

# WRIGHT AHEAD

## THE HEAD-WRIGHTSON NEWS LETTER

Vol 1

JANUARY 1949

No. 1

### A Letter from the Managing Director

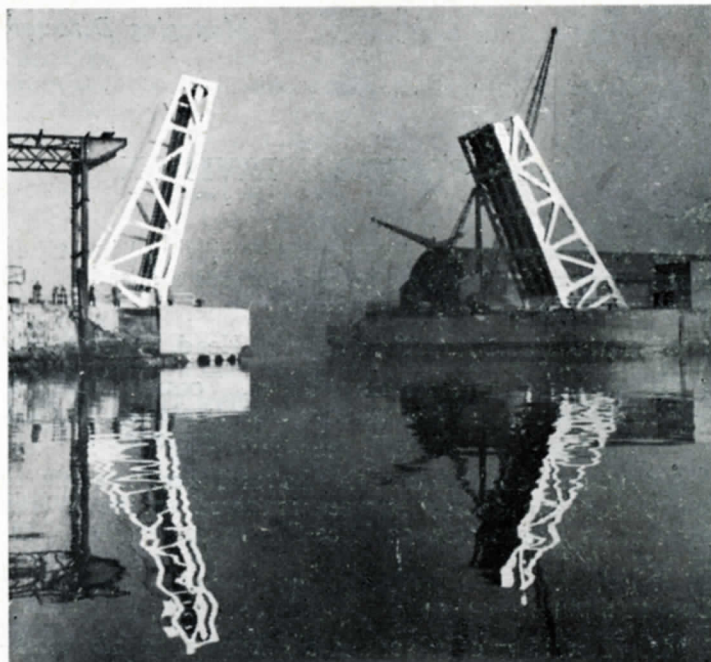
My Friends,

This is the first number of our newspaper. I was asked to write a foreword for it and agreed to do so with considerable pleasure. It is really to be *our* newspaper, for circulation amongst ourselves, from Seaton Carew to Benoni, or from Middlesbrough to Johannesburg, in case some of you at Seaton and Benoni have not heard of each other.

The object of our newspaper is thus explained. Though the services we give are allied, that is to say, the provision of iron, steel, aluminium and engineering manufactures, and consulting in the heavy industries, our activities are scattered. This newspaper will try to bring us more together, and "the more we are together, the merrier we shall be".

Perhaps I should not be ill-advised in the beginning, to show you what we make and where. Here is the list:—

HEAD WRIGHTSON & Co. LTD. THORNABY-ON-TEES. ENGINEERING DIVISION	No. of Employees	Technical Staff
Blast Furnace Plant, Steel Works Plant, Oil Refinery Plant, Dock and Harbour Equipment, Bridges, Wagons, Aluminium Fabrications.	(883)	[69]
<b>McKEE IRON &amp; STEEL DIVISION</b> Iron & Steel Works Contracting and Con- sulting	(30)	[30]
<b>HEAD WRIGHTSON STEEL FOUNDRIES LTD.</b> STOCKTON-ON-TEES AND STEEL FOUNDRIES DIVISION, THORNABY-ON-TEES Alloy etc. Steel Castings	(733)	[25]
<b>HEAD, WRIGHTSON STAMPINGS LTD. SEATON CAREW, AND DROP FORGINGS DIVISION, THORNABY-ON-TEES</b> Drop Forgings	(444)	[6]
<b>STOCKTON FORGE WORKS, STOCKTON-ON-TEES</b> Colliery Plant, Metal Mining Plant, Mech- anical Handling	(575)	[50]
<b>IRON FOUNDRIES, EGGLESCLIFFE</b> Ingot Moulds, Railway Chairs, Tunnel Seg- ments, Engineering Castings	(431)	[5]
<b>THE HEAD, WRIGHTSON MACHINE Co. LTD., MIDDLESBROUGH</b> Rolling Mills & Auxiliary Plant for Steel and non-ferrous	(376)	[71]
<b>HEAD, WRIGHTSON PROCESSES LTD., LONDON</b> Oil Refinery Plant Consulting and Con- tracting	(146)	[146]
<b>HEAD, WRIGHTSON LIGHT ALLOY STRUCTURES LTD., LONDON</b> Research and Consulting for Light Metals	(12)	[12]
<b>HEAD, WRIGHTSON &amp; Co, SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD., JOHANNESBURG</b> Consulting & Merchanting	(5)	[2]
<b>WRIGHT BOAG, HEAD WRIGHTSON (PTY) LTD., BENONI</b> Mining, Mechanical and Construction En- gineering	(1147)	[35]



