

# WRIGHT AHEAD

THE HEAD WRIGHTSON NEWS LETTER

VOL. 6

OCTOBER, 1955

No. 3

## Chairman's Letter

There have been many references in the Press lately to our participation in nuclear engineering.

Head Wrightson's approach these epoch-making developments in two directions: our Head, Wrightson Processes Limited make experimental reactors, and other plant for home and abroad; our Parent Co. — the Engineering Division is mostly concerned — has joined the Nuclear Power Plant Company, headed by C. A. Parsons Ltd., to make electrical energy from splitting the atom.

Sir John and I have visited most of the U.K. Atomic Energy works lately, where they make Uranium from the ore; where they enrich ordinary Uranium 238 with the better fissile material Uranium 235; where they make Plutonium; and we inspected the first full scale plant for plutonium and power, which is the plant which interests us, as outlined in the Government White Paper.

The standard of high class engineering is incredible. The works are "hospital clean" and you visit them in long nylon overalls, white rubber boots, and perspex eye shades. I am sure a number of our works could be cleaner than they are, and more in line with these modern ideas of "good housekeeping."

As in other directions, we are amongst the leaders. To maintain our leadership, we require good team work by all concerned: directors, staff, men on the shop floor.



The Windscale plutonium producing factory at Sellafield, Cumberland

*"Every man's work shall be made manifest."* We are on the verge of new engineering conceptions. Let us see that in due course we reap the fruits.

*Richard Miles*

**PERSONAL****BIRTHS****Teesdale**

Mr. and Mrs. R. Wallis (Machine shop) a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Mendum (Maintenance) a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Bailey (Steel Foundry) a son.

**Stockton Forge**

Mr. and Mrs. J. Collins (Bridge Yard) a son.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Nichols (Bridge Yard) a son.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Chatto (Bridge Yard) a son.

Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Pinkney (Fitting Shop) a son. Another "Geordie."

**Stockton Steel**

Mr. and Mrs. Weatherill (Lab.) a son.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stafford a son.

**The H.W. Machine Co.**

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Thompson a son.

**DEATHS****Egglecliffe Foundry**

Mr. T. Illings, Mr. J. R. Wilson.

**Maintenance**

Mr. D. Greenwell.



Mr. and Mrs. W. M. G. Keeling

Mr. Ronnie Craggs to Miss Norma Simpson.

Mr. H. G. Thompson (Steel Casting) to Y. Martin.

**Colliery Engineering**

Mr. B. F. Prior (Technical Dept.) to Miss K. Russell (Accounts).

Mr. W. M. Keeling to Miss B. Heath (Tracing Dept.)

**Seaton**

Mr. Norman Martindale to Miss Nancy Robinson.

Mr. John Malham to Miss Sheila Fothergill.



Mr. and Mrs. R. Shandforth

**MARRIAGES****Teesdale**

Miss A. Vickerson (Purchasing Dept.) to Mr. J. Colpitts.

Miss Mary Cannon to P.C. Neville Burdon.

Miss Heather Watson to Mr. Robert Shandforth.

Mr. Frederic Burton (Die Shop) to Miss Margaret McBeath.

Mr. Lawson Bennett (Die Shop) to Miss Olga Storm.



Mr. and Mrs. N. Burdon

**ENGAGEMENTS**

Mr. K. Dunford, Bridge Yard to Miss J. Walton.

Mr. E. Kiddle to Miss L. Freeman, Ernest is Earnest this time.

**Stockton Forge**

Mr. T. Flower, Fitting Shop to Miss Margery Young.

**H.W. Machine Co.**

Mr. P. Boughy (D.O.) to Miss M. Proffitt.

Mr. David W. Lewis (Erectors) to Miss Joan Walker.

**Seaton**

Miss Nora Thom to Edward Topping.

**Teesdale D.O.**

Miss Jean Fenny to Mr. Derek Irvin (Steel Castings).

**SILVER WEDDINGS**

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Preece, Seaton.

Mr. and Mrs. Benny Winn, Stockton Steel.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Sturdy, Maintenance Dept., Teesdale.



Mr. and Mrs. J. Colpitts



Mr. and Mrs. K. Ferriday

## HEAD WRIGHTSON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

The members of the Head Wrightson Dramatic Society hope that all their friends and patrons enjoyed their holidays in the wonderful summer just past, and look forward to brightening at least some of the winter evenings for them during the next few months.

We are planning to stage four productions this season, two in 1955 and two in the early part of 1956. The first one, "Job For The Boy," will already be over when you read this, but we would in passing like to mention that we are one of the first amateur companies in the country to stage this play, as it was only released for amateur performances this year. No doubt many of you saw the Court Players perform it at Stockton Hippodrome during their last season.

Our second play will be in the nature of an attraction for the Christmas season, as it will be staged on December 14th, 15th and 16th, and is to be a comedy, rather more sophisticated than any we have presented hitherto, entitled "Champagne For Breakfast." We only hope it will be as sparkling as its title! Dates and titles for the remaining two productions will be announced later. We are hoping to give you a varied season, and hope that many old and new friends will come along to make it even more successful than last year.

