FOOTWEAR

DOWN THE

AGES

 $\mathcal{B}y$

ERNEST BORDOLI, B.Sc.

(Secretary Northampton Town Boot Manufacturers' Association).

Foreword by S. J. DAVIS, Esq.

President-Elect of the Northampton Town Boot Manufacturers'
Association, and Managing Director and Chairman of the
Moccasin Shoe Company.

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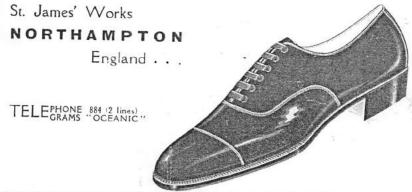
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FOREWORD

The following pages should prove a welcome addition to the small number of books dealing with the history of footwear.

It frequently happens that many enter the shoe trade without any knowledge of its origin. By perusing this interesting work they will gain in knowledge something it would be impossible to do except by reference to many historical works.

Our immediate ancestors could well be proud of their contribution to industry, for by their efforts they laid the foundation and set the example of agreement by arbitration. The result has been continued peace in our industry, as well as giving to other industries a formula for the avoidance of industrial disputes in their own particular sphere.

The knowledge this book offers of how the shoe industry was built up will help all associated with it to make their contribution of future development worthy of their generation, and so maintain the high standard of the shoe industry.

Nothing is more pleasing when travelling abroad than to hear the familiar phrase "English shoes are good."

S. J. DAVIS,

Managing Director and Chairman.

Moccasin Shoe Works, Northampton and Stafford.



In more than forty countries THE FOOTWEAR ORGANISER

is read and acknowledged to be the world's finest shoe trade journal. It is the leading review of footwear fashion and the most reliable source of information on all trade activities.

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PREFACE

In presenting a story of this kind, it is impossible to enumerate all the details of footwear. It is felt, however, that such a document will be of value and also prove interesting. I desire to express my gratitude to all those whose encouragement has made the writing of this story a pleasure.

This historical side of the shoe industry is the outcome of an address given by the writer to the Rotary Club, Northampton, when the suggestion was made that it be published in book form.

Those closely connected with the shoe industry have noted with pleasure the improvement in the habits of the present day operative compared with forty years ago. At that same time, shoe operatives celebrated "Saint Monday" wearing their white aprons fluttering in the breeze, spending their time visiting one "pub" after another. To-day, that is past and gone, and with modern factory conditions the shoe workers are to be found among all law-abiding citizens.

Ernest Joseph

55, Abington Street,

Northampton.

September, 1933.

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the World Over

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Padmore & Barnes, Ltd

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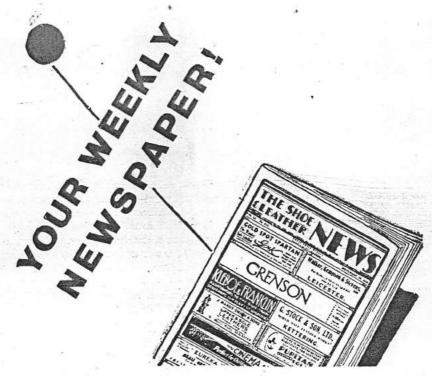
Makers of Moccasin Shoes for Men

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Footwear Down The Ages.

WHEN? WHY?

I.

HEN were shoes first made? Why must the foot be covered? These questions are asked from time to No definite information is available as to time. when the first pair of shoes were actually made, but shoes are frequently mentioned throughout the Old Testament. In the second book of Moses, called Exodus, we read in Chapter xii., verse 11, " your loins girded, your shoes on your feet," and it is reputed that this historical event was written B.C. 1491; whilst in the fourth chapter of the Book of Ruth, verse 7, it says, "... a man plucked off his shoe and gave it to his neighbour," this event being B.C. 1312. That being so, shoes have been in history for nearly 3,500 years. It was the custom in those far-off days' to take off one's shoe to strike a bargain in the conveyance of property, or to make a business deal.

It is generally admitted that it is not absolutely essential to have the feet covered, even when under severe climatic conditions. Babies suffer no harm by having their feet exposed, because Nature protects the soles of the feet by a scarf-skin. To-day there are 1,100,000,000 people in various countries walking about without the aid of boots or shoes. So far as the covering of the foot is concerned, there is early evidence of shoemaking, and some valuable exhibits can be seen in London museums and elsewhere.

The hide of cattle was discovered to be pliable and a good wrapping for the foot. The fleshy part of the skin was scraped off, and a specimen of the scraper was discovered at Caddington in 1889. After the scraping, the pelt was pulled taut and pegged down, and a process of tanning followed, the hide being filled with lime and left for several days until the hair was loose. The cromelly plant was used to give it a brownish colour. Some of the leather so made can be seen in the Royal Academy in Ireland.

The manufacture of boots and shoes can be traced with some authenticity at Colchester, where cordwainers were taxed in 1296; at Southwark in 1440 and at Nottingham in 1691.

TYPES OF SHOES

R OMAN slaves were not allowed to wear shoes of any kind. The poor had to be satisfied with sabots; peasants wore a wooden shoe, whilst the feet of the rich were covered with shoes containing gold, silver, and precious stones. During the Roman period class distinctions were marked by footwear; women's shoes were either green or purple, the art of shoemaking having reached such a high degree.



Zr11.

On left: CALCEUS, worn by the Roman peasants, and

Below:

CAMPAGUS, worn by the Roman Emperors.

These reproductions by permission of the British United Shoe Machinery Co., Ltd., of Leicester.



In Plantagenet times shoes were rounded and heavy fronted. Then followed pattens with high, decorated heels, and the low-heeled shoes of the early nineteenth century.

To-day, to be well dressed, one must also be well shod. Remember the words by Shakespeare in "Twelfth Night":

"These clothes are good enough to drink in, And so be these boots, too."

About the year 1500 heels were added to the boots, firstly to prevent the feet of men travelling on horseback from slipping through the stirrup. About the same time there was

an alteration in the soling material. Instead of the soles being made of the same material as the uppers, they were made of a stouter substance, and this altered the whole principle of shoemaking.

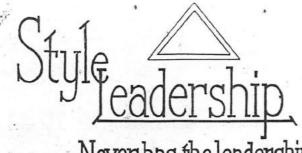
MANUFACTURE

Boot and shoe operatives, unlike most workers, are not to be found in all parts of the country, but they were concentrated in specialised areas. The majority are in the Midlands—Northamptonshire and Leicestershire. In a smaller degree boot and shoe manufacture is carried on in Yorkshire, Norfolk, Stafford, Lancashire, Somerset, Gloucestershire, Nottingham, and Scotland, whilst at the



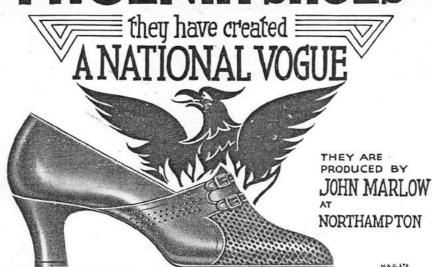
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MADE SHOES OF 200 YEARS AGO. The pair of shoes shown above was made in Long Buckby two hundred years ago and is typical of the fine workmanship of the Long Buckby shoemakers. The descendants of these craftsmen are working at Frederick Cook, Ltd., Long Buckby.

present time the production of footwear is increasing in the Irish Free State. Boot repairing is, as a rule, done locally, although three multiple firms collect the work and send it to a large central depot. As a result of this concentration, out of every thousand of the population in Northampton, 180 are boot operatives or repairers, whilst in the county of Northampton it is reputed that there is one shoemaker to every 163 of the population. Tanning sprang up near the shoe centres, and the Domesday Book, which can be examined at the Records Office in Fetter Lane, London, records the



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NORTHAMPTON

fact that there were 1,038 forests, many in the Northampton area. Consequently, tanning was carried on with ease in that area in the 18th century. Transport could only be done by pack-horse, and the cost of cartage in-1743 was three-fifths of 1d. per hundredweight per mile, compared with one-third of 1d. to-day by rail.