THE ALUMINIUM BRIDGE

The figures in round brackets show the number of people employed at the time of writing. I would call your attention to the figures in square brackets too. They are the numbers on our technical staffs. They have been shown separately because I wish to emphasise how we try to keep up with modern technique. The counterpart in the works is good quality and finish. But none of these will avail if the cost is wrong.

With good designs, good quality workmanship and the right costs, there should be continuous employment for us, for we serve many industries, we have wide connections, and we have a developing organisation for marketing in many parts of the world.

This foreword seems to be striking a more serious note than I intended when I started. But we must deal with first things first. Perhaps later we may deal with more light-hearted subjects. We are primarily an industrial organisation. Like the farmer we must provide for our own and our customers' needs, and must harvest more corn than the seeds we sow.

For every £1 of finished equipment sold there goes :-

s.	d.	
10	6	to Materials
5	4	wages and salaries
1	3	overheads
1	0	taxation and social service
0	8	e'ctricity and fuel
0	8	depreciation and reserves
0	4½	freight
0	2½	dividends
20	0	

If this newspaper will help us understand things connected with our work, and to understand each other

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better, it will serve an invaluable purpose. Occasionally, I hope, it may amuse us. Like everything else we undertake, it will start modestly, so do not expect too much. Its progress will depend on your active support. My best wishes go out with it to you all.

Sir Guy is in South Africa. We all know his wishes to you would be as unfailingly kind as they have been since he joined the Firm fifty-two years ago.

Yours very sincerely,

*Richard Uile,*

*Managing Director.*

## IRON FOUNDRY DIVISION

### Sport.

Mr. N. Rowntree is a keen motor-cyclist and has taken part in many speed trials; he has attained a speed of 110 miles per hour (Flying Kilo).

What about a Motor-Cycle Club in Head, Wrightson's?

The well-known Thornaby Boxer, Tommy Burns is trained by Mr. D. R. Barnes who is interested in forming a Boxing Club in the firm. Anyone interested?

We tender our sincere thanks and appreciation to Mr. Joe Robinson for services rendered to the Works Production Committee as Vice-Chairman, since its inception.

### Congratulations.

Mr. H. Williams, affectionately known to his work-mates as "COCKY" who married Miss Ivy Pinnegar on December 18th, at St. Paul's Church, Thornaby.

Our Division are pleased to record their high appreciation of the Packed Meals Service. We have our own time saving system of distribution with Mr. George Howe as the "Spearhead".

## PER ARDUA AD EGGLESCLIFFE

We never hit the headlines; you'll never see us at the flicks,  
Inconspicuous; unglamorous; generally getting the kicks;  
No Basque Bridges or Dock Gates; Blast Furnaces or Caissons,  
Just the same old type of product made to the same old tune.  
But the rhythm my friends is a good one, of honest stern endeavour,  
Of years of service to Firm and Land, and output in all sorts of weather.  
Chairs for the British Railways; Segments for Tunnels and shafts;  
Ingot Moulds for the Steelworks; we're masters of all Foundry Crafts.  
From old and well-worn Foundries, cramped for space and thrust,  
The castings have gone pouring out, leaving behind just dust.  
But out of this dust has arisen a dream, a dream of a Foundry to be.  
New Shops! Offices! Canteen! A model for all to see.  
And there we'll do our utmost to add lustre to our name, And ensure that H. W. Egglecliffe will appear in the Hall of Fame.  
To each and every Department and Directors on the Board,  
We pledge to enhance the name of H. W. at home and all countries abroad.

