

# RIGHT AHEAD

THE HEAD WRIGHTSON NEWS LETTER

VOL. 5

DECEMBER 1954

NO. 4



## Chairman's Letter

This picture appeared in one of our recent numbers. It gave me so much joy to see it that I asked our Editor if it could be printed again. The hope is that the happiness, and freedom from care, that it portrays, will be conveyed to all of us, especially at this Season of Goodwill.

We older ones have our cares and difficulties. We sympathise with those who are in pain or distress. If we were sure that all people were really active for good, the world would be a happier place.

*"Not in Utopia . . . but in the very World, which is the world of all of us, the place where . . . we find our happiness."*

*Richard Miles*

**A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year  
to all the Readers of "Right Ahead"**



## PERSONAL

### BIRTHS

#### Steel Foundry (Teesdale)

Mr. and Mrs. C. Booth—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Watson—a daughter.

#### Head Wrightson Machine Co.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Hansford—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Taylor—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Wood—a son.

#### Stockton Forge

Mr. and Mrs. R. Simpson Griffiths—a son.

### WEDDINGS

#### Stockton Steel Foundry

Mr. W. Horner, Crane Driver to Miss D. Dix.

#### Teesdale Steel Foundry

Miss Maureen Hart (Core Shop) to Mr. M. H. Graham.

#### Head Wrightson Processes Ltd.

Mr. D. A. Smith (Accounts) to Miss Olive Fitzgerald at St. Paul's Church, Erith, Kent, on 20th November, 1954.

### DEATHS

Condolences to the relatives of

Mr. Harry Jackson—Bridge Yard.

Mr. Arthur Whittel—Bridge Yard.

#### Teesdale Steel Foundry

Mr. Harry Leonard.

Mr. J. Upton.

#### Stockton Steel Foundry

Mr. A. Hill.

### SILVER WEDDING

Mr. R. J. Gould, H.W.P. and Miss P. M. Atkins at St. Paul's Church, Hammersmith, on 22nd December, 1929.

### HEAD WRIGHTSON DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

The members of the Head Wrightson Dramatic Society wish all friends and patrons a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Prosperous New Year. We hope that in your 1955 diaries you will make a note of the following dates. First, February 9th, 10th and 11th, when we will present J. B. Priestley's famous drama "An Inspector Calls;" and second, March 16th, 17th and 18th, when a light-hearted domestic comedy, "Easy Money" by Arnold Ridley, will be staged. We hope that we may welcome many old and new friends on both these occasions, and that we may perhaps be able to put that "House Full" notice up!

Incidentally, we should like to draw your attention to our "Patrons" Scheme. Persons joining this pay an annual subscription of five shillings, and are entitled to two seats at each show at half-price. As a further three shows are to be staged this season, the two mentioned above and a final one in May, anyone joining this scheme now will definitely save money. The scheme is open to everyone whether Head Wrightson personnel or not, and our Secretary Miss E. O'Hara of McKee Division, will be very pleased to enrol you.

Our second Annual Ball, which was held on 29th October in Teesdale Hall, was so popular that all tickets were sold several days before the event. Once again,

everything went with a swing, for which thanks are due to the capable M.C., Mr. Frank Shepherd, and all present enjoyed themselves. We were particularly pleased that our President, Mr. Richard Miles, was able to be present. The colourful decorations made by the members of the Society added to the gay atmosphere, and although there was an accident during their erection, when Barrie Curson fell off a stepladder on to the Canteen Manager, we are glad to add that Mr. Spence recovered in time to provide us with a grand supper. Altogether, it was a very happy crowd of people who sang "Auld Lang Syne" and parted at 1 a.m.

### Mr. FRED MOTHERSDALE

#### Purchasing Department

Fred is one of the Society's most experienced members, having begun his career in amateur dramatics at the early age of fifteen in a religious drama, playing of all things, an elderly man, complete with beard down to waist. He was afterwards reprimanded for using too elderly a voice!

His dramatic career was interrupted by service in the Navy, but on being de-mobbed, he resumed acting, and had his first starring part as Ralston in the well-known comedy "Nothing But The Truth." Unfortunately, there was a complete breakdown in one scene, everyone forgetting their lines, and finally audience and actors alike sitting back and roaring with laughter. However, in spite (or because) of this, the play proved a huge success. Fred followed this with "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," in which he had the title role, "The Happy Ending" in which he played Dale Conway, "The Winslow Boy" as the boy's father, and "Ten Little Niggers" playing the villain Sir Laurence Wargrave. In between these plays, he appeared in various religious productions staged in Stockton Parish Church.

Fred appeared in the Head Wrightson Dramatic Society's first production "When We Are Married," as the stingy Councillor Albert Parker, since when he has been seen as Edwin Markham in "The Feminine Touch," and in the title role in "John Marlow's Profession." In "Quiet Wedding" he was responsible for the production, and proved that he was just as talented behind the scenes as in front of them. In fact he is producing both our next two plays, "An Inspector Calls" and "Easy Money." In addition to all this, he capably fulfils the office of Treasurer to the Society, keeping our accounts balanced, and safeguarding our balance at the bank from the more extravagant demands made upon it by our various officials.