Another reason for the industry being contained in certain areas is because it was at one time considered the art of shoemaking could only be attained by apprenticeship for five years, and twelve years were considered necessary to become a really good craftsman. By this means it was not easy for anyone to set up in the industry, because it would take years to find or train men.

As stated elsewhere, machines were introduced into the trade, and in 1857 a machine for closing the uppers was introduced from America. Some workers felt this would bring unemployment in its train, and the workers of Northampton were hostile. A strike followed and over 200 skilled operatives left for Leicester. This strike lasted for nearly two years, and as a consequence Northampton lost its ladies' trade, just as hundreds of years before it lost its hosiery trade to the same city. After the war Northampton manufacturers again made ladies' shoes, and in a few years captured some of the trade from other centres, until to-day approximately 20 per cent. of the town's output is of ladies' high grade shoes of all types. To-day Northampton is the largest manufacturing centre in the world for men's high grade shoes.

Despite the introduction and invention of machinery, it cannot keep up its initial rush to displace hand labour. As the manufacture of hand-made goods is dealt with under the heading of "Man v. Machine," nothing more need be said

here on the subject.

The ordinary shoe is operated by seventy or eighty people, and 150 different types of machines are used, whilst there are 460 distinct operations performed in the up-to-date

shoe factory.

Branded goods have a direct appeal to many shoe manufacturers, and from a survey made in October, 1932, it was proved to be advantageous. The advertised goods chosen were known by their branded name and their qualities had been advertised for years. The figures of sale at each store were compiled, and at the end of the test it was found that the branded and advertised goods outsold the unbranded by about seven to two.

There is a general trend of boot manufacturing moving slowly but surely from North to South. At one time there were a number of army contractors in Linlithgow; to-day nearly all the boots for the Forces are produced in Raunds,

and none in Linlithgow.

10. WHERE SHOES ARE MADE

EICESTER became known as a shoe centre hundreds of years later than Northampton, although there is evidence of a company of "jornemen of schomakers" in the city a hundred years before the Cavaliers and Roundheads fought for supremacy. Guild regulations were issued in 1589, and in 1794 the records talk of men "combining to secure an advance of wages," and four masters were charged with aiding and abetting. Crick was regarded as the father of Leicester's shoe trade. He began in 1830 experimenting with riveted boots, and in 1853 his son took out a patent for inside riveting, wherebythe uppers and insoles were riveted together for the soles to be attached. Leicester's shoe industry grew rapidly and To-day about thirty her position remains undaunted. thousand operatives can produce twenty-five million pairs of shoes per annum.

STAFFORD appears to have begun shoe manufacturing in earnest in the latter half of the 18th century, although there is mention of the trade in 1530. Shoes were first made in Stafford for members of the workers' families; then orders were taken from outside. In 1813 the town boasted of two outstanding manufacturers of shoes, and from an account of 1869 they made chiefly boots with wooden heels, sabots and slippers. In 1834 Lotus, Ltd., began in a factory in the centre of the town, and they installed the first sewing machine. To-day the town produces mostly ladies' shoes of various types.

The first award governing wages and conditions in the trade was given on 19th April, 1877, by Mr. Matt F. Blakiston, the employers' case being put by Mr. H. B. Livingston and the workmen's case by Mr. Thomas Smith. The award applied to Stafford. There were 88 classes or varieties of work, and the prices awarded for rivet work and machine work were:—

Rivet Work. Machine Work.

Riveting. Finishing. Putting Up. Finishing.

51d. 53d. 61d. 63d.

This was followed by a rowdy meeting of the operatives, but eventually the decision was accepted.

In BRISTOL bootmaking to-day is only a minor occupation. Reference is made to shocmaking in 1729, when the workmen "burnt a great number of shoes made of seal and horse skins which they seized at several places." Following the Napoleonic Wars, Bristol's shoe industry began a prolonged period of development. At one period Bristol was regarded as producers of heavy nailed boots, but now they produce men's light walking shoes and evening shoes for ladies.

LEEDS ranks as one of the oldest and most important centres in the North. Employers began to produce footwear about a century ago, the type being for working class people. Production on a large scale did not begin until about 1850. With the use of machinery the industry grew, until in 1890 employment was found for 8,000 operatives. To-day the manufacturers are producing the lighter types of shoes, in addition to the heavy grade for which Leeds is famous.

NORWICH manufacturers estimate their weekly output is nearly a quarter of a million pairs. Years ago the city was famous for its turnshoes, and to-day there is a large output of ladies' and children's high-grade machine-sewn shoes. Norwich has developed the artistic styles and have overcome foreign competition in the matter. Shoemakers were not always held as high as they are to-day, for we read when one was chosen for the City Council in 1463 there "were serious arguments as to whether a man of his calling was disqualified from taking the oath."

LONDON has authentic records of shoemaking between 1271—1272. Guild regulations were made in 1303 to end "frauds and deceit." One ordinance said folks had complained

"that some persons of the trade would fake things; mix basil with cordwain; calf skin with cow skin; and cut shoes from dogskin and sell to Knights for cordwain and kid."

Records too numerous to mention in detail are to be found dealing with the trade of London. The development of machinery was less rapid in London than in the country, and standardisation of wages and conditions was difficult. The conditions are peculiar because of the large number of small factories and workshops. At one end it produces footwear of the cheapest type, and some of the finest at the other end.

During the Napoleonic War, Brunel made a machine and patented it for making shoes on a new method. nailed an outer sole to the upper and inner sole, instead of having the welt sewn in. A factory was established in Battersea, and owing to the number of shoes made, tt relieved the pressure on the old hand-sewn men in Thousands of pairs of army boots were Northampton. made on this new principle. After the war, but with Waterloo still fresh in the minds of the workers, Brunel packed his machines away, and a few years later they were in all destroyed by fire. This was the first introduction of machinery and was resented by the trade as a whole. machines and the work they could do were soon forgotten, and for a time boots and shoes were made only by hand workers.

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KETTERING is one of the most important shoe centres in the country, although there were few boots made until after the war with America.

Boots and shoes are made throughout the county of Northampton, in addition to the county town. For many years there has been a large output from Bozeat, Daventry, Desborough, Earls Barton, Finedon, Higham Ferrers, Irthlingborough, Kettering, Long Buckby, Raunds, Wellingborough and Wollaston. Rushden's development has been mainly within the last forty years. At Long Buckby boots and shoes of the highest grade are made, including hand-sewn sports, walking and riding boots and shoes.

Northamptonshire will ever be remembered for William Carey, the humble shoemaker who became the famous apostle of Christianity. He was born at Paulerspury on the 17th August, 1761, and whilst serving his apprenticeship as a shoemaker, also learned several languages. He received the diploma of D.D., and after years of divine service abroad, died on 9th June, 1834.

