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EASTERN COUNTIES

a **NATIONAL** bus company



**The Semi-Automatic Gearbox
its use and care**

THE SEMI-AUTOMATIC GEARBOX

ITS USE AND CARE

The RE-RL-RLE-LN-LL-LC & VR vehicles are fitted with a semi-Automatic Gearbox costing approximately £2,500.

Used properly, this unit, which is of the latest design, makes driving much easier under all service conditions. It is essential, however, that the following points are observed in order to get the best results and to avoid damage to this costly component.

1. Gear changing should be carried out as if the Gearbox were a normal manual type (excepting of course the use of the clutch). Pause briefly in neutral and match the engine speed to the gear you wish to select, either by allowing the engine to die down (upward change) or by depressing the accelerator (downward change)

2. Avoid changing down at too high speeds as this will result in the engine overspeeding with a risk of damage to both the engine and the transmission.

3. Engage neutral rather than keeping the vehicle in gear while stationary in traffic as this can cause the fluid flywheel to overheat with possible fire risks.

4. Do not coast, in neutral as this can result in insufficient lubricating oil being circulated in the Gearbox, leading to damage. Similar damage can be caused on vehicles fitted with the door control position on the gear switch, if this position is selected whilst the vehicle is still in motion

5. Brake Band Adjustment. Before starting each day run the engine. Full air pressure **MUST** be built up. Switch off engine and move the gear selector lever slowly in and out of each gear position 5 or 6 times (starter switch **MUST** be on). After completing this procedure restart engine and proceed. In this way jerky gear engagement or transmission slip can be avoided by correct adjustment of the Gearbox brake bands.

6. Towing. If the vehicle has to be towed for any distance exceeding 3 miles (5 Kilometres), it is essential that the gear propeller shaft be disconnected from Gearbox or the rear axle driving shafts be withdrawn

7. As these vehicles offer maximum passenger comfort, it is vital that everything possible is done to avoid unnecessary damage resulting in a withdrawal from service. the co-operation of the driver in the observation of these points will do much to assist in vehicle availability