

NORTH BRITISH NEWS



The House Organ of
THE NORTH BRITISH RUBBER CO. LTD.

Affiliated to UNITED STATES RUBBER COMPANY

VOL. XVI. No. 13

JUNE 1964



ALASTAIR MACKENZIE HONOURED

A. J. Mackenzie, B.Com., A.C.W.A., our Chief Accountant, is the new President of the Edinburgh Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Educated at Perth Academy and Edinburgh University, where he graduated Bachelor of Commerce and later qualified as an Associate of The Institute of Cost and Works Accountants, he joined North British Rubber in 1951.

Mr Mackenzie has been active in the Junior Chamber as Chairman of Committees, Secretary and Vice-President. He was a delegate to the 1963 World Congress in Israel.

At University he gained his "blue" for Football and till last year assisted the Spartans Club. He is a member of Bruntsfield Links Golfing Society and Dean Tennis Club.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT AT ANNUAL MEETING

Mr Vila reviews 1963 trading

Your Company's 1963 trading profit exceeded that of 1962 by over 23 per cent. After payment of the usual dividends on the Preference Stocks, net profit is sufficient to enable your Directors to recommend that a dividend of 5 per cent. be paid on the Ordinary Stock.

The improvement in 1963 was achieved despite the intensification of competition, particularly, in the tyre industry. Depreciation charges were considerably higher stemming, in part, from capital additions made in 1962 and 1963. Our modernization programme is allowing us to become increasingly competitive in all products and we look forward to our trading profit in 1964 continuing the improvement achieved in 1963.

The new products introduced in 1963 are contributing to the profits of the Company and we will have additional new products in commercial production during the year 1964. Our research programmes are directed toward the improvement of our present products as well as the introduction of new ones.

A change in the Joint Auditors is proposed in the Directors' Report. This is necessary as the partnership of Howden & Molleston of Edinburgh has been dissolved as of 31st March 1964. The Partners previously responsible for the audit of your Company are joining another firm of Chartered Accountants in Edinburgh and, as your Directors felt it would be in the Company's interest to assure continuity, they are recommending the appointment of this firm as one of the Joint Auditors.

It is with deepest regret that I record the death on 27th May 1963 of Sir William Wallace who had been a member of your Board of Directors since 1941. Sir William was well known in Scotland and his business knowledge and experience were an asset to your Board.

The employees have continued to give unusually loyal and enthusiastic service and, on your behalf, I would thank all our employees at Edinburgh, Dumfries, London and the other operating locations.

OLD TIMERS MARCHING ON

The 14th Annual General Meeting of Castle Mills Old Timers Association was held on Wednesday afternoon, 6th May, in Merchiston Rooms. William Luke was in the chair and a good turn-out of members closely followed the proceedings. The minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting were read by Robert Purdom, secretary, and duly adopted. Treasurer Frank Davidson submitted the Statement of Accounts for 1963/4 which was unanimously passed after hearing the report from auditor E. Thomson. The chairman complimented both secretary and treasurer on the excellent manner in which their duties had been carried out and said we were fortunate indeed to have two such stalwarts in charge of our important affairs. Mr Luke again voiced his disappointment that so many retired employees failed to join the association, but he was glad to say that all the new members had shown an enthusiasm that augured well for the future of the club and he looked forward confidently to its continued success. The office-bearers nominated and elected for 1964/5 are—

Hon. Presidents—E. A. Martin, Foster M. Stewart, J. L. Cornfoot, T. W. W. Davie, R. Cryer, T. B. Miller, D. F. Vallis.

President—William Luke.

Vice-President—Charles Blyth.

Hon. Secretary—Robert Purdom, 80 Pilton Avenue.

Hon. Treasurer—Francis G. Davidson.

Executive Committee—J. Kay, E. Neale, R. Thomson, H. Hill, G. Newton.

Auditors—E. Thomson, R. Forbes.

Sick Visitor—A. Ralph.

Members took full advantage of the time allotted for discussion and a profitable meeting closed with a vote of thanks proposed by E. Neale.

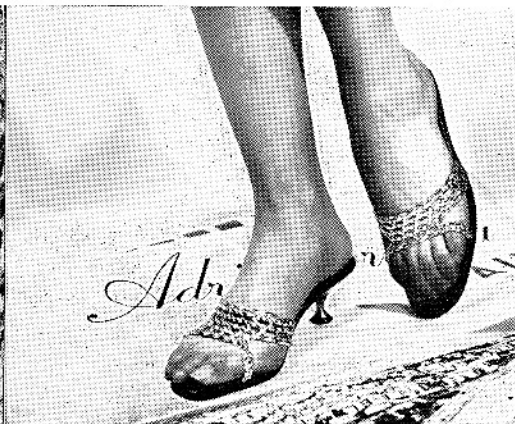
Due to the generosity of the Edinburgh Opera Company our members were provided with free tickets for an outstanding performance of "The Pearl Fishers" (Bizet) on Wednesday evening, 22nd April, and on the same day in Merchiston Rooms a Dominoe Pairs Competition was held. The winners were E. Thomson and R. Thomson and second prizes went to C. Alexander and G. Harrop. The Darts Competition started on 4th March, concluded on 13th May, and resulted in a win for E. Thomson with E. Neale runner-up.

We would like to express our grateful thanks to Mr Polc and the committee responsible for the Mechanicals Division Dinner for the very kind gesture in donating to the Old Timers the sum of £1. 7s. 6d., which was realised as excess of funds from the very successful occasion. Thanks also to Danny Gillies for parcel of paper-backs for library.

HEATHHALL VISITORS

A party of 35 from Lincluden Church Women's Guild made their first time ever visit to Heathhall on the evening of 19th May and were received by Factory Manager, G. H. Coston. They had a comprehensive tour of production departments under the guidance of George Tulloch and J. Maxwell.

Key Casuals in the Keds Continental range



TWO BIG SELLERS FOR SUMMER

LEFT—PEDLO. A little bootee casual in black, red, reed green, French mustard, burnt amber, antelope, with ruffle crepe soles. Very smart with elasticised trews. Half-sizes 3 to 8. 39s. 11d.
ABOVE—TANTA. Its interlaced mesh of gold material gives this little heel model a most luxurious appearance. The neat golden disc heel has a replaceable top. Sizes 3 to 8. Also in white and red. 29s. 11d.