

# WRIGHT AHEAD

THE HEAD WRIGHTSON NEWS LETTER

Vol. 5

JULY 1954

No. 2

## **Chairman and Managing Director's Letter**

You all know that Head Wrightson has been established in South Africa for over forty years. Originally, we had a sales office, which secured orders for gold mining and other plant, to be made at home, and an erection department, to construct the equipment and see that it worked.

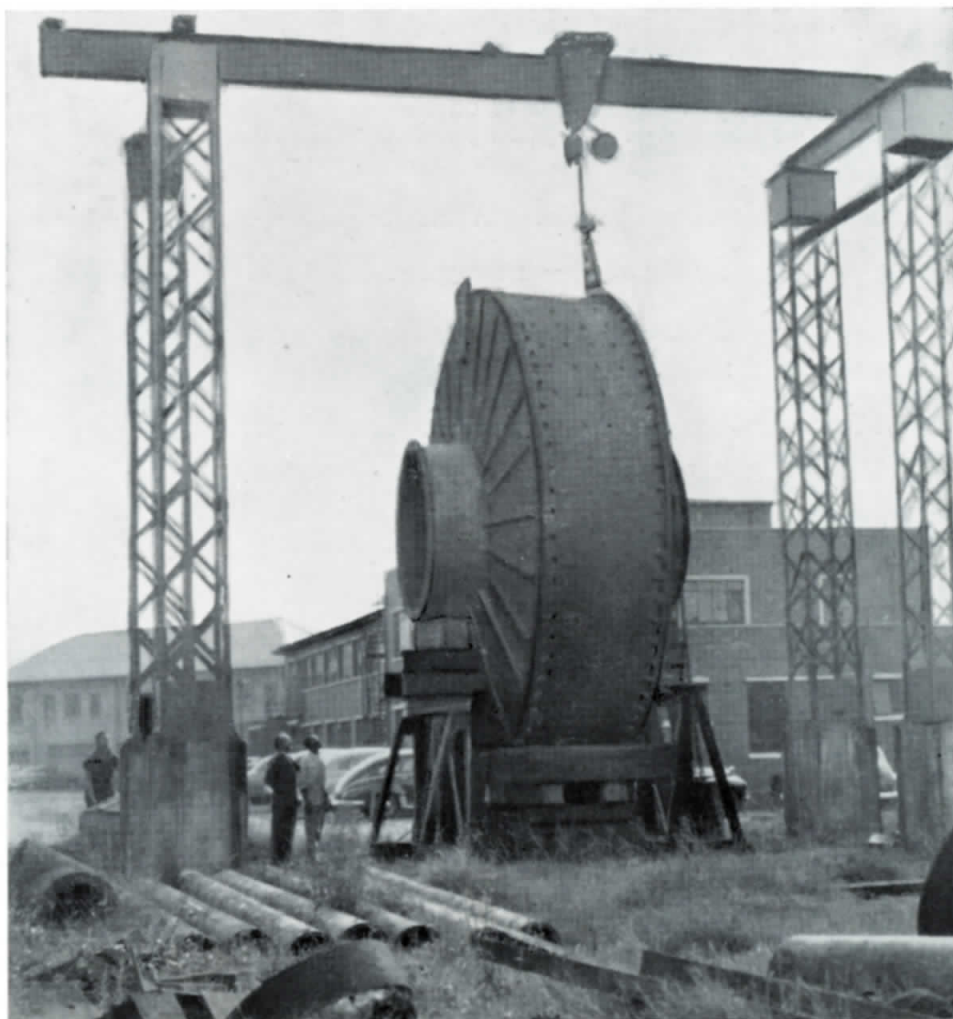
Later it was found that the nationalistic spirit insisted that the manufacture of the plant should be done locally. This is only to be expected in any developing community, and we had to recognise the fact. It therefore followed that the goodwill we had created should be developed to include local manufacture. We started ourselves in a small way in the mid-thirties on the constructional side, and later amalgamated with one of the oldest and most reputable mechanical engineering companies in South Africa.

To-day Wright Boag - Head Wrightson are among the top half-dozen mechanical and constructional engineers and foundrymen in Africa. They are somewhat similar, though slightly larger, than our Stockton Forge, from whom they have been staffed on the technical side.

Of course the whole situation in Africa is difficult: The Mau-Mau in Kenya; growing pains in West Africa; the problems of the Sudan and Egypt; Seretse Khama; Buganda; and so on.

In South Africa, in particular, we have not only the differences between the Europeans: Afrikaner and English — a relic of the Boer War days; but differences of opinion as to the place in the community of the "coloured" — half-breeds of three hundred years; the Indians; and the native African. It is often not realised that the native African in South Africa is a later intruder than the European.

There is so much at stake, that any serious upheaval is unthinkable, but until a policy of proper integration



CHAIRMAN AND AFRICAN LABOURER INSPECTING THE LARGEST BALL MILL AT W.B.H.W. WORKS AT BENONI

is put into operation, though a really workable scheme has not yet been devised, instead of its opposite: "apartheid"—and even this has not been properly worked out, there will be a dark cloud over the Country.

Despite these sociological and political problems, the good work must go on, and we should be happy to remember that we are part of a successful and wide-spread industrial family.

*Richard Miles*

**BIRTHS**

Congratulations to:

**Stockton Forge.**

Mr. and Mrs. E. Chicken (B.Y.)—a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Kirton (F.S.)—a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Copeland (F.S.)—a son.

**Teesdale Bridge Yard.**

Mr. and Mrs. R. Graham, a daughter.  
Mr. and Mrs. W. Brown, a daughter.  
Mr. and Mrs. E. Hind, a son.

**Maintenance Division.**

Mr. and Mrs. Alf Briggs—a son.

**Head Wrightson Machine Co., Ltd.**

Mr. and Mrs. J. Brown (Mach. Shop)—a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. N. Spensley (Plumbers)—a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. Murray (Labourers)—a daughter.  
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Loach (Est. Dept.)—a daughter.

**Teesdale Steel Foundry.**

Mr. and Mrs. A. Parkin—a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. E. Slack—a daughter.