We would remind you that our Third Annual Ball will be held on Friday, October 28th, at Teesdale Hall, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., and we know all our friends will be along to make it as great a success as the previous two. The price will again be 7/6d., and there will be a licensed bar, buffet supper (for which Mr. Spence has been requested to order a special supply of shrimps and mussels), and late transport.

### Personality Parade, Miss Sheila Cross, Purchasing Dept.

Apparently Sheila's acting career began when she was eight years old, when she was cast as a fairy in a school play, but as fate had it she had to cast aside her wings and take to bed in the isolation hospital instead. Fortunately, Sheila recovered, otherwise she may have had real wings and a harp too! When she was twelve, an unsuspecting audience paid money to see Sheila perform in A. A. Milne's "Make Believe," given by the 7th Stockton Girl Guide Company. Her part in this play involved some singing, so perhaps it was fortunate that the audience was composed mainly of friends and relations.

After taking part in various Church and School productions, Sheila had a rest from acting for some time, and did not stand behind the footlights again until that memorable occasion in 1952 when the Head Wrightson Dramatic Society performed their first play "When We Are Married," in which she took the part of Mrs. Helliwell. This was rather a large part, and everyone in the Society was astounded at the apparent ease with which she learned her lines, and the other members of the cast, struggling on manfully with scripts, would gaze in admiration.

After this first venture, Sheila has played a variety of parts for our Society — Maud Barron in "On Monday Next," Mrs. Webb in "The Feminine Touch," Lady Catherine de Bourgh in "I Have Five Daughters," Florence Bute in "Quiet Wedding," Mrs. Birling in "An Inspector Calls," Martha the maid in "Easy Money," and Maggie Lomax (Ma) in "Job For The Boy." Her favourite part was that of Mrs. Birling, probably because it was her first dramatic role with the Society.

When it was decided that the Society should have a Newsletter, the need for an Editor was apparent, and in

view of certain odd odes which Sheila had written for one of our social functions, there were no second thoughts about this appointment. Of course, members of the Society have to be rather careful what they say and do when Sheila is around, or they never know what may appear in the next issue!

To sum up, we all appreciate the work Sheila does for the Society, and know we can rely on her to help us out in any way — even to taking over the production of a play for a fortnight when the producer had to go away on business, or (surely a greater sacrifice) to lending her knitting to be used as one of the props and trusting to luck that no stitches were dropped!

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## Competition

The Chairman's letter, at the beginning of each number of "Wright Ahead," usually contains a quotation from a well-known authority.

The last four are:—

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

"Progress is not an accident."

"We assure freedom to the free, honourable alike in what we give — and what we preserve."

"Every man's work shall be made manifest."

He has given me the names of each work and its author. Do you know from which work they were and the name of the authors? Mr. Miles has authorised me to say he will award one guinea each for the first two correct solutions opened by me on 4th November, 1955. Closing date for entries will be Tuesday, 2nd November, 1955 and solutions should be forwarded in an envelope to "The Editor," Personnel Department, Teesdale Works. Your name, Works address and Board No. (if any) should be written beneath your entry.

The Editor.

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## BOWLS SECTION

The Bowls Club have had their most successful year, winning the Tees-side Bowls League 'B' as have both our Wednesday and Thursday night teams who play in the 'A' and 'B' Section respectively of the Cleveland and South Durham Bowls League. In the latter league there are four sections and the winners of each section play off for the premier award and in this the 'A' section beat Blue Hall Club. We also finished fourth in the South Durham and North Yorkshire Works Bowling League and in the top half of the North Yorkshire E.B.A. League.

In the individual competition, the winner was Jack White who beat Frank Skidmore of The Head Wrightson Machine Co. but their man, Mr. T. Frosdick beat Joe Thomas of Stockton Steel in the 4 wood handicap event.

The Annual meeting at which members will be elected to the Committee for next season will be held in the Recreation Hall at Teesdale Park on Wednesday, 9th November, at 7.15 p.m.

## Immingham Dock Outer Gates

Launched at Teesdale Iron Works on Friday, 16th September, 1955

On Friday, 16th September, 1955, we were again able to demonstrate how our geographical location on the River Tees enables us to deliver completed dock gates direct from our constructional shops to site, when the first leaf of a new pair of lock gates, built for the British Transport Commission, Humber Ports, was launched.

The launching ceremony was performed by Mrs. H. L. Hopkins; Mr. Hopkins, who was also present, is Port Master at Grimsby Docks.

Also present were Sir John Wrightson, Bt., Vice-Chairman of Head, Wrightson & Co., Ltd.; from the Humber Ports, Mr. S. A. Finnis, Chief Docks Manager and Mrs. Finnis, Mr. G. D. Lloyd, Chief Docks Engineer and Mrs. Lloyd; and senior officials of our organisation.

We were responsible for the design, fabrication and building of the gates to the Commission's specification, on the slipways on the River Tees, adjoining the Constructional Shops. After launching, tugs were waiting to

tow the gate to Immingham, where it will be stepped into position under supervision of our engineers.