### Happy Events.

A daughter to Mr. & Mrs. Alf York.

Alf is a Crane Driver. He was our 'Welfare Representative', so should know all about babies. Hobbies:- Cricket & Shooting.

A son to Mr. & Mrs. G. McKie. George is also a Crane-driver. Hobbies:- Beer pulling etc.

### Comments.

Is it the Air at the Cliffe or the Cranes (Storks).

### To All Concerned.

Alf. Ramer is 'still' courting.

J. Turnbull (over 70) greatest wish to play centre-forward to W. Mannion.

J. Fail, still going strong after 50 years' service.

## ENGINEERING DIVISION

The first copy of the new Works Magazine would not be complete without some mention of the Aluminium Bridge, the latest achievement of the Engineering Division, recently opened at Hendon Dock, Sunderland. Ample descriptions are to be found in all the technical papers, it is sufficient to say here that it is the first of its kind in the world to be built of Aluminium Alloy. Its importance can be judged by the fact that two very good broadcasts were put over by the B.B.C. and films made which are to be distributed to the world.

Whilst the Head Wrightson Light Alloy Structure Co. and Mr. Walker, the designer, have received a great deal of well-deserved praise and publicity, it would not be out of place to name others who contributed much towards its successful construction. J. E. Burn did a large amount of the design work, G. Bateman did the bulk of the detailing and A. Athey looked after the machinery and electrical drawings. On the Works side, A. Colbourne was responsible for most of the templates, G. Mellanby for the plating, H. Parsons for the jig up for drilling the quadrants and J. Hall for the site erection. A. W. Moore was the chief electrician, and F. Goodman looked after the fitting work on site.

It is not possible to name each individual who worked on the contract but some 60 men and women played their part and it was through their working as a team under L. Reed, D.O., J. Shaw, B.Y., J. Franklin, M.S., M. Wilson Alloy Shop, R. Allison, Erection Dept., W. Hutchinson, Wks. Eng., that the Sunderland Bridge will be a landmark in the history of Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd., who at all times attempt to lead in the Engineering world.

Other outstanding contracts which give an idea of the versatility of the Engineering Division should also be mentioned. In December the last of 6 Mitre Dock Gates for Calais was launched into the River Tees and towed over to France. The weight of each gate was 62 tons. A further two are now 'on the stocks' for King's Lynn.

The orders for 5-1000 ton Hot Metal Mixers for the steel industry are contracts which suit our shops and we are proud of the finished product.

Seven of the largest Heat Exchangers ever built in England, with special Ni.Cr. flanges are now going through the shops. The welding of the flanges is, in itself, an outstanding achievement. Each Exchanger has 5 miles of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " dia. brass tubes in the bundle.

During the last 12 months, the Wagon Dept. has built 824 wagons, including a number of specials for the Iron and Steel Plants and 65 Bogie Ballast Wagons which are



70' long. 16 American designed Treadwell ladle carriages are now in production.

The McKee Sinter Machines and Coolers now in the shops for Appleby Frodingham will be a very big improvement on any previous machines of their type made in this country.

#### Hearty Congratulations to

T. Helm, who was born in 1869 and started work, in the Iron Foundry in 1885. He was employed in skimming, puddling, ramming and chair wheeling. He was ramming up on the first Segments to be made at Teesdale. Foreman was Mr. Willott. He was then transferred to the Bridge Yard where he has worked for 50 years, first as labourer and then as anglesmith's striker. Hale and active and still a good worker, he has helped many apprentices in the Shop.

He attended Sir Guy's 21st birthday and wedding celebrations. He retired at the end of 1948 with the good wishes for continued good health and fortune from all Bridge Yard personnel.