**McKee Division.**

Alex Cook and Peter Rooksby have once more braved the perils of fatherhood—Alex gaining a daughter and Peter a son.

**Stockton Steel Foundry.**

G. Farrell (ex. Transport), twins, son and daughter — Labourer, Furnace.  
T. Cook (Labourer, Foundry)— a daughter.

**ENGAGEMENTS**

Congratulations to:

**Stockton Forge.**

Mr. Maurice Peacock (B.Y.) to Margaret McKinstry.

**Teesdale Bridge Yard.**

Mr. R. Cuthbert to Miss P. Hutchinson.

**Iron Foundries.**

Miss J. Ainsworth (Stockton) to Mr. R. MacRoberts (Pattern Maker).

**Middlesbrough.**

Miss Edna Wallace (Planning Dept.) to Mr. Robert Hunter (Mach. Shop).

**COMING MARRIAGES****Teesdale Bridge Yard.**

Mr. J. Palmer to Miss M. Snowden.  
Mr. R. Roberts to Miss V. Bainbridge.

**Teesdale Steel Foundry.**

Mr. Andrew Mair (Steel Castings) to Miss Dorothy Teesdale.



MR. & MRS. A. CROSSEN

**MARRIAGES****Stockton Forge.**

Mr. Robert Duncan (B.Y.) to Miss Kathleen Hoare.  
Mr. Robert Barrie Skeldon to Miss Audrey Alexander.

**Teesdale Bridge Yard.**

Mr. N. Davies to Miss M. Glen.  
Mr. A. Crossen to Miss M. Humble.

**Teesdale Staff.**

Miss J. Petty (Acc'ts Dept.) to Mr. R. H. Masterman.

**H.W. Processes Limited.**

Mr. R. E. Read (D.O.) to Miss P. M. Hall (Receptionist).

**Iron Foundries.**

Miss K. Green (Wages) to Mr. P. Simpson (Butcher), Thornaby.

Miss J. Geldart (Thornaby) to Mr. N. Rowntree (Moulder).

Miss M. White (Motherwell) to Mr. P. White (Chair Gantry).

Miss B. Hunter (Middlesbro') to Mr. C. A. Hardman (Ingot Dresser).

**The Head Wrightson Machine Co., Ltd.**

Mr. Don Burns to Miss Sheila Dowle.  
Mr. Joe Clark (M'bro. Erectors), to Miss Elizabeth Ward.

**Head Wrightson Aluminium Ltd.**

Best wishes to Ralph Summers Bell on his marriage to Ruth Collier at St. Luke's, Thornaby.

**Stockton Steel Foundry.**

Miss K. Wilkinson, to Mr. N. Craggs (Patt. Shop, Thornaby).

**SILVER WEDDING**

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Fallowfield — 27th April, 1954.  
We offer sincere congratulations.

**DEATHS**

Condolences to:

**Teesdale Bridge Yard.**

Mr. H. Hall and family on loss of Wife.  
Mr. F. Thompson and family on loss of Wife.  
The family of Mr. C. Pearson.

**Iron Foundries.**

The family of Mr. H. Greenan (Labourer).

**Maintenance Division.**

Mr. L. Harper on the death of his wife, 26th March.

**Teesdale Steel Foundry.**

The wife of T. Farthing (Tosher) Moulder, (P.S.).

**McKee Division.**

Mr. Tom Eckford on the recent sad loss of his wife.

**C. MAVROGIANES**

It is with sincere regret that we record the death of Mr. C. Mavrogianes, who served on the Employees Council and various sub-committees. "Conn," as he was known throughout the works, was a member also of the Stockton Town Council, an earnest worker for the League of Friends of Stockton & Thornaby Hospital, and a great supporter of the Old Age Pensioners' Welfare Association.

We offer our deepest sympathy to his widow and family.



MR. & MRS. P. WHITE

*Wedding  
Photographs*



MR. & MRS. C. A. HARDMAN



MR. & MRS. R. H. MASTERMAN



MR. & MRS. P. SIMPSON



MR. & MRS. ROWNTREE



## ENGINEERING DIVISION

### Machine Shop.

Our most important news since the last issue, is of our success in the sporting field, or should I say on the Football field. So if you've noticed a little cockiness in the machine shop, please forgive us! We've done the double! I'm referring to our success in the football competitions. We won both the senior and junior cups. I think we'd have settled for one, but the two, that was too much of a good thing. The fact that we have a good junior side encourages the hope that we'll have our name on the cup in the years to come.



SENIORS



JUNIORS

At a smoker held in the Royal Hotel, Stockton, Mr. Franklin (Dept. Manager) presented plaques to the members of the team and said that for thirty-two years he'd been wanting to have hold of the cup. It had been a long wait but worth it, seeing we'd got the two. This was a very enjoyable smoker and we were well entertained by professional artistes. Not forgetting our resident comedian "Charlie the Tramp" aided and abetted by his stogie little Dick. To the Bridge Yard who we beat in both finals, our respect for being such good losers.

### Bridge Yard.

In the forthcoming presentation of long service awards the Bridge Yard is again well on top with long service men and it is pleasing to note that five old faithfuls

have completed 50 years' service with the company and are still going strong. Messers. J. Skinner, T. McFarthing, R. (Ike) Randall, J. Ions and E. Dea will receive a very handsome clock while 13 members qualify for the 40 years' award of a gold watch.

In the sporting activities of the department both the senior and junior teams reached the final of the football competition but, unfortunately, had to give way to their finer opponents, the Machine shop, and had to be content with being runners-up. Their effort created both good interest and enthusiasm and thanks are extended to all for their efforts and hopes for better results next season.

It is pleasing to record that in the bowling world our members have been recognised by the Yorkshire County Bowl Association and congratulations to Mr. M. Wilson on being selected to play for Yorkshire B against Cumberland on Teesdale Park on June 19th, and to Mr. J. Bell who was chosen reserve and was required to play on the day. Although not on the original list to play, Mr. A. Littlewood was drafted into the side at the last minute owing to the team being short and all three players gave a good account of themselves. Needless to say Yorkshire won.

Our best wishes go to Walter Forrest who after recovering from a long illness has decided to retire. Walter took a big interest in the Head Wrightson football team during and after the war years and was at one time on the football committee. May the years be long and your strength be strong and happiness keep your way.