Altogether a most useful and valued member, and we hope his services to the Society may long continue.

### BOWLS

At the annual general meeting held on 17th November, the following officers were elected:—

President: A. Crowe (S.S.F.), Vice President and Treasurer: D. Littlewood (Welding Shop), Chairman: A. Lackenby (Gen. Office), Secretary: A. Littlewood (Temple Shop), Hon. Auditors: H. Ayre (S. Forge) and E. Littlewood (Retired), Committee: C. F. Marchant (Maint.), J. Thomas (S.S.F.) A. Whitehead (Machine Shop), R. Lyall (M'bro. Works), L. Lamb (Seaton),

It was agreed that the same leagues should be entered as last year. A smoker will be held in the Recreation Hall once the renovations are completed. Past and prospective members will be welcome.



## ENGINEERING DIVISION

## Machine Shop

A familiar face is now missing from the Machine Shop—Bob McQuillan has retired at the age of 75 and after 40 years' service with the Company. Most of his time he had spent at the big lathe. Many who did not know him by name, will recall his great physical resemblance to the late Neville Chamberlain. We wish him good health and a long and happy retirement.

"Nobby" Edwards (Tool Room grinder) has also left us after 19 years in the shop, we wish him every good wish for the future.

The shop is looking forward to its first Christmas party. It is being organised by the women and we hope it will be a great success.

Isaiah Richards, the Tool Room clerk, has been ill for the last nine months, but the latest news is that he will be returning to work before the year's out. We wish him the best of health in the coming year and extend a similar wish for all those members of our organisation who are sick. To all fellow employees a Merry Xmas.

## EGGLESCLIFFE FOUNDRY.

We regret to record the death of Mr. W. Allinson, aged 85 years. Mr. Allinson started with the firm in 1883 and after a few years away returned in 1890 and worked for 53 years with H.W. He was employed in his latter years in the Foundry, checking castings on the dressing bed and retired in 1943. Mr. Allinson died 14th November, 1954, and we extend to those bereaved our deepest sympathy.

Mr. Allinson's relatives wish to thank, through this magazine, everyone at H.W., for the kindness shown to them.

We wish a speedy recovery to the following who are on the sick list:

Mr. T. Maine.  
Mr. J. Murray.  
Mr. O. Wynn.  
Mr. H. Thompson.  
Mr. J. Bulmer.

## Departmental News.

Congratulations to Miss Kathleen Moss on gaining first prize in the Soprano Open Class Competition at the Stockton Musical Festival held on 30th October, 1954. In the last four competitions Miss Moss has entered she has gained three first prizes

Mr. Geoff Morris recently presented a paper to the Iron & Steel Federation in the Cleveland Scientific and Technical Institute at Middlesbrough entitled "Iron and Steel Foundry Practice and Products." The meeting was well attended by members of the Federation.

All readers must have heard of Victor Sylvester and his dancing lessons. All must have heard also of Sidney Thompson the old-fashioned dance maestro. Did you know, however, that in Mr. Fred Fallowfield we have a dance tutor of high local fame. Mr. Fallowfield is a friend of Sidney Thompson and always takes the opportunity of having a chat with him when he is in the district. They have also exchanged views on this fascinating mode of enjoyment. Mr. Fallowfield is a firm supporter of the "old-fashioned" and a hard critic on the "modern stuff." (To offset any possible "crack" re. old-fashioned and Iron Foundries: who can doubt the beauty of the old-time as opposed to the modern dancing.) Mr. Fallowfield trains the youth of Stockton and all who have passed through his hands cannot speak too highly of him. Needless to say Mrs. Fallowfield helps.

We were all pleased to see Philip Moore return to H.W., after National Service in the Army. Philip is now in the Cashier's Department and all his friends in the Iron Foundries wish him the best of luck in the future.

Contained in a recent parcel of cast iron scrap was a cast iron chair manufactured by H.W., in 1876. This chair is as good as when originally sent out to the Railways almost 80 years ago.

All personnel of H.W. Iron Foundries, Egglecliffe, extend to their colleagues in all other Divisions and Companies of H.W., the best of Seasonal Greetings. Success and happiness to you all.

## General.

One of the main items to be "re-housed" at Egglecliffe from Teesdale was the "head" of Sir Thomas Wrightson, Bart. Made over 60 years ago it is now firmly established at the North Gable end of the Machine Shop building at the 'Cliffe. The transfer was made with the usual Iron Foundry technique of "no trumpets"... "no flags" etc., just nice and quietly. On his first visit to the 'Cliffe since the "re-habilitation of the head" Sir John Wrightson's eagle eye spotted this addition to our equipment so anyone else who comes up and fails to see it must not complain that the Iron Foundries "never let on."

We said "cheerio" to Mrs. Eileen Stokes (our first "hello" girl) last month. Eileen was with us five years but has now decided to develop her own family concern (w.e.f. next February approx.). We wish her all the luck in the world.