One doesn't usually associate Cupid with a Heavy Machine Shop but in the past we've had quite a few weddings between the Lads and Lasses of the Department. The latest is between "Nobby" Fleming of the Tool Room and Betty Leeming of the Light Bay. We send them our best wishes for the future.

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. George Wilson, Heavy Bay, on the birth of their first child, a son.

Our darts team to everyone's (including their own) surprise reached the final of the Darts Competition only to be beaten. We have a departmental football team and would be pleased to arrange fixtures with other divisions.

The extension to the Light Bay is nearly completed and more valuable floor space is to be put to use. In recent years the floor space alongside the Old Heavy Bay has been doubled.

The machines are getting a 'New Look' coat of Light Grey Paint which is making the shops much lighter.

### STOCKTON FORGE DIVISION

At Stockton Forge we have working in our shops two County cricketers. Dickie Spooner and Alan Townsend received their County Caps in their first season's play for Warwickshire. Alan made 90 not out against Lancashire, and I believe Dickie finished third in the wicket keeper's table of batsmen stumped and caught at the wicket, and also made over 800 runs in the season.

Raymond Shaw, one of our young draughtsmen who went to America recently on a Kemsley Scholarship tour, has now returned. Whilst in America he spent some time gleaning useful information from each of the American companies with whom Stockton Forge is associated in the manufacture of mining, drying and screening machinery.

#### Condolences.

It is with deep regret we announce the passing of Joseph May, smith's striker, who died suddenly on December 7. Mr. May worked for many years at Teesdale Works and has been with the Forge for 8 years.

We should also like to extend our sympathy to the family of Mrs. Annie Sowerby, who died on December 10, aged 70. Mr. Joseph Sowerby, her husband, has been with the firm 50 years. Their two sons both work at the Forge. Wm. Sowerby is foreman of the bridge

yard and Harry is a plater. Mr & Mrs Sowerby had been married 46 years.

#### Congratulations.

To Mr & Mrs H. J. Blakey on the birth of a daughter.

### H. W. MACHINE CO.

On behalf of the Company's very lusty infant, we can report an ever increasing activity, limited only by the space at our disposal at the moment.

As our extra bays are brought into full use, there will no doubt be a big increase in our output. It is hoped that there will soon be an increase (??) in the *Bacon Ration* in view of the shipment by us in recent months of equipment to Australia, India, Belgium, France, Sweden and Holland. Our politicians will soon be able to get into *hot water* with greater frequency than hitherto (5" at a time, Mr. Gaitskell) when the long copper tubes for the re-built House of Commons are made by Yorkshire Copper Works Ltd. on equipment recently supplied by us (Rotary Piercer, two Drawbenches, two Squeeze Pointers). Incidentally, the tubes used in making the Heat Exchangers and Condensers at Teesdale are in all probability made on drawbenches built by H.W.M.

Among our social occasions was the recent Staff Dance, at which a very good time was had by all, due in no small measure to the party spirit infused into the evening by Mr. Frank Shepherd who, as the responsible M.C., "watched his flock" with great care. No doubt his middle name is "Sinatra". Mr. Lake rushed his journey from London to "show willing" and made a short speech. Also in attendance, and fortunately invisible, saith Dame Rumour, was our old friend (or was he?) Cupid, who managed to get home with a nifty arrow or two.

The general outcome was a nice contribution to the Staff Benevolent Fund, which is disbursed from time to time with great impartiality and generosity, an indication of what can be done with a little effort and co-operation.

Two of our veteran "hammer-wielders" and "spanner manipulators", Messrs. "Dick" Young and Jack Sewell have retired, at the ages of 78 and 75 respectively, the attainment of these ages in active employment being surely an unique achievement. To mark the appreciation of all with whom they have been in contact, a presentation of Treasury Notes was made to each, the contributors ranging from apprentices to Directors, the little ceremony being ably performed on November 12th by Mr. N. C. Lake, all Departments being well represented. Let us wish them both many happy years of retirement!