## TEESDALE IRON FOUNDRY

by H. Eyeington

On the banks of the Tees stands a shell  
of buildings now old, gaunt, an' bare,  
But the whole world remembers them well,  
For the Castings that came out of there.  
The name of Head Wrightson was on them,  
That for Quality stands second to none,  
Tradesmen, Labourers, Masters and Men  
Each took pride in a job well done.  
The men were as tough as the Iron used,  
In fashioning the products they made,  
They sweated an' swore but never abused  
The means of their reaching top grade.  
Sinews of the Trade in those bygone days  
Depended on the strength in men's muscle,  
Until came the days of new-fangled ways  
Now Electricity creates the bustle.  
As Power made Progress more easy to gain,  
The old buildings were left to their fate,  
No expense was spared in Cash an' Brain  
To build workshops more up-to-date.  
To the Cliffe was made a welcome move  
In conditions more bright an' pleasant,  
Everyone now agrees this should prove  
An incentive to become more efficient.  
Ingots, Job Castings, Chairs, Segments an' such  
Are the pride of the craftsmen's skill,  
Hall marked by the stamp of H.W.'s touch  
Points the "Way Ahead" up prosperity's hill.  
Blazoning its story on history's page  
Science to Man new benefits unfold,  
As we enter into this Press Button age  
May it open a vista of riches untold.

### McKee Division.

We welcome back to the fold Ron Stone who has completed his National Service and extend good wishes to Tom Ferguson, who is emigrating to Canada, and Jock Walker, shortly leaving to take up an appointment with British Titan Products Ltd.

## H.W. STEEL FOUNDRIES

## Teesdale.

Welcome back after a long illness to Messrs. Jack Hamilton, Walter Winter, and Mr. T. Duffy. We trust they will continue in good health.

National Service completed—Messrs. R. Percival and R. Flynn are once more back in harness.

Congratulations to Messrs. C. Cummings and J. Pocklington on their recent successes in the Apprentice Competition of the Tees-side Branch of the Institute of British Foundrymen. Mr. Cummings proved to be one of the best apprentice moulders on Tees-side.

## Stockton.

Mr. James Huggins, is to be congratulated on his success in the Stockton & District Air Rifle League.

Stockton Amateur Football Team won the Tees-side League Cup — they were helped by a number of members from this Division.

Welcome from forces — E. Lake (Moulder) and K. Fox (Moulder).

Welcome back to S. Evis (Welder), after illness.

## STOCKTON FORGE

Who is the senior member of the Forge Staff, who on arriving at the office one morning recently, found a ladder standing in the back street entrance against a telegraph pole? He removed the ladder to enable him to drive his car past. It was not until about half-an-hour later that a very angry G.P.O. workman appeared at his office and wanted to know what he thought he was up to leaving him stuck up the telegraph pole. It had evidently been only after frantic signalling and shouting on his part that someone had appeared to replace the ladder.

We are pleased to hear Stockton Forge Works won 5—4 in the final against Middlesbrough Works.

We wish success to the following:— Joe Colley (F.S.), Jim Colley (B.Y.) and Tom Stones, Seaton Carew Works, also James Kipling and John Weaver, who served their apprenticeships at Stockton Forge, when they go to Brighton in September for the Grand Final.

"Shadow" Kirton was asked what was the weight of his new baby? He said 8½ lbs., "but" said the enquirer "I asked the baby's weight not yours."

Humour in the Departmental Bowls competition. Was Ken Crookston trying to **put** his **woods** on to the golf course to **hole-in-one**? From a looker on without bias.

Answers to last issue's puzzle questions:—

- (1) In the form of a star (Five pointed).
- (2) Lot's wife.
- (3) 2 hours 56 minutes.

## New Teasers:—

- 1 Three books on a bookshelf are placed in order, Vol. 1, Vol. 2, Vol. 3. A bookworm starts from Page 1, Vol. 1 and eats its way through books and covers to the last page in Vol. 3. How many books and how many covers does it eat through?
- 2 A man leaves £300 to be divided equally between his sons when he dies. How much do they each receive?
- 3 Place four balls on a level surface touching each other to form a square. Place one ball in the cavity formed by the four balls. Determine the height of the centre of the fifth ball from the level surface. All five Balls are equal in diameter. (Height in terms of radius).

## HEAD WRIGHTSON STAMPINGS LTD.

The rehabilitation of the old Smiths Shop is almost complete, and all the ex Thornaby Staff and workmen seem to be settling down in their new abode.

H. Soppet, A. Athey and W. Irwin have left this division and we wish them all the best in their new positions.

We had a good summer this year, June 14th—all day.

## WITH APOLOGIES

## TO BOB AND STANLEY HOLLOWAY

Bob, Bob, pick up thy musket, go forward to meet  
the foe,  
Let not one lorry pass you 'Til, you give the word  
to go,  
See that it's properly loaded, with steel of correct  
weight and cast,  
Leave not your post at the gate-house, but guard it  
to the last.  
"Stampings" have taken the trouble to erect an  
office "eleet,"  
With a wallflower bed round the window, and a  
candle to give off the heat.  
A uniform soon will adorn you, brass buttons,  
three stripes, a peaked hat.  
"H.W.S." stamped on the pocket, Now who could say  
"Nay" to all that?  
Six lessons in drill and saluting, will follow,so  
stick out your chin,  
Insist that the password be given, by all who would  
enter within.  
Just think of your fine reputation, your name may  
become world renown,  
They might ask you down to the palace, to guard the  
state jewels and crown.  
Imagine our Bob with a knighthood, as before our  
Queen he would kneel,  
He'd be known as "Sir Bob of Head Wrightsons,"  
chief loader, chief guarder of steel.  
With the passing of time we'll remember, an interesting  
tale we'll relate,  
Of the fame and the glory brought to us, by the  
uniformed man at the gate.