## STEEL FOUNDRIES

### Teesdale

Recently the foundry produced an intricate alloy steel casting for a hot gas fan rotor for Billingham Oil Works Division of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., and received from them the following congratulatory letter:—

#### Alloy Steel Casting for Hot Gas Fan Rotor

"We have pleasure in confirming that your casting for the above reached our works yesterday and the machining of it is now in hand. It looks a very sound job and we feel that to have completed pattern and casting in such a special alloy in so short a time as three weeks is an achievement of which any firm could be proud. We are fortunate indeed to have such friends to help us out in an emergency."

Yours faithfully,

Imperial Chemical Industries Limited  
(s) J. A. Lofthouse  
for Billingham Division Oil Works Engineer.

Our Division acquitted itself very well at the recent swimming gala—Masters G. Turnbull and G. Harper, children of employees, obtained a first and second, respectively, and our Evergreen Charlie Woodhouse was second in the Veterans' race.

We are well represented at the presentation of long service awards—our General Manager, Mr. J. G. Allen, and Messrs. W. Boland, H. Dixon and J. T. Baker are all receiving watches.

We wish Messrs. J. Beech, S. Leeson, W. Watson, G. Robinson, H. Coppinger, G. Turley, A. Farrow, R. Stewart, J. Ward and P. Kane a speedy return to good health.

We welcome back Mr. J. Proctor after a long illness.

Our deep sympathy goes to the relatives of H. Leonard and J. Upton, who both died suddenly and to Mr. H. Hunter on the loss of his wife after a long illness.

The Division takes this opportunity of wishing a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all other employees in the organisation.

## HEAD WRIGHTSON PROCESSES LIMITED

The Christmas feeling has been abroad early this year when, on 19th November, our Annual Staff Dance was held at Plantation House in the City of London. This was an occasion which will be pleasantly retained in the memory of H.W.P. As Sir John Wrightson, Bt., whom all were glad to see in attendance with The Hon. Lady Wrightson, said, in expressing his pleasure at the dance being held at an earlier date this year, "It made Christmas seem nearer."

Among old friends and visitors we were extremely pleased to welcome Messrs and Mesdames Frank Shepherd, P. C. K. Corney, R. H. Sturgess and Howard J. Pankratz. We believe this to be the latter's first experience of such a party in this country, and we venture to state that it was a unique one.

There were novelty dances, hats and streamers, an abundance of tempting refreshments, both solids and liquids, all well mixed ingredients for a festive season.

Dr. R. C. Fisher, in his speech at the gathering, said that in previous years the Management had been the



### Stockton

Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Mustard must have been delighted at the achievements of their daughter, Margaret, at the H.W. Swimming Gala. She obtained a first and two seconds in the ladies' events. On the previous evening at the Civic Gala she also won several events. (Picture above.)

Best wishes for the festive season to all Departments from Stockton Steel Foundry and a speedy recovery to Messrs. S. Clarkson and L. Clarkson

guests of the Staff at the Annual Dance but this year the roles had been changed—The Management were hosts at the party. (A consensus of opinion gladly recommends that this arrangement continues.)

Dr. Fisher went on to mention the past year's work of H.W.P., and he summarised each department's contribution in humorous vein. He intimated that the future promised success and prosperity for the Company.

It was a whale of an evening and one and all, including our Doreen, were loathe to break up the party at Midnight. One member of our Staff was overheard to say "We should have one of these every quarter."

Reverting to more mundane but necessary things, we are pleased to announce the receipt of two further orders from our good friends Dutch Shell. Both orders are for Gas Plants, one situate at Cardon and the other at Curacao.

May we, through the medium of "Right Ahead," wish a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year for 1955 to the staff of H.W. & Company and to all its subsidiary and associate companies.



**H.W. STAMPINGS LTD.**

We welcome to "Stampings" M. Edouard de Preaumont from Valenciennes, who is to be with us for six months to learn the art of Drop Forging. We hope his stay will be a happy and profitable one.

The staff of Head Wrightson Stampings offer their congratulations and best wishes for a very happy future to Miss Audrey Clements, for her forthcoming marriage on Christmas Eve, to Mr. Eric Moorhouse of Wakefield, Yorks.

We wish a speedy recovery to T. Hurst and J. Smith.

Compliments of the Season to C. Simpson, D. Crum and F. Burton who are on National Service, and welcome back from the Service, to L. Bennett.

Production — Production — Production  
 'Tis ever and ever the cry  
 It's almost industrial seduction  
 If inspection won't turn a blind eye.  
 Lectures both grim and amusing  
 Are rewards for the things we do  
 Though the swear words are not our choosing  
 When we mistake A3 for A2!  
 Conflicting and often confusing  
 Are the orders we sometimes receive . . .  
 Hours of sleep we are losing  
 And a squint in our eyes you'll perceive.  
 Inspection — Inspection — Inspection  
 We cause many and many a riot  
 But between you and me  
 (And the powers that be)  
 We don't do so bad—on the quiet.

Anon (H.W.S.)



"Want any advice, Jimmy?"

**STOCKTON FORGE**

The Forge are holding their Annual Dance in Teesdale Hall, on Thursday, 23rd December. This is the first time we have held a dance in Teesdale Hall, and the committee expect full support from all the Forge. They are sure the dance will prove a great success and are anticipating a most enjoyable evening.

