sheet and extract from it every particle of moisture.

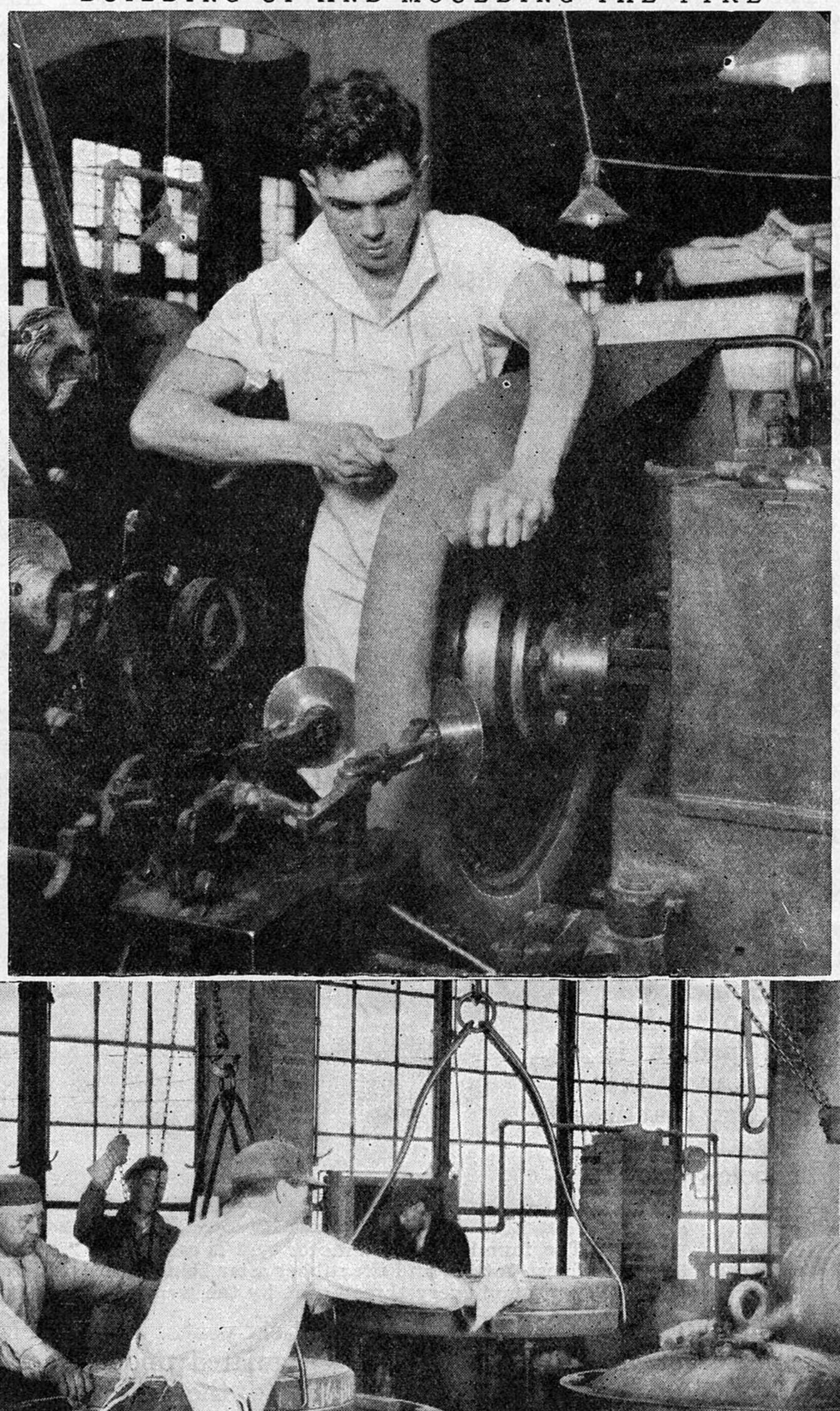
Next it is put into mills, which rub and crush it until it loses its elasticity and becomes soft and plastic like putty. In this form it is ready for the mixing-room, where the sulphur and other necessary ingredients are added to it.

Each product has a special requirement, which must be taken into account in the preparation. Some must be hard, others soft; some must stand abrasion, others heat; some will come in contact with acid, others must stand continuous pounding, and still others a steady pressure.

Each one of the ingredients is weighed with painstaking care. Then the mixture is pressed between hot rollers, from which it emerges a sheet of prepared rubber about a quarter of an inch in thickness.

Now the rubber is ready to be made into a finished product. Some articles are built up over a rubber fabric, such as hose, belting, motor tyres, and rubber shoes; some are moulded, as rubber heels and

BUILDING UP AND MOULDING THE TYRE



In the top picture the tyre is being built up layer by layer over a polished steel core. As the workman draws strips of fabric and rubber sheet over it, the big wheel is turned slowly and the two little wheels at the side help to shape the rubber round the core. This part of the work requires the most expert hand labour. Next the tyre is put into a mould and transferred by carriers to the vulcanizing-room (bottom picture). There, by the action of steam and pressure, the whole casing is fused together into a tough and springy tyre.

For any subject not found in its alphabetical place see information