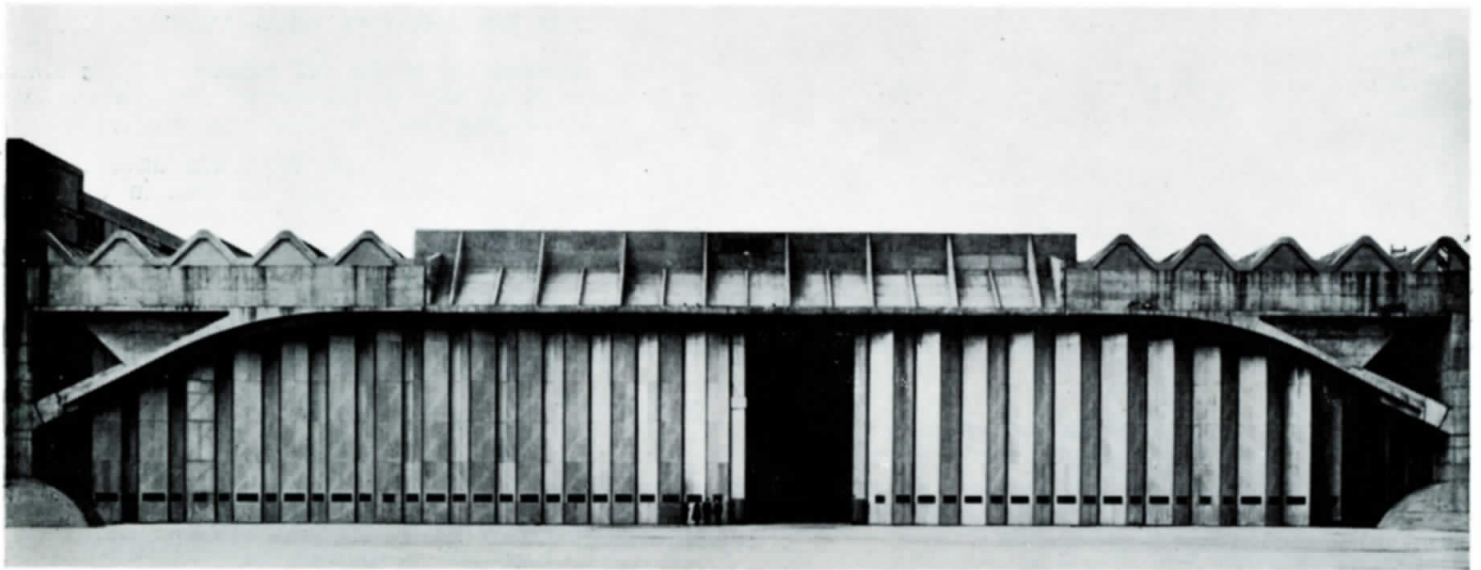
## COLLIERY EQUIPMENT DIVISION

Although it is only a few short months since this Division was born, it has already made an appreciable increase in its Staff, seven new draughtsmen having joined the original ten who emigrated from the Forge, also the Division now has its own planning and progress engineer. "Whitwell's Offices" are now a hive of activity. All this, of course, is to help to keep the home fires burning.

It is not known whether it was intended for this to be the "office in the garden," but amongst the remains left by the Stampings Division was a window box from which wallflowers have sprung and added colour to the scene.

Since the last issue of "Wright Ahead" the Division has suffered a great loss by the death of Mr. Harry Jennings. Although it was known that Mr. Jennings was extremely ill, he was only away from work for five weeks before his death and it came as a great shock to all members of the Staff. There is no doubt that his considerable experience and knowledge, acquired during the many years he served the firm, will be greatly missed, for these would have been invaluable to the new Division.

Deepest sympathy is again expressed to Mrs. Jennings and her son in their bereavement.



### HEAD WRIGHTSON ALUMINIUM LIMITED

The above photograph shows the first of four pairs of aluminium hangar doors, to be erected at London Airport by Head Wrightson Aluminium Ltd., for the central maintenance hangars.

On the 30th April, 1954, these doors were the subject of a demonstration given for the technical press.

Mr. Miles and officials of Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd., Air Ministry, B.O.A.C. and the technical press were present.

Much importance has been attached to these doors, as can be estimated from the numerous reports and photographs in various technical journals.

The doors are electrically operated and are designed for both folding and sliding. A 4 h.p. motor only is sufficient to operate each door, which folds into a recess at the side of the door opening. Each door opening is 46-ft. high and 300-ft. long, and the doors are opened and closed at a speed of 100-ft. per minute.

The total weight of aluminium used in the four pairs of doors will be 195 tons.

### MAINTENANCE DIVISION

Our best wishes go with R. Gailis of the Traffic Department who left these shores early in April to start a new life in Canada, his wife and little boy Peter hope to follow shortly.

An interesting though informal ceremony took place on the day he left our employ when a silver cigarette case suitably inscribed, from his fellow workmates was presented to him by Mr. J. W. Lamb.

We wish a speedy return to work to the following who are all on the sick list.

W. Jackson, T. Hurst, J. Turner, R. Fountain, G. Nichols, W. Jackson (Ex. Thornaby Smiths Shop).

We welcome back S. Powles after a long spell on the sick with eye trouble, and E. Dunning (Staff) after a long illness.

A speedy return to good health to Mr. W. Lee, Mr. R. Danby, Mr. J. Hawkins and Mr. G. Heads.

Good wishes to Alan Sunderland who is now doing his National Service and to Pat. Partridge who will soon be joining him.

### HEAD WRIGHTSON & CO., LTD.

#### LONDON OFFICE

Miss Patricia Ann Comrie, who was employed at London Office for nearly two years, was married on 20th March 1954, to Mr. Graham Gollan, at Purley, Surrey.

Mrs. Gollan is now resident at Killiecrankie where her husband is employed as a Civil Engineer at one of the Scottish Hydro-Electric Schemes.

Mrs. Leslie W. Brain, formerly Miss Bonner, who worked at London Office for nearly eight years, presented her husband with a son, Christopher Peter, on 31st March, 1954.

Mr. Bernard Molland was married on 1st May, 1954, to Miss Jean Cahill.