We are sorry to lose two members of our staff, viz. Anne Rowlands, one of our tracers, who has been transferred to the Colliery Equipment Division, and Bob Wright who has been called for service in Her Majesty's Forces.

Congratulations to Tommy Robinson, who when fishing at Seaham Harbour recently, caught a ship and a seagull, both in one day.

Could it be a coincidence that Johnny Coulson's new house has an ancient underground passage leading from the house to the Red Lion Inn?

The new welding shop which has been under consideration for so long is now being erected, and up to the present, five bays of the steelwork are in position. The building will be over four hundred feet long and eighty-five feet wide, the crane span of eighty feet being greater than any existing building in the Head, Wrightson group.

The old welding shop which occupies the same site is being dismantled as the new building progresses, but to avoid interference with production the new building is being built over the old one as far as possible, before the latter is removed.

We congratulate Bernard Mannion of the Fitting Shop on his excellent performance as Captain Corcoran in "H.M.S. Pinafore" at Stockton Hippodrome. Mr. Mannion is a member of St. Cuthbert's Dramatic Society.

**Answer to last time's problems.**

1.—6½ mins., 6¼ mins. and 7½ minutes. 2.—Both amounts are equal: the answer is "O." 3.—£12 12 8J. = 12128 farthings.

We wish a speedy recovery to Messrs. T. Hudson, J. Connelly and J. Beesley.

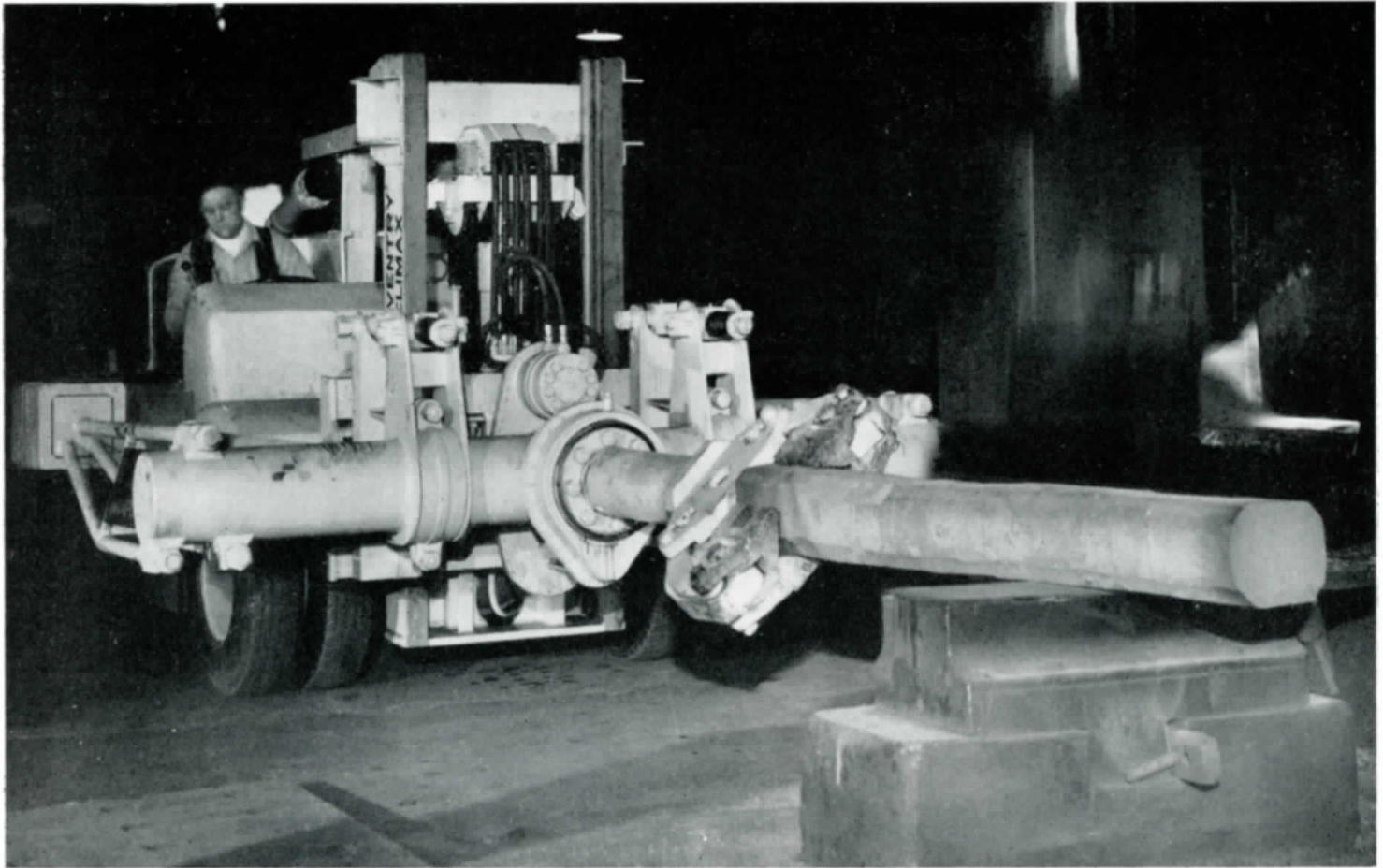
Messrs. Jim Hornby, Thomas Lang and Robert Coulson have now retired and we wish them good health and enjoyable leisure.