KILMARNOCK. See page 7.



GENT.'S WILLOW CALF SHOE; semi-brogue; smart toe. Made by Crockett & Jones, of Northampton.

IV. NORTHAMPTON AND ITS STAPLE TRADE

THERE is early evidence of the shoe industry in the town of Northampton, and to-day the Northampton shoe is known wherever men and women walk in leather.

The town has shod Royalty from the days of King John down to Princess Elizabeth.



PRESENTED TO PRINCESS ELIZABETH by the Northampton Town Boot Manufacturers' Association. These attractive tan willow ghillie shoes, hand-made by Stricklands, Ltd., are examples of Northampton juvenile footwear.

At one time the town was amongst the first five of the chief towns of the country, and the Prince of Wales, when visiting the town in 1927, said:—

"Ever since the days when men left off going about bare-footed, Northampton has been known for the excellence of its footwear. Our forefathers came to Northampton to get their feet shod, and we to-day know that Northampton boots and shoes are second to none."

In 1930 H.R.H. the Duke of York said "Northampton boots and shoes are famous beyond the seas."

Northampton was one of the first, if not the first town in England to manufacture shoes. For years it has claimed the hall mark of quality and excellence of craftsmanship, making as it does both men's footwear and high-grade fashion shoes for ladies, including, in fact, everything from a baby's slipper to riding boots.



one of six hundred types—embroidered with coloured silk and bound with fur. Picture by courtesy of Hayes & Mills, Ltd., Hood Street, Northampton.

Following the Conquest, military operations were not so virile and the town declined, but in the 17th century Northampton was again brought into prominence by its shoemaking. The trade then had to battle for supremacy against hosiery, weaving and agriculture, but it won through and became so predominant that in the 19th century it was practically the town's only industry.

From the early days shoemaking was found in every town and village, and leather was made in every hamlet. The existence of a military garrison, and the visits of the Royal Court were an incentive to the trade. We find that King John in 1213 purchased a pair of single soled riding boots at Northampton for 9d. This is the first documentary evidence of the town's staple trade. In the following reign a pair of shoes for the leader of the Royal greyhounds cost 4d. King Edward I. paid 7/- for a pair of winter shoes. This gives the reader some idea of how the trade of the town came into prominence.

With transit not being of the best, boots and shoes were usually made where the wearer who wanted them happened to be.

One of Northampton's treasured possessions is the "Liber Custumarum," written in Norman-French, the original being in the office of the Town Clerk at the Guildhall. A translation in English called the Book of Customs can be seen in the Local Room of Northampton Library. This book was commenced about 1350, the Corporation getting together men versed in the government of the town, and from their recollections a code of bye-laws was formulated.

We are told that at that time the shoemakers were well organised. They and the tanners were able to prevent

combines among butchers for keeping up the price of hides, and to prevent middlemen from dealing in them.

At a later date the shoemakers brought forward further regulations, and on 10th October, 1401, we find the imposition of a fine of 6/8 on anyone commencing as a shoemaker, half to go to the Mayor and half to the Masters of the Craft. These fines were spent on torches and lights. Every week the various trades went to church, and the White Friars allowed the Guild to meet in the monastery to transact their business.

In 1452 we get another ordinance which says:-

- "No shoemaker of Northampton having a shop in Northampton for the sale of his goods, shall have any stall in the market to sell shoes. If this rule is broken, 3/4 fine must be paid."
- "If a shoemaker is detected of theft, the Master of the Journeymen must not permit him to work under a penalty of 6/8."
- "If a workman by the day shall come into Northampton for one month he shall pay 2d, for lights and torches; if longer, 4d, per quarter must be paid."



SEVENTEENTH CENTURY SHOES. The gentleman's slipper is ornamented with imitation peacock's feathers. Note the three shoes made of embroidered silk interwoven with silver and coloured silks, and silk covered heels 3 inches high. This collection is the property of the Bective Shoe Co., Northampton, and the pictures are reproduced by their courtesy.

Restrictions were imposed on the tanners to use only good hides. The currier was only to touch leather thoroughly tanned, and the shoemaker was to have only leather from the hides of cattle.

The Town Council on 30th January, 1552, issued regulations to govern the industry and some of them said

- "Every shoemaker setting up a shop shall pay 16/8. If a native of Northampton, 3/4."
- "No shoemaker to sell in the market place under a penalty of 3/4."
- "No shoemaker who is not a freeman to show or sell boots and shoes."
- "Unless apprenticed, the shoemaker must pay 13/4 to the Mayor, 13/4 to the town funds, and 13/4 to the Trade Guild."
- "All shoemakers must assemble on 25th October to see that all the regulations were carried out."

October 25th is St. Crispin's Day, the day of the shoemakers' patron saint—St. Crispin.

In the rule book of the shoemakers of 1562 is to be found a regulation that only married men were allowed to take apprentices.

In 1595 a rule was made to the effect that no journeyman or apprentice should make a football to sell or play with, unless with the consent of his master. He was not allowed to play football in his city. At Kendall the fine against a shoemaker for playing football was 12d. every time, and 3/4 for every broken window.



Specialisation grew up during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and a shoemaker was forbidden to practice the trade of a tanner, currier or cordwainer, and vice versa.

WHOLESALE ORDERS

The first wholesale order was secured in 1642 when a Thomas Pendleton, with the aid of thirteen other master makers, took a contract for 4,000 pairs of shoes. Six years later the account was only partly paid, and there is no evidence to show that it has been paid. The account was for £1,408/7/6, £1,200 of which was paid.

In 1689, 4,000 pairs of Northampton shoes were supplied to the army, and the Paymaster-General wrote on 23rd October of that year:—

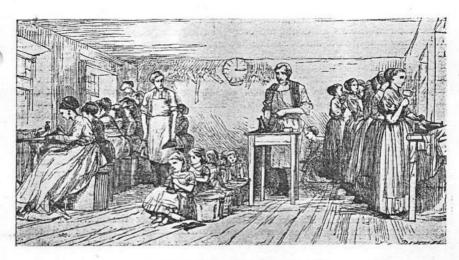
"Lieutenant-General Douglas said they were the best and cheapest he ever met."

It is on record in the same year that "the town was known throughout Great Britain as the special home of shoemaking; Northampton and boots were associated in the minds of all educated people."

"If you want boots or shoes, Northampton is the place to choose."

Now for a big jump. In 1801 William Hickson came to Northampton from London to make shoes for home and export trade. He suggested that manufacturers should have an exhibition in London to sell their stock. Was this the forerunner of the multiple shop business? Premises were taken in 1812 at Smithfield, and although the venture was a huge success, the scheme eventually broke down.

Following the introduction of machinery the men at Northampton insisted upon the machines being destroyed. The trouble began at the factory of Mr. Padmore. Some



A MIDDLEMAN'S WORKSHOP, 1869.

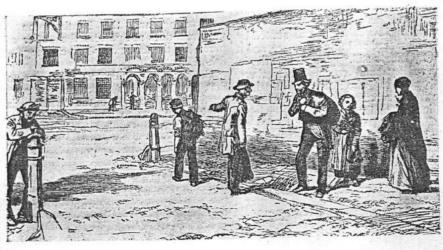
manufacturers succumbed, but in February, 1859—twenty months after the trouble began—manufacturers decided to have machinery, otherwise they could not get into the competitive market. The absence of factories led to the establishment of a new branch of the trade—machine closing—and at that time it was said that one room and a five pound note were sufficient to start boot manufacturing.