### GLASGOW NEWS

Captain Young and his merry men,  
Have been here now two year's,  
You've never heard, you've never read,  
Perhaps you've had your fears,  
The Magazine came out in March,  
As usual, full of news,  
But as we scanned from page to page,  
It gave us all the "Blues"  
No "Glasgow News," the boys all said,  
My goodness, thats a pity,  
So out came paper, then the pen,  
To send this little ditty,  
We're feeling fine and keeping grand,  
The men are brave and hardy,  
We've just begun to see the light,  
Since we completed "Mardy,"  
Well thats the news from this outpost,  
It's all that need be said,  
So now you know we're still alive,  
And pressing. — "Wright Ahead."

### SPORTS BRIEFS

Congratulations to Mrs. A. M. Whitehead, wife of the Machine Shop Crane Driver, on winning the Littleboy Ladies' Cup for Bowls by beating Mrs. O'Hara of Thornaby Village in the Final on Saturday, 18th June.

Mr. A Littlewood, Template Shop Foreman, is the new Bowls Secretary who takes the place of the late Mr. T. Farthing.

Mr. D. Kirkpatrick, Pattern Shop, Teesdale, is the new Tennis Secretary and those who wish to make use of new courts, should get in touch with him.

THE H.W. MACHINE CO., LTD.

### H.W.M. on T.V.

The centre of attraction in a recent T.V. news reel was a 500 lb Head Wrightson—Brosius Manipulet which had been fitted to a fork lift truck built by Conveyancer Fork Trucks Ltd. and shown on their stand at the recent Mechanical Handling Exhibition at Olympia.

This star performer (see Fig. 1) is capable of gripping a white hot forging of up to 500 lbs in weight and transferring this to the forging hammer or press.

The Manipulet is designed to rotate the work piece during the forging operations, in addition to moving it up and down or to and fro, as required to produce the requisite shape.

A similar unit but capable of handling pieces of up to 1500 lb was shown on the Coventry Climax Company's stand, fitted to one of their fork lift trucks. (Fig. 2).

These Manipulets were probably the most novel feature to be shown at the Exhibition and created a lot of interest amongst buyers from home and overseas Companies.

Although the manufacture of Salem Brosius Manipulets and Manipulators was only taken up a short time ago, we are pleased to report that orders have been received for two 500 lb Manipulets, one for the light alloy forging industry and one for the manufacture of titanium forgings. In addition, orders have been received for Manipulators of 2,000 lb capacity for handling

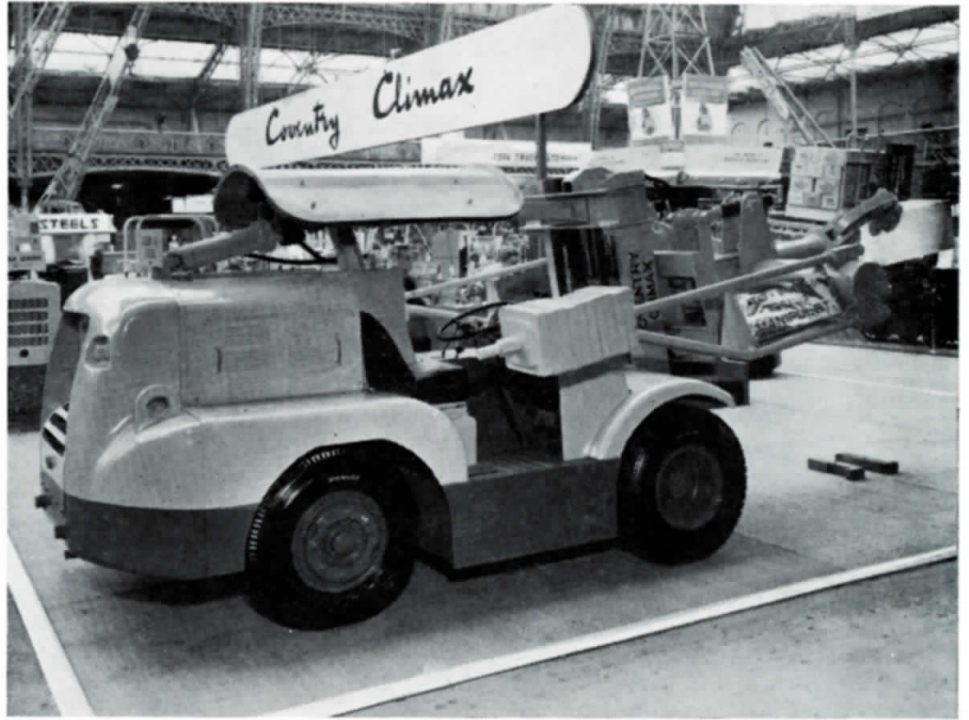


FIG. 2  
1500 LB. HEAD WRIGHTSON—BROSIOUS MANIPULET

titanium forgings, and a 4,000 lb unit for delivery to India for handling normal mild steel forgings.

### TIN PLATE PLANT

Since the last issue of "Wright Ahead" was published we have set to work at The Steel Company of Wales, Trostre Works, the last of nine Hot Dip Tinning Lines which are designed to convert steel sheets into tin plate ready for the canning industry.

A general view of one of these lines is shown in Fig. 3. In this plant piles of sheets of 50" in height and up to 3' square are placed on the conveyor at the left hand side of the picture and are moved on to an elevating de-piler from which they are moved by suction cups on to a transverse conveyor which feeds them two at a time through an acid bath into a pot containing molten tin, then through palm oil and finally through a caustic soda bath and a dry cleaning machine, where the sheets are polished and dried before being delivered to the exit conveyor. At this point they are inspected and delivered to one of three piles, that is, "waste-waste," "menders" or "primes." The "prime" plates are piled on to wooden bases which, on delivery to a side conveyor, are converted into packing cases ready for despatch.

