinburgh Polish Choir. Arthur Batson makes up the third member of the team.

**Variety of garments**

The cut and shaped materials go forward to the making sections, and are made up into police coats, industrial wear of every kind, X-ray aprons, surgeons' overalls, fishing garments and other sports goods.

The making section is manned by a highly competent crew of expert operators, and prominent among a glut of long-service records Jean Carter stands out with 42 years' experience as a coat maker in this dept.

Frequent mention of the twins led us to Minnie and Marion Brownlee, identicals, with 44 years in the department between them. They live together and match each other in every respect. It is difficult to tell them apart, and who would want to anyway.

Very few operators in this department have unbroken service records (due to the fluctuation of the operating capacity), but they normally always come back. Mary Sinclair off and on has been 42 years in the department, and prior to that was with a local competitor.

Grace O'Donnell has 24 years' service to her credit, and Margaret Dickson caps the lot with 50 years in the department, apart from two years elsewhere.

Another pair of sisters, in the persons of Margaret and Minnie Veitch, are together in the section. Margaret has been 18

years with the Company and Minnie 21 years, excluding 9 years with the Land Army. They have diversified interests. Margaret is a member of the Hearts Supporters Club, and Minnie is devoted to domestic animals of all kinds.

**NEW FOOTWEAR DESIGNER**

WE extend a warm welcome to Donald Chapman, who has been appointed Footwear Designer in the Footwear Development Department at Heathhall.



Mr. Chapman has had considerable experience of footwear design, having been employed by Crockett & Jones as Chief Designer when he won the "Norvic Cup" and received a diploma for the most original design. He will be concerned with the design of Keds casuals and sports shoes and Gaytees fashion-over-the-shoe.

Margaret Shaw has an interesting family, a son in the Merchant Navy, two married daughters and another at a commercial school, and 12-year-old triplets to round off the score.

Margaret Cameron, Agnes Walker, Cathie Stewart and Sadie Robertson are comparative newcomers to the department, with an average of 4½ years' service, and two juniors, Ella Messer and Juliet McLeish, make up the total.

Adjacent to the making section is the machining table, and an outstanding personality here is Jean Walker, who retires next year, having been in the department since 1915. By her side is Doreen Fowler with 11 years' service, whose athletic pursuits include cycling for the Clarion Club, swimming for the Grove S.C., table tennis and hostelling.

These are a good-tempered, rather jolly group of people who appear to take great interest and pleasure in their work. It was interesting to discover that many of them are very fond of sewing, dress-making, and the like in their spare time, to the exclusion of other activities.

That they are happy in their work is very evident and that they are skilful is unquestionable. On their ability the Company has founded a reputation for first-class products in waterproof clothing.

D. Fowler (centre) and J. Walker (right) seaming double-texture Police Coats.