These gates are for the 90 feet wide outer entrance to Immingham Dock and are of all welded construction. Each leaf consists of a mild steel framework of vertical end heel and mitre posts, with 17 horizontal plate decks enclosed by mild steel skin plates. There is a centre watertight bulk-head and two off-centre diaphragms, constructed in fitted panels between the decks. Man-holes are provided to facilitate access to all internal compartments. The approximate overall dimensions of each leaf are 54'0" x 50'3" x 8'0", and the approximate weight of each leaf is 190 tons.

It is interesting to note that the new welded gates replace a pair of rivetted wrought iron gates which the company installed in the same entrance in 1908 and the new welded design effects an approximate saving in weight of 25%.

Inspection of workmanship has been carried out by the staff of the Chief Docks Engineer, Humber Ports.



### ENGINEERING DIVISION

#### Machine Shop

At the time of writing, the transfer of our Light Machine Shop to its new quarters, built on the site of the old Blacksmiths' shop, is practically complete. Most of us remembering the old dark shop, find the change remarkable. Bright, well-lit and ventilated, the new shop promises to be, and this is important, very comfortable in winter. The movement of machines has provided much valuable floor space in the big shop of which full advantage has already been taken.

No doubt many of his friends in other departments will join us in wishing a long and happy retirement to Harry Ripley, better known as "Rip," after over 50 years with the firm. He has asked me to express thanks for the many good wishes and kind messages sent to him. A presentation was made to him by two of his old workmates, Dick Addison and Warner Parsons. Mention of these two long service employees reminds me that they have now both been "H.W. Personalities," Dick in March, 1954 and Warner in this issue. Details of past service are given there but we cannot let the occasion pass without comment. His workmates hope that this highly respected

and well-liked colleague will spend many more happy years with us.

We welcome back Dick Addison and Bob Rickerby after their long spell on the sick list.

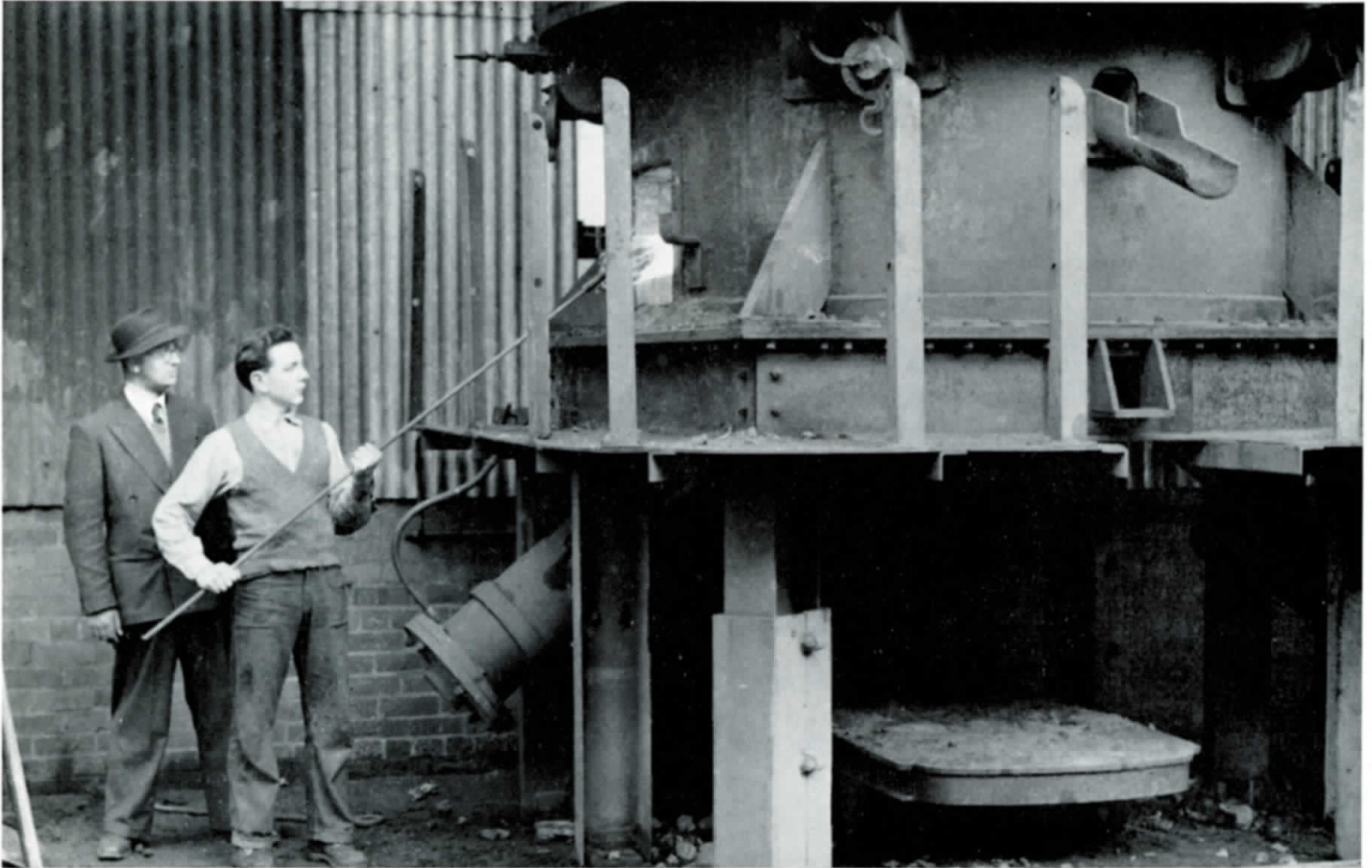
We record with deep regret, the death of Harry Dawson, who has been a pensioner for a number of years and who worked here for many years. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