In remote corners, "Dicky" Johnson our millwright may be seen practising folding squares into triangles, with his mouth full of half-inch bolts. This seems to herald the visit of the stork, so congratulations, Richard, on your Christmas-box daughter.

And now, may I wish this Magazine every success, and to all who read it A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

### MAINTENANCE DIVISION

#### Marriages.

Cricketer marries into Cricketing Family. Douglas Merryweather to Aline Townsend, sister of Alan Townsend, The Warwickshire County Cricketer and daughter of Charles Townsend, the well-known Thornaby Cricketer of the past.



**Engagements.**

Harry (Sammy) Edwards, the electrician and Winifred Sayers are to be married in the near future. Winifred was at one time a Cook in our Canteen and Sammy assisted with the electrical wiring of the Sunderland Bridge at Sunderland.

Sunderland Bridge seeme to have caused a separation which has made hearts grow fonder and led to the engagement of Alfred Briggs to Margo Scott.

**Retirements.**

Mr. Wm. Barker is retiring very shortly at the age of 68, due to poor health, after a long and varied working life.

He has worked in various departments of Head Wrightson & Co. including Iron Foundry, Chair Shop and Ingot Mould Shop, Stockyard and Bridge Yard Shops. The last 10 years with the company have been spent working on the saw benches in our Joiners Shop, totalling 45 years of intermittent service.

We trust in his retirement that his health will be improved and lasting.

**Sickness.**

Walter Tranter who, apart from being well known as the Works Engineering Department's Foreman Erector, is equally well known throughout the Welfare and Athletic circles, has suffered ill health for a number of weeks. We wish him a speedy recovery and return to his work.

**Overheard in the Works.**

After General Council Meeting: "Was there many there?" — "They were climbing up the walls."

(Herewith an unexpurgated letter from a Yugo-Slavian employed in our Maintenance Department. — Ed.)

**A SMALL TRIBUTE**

In the mist of an October morning last year I set my eyes for the first time on the land that was to be my new home - on England.

With a blue uniform on and a long and enlightening experience in the Royal Air Force behind, I did not come to England as a complete stranger. Leaning against the side of the ship I was trying to visualise the life that will be my home, the community that will take me in as its member and the people that will be my new friends. At the same time many hundreds of others aboard the same ship were perhaps thinking similar things. It was much easier for them to see ahead as they were sons of this land and they knew that little home they were going back to, the small back garden, neighbours next door and the little pub round the corner. It was not very easy to form a clear picture and I was slightly upset but nevertheless looking cheerfully forward to it all.

With a new demob suit on, I arrived to Stockton to stay with an old war-time friend Mr. A. Sutton, an ex employee of Head Wrightson & Co. Government restrictions and Emergency Laws made it difficult to make a right start and I was to be a trainee stamp driver with Head Wrightson & Co.

The morning I walked through the big doors of Teesdale Smiths Shop, thinking of resentment that few unhappy cases have brought against Poles and in turn against all foreigners, I was expecting a storm. Instead, I was received with greatest sincerity and friendship and given every help. I spent only two weeks in the shop but I shall always remember it for the gallant crowd of

workers that I had the honour to meet and know.

I was still more pleasantly surprised when I conceived a further interest that has been shown towards me by giving me a good opportunity at Maintenance Department Drawing Office. Although surroundings changed, the same, if not even greater, comradeship and co-operation was shown to me.

On the whole my experience at Head Wrightson & Co. has fortified the opinion that I formed whilst serving with the Armed Forces, of the greatness of English people. I have come to look upon everyone at work, in the streets or in the pubs as my own friends and my own people. I was delighted to see my feelings widely reciprocated.

Lots of my friends have gone all over the world in search of a new home. Some live in economically better countries, some have better jobs and some enjoy socially better positions, but I doubt whether anyone feels as much at home as I do amongst people of Tees-Side and men of Head Wrightson & Co.