**SWIMMING GALA****Prizewinners:—**

Boys—(12 and under) 1 H. Turnbull, 2 J. Prest, 3 T. Boyd. (14 and under) 1 E. Norton (Walk over). (16 and under) 1 T. Court, 2 G. Harper, 3 J. Marchant.  
 Men's Eackstroke—1 J. Brown, 2 T. Chambers, 3 H. Hunter.  
 Men's Breaststroke—1 T. Nichol, 2 J. Marchant, 3 N. Pinnegar.  
 Men's Free Style—1 W. Harburn, 2 T. Court, 3 T. Thomas.  
 Men's Plain Diving—1 H. Morris, 2 K. Feasby, 3 T. Nichol.  
 Men's Diving for objects—1 J. Wilson, 2 J. Holliday, 3 D. McKillop.  
 Veteran's race (40 and over)—1 R. Thompson, 2 C. Woodhouse, 3 W. Mustard.  
 Girls' (12 and under)—1 J. Lacy, 2 C. Dalton, 3 M. R. Dalton.  
 Ladies (1 length Free-style)—1 M. Soppet, 2 M. Mustard.  
 Ladies Plain Dive—1 M. Soppet, 2 M. Mustard.  
 Interdepartmental Relay Race—1 Forge Bridge Yard, 2 Teesdale Bridge Yard, 3 McKee Division.

A most enjoyable evening was spent by all, some very good swimming and Diving being given by all competitors. We were pleased to have with us for the second year, our Chairman, Mr. Richard Miles. After presenting the prizes to the competitors, the Chairman expressed thanks to the officials of the Stockton Swimming Baths and also to the Committee of the H.W. Swimming Section.





#### H.W. Machine Co. Ltd.

##### "BROSIOUS" MANIPULATORS.

For many years Head Wrightson have been associated with the Brosius organisation of America which now trades under the name of Salem-Brosius Inc. In 1952 the agreement with them was extended to allow Head Wrightson to manufacture and sell the Salem-Brosius range of forging manipulators and furnace charging machines. To meet the demand for a manipulator to deal with smaller forgings up to 1500 lb. in weight Salem-Brosius have developed an attachment which can be fitted to a standard fork lift truck. This device is known as the "Manipulet." Obviously, the best way to demonstrate these machines to prospective customers is to show them under normal production conditions. The English Steel Corporation Ltd, of Sheffield kindly offered us the use of one of their forging hammers and its operating crew for two days for this purpose and, during this time, a

1500 lb. manipulet was shown to 70 representatives of the British and Continental Forging Industry, all of whom were impressed with the capabilities of the machine and the quality of the design and workmanship. The 1500 lb. manipulet is capable of handling a billet up to 1500 lb. in weight with a maximum length of 6'0". A smaller unit is available for forgings up to 500 lb. in weight. A photograph of the machine, taken during the demonstration, is shown above.

As a result of the demonstration at English Steel Corporation it is hoped that orders will be received for manipulets and also for the larger types of manipulators, which are capable of handling large forgings ranging from 2,000 lb. to 20,000 lb. in weight.

Our shops at Middlesbrough are ideally situated for producing these machines, which will provide a useful addition to our range of products and give entry into a new field of industry. (Social News, see page 10.)

#### COLLIERY EQUIPMENT DIVISION.

Before this Division came into being preliminary negotiations were in progress for two large contracts with the National Coal Board—the complete reorganisation of the surface plant at Ogilvie Colliery and the construction of a completely new surface plant at Abernant Colliery, both of which are in South Wales. The formal agreement appointing Head, Wrightson & Co. Ltd. as Consultants and Main Contractors for the former has recently been signed, and it is expected that the agreement for the latter will also be signed very soon. The total value of these two contracts will be almost five million pounds, and the supply and erection, which will be spread over a period of four to six years, should provide a considerable amount of work for H.W. Shops.

Both Plants will include foundations, sidings, coal preparation plant, dirt preparation plant, buildings and aerial ropeway, and Abernant plant will also include headgears, winders and shaft equipment with cages and mine cars. The work to be carried out will entail civil, structural, mechanical and electrical engineering.

We welcome to the Division Messrs. Rutherford and Pallant, also Misses Baker and Rowland, the latter having followed her father—Tom Rowland—from Stockton Forge.

We also wish Mr. R. Mitchell, who has taken over as our Resident Engineer at Abernant, every success and extend similar wishes to Mr. E. B. Williamson who will shortly take over as Resident Engineer at Ogilvie Colliery.



**HEAD WRIGHTSON ALUMINIUM LTD.****Congratulations and Best Wishes to:**

Miss M. Sheldon (Alloy Shop) who recently celebrated her coming of age.

Mr. B. A. Poyner (D.O.) on the occasion of his Silver Wedding.

Miss M. Soppet, who again won several events at the recent H.W. Swimming Gala. Marion's swimming season this year has been most successful, having added a cup, six plaques and many other prizes to her previous trophies.