#### Bridge Yard

The Interdepartmental Air Rifle Competition went off very successfully and the Section puts on record its sincere thanks to Mr. Shepherd for all the assistance given both towards the competition, for which a shield and miniature cups were provided, and also throughout the season.

We regret that Mr. T. H. Wain who had helped with the launching of the section, has relinquished the chairmanship due to lack of time. We owe him a great deal for getting the Section on its feet.

We have two teams firing in the Middlesbrough and District League and trust that they will give a good account of themselves in their first season.



**EGGLESCLIFFE FOUNDRY**

Deep sympathy is extended to all those bereaved and we at Eggescliffe were shocked by the sudden passing of Mr. J. R. Wilson (Moulder). It seems tragic that his death should be announced so soon after he occupied the H.W. Personality Page in the April issue of this magazine.

We would also like to record our sympathy with Mr. G. Howe (Moulder) whose mother died recently and also to Mr. J. Greenwell (Moulder) who lost his son in a tragic accident this month.

★ ★

Our photograph shows the new Cupolas to service the Chair and Segment Foundry and General Iron Casting Shop at Eggescliffe being lit for the first time by Master Philip Renton our youngest Apprentice under the watchful eye of Mr. G. Morris.

★ ★

**STOCKTON FORGE DIVISION**

Gran. Cooper (D.O.) was recently called forward to do his National Service in the R.A.F. He informs us that after the "tumult and bawling" which goes with the kitting out and square bashing, he longs for the quiet of the office.

The D.O. staff were pleased to see again their former colleague Jack Banner, who is home for three months leave. He has been working in Chile for an American firm during the past three years, and has recently renewed

his contract for a further similar period. We take this opportunity to wish him "all the best" in the future.

Reg. Reed (D.O.) informs us that he is leaving to take up another post, and we wish him well in his new venture. His cheerfulness around the office will be sadly missed.

Has the advert., "Set of Bowls for sale" anything to do with Mr. Bill Heron's "Birdie 2" at the 14th hole on Tees-side Golf Course.

Has Louie Waller green fingers and why?

Who is the personality at the "Forge" who brought to the notice of the British Legion Club at South Bank the fact that the Union Jack was flying upside down.

**Wanted.**

Any amount of small wooden balls at a reasonable price. Apply Template Shop.

We wish a speedy recovery to the following who are away from work through illness Albert Smith, Dick Skipper, Charlie Willis, Billy Ison, Arnie Nugent and J. Glen.

Harry Bailes and David Lewis have returned to the fold after completion of National Service and Allan Cranston has gone to begin his.

We welcome to the Fitting Shop Mr. Geoff Mays from South Africa.

## H. W. STEEL FOUNDRIES

### Stockton

On the evening of 9th September, a terrific Battle of Bowls took place at Teesdale Park between Stockton Steel Foundry and the Bridge Yard.

We were honoured by the presence of Mr. Peter Wrightson but, owing to a prior engagement, he could not stay until the end of the game which was completed in semi-darkness. It resulted in a win for Stockton Steel Foundry by a very narrow margin.

In Mr. Wrightson's absence, the Cup and tankards were presented by Mr. Frank Marriott who commented on the skill of both teams. Mr. Cain, who replied on behalf of the Bridge Yard also spoke highly of the sportsmanship of both sides, in a keen game.

Stockton Steel were also represented at the Fruit and Vegetable Show with Mr. Marriott obtaining two first prizes and Mr. H. Gaddas five first prizes.

### Teesdale Steel Foundry

Congratulation to:

Mr. K. Proctor who has passed the final examination of the Institute of Cost & Works Accountants and to Mr. John Allen who passed the final (Part B. ).

Miss W. Gaunt who passed the Northern Counties S.I. examination.

Best wishes to Mr. Frank Allen who has gone to do his National Service.

We offer congratulations to Stockton Steel Foundry on their Bowls Victory.

Mr. H. Hunter took part in an angling competition at Scarborough and was successful in gaining first prize.

We wish a speedy recovery to Messrs. J. Dixon, D. Maugham and W. Haston and a quick return to work.

Whilst in London early this month two members of the staff of the Division took the opportunity of visiting the Marine and Engineering Exhibition at Olympia. Many examples of the products of our Steel Foundries were to be seen incorporated in finished machinery, Crane Limited, had an excellent display of valves and on Clarke Chapman's stand could be seen many of our castings fitted into the complete plant. Steel Castings by Head, Wrightson were also noticed on the stands of Gwynnes Pumps (Wm. Foster), Hamworthy-Engineering Co., Power Plant, G. & J. Weir and there were possibly others which could not be identified with certainty.