ISO OMERAGIC (Now PETERS)

**H. W. STEEL FOUNDRIES**

We enter the pages of this magazine in very optimistic frame of mind for almost ten thousand tons of molten steel has been poured into moulds during the year, a record of which we are proud and which has every chance of being broken in the coming season.

We are specialising at the moment in the casting of all sizes of valves for the oilfields, thus doing a little in bringing to this country the much needed dollars.

Many more castings are now being made for our Machine Division than ever before.

Many alterations and improvements are gradually being introduced which we hope will be of benefit to all.

Great improvement is being made by the installation of a further Jolting Moulding Machine which should prove a great asset, the foundations are nearly completed.

And what of our personnel? There are few changes among our skilled and semi-skilled workers; old Joe is still with us, Alf is still making t'brass, Edgar will bend you a piece of iron to any shape you require.

We must not forget our women workers, some of whom have been with us since the beginning of the war; Sally working in the shops and Janet looking after the core stoves and doing a good job of work. Other stalwarts will be mentioned in future publications.

The appreciation of the services of our welfare representative, Frank Hampshire, was demonstrated by the support he received at the recent Works Council Election.

We would like to congratulate Colin Percival on obtaining a scholarship at Constantine College. We are given to understand that he has done very well at the Christmas term examinations.

We offer our condolences to the family of H. Simpson one of our brass moulders, whose tragic death occurred on the 26th December, 1948.

The division tenders its deepest sympathy to Mr. R. B. Bennett on the loss of his infant son.

Bon voyage to Mr. J. E. Mercer on his forthcoming journey to America, may his visit be pleasant and interesting.

Our congratulations to Mr. J. Flynn, Foreman Dresser,

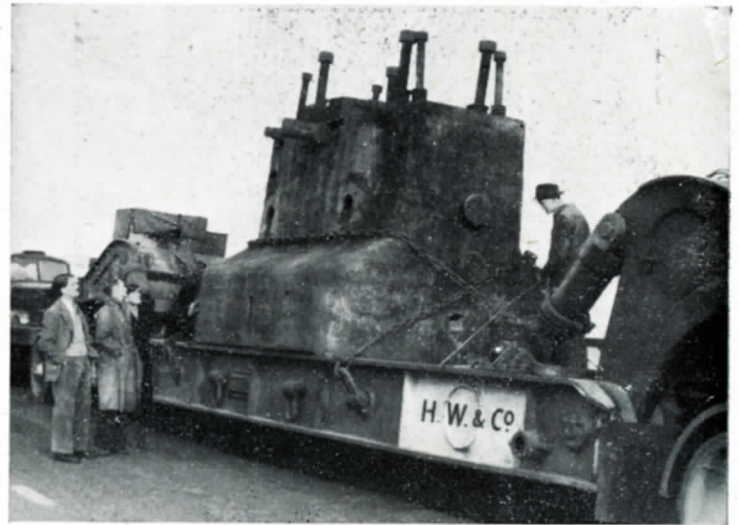


and his wife on their silver wedding. They were married at St. George's, Thornaby on the 29th December, 1923. We wish them many more years of happiness.

The Division wishes to place on record their thanks to Mr. J. Nicholson for his unfailing efforts on their behalf in his capacity as Secretary and Treasurer of Stockton Steel Foundry Welfare organisation, which now comes to a close on the formation of the new Divisional Council. We are happy to know that his services will still be retained as a member of this new Council.

Our congratulations to Miss B Adams, one of our clerks, on her engagement.

We are pleased to learn that Ronald Marriott, son of our Works Manager at Stockton, was ordained for the Church at Derby Cathedral on 19th December, and has now taken his appointment at Long Eaton Parish Church.



100 TON ANVIL BLOCK

**H. W. PROCESSES (LONDON)**

We are pleased to be included in this first publication of the magazine covering the whole of our organisation. Though we have little to report, we feel sure that our friends in the North will be interested to know that we have endeavoured to set up a Sports Club, with the title of Teesdale House (London) Sports Club which came into being in March, 1948 with a membership of 80.

