

# NORTH BRITISH NEWS



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

VOL. XV. No. 1

OCTOBER 1962

## FULL MARKS, DRIVERS!

HIGHLY favourable comments have reached us on more than one occasion lately concerning the courtesy and consideration of drivers of our Company vehicles. When road-users go out of their way to tell us of their impressions we feel it is only fair to give honour where honour is due.

Consideration for others on the road is an excellent advertising medium for our Company and for U.S. Royal tyres with which our vehicles are largely identified. Bad driving could be harmful. Long may our drivers continue to qualify for the appreciation of other road-users.



One of the large groups on 20th September who attended the "Safety" lecture and demonstration at Castle Mills.

## The Drive for SAFETY never ceases!

BECAUSE we are all becoming more safety conscious, this year's record of Safety at Castle Mills is currently the best within the whole U.S. Rubber organisation. Yet we can never relax where the human element is involved.

Last month we were particularly fortunate in obtaining the services of John Wishart, M.I.E.E., Chief Engineer of The Tayside Floorcloth Co. Ltd., who is a recognised authority on the subject of electrical hazards. By lecture and demonstration, Mr Wishart exposed the kind of mistakes against which we should guard. His examples were most instructive. Two sessions were held with big attendances on each occasion. Coming on the eve of National Industrial Safety Week his guidance was invaluable.

We would do well to study the words of William Whitelaw, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Labour, speaking at the Press Conference of National Industrial Safety Week, where he said:—

### Safety—an attitude of mind

"Everyone in industry, from the chairman of the board to the newest recruit must accept their responsibilities for their own safety and that of their colleagues. I do not think that anyone who learns the facts about accidents, and who understands the human and economic implications can remain indifferent and inactive. It is much more likely that they will become converted to the cause of accident prevention.

"It is about accidents at work that I wish particularly to speak, but safety is largely a question of attitude of mind and any activity aimed at reducing accidents at work is bound to have beneficial results on the road and in the home.

"The situation is most serious. Last year accidents in factories numbered almost 193,000, their highest level for 11 years. In the whole of industry, 1,300 people were killed and 300,000 injured at work badly enough to lose time. On average at any time during the year there were 60,000 people absent from work

on account of industrial injury and 120,000 were receiving pensions for permanent disability. These are staggering figures.

### What accidents cost

"Unofficial estimates have put the annual cost of industrial accidents at something between £100m. and £300m. The average cost of a lost-time accident has been calculated at about £300; for a minor accident £10 to £20.

"This loss of earnings and profligate waste of skilled manpower and resources is a considerable drag on our national efficiency.

"The majority of accidents can be directly attributed to human failings of one sort or another, such as carelessness or neglect of elementary safety principles; indeed they are anything but inevitable.

"Too often people think, 'It can never happen to me'; but the fact is it can and unfortunately does.

"Let me put the figures to you in a different way. One in every 300 men working in a factory will be killed at work; the chances are that all of them will have at least one accident serious enough to keep them away from work. In the more dangerous jobs such as construction, shipbuilding or metal manufacture, the chance of being killed is higher at 100-1, and the chance of being badly injured is 3-1 on. In all the circumstances, I am sure you will agree not very good odds!

### All are responsible

"The only real and lasting solution to this accident problem is an acceptance of the importance of safety precautions on the part of everyone in industry from the Chairman of the Board down to the newest recruit. They must accept their responsibilities both

*John Wishart, of The Tayside Floorcloth Co. Ltd., demonstrating the electrical hazards that by proper care can be largely eliminated.*



## YOUR HEALTH THIS WINTER

REMINDER from Mr Cryer, Industrial Relations Manager:—

Influenza, colds and chills will soon be troubling us once more.

It is recommended by the Medical Profession that Halibut Oil Capsules taken regularly build up resistance.

With this in mind, we have once more laid in stocks for sale in the Employees' Shop and the Canteen.

The prices are the lowest ever, so start to protect yourselves and your families now.

### HALIBUT OIL CAPSULES

Drums of 50, 1s. Boxes of 100, 2s.

In addition, there are available "Essules" and "Essotones";

"Essules", boxes of 60, 3s. 7d.

"Essotones", boxes of 50, 3s.

(Vitamin tablets, lemon flavoured.)

## ATTENDED COURSE AT OXFORD

DURING August Mrs Mary Turner (Material Control), representing the Heathhall branch of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, attended a week's course at Ruskin College, Oxford.

This course was for lady members of the Unions only. Twenty-two attended, with Mrs Turner the only representative from Scotland. The course covered subjects such as the Common Market, Economics, Industrial Relations, Women in the Union. Congratulations to Mrs Turner on being the first N.B. woman at a course of this kind.

She has been at Heathhall for eight years. Her husband, John, is in Carpet Underlay, and her 16-year-old son works in the Cutting Dept.

for their own safety and for the safety of their colleagues, and they must all play their respective parts to the full. The attitude of 'I'm all right, Jack', must be replaced by 'We're all in it when it comes to safety'.