The operatives resented the introduction of machinery, and strikes were the order of the day. Antagonism grew both among the workpeople and the manufacturers and a national dispute resulted in 1895. Three months later the National Terms of Settlement were signed which provided the present machinery for settling disputes, with a Guarantee. Fund of £1,000 paid by each side to provide against breaches of the Agreement. Resolution 8 of the Settlement reads:

"No strike or lockout shall be entered into on the part of any body of workmen, members of the National Union, or any manufacturer represented on any local board of arbitration."

AN EXAMPLE TO OTHERS

The year 1895 can be looked upon as important to the trade. It is not too much to say that many agreements in other trades have been based upon the Terms of Settlement of the shoe industry. The Whitley Councils are largely based upon it. It needed a good deal of courage and determination amongst the leaders of both sides to secure adhesion to such terms, and it is a testimony to the far-sightedness of those who endeavoured and were ultimately successful in securing consent to this policy.



GOING TO "SHOP" THE WORK, 1869.

The next important project was the adoption and growth of the multiple shop system, commenced by Freeman, Hardy & Willis and Stead & Simpson. Mr. Manfield saw the possibilities and he opened shoe stores in London and elsewhere, closely followed by Randall's, Sears (True Form). and Barratt's—Walk The Barratt Way.

Craft tradition has played a powerful part in the industry of Northampton, and in the words of the Prince of Wales, its "footwear is second to none."

Remember Sheridan's famous toast: "May your trade be trodden underfoot by all the world."

Mr. Ronald Frankau, the popular wireless comedian, writing from South Africa when on tour in 1932, informed the writer that he was producing a burlesque of "Cinderella." Into the immortal shoe episode of the story he introduced the following lines spoken by Cinderella.

"It fits like a glove; not bullied nor cramped on,
A nice British shoe; indeed, made in Northampton."

V. THE NORTHAMPTON TOWN BOOT MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

N the 19th December, 1878, Mr. P. Manfield called a meeting of nineteen manufacturers to consider the advisability or otherwise of forming an Association for the mutual protection of boot manufacturers. Of those present, all have "passed over."

As a consequence of that meeting it was decided to form an Association to be known as "The Northampton Boot, Shoe and Leather Trades' Creditors' Association of Wholesale Dealers," whilst on 30th January, 1879, Mr. P. Manfield was elected the first President (1879-1888) and Mr. John Adin appointed the first Secretary (part time) to the Association, which office he retained for fourteen years.

PIONEERS

The following names appear in the 1879 list of members of the Association, and are still prominent manufacturers of the town: F. Bostock, Church & Co., Simon Collier, Hornby & West, Manfield & Sons, John Marlow, Edmund Pollard, H. E. Randall, J. Robinson, G. M. Tebbutt. Messrs. Allinson & Co.'s name appears in 1880. It would be impossible to over estimate the value of the work done by these pioneers of the Association, to whom a great debt of honour is due.

There's Nothing Like Leather

A Town held a siege and held grave consultation
What was the best method of fortification.
A grave and skilful Mason gave his opinion
That nothing but stone could secure the dominion.
A Carpenter said "Though that was well spoke
It was better by far to defend it by oak."
A Cobbler much wiser than both these together
Cried "Try what you please, Sir, there's nothing
like leather."

HAYNES & MILLS, Ltd. Hood Street :: Northampton

Makers of

SLIPPERS OF STYLE

Moccasin Slippers. Travelling Slippers. Boudoir Slippers. Men's Slippers Ladies' Slippers. Children's Slippers.

Telephone: 684.

Telegrams: Haynes & Mills, Ltd. 684 Northampton. Codes: A.B.C. 5th Ed. Bentleys That, in simple language, is the story of the hirth of the Association, from which has grown the present Association which exercises its influence and power in connection with Northampton's most important industry.

PEACE OR WAR?

About this time also the operatives began to organise and were beginning to grow aggressive. After several skirmishes, employers and workmen met and decided to form a Board of Arbitration, and without doubt, the settlement of disputes by arbitration has been the salvation of the boot and shoe industry.

Prices for various operations were amicably fixed, but the manufacturers felt that they were still in need of greater protection against whatever action might be taken by the workmen. In 1884 Mr. J. (later Sir James) Crockett suggested that every member of the Association be requested to enter into a bond for £100 for "mutual protection and support." This suggestion was endorsed, and the bond-was signed by each individual member and renewed annually for many years.

Before long trouble began to loom on the horizon, and although prices had been accepted by both sides, two firms were struck and arbitration had to be resorted to in order to settle the matters at Messrs. Allinson & Co. and at Messrs. Gurney, Mead & Co.

Meantime, Sir P. Manfield had thought fit to lay down the reins of office, and Mr. Henry Wooding, J.P., was appointed second President of the Association (1888-1893), but it fell to the lot of Mr. William Hickson, J.P. (1893-1904), to bear most of the work during the Northampton dispute and also the Great Strike of 1895. During this period Mr. G. F. Lea had been appointed full time Secretary to the Association (1893-1929).

During the Presidency of Mr. Wooding piecework statements were fixed up, but were not acceptable, and the operatives withheld their labour. So fierce was the struggle that policemen were engaged to conduct the workmen to and from their homes and the manufacturers refused to consider any matters until the men had returned to work. A strike of the town was declared in November, 1887, and lasted until nearly Christmas of the same year, when the points at issue were referred to arbitration.

INDOOR QUESTION

The question of providing factories in which the operatives could work caused much heartburning, but Northampton—like most other centres—came into line, and

it is generally agreed that the indoor system has been of considerable benefit to all, both socially, morally and economically, and may be reckoned as a national reform.

In May, 1892, the Clickers' Branch of Northampton suggested to the Association that steps should be taken to check the alleged excessive number of boys employed. The Committee of that day replied in the following terms:—

"That the demand of the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives for the limitation of the number of boys and youths in the trade is unwise, and an unjustifiable attempt to interfere with the conduct of business for which the manufacturers are responsible is uncalled for, and if admitted would either drive boys at present into the streets, or unduly force them into other trades where no such restrictions exist."

The crisis previously referred to now came to a head, and as stated, all matters were referred to an Arbitrator; later at a joint conference held in Leicester in August, 1892 (Mr. H. Wooding being one of Northampton's representatives), the following decisions were made, and it will be seen that Northampton rightly claims to have the first town rate of wages:—

- 1. Uniform meal hour.
- 2. Fifty-four hour week.
- 3. Minimum for Northampton clickers, 25/-; after March, 1893, 26/- weekly.
- 4. Minimum rate for pressmen in Northampton of 22/-weekly.

So we pass another milestone.

NATIONAL STRIKE

No event of particular importance took place until 1st July, 1893, when the Northampton employers agreed to increase the minimum rate to 28/-. In March, 1895, the clouds appeared upon the horizon and the great strike in the boot industry commenced and lasted for six weeks. With it came poverty and acute suffering in Northampton as elsewhere, although no unseemly trouble was caused in the town itself. Upon one occasion a guard of manufacturers marched with Sir P. Manfield, after a stormy meeting, to his home in Billing Road, and Mr. John H. Marlow—who later became President of the Association upon two occasions—acted as one of the guard.