D. A. Smith is our Cricket Secretary and after affiliation we were able to arrange seventeen matches. Although we only won two of these games, drew one and lost thirteen, it must not be forgotten that many of the team had not wielded a bat or bowled a ball for many years. Their keenness however compensated for their lack of ability and each game was played with admirable team spirit which made it all the more enjoyable.

For the season 1949, the worries of our secretary have certainly not decreased. We have made application to the L. C. C. for a Park's wicket, but we realise our chances of obtaining one are very slender.

**Tennis.**

The tennis section made a start as soon as the evenings became light enough. They were fortunate in being able to obtain two courts one night each week at Finsbury Park. We were not in a position to play matches with other Clubs, but members derived much enjoyment from playing together. It is hoped however, that Tournaments and matches with other Clubs will be played next season.

**Social Club.**

The Social Club made a start on March 7th at the Cripplegate Institute. Table-tennis, darts and various other table games were available and such was the interest that more spacious premises were sought and further equipment bought out of the Club funds. The Club is now held each week at the London Welsh Institute, and it is hoped early in the New Year to invite outside Clubs along for matches.

**Annual Staff Dance.**

This was held on Tuesday, 21st December at Bush House Restaurant, Aldwych, and we had a gathering of some two hundred. We were very pleased to have Mr. Harper, Dr. Fisher and Mr. Robson with us. A professional M.C. was engaged and he helped to make the evening a great success. Various novelty dances and competitions were held including an "Official" beer-drinking competition.

**H. W. STAMPINGS**

The Drop Forge Division realises that only through continuity is success maintained, and older workers should be honoured for establishing and improving the tradition and productivity of their workshop.

In this first publication, it is desired to create a Roll of Honour for the department, and publish the names of those who are still working and have been working continuously for more than thirty years.

**Honour the Brave**

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Frankie Bruce   | Shemmy Pearson  |
| Bob Cummings    | Tommy Piper     |
| Jackie Green    | Alf Raine       |
| Charlie Grounds | Bob Raine       |
| Tommy Heslop    | Charlie Raine   |
| Bert Hopps      | Harry Roberts   |
| Bill Jackson    | Charlie Thurlow |
| Geordie Lee     | Jesse Took      |
| Joe Lumley      | Dido Wilson     |
| Scottie Morgan  |                 |

If your name has been inadvertently omitted, hand your particulars to Bobby Raine for the next publication.

Congratulations and thanks to Tommy Heslop (Die Shop) on being made a Life Governor of the 'Nursing Association', as a reward for the 21 years of service and representation of his colleagues.

We trust that Harry Westwood (Smiths' Shop) will show his newly wedded wife this publication. We hope their marriage will be happy, and that congratulations on their golden wedding may appear in the appropriate subsequent issue.

Employment vacancies are being held in the department for the children of George Henderson (Die Shop) and Teddy Bulmer (Smiths' Shop) born a few days ago. We are entering the babies' names on the waiting list for a house for when they marry.

Please, Mr. Editor, squeeze Seaton Carew in, to say how proud we are to belong to the Head, Wrightson family. Although we are very young, you are going to hear more about us in your future publications.

The picture of the steel anvil block, which of itself weighs one hundred tons, shows we are going to be a 'big noise' when we get going.

Incidentally, the excavation for the foundation was deep enough to accommodate one of Nye Bevan's pre-fabs.

At 23 feet depth, much interest was created by the finding of a fossil:—Don't ask if it was the 'Hartlepool Monkey' — we know the answer.

**Dla naszych Poliskich przyjaciół życzymy wesółych świąt**

"Zyczymy wam najlepszyc swiat Bozego Narodzenia i Wesologo Nowego Roku."