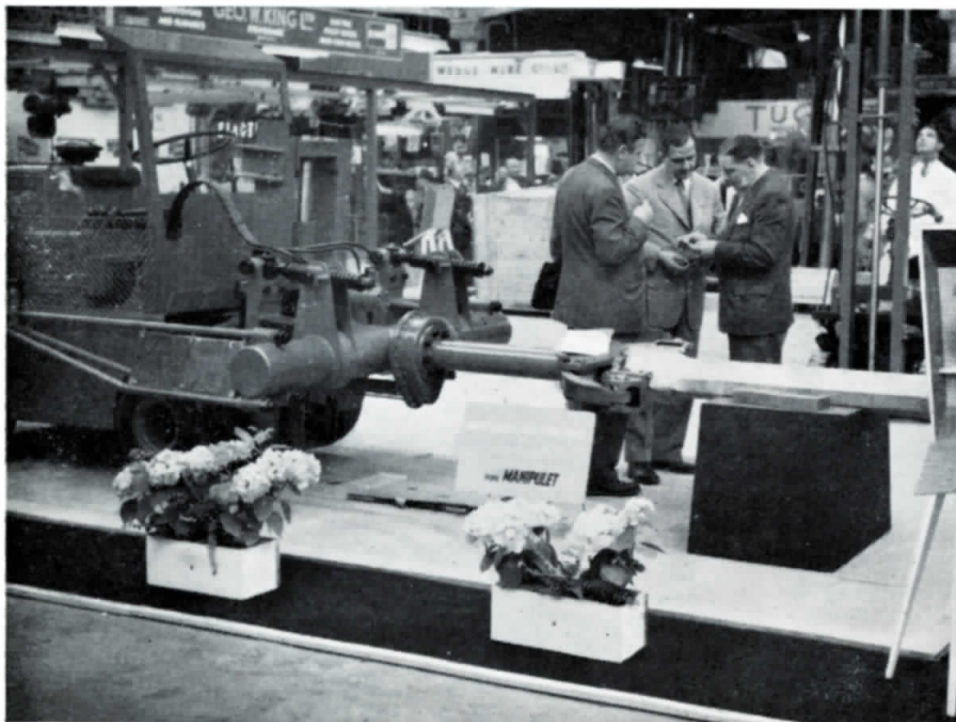


FIG. 1  
500 LB. HEAD WRIGHTSON—BROSIOUS MANIPULET

The whole of this plant was supplied by the Machine Company and included fume hoods, acid storage and circulation, palm oil storage and circulation, air compressors, cooling and cleaning system with dust removal arrangements. To see the whole of this equipment in operation is a most impressive sight. Films have been

taken of this plant in operation and it is hoped to have these available shortly for showing to customers and also interested members of our Group.

Congratulations to :—

Miss Thérèse Purvis of the Purchasing Dept., on being selected to play for the English Junior Netball Team, in Edinburgh.

By winning four out of the six games the England team **retain** the championship Title.

Mr. F. A. Batty on being elected Chairman of the Tees-side & South West Durham Junior Chamber of Commerce.

A welcome to Mr. Shiva Guha, a twenty-three year old student from Patna, in the Indian Province of Bihar who is spending some time with us in our shops, and is rapidly acquiring familiarity with Yorkshire idioms, and the vernacular in general.

Welcome return to:—

Terry Dunne, Bob Oliver, Bill Walton, Geo. Herbert, Derek Bone, all from forces.

Welcome return, after illness to Mr. R. Daykin (Inspection), Mr. H. Townsend (Development Office), J. Oldroyd (Cost Dept.)

Speedy recovery to Messrs. Jake Bartlett, Geo Begg, Ron Jennings, R. C. Payne, E. Barwick, N. Yafano,

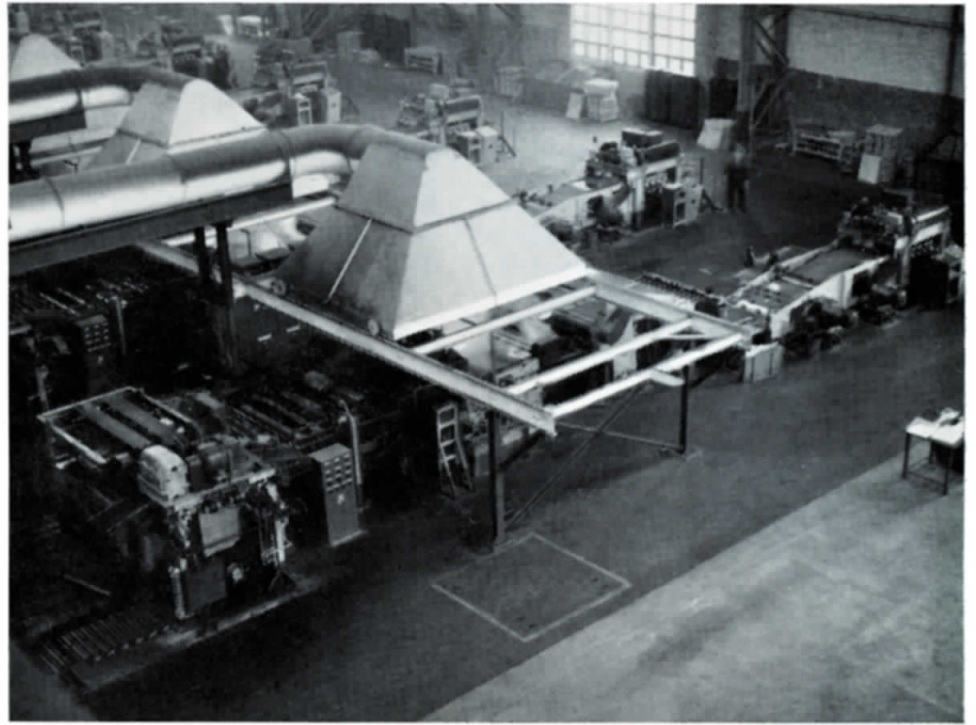


FIG. 3  
CLOSE UP OF NO. 1 LINE LOOKING FROM ENTRY END

Ron Banks, Fred Hansford (Mach. Shop) and Mr. W. Walton (D.O.).

Good Luck to Ron Davies (Electricians) into forces.

Sympathy to Mr. Joe Boston (Wages) who sustained a fractured ankle through being thrown from his motorcycle.

### "OUTWARD BOUND"

In company with forty seven other boys, Bryan Johnston, an apprentice draughtsman from McKee Division, attended course No. 37 at the "Outward Bound" Mountain school which exists to develop the character of the trainee by experience in the wide field of mountaineering.