It is well known that as a consequence of that upheaval the Terms of Settlement were signed, and since then there has been no serious dispute either in Northampton or in the industry generally. It may be of interest to the readers of this story to know that during the dispute the Operatives' Union paid the men on strike in Northampton the sum of £12,570—more than one-fifth of the total cost—indeed, a colossal sum for those far-off days.

Following the long term of office of Mr. Hickson, Mr. W. Beale (later Alderman) held the office from 1904 to 1907, and was followed by Mr. J. H. C. (later Sin James) Crockett (1907-1909).

ASSOCIATION RECONSTITUTED

Mr. John H. Marlow (1909-1911) was the next manufacturer to occupy the presidential chair, and during his term of office the first Clicking Town Statement was prepared. The Articles of Association as originally drafted in 1879 were also reconsidered during Mr. Marlow's term of office, and eventually cancelled. In their place rules and regulations were adopted, and with minor amendments or additions they are in operation to-day.

Under this new constitution the chief objects of the Association are:—

To promote the general interests of the Boot and Shoe Manufacturers of Northampton Town by combination and united action on the part of the members, also to render aid and defence to members in case of dispute with their workpeople.

To frame, or assist in framing general statements of wages and conditions of labour for workpeople engaged in the boot and shoe trade of Northampton Town, and, in connection therewith where necessary, to act in conjunction with the Federation.

To effect the settlement of disputes by Arbitration, and to assist in the formation and maintenance of a Board of Arbitration.

To support measures for the promotion and improvement of commerce—particularly in relation to the boot and shoe industry.

To provide or assist the educational authorities in providing technical education.

To establish charitable or benevolent institutions.

Thus the old order passeth away, and instead of the Association being a debt collecting society it was to become one for the general promotion of the interests of boot manufacturers.

Mr. E. Lewis, J.P., was President from 1911-1913 and Mr. J. G. Sears in 1913. During the period of the war the

chief office' was held by Mr. A. E. Marlow, J.P., C.A. (1913-1920). The good work done by the Association during that period, when members generally rendered great service to their country in the production of footwear for our own and Allied armies, was undoubtedly due to the inspiring leadership of Mr. A. E. Marlow, whose efforts on behalf of Northampton, and the trade generally, were indefatigable.

In accordance with the provisions of the New National Agreement, piecework statements called for revision in 1919, and while much of this work was thrown upon the officers of the Association, the names of Mr. H. C. Oakeshott and Mr. H. Edwards should be singled out for special mention. This work was continued by Mr. A. E. Tebbutt (1920-1924) during his term of office, which was a difficult period as the industry was trying to get back to normal conditions following the war. Mr. John H. Marlow then created a record by accepting office for a further term, 1924-1926, after which Mr. H. Edwards occupied the presidential chair for 1926-7.

The President for 1927-1931 was Mr. A. H. Hollister, J.P., C.C., who, like his predecessors, gave of his best to further the work of the Association, and during his term of office the Genenal Purposes Committee felt that is was necessary that the work of the Association should be reorganised. Consequently the writer was appointed the Association's Secretary.

For the period 1931-32 Mr. C. G. B. Allinson was the President, and during his period of office he was presented to Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York when opening the Northampton College of Technology in November, 1932. On behalf of the Association Mr. Allinson asked the Duke and Duchess to accept a number of pairs of footwear both for themselves and Princess Elizabeth.

Mr. Allinson's successor was Mr. William Barratt, of "Walk The Barratt Way" fame, who in his way has kept up the dignity and prestige of the Association.

Other districts are making better shoes than ever before, and if Northampton's future is to be more glorious than its past, every effort must be put forth by all those in the boot and shoe industry to produce better, and still better, shoes, so that her good name may not become tarnished by the production of cheap and shoddy footwear.

VI. HOW SHOES ARE MADE

Man v. Machine

ODERN invention has brought to the manufacturers of footwear mechanical marvels which can, and do, produce shoes of exceeding beauty and endurance.

Whilst every shoe is not put through all the 460 operations mentioned previously, quite an ordinary shoe has up to 200 operations connected with it. What a difference from the day when one man made the shoe throughout! Here in Northampton is the largest factory in the country devoted to the manufacture of hand-made shoes, and in comparison with the work of the expert stitchman, the machine shoe is as a coloured print to an "old master."

A visit to Strickland's factory is a step back into the past, when the roar of machinery was unknown and man the master of his craft. Here are men, each an individual creator, knowing every stitch in the shoe he makes, calculating his measurements, like a skilled engineer, to a fraction of an inch. No machines are used; the men are seated at their benches controlling with carefulness the tools and materials which produce fine shoes.

Here we see in the factory the clicker examining the skins with meticulous care to ensure there are no blemishes. With a few skilful incisions the uppers are ready for assembling. They are fitted together by hand to special marks made when cutting to ensure a perfect fit. Then the

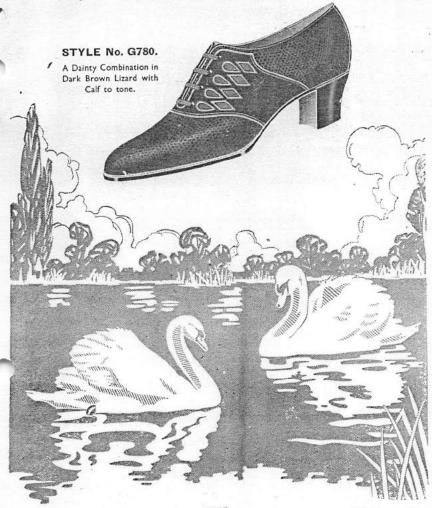
HAND-SEWN WORKERS.



TACKING ON INSOLES ROUNDING INSOLES at Stricklands (Northampton), Ltd.

Crockette Tones

NORTHAMPTON. ENGLAND.





THE SYMBOLS OF QUALITY FOOTWEAR



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workman takes his last and lays his leather to it, the insole being rounded by hand. This is important because it affects the finished shoe both in appearance and comfort. Now we see the upper attached, this being pulled over the last, care being taken to see that the linings are free from creases. The upper is pulled exactly to the shape of the last. After several intermediary processes have been effected the workman takes his wax thread containing eleven strands, each of which he waxes separately, and rolls them by hand. An awl is used by which a hole is made, following which the thread is passed through the hole. It is there for the life of the shoe. The welts are hand-sewn with a lock stitch; toe cases and stiffeners are cut from leather, and the heels are sewn on to ensure a perfectly smooth shoe.

This is the real old school of shoemaking, and in essentials it is the same as it was seventy years ago, except for the surroundings. Instead of the men working in their own homes and out-houses, they are to-day working in a modern and up-to-date factory.

Surgical boots are an entirely different type of footwear. In this branch of the trade, good business is often turned down owing to the fact that one is not aware of a good house with which to place orders of this nature.

Complete records of every pair are kept under a reference number, which acts as a double check when repeat orders are given.

HAND-SEWN WORKERS.



at Stricklards (Northampton), Ltd.

HAMMERING HEEL DOWN after being sewn on.

