

that is at least 30% as long-lived as the best tire procurable from natural rubber at present restricted mileage speeds, and it is believed that with further development and experimentation a better tire can be made from Buna-S than from the natural product. It is hoped that the price of the synthetic product will be competitive with that of natural rubber over the average of the years, and it is believed that a better product is ultimately possible at a competitive price.

Co-operation
with the
United States

At the time the decision was taken to embark on the production of Buna-S, most of the United States program was predicated on the use of petroleum as a base stock in the production of butadiene, which, compounded with styrene in a polymerizing process, becomes artificial rubber. In order to place the project on a working basis with a minimum of delay, and to assist with the obtaining of necessary priority ratings in the United States for equipment and materials not procurable from Canadian sources, it was considered advisable to use existing plans, designs, drawings and specifications prepared and developed by the Rubber Reserve Company in the United States. In addition, patents for the process of polymerization were pooled and made free to both governments for the duration of war and for a certain period thereafter, and the results obtained after extensive development work in the production of butadiene from a petroleum base were made available to Canada on the same basis as similar projects in the United States.

Canada was given full benefit of the patent pooling agreements which had been made by the Rubber Reserve Company with the companies and industries in the United States whom it was felt were best qualified to help the government overcome the intricate problems arising out of the manufacture of synthetic rubber on the large scale required for war. Processes included in valuable patents owned by the Standard Oil Development Company covering the manufacture of Buna-S and Butyl rubber, and butadiene, became royalty free for the period of the emergency. About one-quarter of the materials and equipment required was not obtainable from Canadian sources, and through the correlation of the programs of the two countries Canada was able to obtain considerable