

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements

Foreword

Preface

Part 1

Chapter 1	the great exhibition 1862	13
Chapter 2	the birth of an industry	17
Chapter 3	Daniel Spill holds the lone	28
Chapter 4	celluloid comes of age in Newark, NJ	33
Chapter 5	the British Xylonite Company	41
Chapter 6	the ubiquitous celluloid	45

Part 2

Chapter 7	semi-synthetic plastics	55
Chapter 8	the first synthetic resins	61
Chapter 9	providing the theoretical base	70
Chapter 10	the arrival of the thermoplastic giants	74
Chapter 11	the cataract	88
Chapter 12	from raw materials to plastics articles	99
Chapter 13	on to the second century	113
	A chronology of plastics with a hundred dates	119
	Illustrations	121
	Index	123