Most people have some kind of deformity of the feet—the nature of modern life makes this inevitable. In some cases the deformity is very apparent, but in the majority it is only the effect which is noticeable, usually in the manner and difficulty of walking. Such people find it impossible to obtain new shoes which give them comfort, and for that reason are loth to part with old ones which, although comfortable, really aggravate the trouble. Firms specialise in making shoes for abnormal feet. This footwear is made on scientific lines in co-operation with medical authorities, whether for men's, women's or children's feet. It is essential that children's shoes should be so modelled that their feet will develop along the lines Nature intended.

These shoes cost from 16/6 for children, 35/- for ladies, and two guineas for men; and in special cases as much as £20 is paid.



A SURGICAL BOOT. This gives some idea as to the work to be dealt with by a surgical bootmaker.

Illustration by W. Gubbins, of Northampton.

MAN AND MACHINE

The adage "to be well shod is to be well dressed" applies equally to all. The old saying "There's nothing like leather" is equally true, especially when built into really good shoes; whilst there is another saying in the trade that all good leather is snapped up by Northampton.

Now to explain how shoes are made in modern factories by operatives with the aid of machinery.

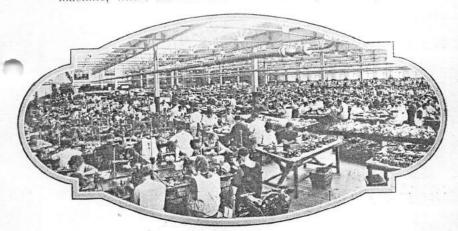
The machine-produced shoe is made in five principal divisions. They begin in the Clicking department. To-day the skin room is full of the most fascinating products of natural history, reptile skins from Java, India, Africa, Brazil and America; giant frogs from Ceylon; kid and goat skins from India; calf skins from Central Europe; and ostrich skins from Africa and Arabia. In cutting out the sections of the uppers the process of elimination and selection goes on. The butts are chosen for the best quality and most important parts of the shoe, with shoulders and flanks for less important parts or cheaper grade of footwear.

The uppers are joined together in the Closing room. Here are also to be seen operatives working machines which automatically make buttonholes, sew on buttons, punch holes and fix eyelets.

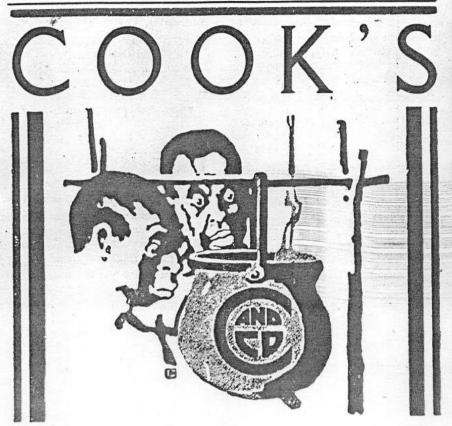
The shoe, after having the upper stitched, proceeds to the Rough Stuff department where the sole, insole, welt, heels and stiffeners are placed with the uppers, and then proceed to the Making or Lasting room.

Here the two sections—tops and bottoms—are fastened together. If the shoe is machine-sewn, the upper is attached first to the insole by permanent tacks instead of sewing, and as there is no welt, the stitches that hold the sole pass through the upper and insole. It is necessary to clench these fine tacks, and for this purpose the bottom of the wooden last has a plate of metal.

The upper is pulled over, the insole having been lightly tacked to the last. The shoe then goes to the lasting machine, where the toes and heels are "wiped in" by two



INSIDE OF A MODERN SHOE FACTORY—the closing department of W. Barratt and Co., Ltd., Northampton. Remarkable speed is attained by the operatives engaged on sewing shoe uppers together on electrically driven machines.



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LEATHER

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plates working together—scissors-like. The upper is tacked down to the insole by an automatic machine. The sole, having been prepared, is fitted to its place, when the sole-sewing machine does the rest, guided by the expert workman. In addition to machine-sewn there are machine-welted, turnshoe, and hand-sewn, all requiring different methods.

Next the heel is attached, being held together by special pails.

The shoe then proceeds to the Finishing department where the foreparts, edges and heels are pared with knives rotating at lightning speed. The edges are coloured and set by irons. More rotating machines burnish the heel and sole and the shoe leaves the department finished.

In the Shoe room the final gloss is put. Here the shoes are dressed and put on trees, finally being placed in boxes tready for despatch to all parts of the world.

In one large Northampton factory (Manfield's) there are over one-thousand varieties of boots and shoes in stock, each variety kept in three or four widths. In every width there are thirteen sizes and half sizes.

It is interesting to note that probably no other firm have such a fine collection of illustrations of footwear as Manfield & Sons, Ltd., Northampton, and they are always willing to show these exhibits to bona fide enquirers.

Such is the story of the shoe.

I remember being asked whether there is any secret one might learn to keep shoes smart. There is no secret. That there are two important things to remember.

Two pairs of shoes should be in wear for alternate days, one of them being kept on trees. Leather appreciates a rest, and you are not fair to your shoes if you wear the same pair every day of the week. Whilst resting the shoes should not be allowed to go out of shape.

Cleaning or dressing is also important. Generally, ladies will find a good white cream most indispensable. It preserves the beauty of the tint, and also the grain of the leather. It is unnecessary to get a dressing to impose colour; black shoes need an occasional dressing of black polish—but a good deal of rubbing. Reptile shoes call for special treatment. Above all, remember that leather lives and needs feeding and the surface protection against the weather.

ONE THOUSAND MILES OF ARMY BOOTS

It is difficult to record how British boot and shoe manufacturers succeeded in providing the many millions of sound wearing and comfortable boots required for the armies during the war without creating in the minds of those not connected with the industry the impression that an element of exaggeration has been allowed to creep into the story. The figures named in this section are from official information, the accuracy of which cannot be challenged.

It is necessary to revert to pre-war days in order toinstitute a comparison and to show the real character of the war-time achievement of the British boot manufacturing industry. Prior to August, 1914, the whole of the boots required for the army amounted annually to a few hundred thousand pairs. The goods were made by a group of a dozen manufacturers carrying on business in three or four of the villages in the county of Northampton. When millions of pairs were wanted to equip the soldiers it was found necessary for the Royal Army Clothing Department toseek other sources of supply. So huge were the requirements of the War Office that manufacturers who had never previously made a pair of army boots were called upon to organise their factories and to teach workers productive processes with which many were unfamiliar. One firm in Northampton (Simon Collier, Ltd.) produced over 2,500,000 pairs of army boots.

It was customary in those days freely to talk in millions, but how many of my readers fully grasp what is meant by the making of 2,500,000 pairs of army boots? It required 17½ million square feet of leather, equal to 400 acres; 4,000 tons of sole leather; 1,150 tons of metal for nailing the soles and heels, or more than sufficient with which to build two



ARMY BOOTS.

Made by Messrs. Simon Collier, Ltd., Northampton.

Top: British B.5. French.

Bottom: Field Service. Italian. Serbian. Field.

Service.

fair sized torpedo boat destroyers; 55 tons of thread and 78,000,000 eyelets.

In the production of ten pairs of army boots it is estimated that for the necessary upper and sole leather the hides of two cattle are required. It will, therefore, be seen that to supply the order named above, 380,000 cattle had to be slaughtered.

Just one other illustration. Imagine 2,500,000 pairs of army boots placed toe to heel in one line. That line would measure just 950 miles.

In addition to supplying army boots for the British armies, substantial contracts were executed for the French, Rumanian, Serbian, Italian, Russian and American armies.