**H.W.A.'S American Ambassador.**

On a grey misty November evening our Design and Project Engineer, Mr. W. E. Marshall and his wife, boarded a plane for their journey to the U.S.A., their final destination being the blue grass country of Kentucky.

This visit is at the invitation of Reynolds Metals Co. Ltd. who are one of the foremost aluminium suppliers and fabricators in America. Several representatives of Reynolds Metals Co. Ltd. visited England in 1953 and toured our Teesdale works. They were so impressed by our aluminium fabrications that on returning to their own country, they immediately sought the services of H.W.A. for consulting and general advice on the design and fabrication of aluminium structures. Eric's visit was the culmination of negotiations between both companies and we hope his advice will enhance the relations between H.W. and our American friends.

With Eric's recent venture into matrimony and this current trip to America, 1954 will indeed be a milestone in his life.

**All Aluminium Landing Craft.**

On Friday the 26th November, 1954, the Twin Screw Ramped Cargo Lighter built by H.W.A. completed her acceptance trials at sea. The vessel has an overall length of 60' 6" and a moulded breadth of 16' 6" with a maximum draught of 3' 6" light and 4' 2" loaded.

Aluminium Alloy was chosen for the craft because of its corrosion resistant properties and to ensure a shallow draught and light displacement. Intended primarily for transporting road making materials in Borneo, presumably on inland rivers, the craft is de-

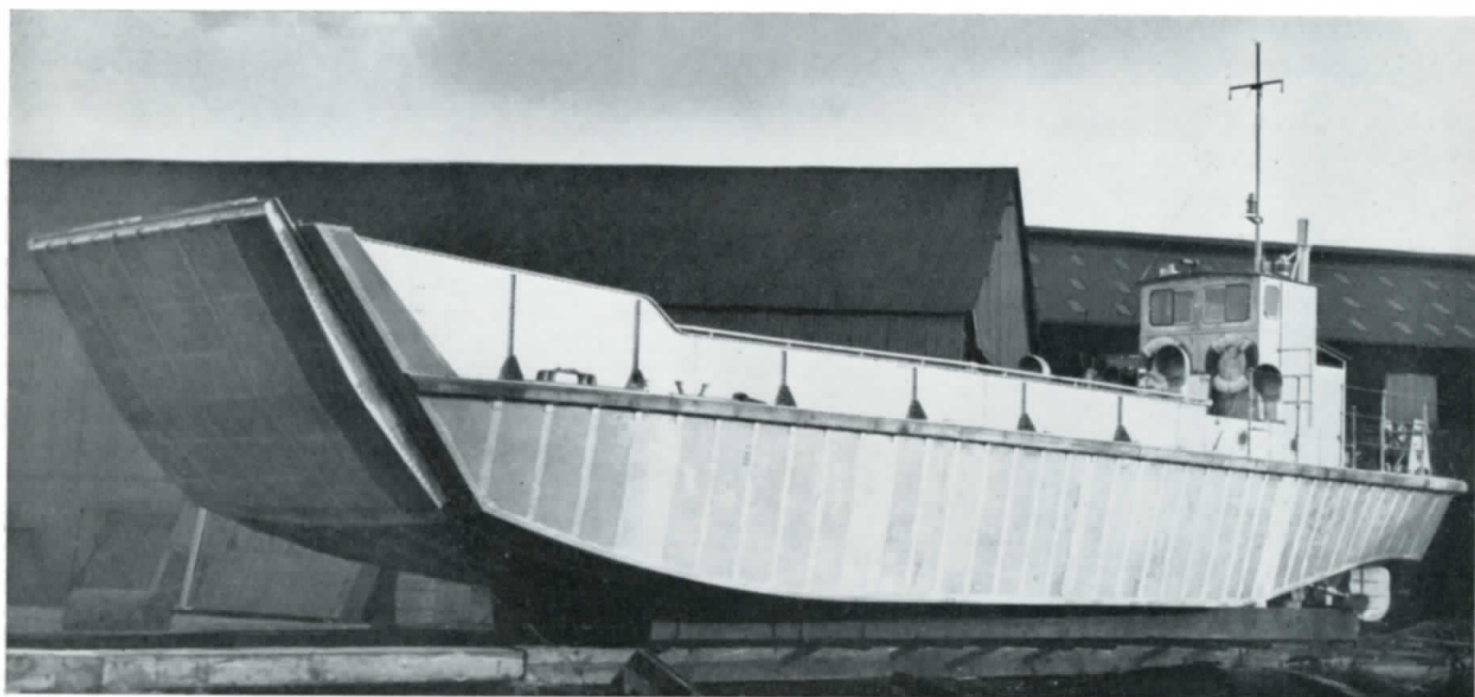


*May your Christmas go with a similar bang!*

signed as a sea going vessel and thus it was essential to take her "over the bar" for her trials. Powered by two Perkins six cylinder Diesels of 75 H.P. each, the vessel behaved admirably in roughish seas achieving an average 9.4 knots as against 8.5 knots called for in the specification.

