

WELCOME TO SCOTLAND

Introducing
FREDERICK E. WEBER,
Director of Manufacturing
for the three Scottish
factories



Mr Weber has now taken over, operating from Castle Mills.

Prior to his new assignment he was Factory Manager at the Uniroyal plant at Port Clinton, Ohio. He joined the company in 1948 and has held various manufacturing positions at the company's Mishawaka, Ind. and Stoughton, Wis. plants.

A native of Quincy, Ill., Mr Weber received a B.Sc. degree in industrial management from the university of Illinois, and brings to his appointment in the U.K. a wide range of experience in production management.

MR VILA REPORTS . . .

In a year-end statement, George R. Vila, chairman and president, Uniroyal, Inc. predicted a much brighter future.

"Three important factors should contribute to a greatly improved period for Uniroyal during the next three years," he said.

"A new three-year labour contract signed in 1967 will give the industry more stability than in previous two-year agreements. Added plant capacity is now available to meet growing customer needs. Growing demand for the company's products—particularly in the automotive and home fields—provides a dynamic base for increased business opportunities," Mr Vila explained.

Completion of seven major plant expansions will add to Uniroyal's production capacity and efficiency in the immediate future, Mr Vila explained.

New facilities coming on stream during the year included chemical plants in Louisiana and England; textile plants in Tennessee and Luxembourg; a new tyre and plastic manufacturing facility in Scotland; a Naugahyde coated fabrics plant in Ohio and an addition to the company's modern tyre factory in Alabama.

The Uniroyal official noted that U.S. automotive sales forecasts for 1968 are in the 9 million range, up from 8.3 million units in 1967. Increased demand for housing—new homes and apartments—should present many opportunities for the rubber industry as a whole. Nearly 35 per cent of Uniroyal's sales involve new automotive production and home furnishings.

Mr Vila added that the company is entering into several new areas of business which hold great promise for future growth. Among these new ventures are a food crop programme in Liberia, a new retail merchandising programme for home and automotive products, hydro and aero space development programmes, a process for commercial meat irradiation and intensified research in new agricultural chemicals.

Mechanical Division Dinner

CARLTON HOTEL, EDINBURGH

Friday, 2nd February 1968

This is Uniroyal's big divisional function of the year. No doubt the Committee—D. A. Air, J. Baird, A. Evans, R. D. Forbes, E. Male—have many entertainment surprises in store.

Mr Madigan looks at 1968

Uniroyal Ltd. has been through an eventful and difficult year, with reorganization and new factory construction, devaluation and other things which are now history. During it we also acquired two new Uniroyal partners in Spain and Italy, who are now members of our immediate family. I feel that in 1967 we have laid the groundwork for a brighter future.

The 1968 Budget which we have just presented to Mr Vila and Mr Allard, Presidents respectively of our parent company and of our Division, reflect my optimism about our affairs.

First of all, we have started to develop a team and a team spirit. From where I sit I can see real indications of the results that this can bring.

Secondly, we have finally completed our new plants at Newbridge and Bromsgrove, and they are now producing high quality merchandise at competitive costs. We have also been modernizing our equipment in Elche and Vittuone.

Thirdly, we have broadened our range of products in many lines, whilst eliminating several groups which we felt would never "make the grade"—for example, we now have facilities for 24-inch oil hose, a growing market, and have dropped wrapped hose.

Fourthly, we have re-structured our advertising programme and begun an aggressive approach to a wider market.

Finally, we have been given responsibility to pursue directly the marketing of some of our products in a number of additional locations, including Canada.

To meet our goals for 1968 will take the active interest and constant effort of each one of us. But, having carefully estimated our resources and our opportunities, I am sure that we measure up to the task ahead and that we will have the reward of seeing it accomplished.

RECEIVED BY GENERAL FRANCO

Quite an occasion this. John C. Madigan, our Managing Director, shaking hands with General Franco at his winter Palace (El Pardo) near Madrid. The occasion was a Business International Government Roundtable in Madrid last month when 50 top industrialists representing 25 separate countries met in conference. All had one thing in common—they had very close business ties with Spain. In our case this is the Uniroyal footwear plant at Elche (Alicante).

Alex Perper, who heads our plant at Elche, was also present and received by General Franco.

A warm greeting between Mr Madigan and General Franco. BELOW—Alex Perper and John Madigan at one of the conference sessions of the Business International Government Roundtable.