The building of the school, set in the foothills of Western Lakeland, is of grey stone, surrounded by many acres of woodland and looks down on to its own tarn where swimming and canoeing are practiced — even in midwinter!!

Here, as at other "Outward Bound" schools, the individual competes, not against others, but against himself—striving to better his previous performance and endeavouring to reach the standard set by the school according to age and ability. Athletics are an essential part of the routine and every day begins at 7 a.m. with a brisk run followed by either a dip in the tarn or a cold shower. Training is given in mountain craft, rock-climbing, mountain survival and rescue work and there are several overnight expeditions before the final testing which is done during a five day scheme. The class is split into patrols and each patrol is sent on a planned journey through the mountains, having various set tasks to accomplish, including mapping and "peak bagging."

As the weeks pass by, the trainee's stamina and endurance is built up and he becomes capable of a ten mile cross country run over the fells and a twenty five mile point to point mountain walk. Apart from this there are several other wide schemes which include patrols being

sent to climb Ben Nevis in the Northern Highlands of Scotland, each member having to travel independently and hitch-hike both ways. The boys concerned travel without money, and bivouac out every night. Four days are allowed for the round trip and one for the climb which entails over 4,000 feet of steep slopes, treacherous under winter conditions. There is a full day of initiative tests which begin at 2 a.m. and continues through until 7 a.m. when evidence of the days achievements is sifted by the judges who award points on its merits. During the day each patrol has to overcome 30 problems including stowing a member aboard a sea going ship. Objects and information have to be collected from over a wide area and it is necessary for long journeys to be made to fulfil all the conditions. Here again the trainees must travel on their own initiative and some have to interview well known people who live up to 100 miles away from the school.

The points awarded in the above "Quest" are added to those gained daily on inspection, the athletic events and the obstacle courses.

The keenly contested patrol competition is won by the patrol having most points at the end of the course and prizes are presented to its members.

The school is staffed by experienced mountaineers and explorers and is led by Mr. Eric Shipton of Everest fame. Amongst the many visitors to course No. 37 was Sid Edmund Hillary who spoke on the successful 1953 Everest Expedition.

On completion of the course each trainee receives a badge symbolising the school motto, which is appropriately enough, "To serve — To strive — Yet not to Yield."



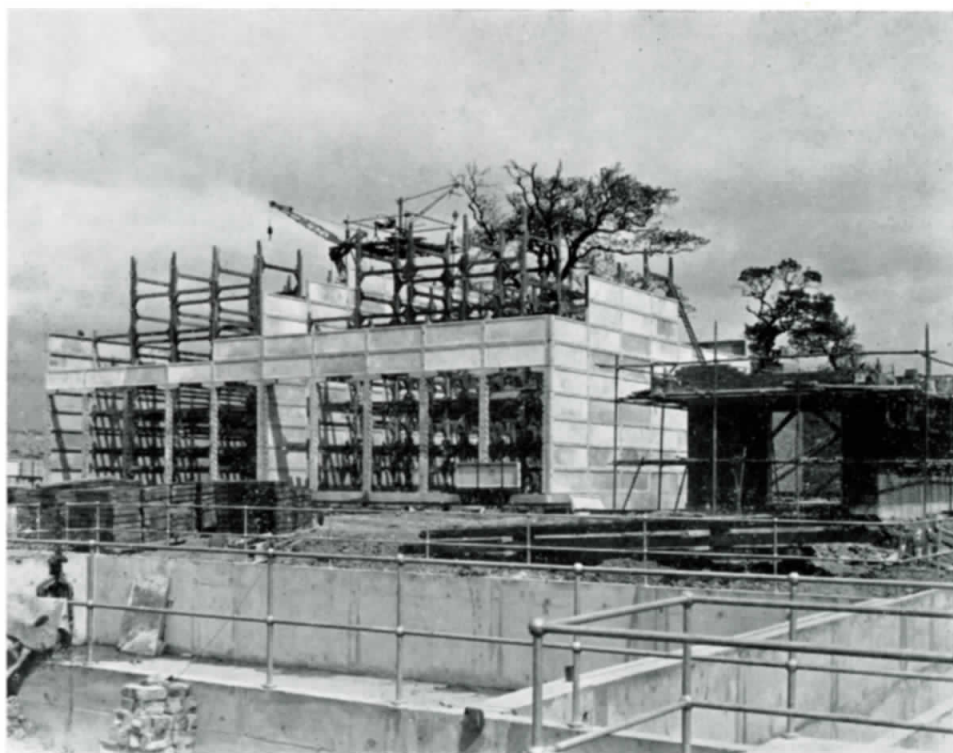
### H.W. PROCESSES LIMITED

We are pleased to record that since the last issue of the News-letter, good progress is being made in the erection of the first industrial concrete Cooler Tower (which has been designed and erected by H.W.P.) for the British Celanese, Wrexham. The photograph shows the Tower in the early stages of erection and gives an indication of the method of construction. The Tower shell is made up from prestressed - prefabricated concrete panels, which are bolted on to prestressed concrete H — Frames. The only timber parts used in the Tower are the inside decking and the fan stack. The finished Tower is both sturdy and of pleasing appearance.

A Recovered Oils Distillation Unit, which has been supplied to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company at their Isle of Grain Refinery, Kent, and which has been designed to receive 100,000 gallons of recovered oil, daily, was put on stream in March last. We are extremely pleased to record in this instance, too, that the Anglo Iranian Oil Company has expressed their satisfaction with the manner in which the plant is behaving.

Another important event relates to the introduction of the "Fin-Fan Cooler" for Diesel Engines by H.W.P. both in the U.K. and on the Continent. The "Fin-Fan" is a robust, high-efficiency, air-cooled heat exchanger. Our efforts in this direction have been rewarded by the receipt of a large order for "Fin Fans" to be used in conjunction with Diesel Engines manufactured by Stork & Co. of Holland.

The Heat Exchanger brochure which we mentioned in the March, 1954 issue of "Wright Ahead" has now reached the final proof stage, and we hope to have the finished article available for use in our sales drive, shortly.



There is a lack of news concerning social activities, but this is normal at this time of the year. However, the odd marriage of a staff member, and a gathering at the local to bid farewell to a departing colleague, do help to detract from the usual daily pressure of work.