By arrangement between Mr. Allen and our Divisional Council, every workman in the Steel Foundry, Dressing Yard, and Pattern Shop, who so desired, has been issued with a copy of a very good "write-up" which appeared recently in "Iron and Steel" describing the production of steel and alloy steel castings at Teesdale Steel Foundry.

### McKEE DIVISION

In past issues of "Wright Ahead" we have included impressions of life in other countries as seen through the eyes of our Engineers. For the last three weeks (at the time of writing) we have had in our office a Spanish gentleman who is to spend some months with Head Wrightson's, learning English and as much as possible about our industry, we felt that readers may be interested in his immediate impressions of England and the English, particularly as this is his first visit to this country. We give here a translation of his own words.

"My idea of the Englishman before leaving Spain was that he was a man of culture, hard working, correct in his bearing and faithful to his promises, but at the same time very steeped in tradition, cold and unapproachable

and reluctant to mix with people he had not known all his life.

During my stay of one week in London I mixed with Spanish friends, so that I had not the opportunity of meeting many English people, but the few I met confirmed my original impression. One day, lunching at the Tower, two Englishmen joined my table, and the whole meal was taken without a word being exchanged. I had the opportunity of visiting places of interest in London, and was impressed with all I saw. A most agreeable experience was a visit to the Isle of Wight. The size of London and the number of people of so many different types and nationalities was most notable. One sunny day I saw people in shirt sleeves and others with overcoats and scarves, all presumably dressed for the same weather.

Travelling North I found the journey fast and comfortable, but the meal served was very expensive and nothing to write home about. On arrival at Stockton, strangely enough, I was impressed by the fine weather, which was not what I expected. Also, after a few days when I was able to meet people I had to revise the latter part of my original view of the English. I have found everyone most friendly and they have approached me without me having to go to them. After office hours I have been invited to their houses and otherwise entertained, and have been allowed to enter into their lives — all the opposite to what I anticipated.

In the various places I have visited I have been delighted with the smart little houses for the workers with their neat gardens. These are arranged most attractively, and the avenues lined by trees give the overall impression of cleanliness and care. The various parks I have seen I have found really beautiful.

I continue to prefer my Spanish tobacco to the English, but when I smoke it, all my office friends complain. I like the English beer, and my only criticism is that I should like it a little colder as served in my country.

I was taken to a local football match (Middlesbrough v Fulham) which I thoroughly enjoyed. I was asked for my impression, and to be frank I replied that I found the mid-field play good, but that they couldn't shoot or head at goal.

After only one month in England I feel that I am at home, and apart from family reasons, if I wish to return to Spain, it is only to be able to offer to Englishmen the hospitality and friendship which I have received in England.

"José Luis Correa Ruiz."

## MAINTENANCE

### Air Rifle Competition

There have been few reports in the magazine from the Works Engineering Department in the past and none of any achievements. This year the 'air rifle' competition was formed. We entered two teams and to our surprise, reached the semi-finals. True, they may have lacked moral support but certainly not experience which carried them through to victory. This, our first win, will long be remembered.

We entered the semi-finals of the cricket but were unable to field a team as so many folk were on holiday.

Congratulations to Mr. Ronnie Johnson on his wedding, Ronnie is now serving with H.M. Forces.

We regret to report the death in tragic circumstances of Derrick Greenwell, plumbers' apprentice. He was outstanding in his trade and had many achievements to his credit, gained through constant studies. Our sympathies are extended to his family in their loss and to Mr. H. Pearson and his family in their loss.

**H. W. MACHINE CO. LTD.****PRESS OPEN DAY AT KIRBY WORKS**

On Wednesday, 14th September, I had the pleasure and privilege of representing our Company at the Press Open Day of the I.C.I. (Metals Division) Works at Kirby, near Liverpool.

This Works is the largest copper tube factory in the British Commonwealth and in the introduction to a booklet issued on the occasion of the opening they state that . . . "Its main mill — more than seven acres under one roof — is the largest in the British non-ferrous metals industry and houses the most powerful tube-drawing machinery in the world."

It is not without significance that they should refer to the equipment which we provided because it certainly dominates the whole scene.

We supplied one 300,000 lb. drawbench for producing tubes up to 110 ft. long; two 100,000 lb. drawbenches for producing tubes up to 160 ft. long; one 100,000 lb. and two 25,000 lb. drawbenches for producing tubes up to 70 ft. long. All of these drawbenches were designed to draw three tubes at a time at high speeds.

In addition we supplied one 540 ton Squeeze Pointer and two 400 ton Squeeze Pointers.

All of these units were operating in a very satisfactory manner during the visit and there were many very favourable comments passed by the plant makers and Press representatives.