VII. THE TANNER, 1747

N 1747 the Lord Mayor of London called for a report on various trades. This report, dated 28th September, 1747, was presented by a Mr. R. Campbell, and dealing with leather he said:—

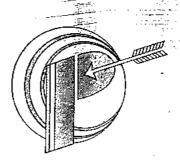
" Before we make shoes we must prepare the leather. It is tanned after this manner. The bullock's hide is put into a pit of lime which strips it of the hair and prepares it for the remainder of the operation. It lies some time in the pit, the workman taking care it does not lie so long as to burn; then it is washed, the hair scraped off, and prepared for the bark pit. The bark usually used is oak, stripped from the timber in summer, dried in the sun and made small in a mill which the tanners use for that purpose, but several other barks serve for the same end, such as birch, and barley is better than any. The leather is put into a pit full of this bark and a quantity of water, and there it remains until barked, which they know by cutting a piece of the hide to see if the bark has penetrated quite through. Then it is dried and comes under the dresser's hands, who shaves off all the uneven rough inside and with oils prepares it for the shoemaker's use. Sole leather requires but little dressing in comparison with upper leather.

"As to tanning, it is performed in the country, and the hides ready tanned are sent up to London and bought by the several classes of leather dressers at Leadenhall Market.

"The journeyman earns from 15/- to 20/- a week. They require great strength, and it is a nauseous, dirty business. A youth can do good at it till he is about fifteen or sixteen, which is early enough to bind him. He requires

FASHION LEATHERS

for every season



W. Pearce & Co. (Northampton) Ltd.

Leather Manufacturers

VICTORIA ROAD
NORTHAMPTON
ENGLAND





only to know reading and writing, which he may be without if he does not expect to be a master."

Dealing with the leather cutter, the report says:-

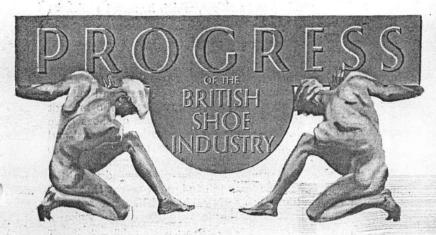
"The leather cutter is a tradesman between the leather dresser and shoemaker. Till of late years the shoemaker bought his skins or half-hides from the dresser, and cut out his work, but the number of poor shoemakers who are not able to lay out the money except for a pair of shoes gave rise to this branch. They cut out their leather in 'soals' and upper leather-in bits that answer those uses according to sizes—and sell them to the necessitous shoemaker. It is very profitable, but requires a general knowledge in the properties of leather and enough judgment to cut skins and hides in such a manner as they shall yield most patterns It requires less judgment to make a without waste. workman and less money to make a master than the leather dresser. The journeymen are few, generally decayed shoemakers, and have but small wages."

How different from the cutter or clicker of to-day!

VIII. THE SHOEMAKER, 1747

ONTINUING his address to the Lord Mayor on the shoemaker, he says:---" It is much more ingenious to make a woman's shoe than a man's; few are good at both; they are frequently two distinct branches. The woman's shoemaker requires much neater seams as the materials are much finer. shoemaker employs women to bind the shoes and sew the quarters together when they are made of silk, damask, or callimingo. This business affords reasonable profit to the master, but the journeyman, especially in the men's way, get small wages, not above nine or ten shillings a week. They are paid so much a pair, according to the work and largeness of the shoes. The country shoemakers supply most of the sales shops in Town, the price of making being too large here to allow the shopkeepers to employ London workmen. The hands are pretty constantly employed except in frosty weather, when the wax they use upon their thread hinders them from working; or if they do work upon necessity in frost with the help of great fires, their work is good for Shoemaking does not require much strength, nor a mechanical head, only a moderate share of ingenuity. youth may be bound about fourteen, and at coming out of his time be sufficiently qualified to set up for himself, or work as a journeyman, unless he has idled his time or been bound

to a very ignorant master."



HOE manufacturing in Great Britain is an outstanding example of 20th-century progress and it has frequently and truly been said that its present and well-organised state is largely due to the Service of The British United Shoe Machinery of the service of the british United since Machinery Co., Ltd. Not content merely to make machines and accessories, the Company places the whole of the experience and technical skill of its staff at the service of the manufacturer. Advice on the lay-out of new factories or on the modernizing of old ones is freely given, every detail of factory planning and shoe-making being included within the scope of this Service. The Company have established Depote in company have established Depots in every shoe, making centre, each maintaining a staff of skilled operators and mechanics whose duty it is to assist the manufacturer in every way in obtaining maximum quantity and quality from every BUSMC machine.

> Since 1899 when the Company was founded this Service has been of inestimable value to the industry; to-day it is not too much to say it is indispensable.

NION WORKS LEICESTER

Depots :

LEICESTER Union Works

LONDON 462 Bethnal Green Rd., E.2

NORTHAMPTON Upper Mounts

NORWICH Starling Road

KETTERING School Lane

RUSHDEN Midland Road

KINGSWOOD 329 Two Mile Hill Rd STAFFORD Marston Road

WATERF00T

4 Lord Edward St GLASGOW

DUBLIN

BARWELL

Malt Mill Bank

CHESHAM Townsend Road 153 Howard Street

LEEDS 64 & 66 North Street Victoria Parade

THE BRITISH UNITED SHOE MACHINERY CO. LTD. WHE LEICESTER

IX. THE MACHINES THAT MAKE THE SHOES

O story on footwear would be complete without the inclusion of a reference to the British United Shoe Machinery Company, seeing that more than ninety per cent. of the boots and shoes manufactured in this country are produced on machines made and supplied by the British United Machinery Company.

The company began its business in 1899 with head offices at Leicester. To-day there are fourteen depots in various shoe centres, and the company produces machinery for three distinct trades—boot and shoe manufacture, printing, and saddlery trade, over 300 types in all.

In addition to manufacturing toe puffs, counters, tacks, nails, hob nails, heel pins, wire, sandpaper, wood and steel whoe racks, it also turns out fittings and fixtures of every description.

The company has a staff of highly skilled operators in each depot, men trained in the art of shoemaking, together with skilled mechanics always ready to render assistance to those manufacturers when occasions arise. The company places its knowledge of the industry at the service of the shoe manufacturer, and its work and help to the best interests of the trade has been, and still is, freely acknowledged by the industry.

Over 98 per cent, of machine parts used are actually made at the company's works, and in no other industry has more progress been made in the development of mechanical equipment. I am told that 79,000,000 toe puffs, 2,000,000 needles, and 1,000,000 heeling boards are sold annually, in addition to hundreds of thousands of awls and press knives.

X. THE LAST MAN

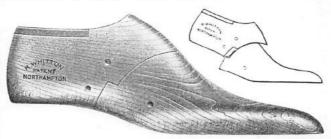
AST MAKING, originally a section of boot making, became a separate industry, and in 1765 Northampton had a last man.

The evolution that has taken place in the wood last making industry during the last fifty years is perhaps greater than that in most industries,

Fifty years ago all wood lasts were made entirely by hand, not a power machine being in use, and the men who were employed were highly skilled at their trade. These wooden lasts were mostly made to be used as a pattern from which the iron lasts were cast, iron lasts being the only kind used by the boot manufacturer at that time.