Of her building much could be written, sufficient is it to say that new techniques were evolved and chines and gunwhales, keelsons and skegs soon became familiar terms, indeed towards completion Ossie Rowntree was often heard to refer to 'fore' and 'aft' instead of 'blunt end' and 'sharp end.' Transported overland on rollers to the slips, the vessel was launched on the morning tide and the question so often asked "will she float?" was answered. There she lay, 11½ tons of maritime splendour, tight seamed, with all modern "conveniences"—a tribute to the men who built her although Jim Kelly was heard to say as he tied up to the wharf "I've rowed a bigger boat!"

Preliminary trials were carried out, Jim Smith went overboard, the skipper went hairless and eventually Job



"Job No. 274"



No. 274 nosed down the Tees, pennant streaming bravely in the breeze. On past Haverton and Smith's Docks whose personnel were amazed that anything like it could float, only to be hailed by the Port Health Cutter "Are you alright?" To the question "Why?" the answer was "Oh nothing," but according to the pennant you're flying, you've got smallpox aboard!!! Sic transit Gloria Swanson.

Successful trials completed and the main brace spliced through the courtesy of Fairmile Construction Co. Ltd. the vessel was "put about" and we said farewell to the cruel sea.

You ask why Job No. 274 and no name? Believe me reader, that ship has had lots of names none of which (I'm afraid) is quite suitable for print.

#### Greetings:

As the Yuletide Season fast descends upon us, H.W.A. welcomes the opportunity of sending greetings to all our friends in the H.W. Organisation, both at home and overseas. May Glad Tidings and Prosperity be yours in the New Year.

#### THE GOOD SHIP "FAIRMILE"

There was a boat which we had made,  
Down by the river it was laid,  
It's made of Alloy which is light,  
It really is a marvellous sight.

The craft we made in World War Two,  
Appeared to us as nothing new,  
But you must admit that a Cargo Lighter,  
In Aluminium looks much brighter.

Craft made of Steel soon get rusty,  
But Aluminium's not so dusty,  
And if it's not scuttled, through native fears,  
It will serve the owners for a hundred years.

It's sailing now for Borneo,  
That far off land that we all know,  
Bon-voyage, and God speed,  
And may prosperity be its creed.

#### H.M.S. LIEU

Jimmy Smith knows how to shiver,  
He lost his head and hit the river,  
Fetch a boat-hook Rob-Roy yelled,  
But Lucky for Jim his braces held.

Then to his rescue Oscar came,  
For to be a Captain is his aim,  
Jimmy was now back on board,  
And the cry went up, "Oh Thank the Lord."

#### McKEE DIVISION.

Three members of the staff gladly accepted the facilities offered by the Board of Directors to enable them to attend a series of Non-Political weekend courses arranged at the Swinton Conservative College where lectures were delivered on—

- a) Economics
- b) Trade Union Problems
- c) Britain's Trade and financial position with particular reference to the Commonwealth

Our representatives were particularly impressed both with the lectures and with the interesting and forceful discussions which followed them.

The lectures were informative and questions were welcomed and answered in such a way that one felt the lecturer was master of his subject.

During the last hour of each evening the bar, provided for liquid refreshment, was patronised; not for the purpose of quenching a thirst for knowledge, but for assuag-

ing one produced by healthy participation in the various discussions. Under the mellowing influence of a port and lemon, a black and tan or a chaser, conversation was carried on in a lighter vein and one retired to rest feeling a combination of an Oxford Don, a Trades Union Official and a President of the Board of Trade.

But for adverse weather conditions one could have taken advantage of the spacious and delightful grounds surrounding this historic building. As it was, most leisure time during daylight was spent in the numerous recreation rooms, library and reading room or admiring the various oil paintings.

The course was much appreciated and was of considerable educational value.

The mental effort in covering so wide a field caused a certain amount of "Stress and Strain," but at no time was either the elastic or fatigue limit reached.

One question, however, did remain unanswered. This was, who were the two students who got locked out after "lights out?"

In mid December, Manuel Danvila, the Spanish gentleman who has spent some months with us endeavouring to master our most difficult language and our methods of working, returned to Madrid to take up a position as Mr. Baxter's assistant. We send our best wishes to him and have no doubt that he will be able to smooth away any difficulties which may arise due to translation of technical terms.

The Division would like to extend to all employees of Head, Wrightson & Co. its Greetings for Christmas and the wish that everybody will enjoy a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

#### CIVIC FUNCTION

Our picture on Page 9 shows our Chairman, Mr. Richard Miles, Sir John Wrightson and Mr. Peter Wrightson congratulating Councillor J. N. Scott, Mayor of Thornaby-on-Tees and an employee of the Fitting Shop, Stockton Forge, after the presentation of new mayoral robes to the Borough of Thornaby by the Board of Head Wrightson & Co.

#### PRESENTATION OF LONG SERVICE AWARDS

The other picture on Page 9 shows part of the ceremony of the presentation of clocks and watches to employees with 50 and 40 years service respectively. Our Chairman, Mr. Richard Miles, Sir John Wrightson and Mr. Peter Wrightson are shown with Messrs. J. Bashford, J. Skinner and E. Dea.

We give below a complete list of those who received awards.