In the 16 page booklet which was published for this occasion the photographs of our equipment appeared on the front and back pages. This equipment, as many will recall, was developed specially to meet the require-

ments of I.C.I. and included many new ideas. The speeds of operation are in fact considerably higher than those generally in use in the production of copper tubes in this country or even in U.S.A.

Our equipment was delivered some years ago but I.C.I. did not feel that they should throw open the plant for inspection until all the machinery was installed and in full production.

Everyone who had a part in the building of this equipment has every reason to be proud of these jobs. There is no doubt that there will be many visitors from all over the world to these Kirby Works in the immediate future. The impression which they are likely to gain of our equipment with good design and first class workmanship should bring us in a great deal of further business.

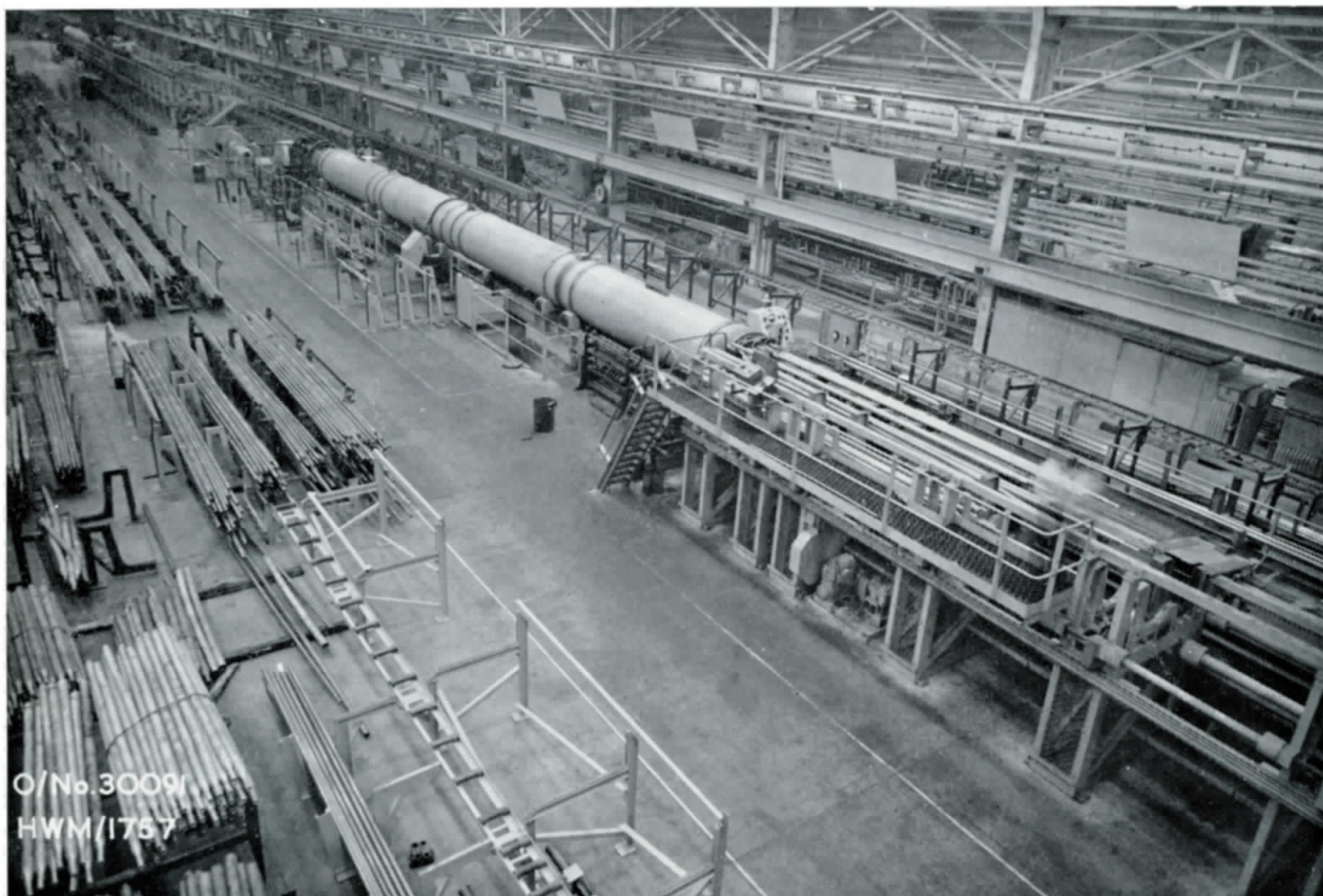
N. C. Lake

Bob Russell of the D.O. has left us to take a job in Montreal. We wish him all the very best in his Canadian venture.

We offer sympathy to Ernie Horton of the Estimators, who in showing his youngsters how to high jump correctly, broke his leg. Hope he gets rid of the "dot and carry" very soon.

Mr. Tom Frosdick of the Estimators won the Four Wood Bowls Competition of the Head Wrightson Bowls Section.

Messrs. J. Mahoney, G. Gibb, M. Scarlett, J. Pattison, T. Harker, C. Cooper, K. Latheron are with us again after illness. We are pleased to see them back and hope that Messrs. S. Thompson, J. Gildroy, R. Horswell, R. Reed, J. Bartlett, G. Begg and Mrs. Youll, who are ill, will soon join us once more.