About 1885 the first copying lathe was used for the purpose of turning lasts, but the machine was crude. This was an improvement on hand making. The machine was only able to produce a copy of the model last which was used, but a few years later an American lathe was invented which enabled a firm to turn from one model last any size desired, and also turn left or right feet lasts from the same model. Various machines were then run in conjunction with these lathes; such as band saws, circular saws, drilling machines, and to run with this series of machines was adopted a paper pattern sole grading machine. This machine leads up to the present time when the process of making lasts is of great importance as far as accuracy in grade is concerned, and during the various operations a last goes through it is now accompanied round the factory with a paper sole pattern This enables the last maker to make accurately graded. certain that all lasts are supplied to the shoe manufacturer This is necessary owing to the absolutely accurate. importance of the fitting of the insoles, and also to the upper patterns, many of which are now supplied to the boot manufacturer by last makers.

Lasts are made in different ways to accommodate the various kinds of boots. For instance, lasts that are required



A GENTLEMAN'S CIRCULAR CUT MAKING LAST.
The small diagram shows the method of shortening the last when slipping from the shoe.



A LADY'S CIRCULAR CUT MAKING LAST.
(Reproduction by courtesy of R. Whitton.)

for the making of machine-sewn boots have a galvanised sheet iron plate covering the whole of the last; lasts needed for welted footwear require only the heel covering with metal. These lasts are also made in various hinged styles. Here we see a last made in two parts, hinged in the centre so that when the hinge is broken it causes the last to shorten, which enables the boot or shoe to be slipped off the last easily and without distorting the shape.

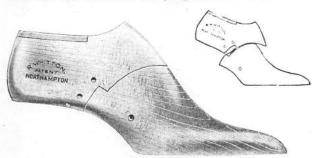
ROCK MAPLE

The wood now universally used for the purpose of last manufacturing is rock maple, imported from Canada and the United States. Maple has taken the place of English beech. Another imported wood is called bass wood, utilised for making a very light wooden filler which is used for the purpose of shop window dressing.

Lasts made for notable people by a Northampton last man include the late King Edward, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, King Lobengula (for the first pair of boots he had made, size 16, with a joint measurement of 15½ inches), Machnow, the Russian giant (size 26), Carnera, the Italian boxer, and lasts for the Allied armies during the Great War.

Now for the other side of the picture. In 1747 the last maker was not looked upon as an important operator. It is on record that "lasts were made generally of birch or some soft wood. It was a laborious employment, though the men were assisted by a kind of engine. This had a large knife, one end fixed to a block in such a manner that it could be moved up and down; the other end had a handle. The wood was held upon a block and by raising the handle the wood was cut. They also made wooden heels for men's and women's shoes, but neither the last cutting nor heel shaping required a great deal of ingenuity. It was a poor business and wages were small."

The last manufacturer has progressed since 1747.



A PICTURE OF A NEW CONTINENTAL MODEL. (Reproduction by courtesy of R. Whitton.)

XI.

RATES OF WAGES.

T HE following rates of wages in 1908 compared with 1933 make interesting reading. To-day there is a national rate applicable to all areas.

MINIMUM WAGE RATES (Day Workers)

1908

1933

Name of T	own.		Click	ers	Press	m'n	Las	ters	Fin'h	ers	All Grades
	3345	4	S.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d	S.	đ.	
Aberdeen			28	0	26	0	28	0	28	0	Contractor and Contractor
Arbroath			28	0	26	0	28	0	28	0	1
Bristol			29	0	25	0	28	0	28	0	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Barnsley			28	0	27	0	27	0	28	0	
Belfast			26	Ö	26	0	26	0	26	0	
Bishop Auckla	nd			0	30	0	30	0	30	0	701 (40) (62)
Chesterfield			28	0	28	0	P	iece	work		
Dundee			28	0	26	0	28	0	28	0	
Dublin			28	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH
Daventry			97	Ö	Piece			0	28	0	
Derby			2'	٧.	1		28	0	28	0	1 - The second state
Desborough	***						20		- 2.5		1 - 1 - 1
Edinburgh			30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	
Glasgow	***	- 1	70		0.0		30	0	30	0	-
Glasgow		***	30	0	30	0	00	000	- 00		1
Halifax		***	28	0			Piece		28	0	
Heckmondwik			28	0	25	0	28	0	28	ŏ	1 .
Higham & Rus			26	0	22	0	27	0.	27	0	
Hinckley, Bar	well	***	20	U	1		28	0	28	0	
and Shilto			***		***		28	0	26	0	54/-
Ipswich	***		-0		200				30	0	
Kettering	+++		30	0	30	0	30	0	29	0	as a National Rate
Kilmarnock	***	**	***		***		29		30	0	
Kendal	***				90		30	0		0	
Leicester	***	5.00	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	
Leeds	***	4.44	30	0	200		28	0	28	0	
Leeds	9.40	**	227	2000	28	0				0	
Leador South			30	0	27	0	30	0	30	ő	
Manchester	+++		26	0	26	0	26	0	26		
Marbole			27	0	27	0 :	27	0	27	3	1
Mansfield	***		26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	1
Newcastle			30	0	28	0	30	0	30	0	
Nottingham	***		***		0.000		30	0	30	0	
Northampton			***				29	0	29	0	1
Plymouth	+++		28	0	28	0	28	0	28	0	
Stafford	***		30	0	29	0	30	U	30	0	1
Stone			***				26	0	26	0	_
W≠rcester	111		28	0	26	0	28	0	28	0	1
Weiverhampte	on		30	0	27	0	30	0	30	0	f.
Kiegswood	444		28	0			***		444		
Arstey					***		28	0	28	0	I
Paulton -Bris	tol						28	0	28	0	
Wigston							28	0	28	0	

SOLE CUTTERS

Nethampton		:0 o	2S 0	 ***	54/- National
Acconding on	***	CO 10	-0 0	 	

WOMEN

All Districts	No National Rate	33/- National Rate
	1	

The rates for pieceworkers are considerably higher than day rates, in some instances being as much as 50 per cent, or more than the day rate.

The pieceworker (maker) in 1772 received for a week's work 11/8, compared with 80/- to-day. Despite the low labour costs of one hundred and sixty years ago, the prices of footwear were high. Here are a few specimen prices of shoes copied from an advertisement which was published in 1764.

XII. PRICES OF FOOTWEAR

	R	eady	Made	Bespo	ke
MEN'S		s.		£ s.	d.
Best Calf-Skin Boots		16	0	1 0	0.
Strong Plain ditto		14	0	16	0
Double-Channel Pumps		6		7	0
Single-Channel Pumps	٠		6	6	0
Neat stitch'd heel'd Shoes and Pum			0	- 6	0
Neat flat Shoes and Pumps wax'd	or				
black grain			3	5	0
Best flat Shoes and turn'd Pumps	-	4	9	5	6
Strong plain Double or Single Se	o!e				
Shoes		4	0	4	9
WOMEN'S					
Everlasting and Callimanco		3	9	. 4	6
Superfine ditto lin'd with Linen	0.7				
Leather Socks	• • • •	4	3	5	
Neat and Strong Leather Pumps		2	9	3	2
Neat and Strong Leather Shoes				2	10
Black Leather Clogs			6		
Toed Clogs	· · ·	3	10		

Despite the progress made, the man in the street is apt to take these everyday miracles of life for granted, but all things have small beginnings.