J. W. SCOTT, *Chief Estimator*

### H. W. PERSONALITIES. No. 1

Mr. J. W. Scott who is the Chief Estimator started with the Company in 1887 — as many as sixty-one years ago, as an apprentice draughtsman. It is interesting to note that the Victoria Bridge connecting South Stockton (now Thornaby) with North Stockton across the Tees was opened the year he started work. He has seen many changes in engineering practice. In the early days timber piers and jetties were replaced by wrought iron, which was later replaced by mild steel. Now he is engaged on estimating for aluminium structures.

He served his apprenticeship under the late Mr. Joseph Burn who was Chief Draughtsman in those days.

When the Firm took over Stockton Forge Works in 1896 Mr. Scott was amongst the staff to be transferred there under the late Mr. Harry Clark and the late Mr. J. M. Rinquist.

He returned to Teesdale in 1904 as Estimator in which capacity he has served throughout the years.

In 1936 he went to Cologne in Germany in connection with our relationships on iron and steel works plant with the German firm of Bamag.

His long experience in our many branches of engineering give him a knowledge of engineering practice and prices which few can better. He is referred to by all departments of the firm for guidance, which is always readily forthcoming in his inimitably willing and pleasant manner.

In him we have an outstanding example of loyalty to the firm. It is remarkable to record that though he has a busy and responsible job which he still pursues with vigour, he has not lost a single day through illness throughout the past thirty five years.

Any reference to Mr. Scott would be incomplete without mention of his close association with Sir Thomas Wrightson Bt. in the early days, and later with our present

Chairman, Sir Guy, and more recently with Mr. Richard Miles, our Managing Director, also Mr. John Wrightson and Mr. Peter Wrightson the Heads of our Engineering and McKee Divisions respectively.

Mr. Scott and our present Chairman, Sir Guy, have together set us an example of service which all who follow will find it hard to live up to.

APEX

### NEWS BRIEFS

To all our readers — Greetings!

This is our first issue. What do you think of it? Criticisms and helpful suggestions will be welcomed from all by the Personnel Department.

The Editor would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those whose contributions appear in this issue. It is hoped that each publication will continue to carry news from each Division including Light Alloy Structures, as well as items from our London Office and South African Works.

The special features which are included in this News Letter will, we trust, continue, viz:- a letter from one of our Directors; a special write-up from each Division in turn on one of their recent important contracts; and Head Wrightson Personalities.

Our Chairman, Sir Guy, with Lady Wrightson, is paying another of his periodic visits to our South African Works. This is another example of the keen interest Sir Guy shows in all the activities of our organisation. He is so active that few of us realise that he is 77 years of age yet still feels equal to this somewhat arduous journey. We trust that he will continue in good health to return to us with information for our next publication.

Mrs. Reeves, known to most of you as Joyce Askquith, has now left the Personnel Department and has sailed for Rhodesia with her husband, who has obtained an appointment there. Her services to all will long be remembered by the Personnel Department.

Though the activities of the old Welfare Committee have now been transferred to the Divisional Councils, our old members made a wonderful job of entertaining some 1778 children of our employees at the Pantomime, 'Mother Goose'. It was a gigantic task but the whole proceedings, though hilarious, were well organised. This is the first time we have combined all the local branches in a unified Christmas Treat. Mr. John and Mr. Peter were present, their efforts to burst a balloon would have been improved with one of Archie Moffat's windpipes. Good wishes were given to the Children from the stage.

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Peter Wrightson on the birth of their second child a daughter on 27th December.

After a lot of careful consideration and really conscientious work by representatives of our employees together with some of the management, we have finally got our Divisional and General Councils to work. There are many problems to face but we trust that none will be too critical until such time as we have the opportunity of proving our worth.

The Editor hopes to accompany Mr. Mercer on his visit to America to find out if all the things of which we read are actually in existence and hopes to tell you what he has seen in our next issue.

The Directors of our Company are issuing this first publication free to all our adult employees, but it is appreciated a small charge will be made for subsequent issues.

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL.

F. S.