O/No. 3009/  
HWM/1757



Inset shows Graham's determination. Larger picture shows success.

Photograph by permission of "Cycling."

#### H.W. STAMPINGS

The employees of H.W.S., have wished "Bon Voyage" to Mr. Leo Van-der-Werff recently employed as a Die-Sinker who sailed for Canada on September 19th, to take up similar employment. All wish him every success in his new venture.

We welcome to "Stampings," Mr. Brian Middleton, metallurgist, recently transferred from Teesdale.

Congratulations on your majority—Miss Edna Brown.

We wish a speedy recovery to the following, who are absent, either through accident or illness:—  
Messrs., Coward, Pinkey, Purvis, and Whitelock.

We were pleased to see Mr. Jack Smith of the Inspection Dept., back on duty again, after a prolonged illness and hope that the future will bless him with good health.

Congratulations and Best Wishes are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Norman Preece (Heat Treatment Dept.,) on the occasion of their Silver Wedding Anniversary, 6th September.

The staff of H.W.S., wish to extend their best wishes for a happy future to the following:—

Miss Mary Cannon upon her marriage to Police Constable Neville Burdon of West Hartlepool and Miss Heather Watson upon her marriage to Mr. Robert Shadforth also of West Hartlepool.

Congratulations and best wishes to Miss Nora Thom upon her engagement to Mr. Edward Topping of Blackhall Rocks.

#### H.W. PROCESSES

In August of this year Graham Vines of our Drawing Office won the 138 mile National Professional Cyclist's Championship marathon, collecting a useful £100 cheque for his trouble. Graham has ridden in Italy, Denmark, France, Belgium and other continental countries during his cycling career. In 1951 he competed in the World Amateur Championship in Italy; in 1952 he rode in the same race in Luxembourg. Also in 1952, Graham Vines carried off the Amateur Championship of Great Britain and went on to ride in the Olympic Games. In words familiar to us all Graham, "Go 'Right Ahead'."

Another substantial order for a new design concrete Induced Draught Cooling Tower has been received. This Tower is made up of sixteen separate cells capable of cooling four million gallons of water per hour, and will be the largest of its kind in the United Kingdom.

H.W.P. have also received an order for a timber Cooling Tower larger than any we have so far supplied in this country.

Our sales of both Fluor and H.W.P. products are already double that of any previous year, and this achievement gives impetus to even greater efforts.

In line with our policy of extending our market overseas, an agreement has been signed with an Italian firm for the sale of our Fin-Fan Air Cooled Heat Exchangers, which are fulfilling many duties where water is scarce and costly.

In addition to the above successes we must not forget to mention the excellent summer which, we venture to state, will be talked of for many summers to come.



**COLLIERY ENGINEERING LIMITED**

We are pleased to record recent orders received from the National Coal Board.

The first concerns the Surface Reconstruction at South Kirby Colliery for which instructions have been received to put in hand work on the Coal Preparation Plant. We are interested in other sections of work under this reconstruction and look forward to recording receipt of additional orders.

The second is in connection with reconstruction work at Cadeby Colliery for which we have been successful in obtaining the order for the Dense Medium Coal Preparation Plant.

**Sport**

Congratulations to Mr. F. Marsden, of the Progress Department, on his successes in winning the Wilson Cup and the Douglass Vickers Cup for singles and pairs bowls. The matches were played on 24th September at the Whiteley Woods Bowling Club.

Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Prior on the occasion of their marriage on 3rd September and to Mr. and Mrs. W. Keeling who were married on 10th September.

Welcome to Dr. F. Worthington who has joined the Technical Staff in Sheffield from Colliery Equipment Division, Thornaby. A warm welcome is also extended to new members of our Technical Staff, Messrs. A. Webster, M. Ward and D. Lenton, and of our Drawing Office Staff, Messrs. M. Crehan, J. D. Raw, J. M. Plant and F. Bull.

**COLLIERY EQUIPMENT DIVISION**

Since the last issue the Division has had quite a number of changes in staff. At Headquarters, Dr. F. Worthington, has been transferred to Colliery Engineering Ltd., Sheffield — we hope he likes his new job, and Len Duffy has gone to do his two years in the Royal Air Force (it is suggested that it would have been more appropriate if he had joined the "Silent Service"). The office boy has also been changed, Colin Fletcher being transferred to the Shipping Department and replaced by Barry Ashman. We also have two new additions to the Drawing Office Staff — Mr. Jack Brewis who has for some years been working in Lancashire but has decided to return to his native soil of Tees-side, and Kenneth Cooke who comes to us from the Apprentice School as an apprentice draughtsman. We welcome them both to the division.

At Ogilive Colliery, Mr. W. I. Mason, Clerk of the Works, and Mr. E. Gilbert, Chairman, have joined Mr. Williamson's Staff. They may be far away but they are not forgotten.

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From an enquirer in West Africa:—

We require a mining instrument which will be of use in tracing gold buried in the earth.