##### Over 50 years

J. Bashford, E. Dea, \*J. Hornby, J. Ions, \*W. Lee, R. Lyall, W. Marshall, T. McFarthing, C. W. Raine, R. Raine, R. Randall, J. Skinner, F. J. Walker, J. R. Wilson.

##### Over 40 years

J. G. Allen, W. Anderson, C. A. Arnison, H. Ayre, J. T. Barker, R. Barnes, \*H. Beevors, W. Bolland, C. F. Burridge, H. Cryer, H. Dixon, \*A. Doughty, A. Durance, H. Everett, F. W. Ferguson, J. W. Fordy, A. Franklin, H. Gascoyne, G. Gibson, J. A. Clasper, C. Gray, T. E. Gray, H. Hall, \*G. F. Heaton, J. R. Iddeson, W. Iscn, G. Jones, T. A. Maine, J. Martin, R. McQuillan, F. McDermont, J. R. Metcalf, W. T. Morgan, J. G. Myers, E. Orpen, T. Piper, J. H. Preece, M. Preece, H. Taylorson, F. Thompson, J. W. Tooke, J. Tunstall, J. B. Waggett, A. Waton.

\*Retired





*Presentation of Mayoral Robes*

*By courtesy of "Northern Echo"*



*Jack Bashford receives his Long Service Award*

*By courtesy of "Evening Gazette"*



## H. W. PERSONALITY

### JOHN SANDERSON

Teesdale Engineering D.O.

Most of our readers will be familiar with the venerable features shown in the portrait. John Sanderson started work at the age of 16 in 1898 at our Stockton Forge works as a junior filing clerk in the Drawing Office. He recalls with extreme pleasure his first week at work for it was Stockton Race Week, and half a day holiday each day was the rule then. To add to his pleasure, Barnum & Bailey's Circus was at the Norton Road Recreation Ground that week and as there were three rings—he was able to devote a whole afternoon to each of them.

In 1903 he came to Teesdale with Mr. Rinquist who was drawing Office Manager. Sir Thomas Wrightson was then Chairman of the Company, Mr. Head and Mr. W. Anderson were directors.

In those days there was no Steel Foundry at Teesdale—instead there were lots of allotments and gardens. The Iron Foundry was in full swing—especially on cast iron tunnelling for the London Underground. The Bridge Yard, too, was extremely busy on the building of bridges of many types and sizes for India and other colonies and also on the steelwork for Waterloo Station.

In 1911, Mr. Sanderson married and though his salary, at that time, was only 35/- per week, he says they managed very comfortably. His wedding present from his colleagues was a sideboard.

He recalls, too, that all photography was done in sunlight from the top of a cabin in the stable yard.

In his early days with the firm, Mr. Sanderson tells of the busy sight which Trafalgar Street presented on pay days. It was crowded with shipyard workers and also our own people. There was a church, too, at the end of the cottages whose mournful tone he still recalls.

The erection of an extension to the General Offices brings back to Mr. Sanderson's mind, conditions in the



old offices. On the day of the shareholders' meeting, work finished early in the D.O. and the long table in the middle of the room was covered with a red cloth for the occasion.

Mr. Sanderson has lived practically the whole of his life in Marske and his excellent health is a good recommendation for the sea breezes of the North East Coast.

### THE H.W. MACHINE CO. LTD.

The Drawing Office reports with regret that Arthur Gallagher is leaving us after being with the Company for nine years, the last five in the D.O.

David Clarke, who was well-known for his taste in cars, left us in October. He now works in Huddersfield where, we understand, he has been reduced to owning a popular make of car.

In our last issue we reported the putting into commission of a steel tube manufacturing plant at the Desford works of Tube Investments Ltd. This time we can report that another similar plant has been commissioned at the Corby Works of Stewarts and Lloyds.

As reported in the Evening Telegraph of 14th October, 1954, the plant, which will eventually employ 400 men, will have a maximum output of 70,000 tons of steel tube each year.

Many tons of these tubes will find their way to as widely separated places as Venezuela, Borneo and the Middle East, where they are extensively used by the Oil Industry.

We recently parted with Peter Johnson and John Dumain. They are now doing their bit. We are looking forward, with no small interest, to the time when Robin

Botterill, Bob Baker, Ivan ("The Terrible") Atkinson and David Auld join Peter and John. Then Britain's foes—beware!

Harry Milner returns to the fold in a week or so after just over a year in Canada and the U.S.A. He should have a tale to tell.

Everybody was pleased—very pleased to see Bill Walton around again after his long illness. We all join in sending our best wishes to him and hope to see him back at work.

We welcome back from the Forces, Malcolm Scarlett, Geo. Herbert and Derek Bone and the following wanderers, Joe Parish, Frank Parish and Jas. Raine.

We are pleased to see back at work after sickness Messrs. M. R. Elliot, R. Reed, Jas. Barry, Geo. Slater and Fred Smith and look forward to the recovery of Messrs. S. Hall, Jake Bartlett, Dave Walton, Wm. Miller, Geo. Begg and E. Glenc.

We offer our deepest sympathy to Mr. Harry Nicholas, Joiners, on the tragic death of his mother, who was killed in a road accident.