The first sod on the site of a new reactor at Harwell was cut by Sir John Cockcroft, Director of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, on Monday, May 10th. This will be the fourth pile to be built at Harwell and the first in this country using heavy water as a moderator. General design of the pile is being undertaken by the establishment, while detailed design and provision of reactor components will be a responsibility of Head Wrightson Processes, Limited.

### *Sick Rescuer gets Award*

The "heroic action" of Arthur Howe, of our Maintenance Department who, last October, dived into the fast-flowing icy Tees and saved the life of a fellow workmate, received official recognition at Thornaby.

Before the main court business began, the chairman, Ald. E. E. Brennan, presented to Mr. Arthur Howe, the Royal Humane Society's testimonial on vellum for life saving.

The presentation, said Ald. Brennan, gave him great pleasure. He congratulated Mr. Howe on what was undoubtedly a very heroic and fine action.

It was on October 20, that Mr. Howe, himself off work with serious back injuries, jumped into 21 feet of water lashed by a strong wind and swam 40 yards to rescue a 46-year-old workmate.

Insp. F. G. Bentley, who outlined the facts to the Bench, said after he had grasped the unconscious man and brought him to the bank, Mr. Howe was so exhausted that he could not get out of the river without assistance. "His action was a very heroic one, taken at great personal risk, and I have pleasure in bringing his conduct to your notice," the inspector added.



ALD. E. E. BRENNAN (ON RIGHT) PRESENTS A ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY TESTIMONIAL ON VELLUM TO MR. ARTHUR HOWE, OF 11, LINCOLN-PLACE, THORNABY, AT THORNABY MAGISTRATES' COURT. MR. HOWE RESCUED A MAN FROM THE RIVER TEES AT THORNABY LAST OCTOBER.



### H. W. PERSONALITY

MR. ERNEST HENDERSON, Shipping Dept.

When he joined the staff in 1908, the firm's transport consisted of one flat cart with a black pony and four or five carts which took the foundry sand away to the tip. He remembers the brougham which was used for collecting the Directors from the station and also for visitors. Sir Thomas Wrightson used to come by train from Dinsdale and had to be taken back to Thornaby for the train home about 3 or 4 o'clock. He was usually late and a boy had to run up to the station to tell the Stationmaster that he was on his way and to hold the train for him. This went on until a relief guard put in his report "held up at Thornaby for Sir Thomas Wrightson." That was the finish of that.

The firm had their own steamship in those days, the S/S "Teesdale" 3320 Tons. She was fully engaged taking Railway chairs and Tunnel Segments to London and bringing back Loam for the foundries. She was later sold to a Middlesbrough firm and run on charter for H.W. & Co. All other output in those early days was by rail, but Trafalgar Street was as busy then as now because all the steel for Craig Taylors shipyard came down from the Goods Station in Bridge Road, on horse-drawn vehicles, sometimes six horses for one lorry.

Where the Erection Stores now stands was a football field, Thornaby St. Patrick's.

Comparing the days before World War One with the present, makes Mr. Henderson feel proud to have been associated with the building up of the firm of H.W., and to have been able to deal with the transporting of all the various contracts to home and overseas destinations. The individual items of which seem to grow larger and larger—Singapore Floating Dock, Aluminium Structure for Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., Persian Gulf, 200 Ton Ladles for Port Talbot, Sunderland Bridge, Aberdeen Bridge, Shotton Contract, Appleby Frodingham Contract, etc.

On a personal note he takes pride in the fact that the Shipping Dept., has never let the works down no matter how big the job, and will he hopes continue to do so.

### Retirement.

The Senior Management of Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd., met at the end of May, to hear the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Richard Miles, acknowledge the long and faithful service of 46 years of Mr. Ernest Henderson with the Company.

Mr. Miles related how Mr. Henderson had started as a junior in the office and eventually reached the position of Manager of the Shipping Department and wished him well in his retirement.

To mark the occasion, Mr. Henderson's colleagues had subscribed to a handsome cheque and wallet which was presented to him. Mrs. Henderson was given a bouquet.

Mr. Henderson replied and thanked his colleagues for the tribute and recalled some of the interesting events which had taken place during his long career with the Company.

Mr. Henderson was well-known in Tees-side District Shipping and Transport circles.

### THE HEAD WRIGHTSON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

To all our Friends. ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

The above Society held their first Social Evening (Members only) on Friday the 7th May 1954. About twenty-two members foregathered at the Queen Catherine Hotel, Osmotherley and a grand time was had by all concerned, what hidden talent we have, — any doubts?

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday the 20th May 1954, our sincere thanks to our President, Chairman, to all officers, and members, may the good work go forward.

May we remind all our good friends that we are still wanting new blood, — what about it, all you potential players in this go ahead company, it is **your dramatic society**, we would welcome new acting members particularly males, so come along all you budding portrayers of the art, who knows—**Stardom!** may be yours some day.

The turn of the year is fast approaching, and holidays are getting into full swing, but we would inform our generous public that our next production "John Marlow's Profession" by Wilfred Massey is scheduled for presentation on the 20th, 21st, and 22nd, of October 1954, given with all the finesse that only H.W.'s Dramatic Society can give, so once again to our public we would say, let us, the "Floor Staff" of the society, be able for once, to put "House Full" notices in the front of the Teesdale Hall, so come along and enjoy a good show by a grand society.

Our second play of the approaching season has also been chosen, it is entitled "An Inspector Calls" by J. B. Priestley, more anon.

We welcome Mr. E. Henderson, our first life member, may he enjoy many more full years.

**Remember!** Our first Annual Ball held last October, and what a gradely do it was. **Well don't miss our Second Annual Ball** to be held in Teesdale Hall on Friday the 29th October 1954, 8 a.m.—1 a.m. Tickets 7/6.

It will be the **HIT** of the Head Wrightson Social Season, with all the usual amenities, Prizes, Novelties, Buffet Supper, Bar, Transport, and a whole lot of surprises, get your ticket early from any member, this Social Event will be a **SMASHER** believe me, tickets will be in great demand, but in short supply.

Yours sincerely, J. E. B.