

NEWS

The House Organ of
THE NORTH BRITISH RUBBER CO. LTD.
 Affiliated to UNITED STATES RUBBER COMPANY

HEATHHALL HOLIDAYS FOR 1959

THE 1959 holidays at Heathhall have now been fixed—last week in July, first week in August. With last month's announcement that Castle Mills holidays, by majority vote of its operatives, have been changed from the traditional early July,

BOTH FACTORIES TRADES HOLIDAYS
 for 1959 will be
 Friday p.m., 24th July—Monday a.m., 10th August

PowerGrip Timing Belt on Submarine Nautilus

The builders of the *Nautilus*, the U.S. Navy's first atomic-powered submarine which recently completed the first journey under the North Pole faced two very real problems—the operation of vital controls without tell-tale vibration and with split-second accuracy.

The problem of detecting immediately the presence of ice floes and the ability of various instruments to show exactly the position of the submarine whilst under the ocean was solved by the U.S. PowerGrip Timing Belt. This rubber fabric belt with teeth enables the *Nautilus* to keep silent as a ghost within the range of the enemy's electronic ears. Some day the lives of the men on the subs' crew may well depend on this remarkable development in power transmission.

Since 1956 PowerGrip timing belts have been manufactured at Castle Mills. The same principles which answered completely the problems of tell-tale vibration and split-

second accuracy in the case of the *Nautilus* are being harnessed by a wide variety of industries in this country. Manufacturers of ecometers, precision lathes, chain saws, electric typewriters, sewing machines, calculating equipment, textile machinery, have found this new timing belt the complete answer to innumerable engineering problems.

The scope of this belt is outstanding. Whether it be used in generators of over 200 h.p. or electronic instruments of negligible power, it achieves remarkable precision. Made of tough neoprene teeth embedded with steel cables of high tensile strength fitting firmly into grooved pulleys which give positive non-slip transmission, the PowerGrip belt requires no lubrication, and will operate on drives from 1/100th to over 500 h.p.

Spectacular results are already being achieved in other fields of development, which may well revolutionise existing principles of transmission.

We share in Britain's first Synthetic Rubber Plant

WHAT is regarded as one of the most important landmarks in the history of the Rubber Industry in this country is the coming into production by the end of the year of the first large-scale plant to produce general-purpose synthetic rubber in this country. This source of supply is the International Synthetic Rubber (I.S.R.) plant at Hythe, Hampshire.

In the event of any future world crises, Britain could be independent of overseas supplies of synthetic rubber. Some 70,000 tons per annum is planned. I.S.R. has come into being as a co-operative effort within Britain's rubber industry, and as one of the growing units The North British Rubber Company is a shareholder along with other leading companies in the industry.

I.S.R. have chosen the name Intol for their range of styrene-butadiene rubbers. The layout of the new plant is a mass of storage tanks and pipelines. Butadiene monomer, stored in ten tanks of 35,000 gallons each, is piped from the nearby Esso refinery at Fawley, while styrene monomer is stored in six tanks, each of 40,000 gallons capacity, and comes from Forth Chemicals at Grangemouth and Shell at Partington.

Reminder

STAFF DANCE

Adam Room, George Hotel, Edinburgh
FRIDAY, 7th NOVEMBER 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Industrial Relations Department has "Face-lift" Castle Mills Improvements

COMPLETELY redesigned, painted, with modern lighting and colourful rubber flooring, it presents a clean and efficient appearance to all of the many callers who pass through its portals daily.

The new arrangement cannot fail to impress both the new start and the seeker of employment, whilst current employees find the

various sectional offices easily accessible, where their many wants can be speedily dealt with in comfortable surroundings.

Needless to say the staff manning the department is tremendously pleased with the new quarters which now present a complete contrast to the old somewhat dingy and cramped layout.

The enquiry counter approached from the Fountainbridge entrance to the Industrial Relations Department. It is here that all enquiries are handled initially in respect of employment. At the counter Miss Robertson attends to a caller. In the left background is the Industrial Relations Manager's office.

This view is from the factory entrance to the department wherein are handled all the clerical detail of factory personnel. At the far end are the offices of Training Officer, Safety Engineer and Women's Bureau Supervisor.