Please do not treat this enquiry as trivial. It is being made on behalf of a friend of ours whose father buried during his lifetime some gold coins on his farm and gave a direction in his will describing the spot wherein they

were buried, but unfortunately all efforts to trace the treasure has been in vain.

If you do not stock any such instrument, we shall be pleased if you will be good enough to pass our enquiry to the proper quarters.

We shall be grateful if you will kindly air-mail your reply.

Thanking you,  
Yours, etc.

**TENNIS SECTION**

With the facilities and talent now available throughout the Company, it is reasonable to assume that a strong tennis section is to be built up.

All employees who are members of the Employees' Council scheme are eligible for membership and stronger support from the fair sex would be appreciated. The ladies can assist greatly in improving the standard of mixed doubles play and in the arrangement of various social and out-of-season activities.

The Miles Trophy for men's singles is, at present, the only open works competition. Provided that all enthusiastic tennis players support the club wholeheartedly, the competition can be extended to include ladies' singles, mixed doubles, men's and ladies' doubles, and provide an extremely good and full day's tennis for the finals.

In the near future, particulars will be circulated regarding an open meeting which the committee intend to hold, and which recommendations and suggestions can be put forward and discussed with the object of an early beginning of play next season.

**SWIMMING SECTION**

The swimming sessions which have been held each alternate Friday at Stockton Baths have been well attended throughout the season but are now almost at an end. The climax of the season will be when the 6th Annual Swimming Gala is held on Friday, 4th November.

The programme is similar to that of previous galas:—

- Interdepartmental relay race.
- Junior Girls and Boys events.
- Ladies' and Gents' events including plain diving.
- Veterans' event.
- Ladies' and Gents' Open invitation events and a Display of rhythmic swimming by Miss Atkinson and Party.

For entry particulars, etc. see handbills which are displayed in all departments. Tickets, strictly limited, are 1/- each.

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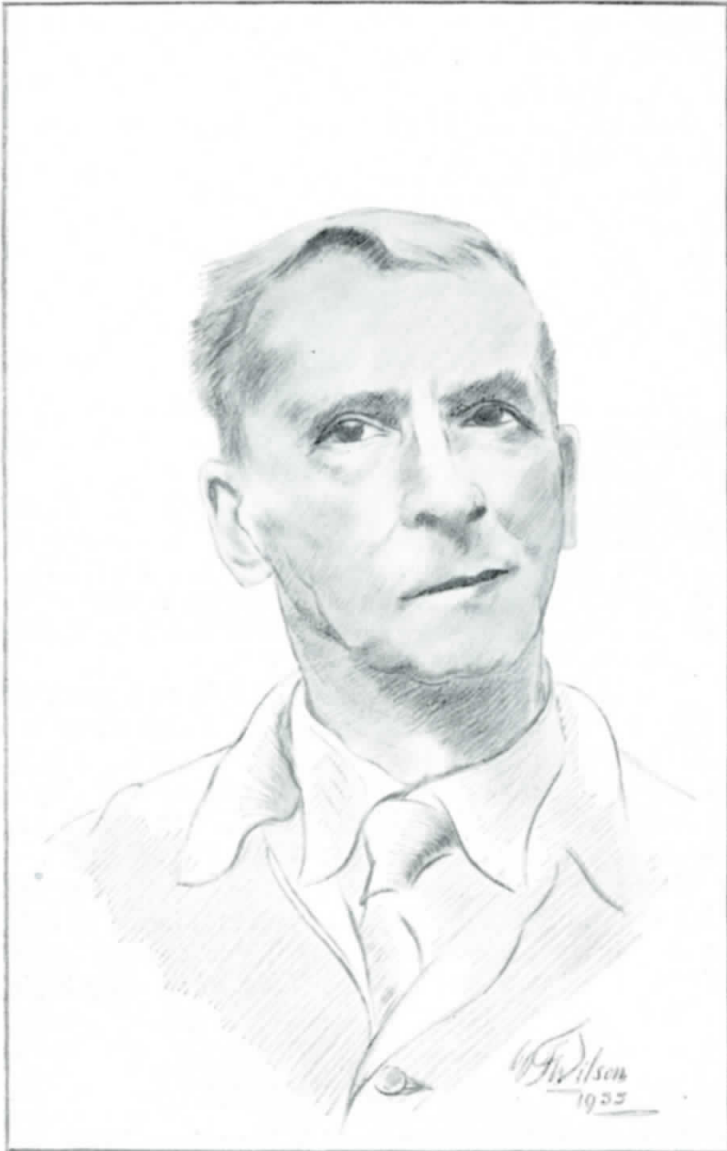
If the folks who design bathing costumes aren't careful, they'll be working themselves out of a job.

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"Waltz a little faster, dear, they're playing a rumba."

★

Why do people take their children to a circus but send them to Sunday School.



## H. W. PERSONALITY

### MR. F. W. PARSONS

Tool Room, Teesdale

Mr. Parsons who is a tool room turner, has been with the Company for 50 years. He has been for the whole of his working life at Teesdale except for, and this was said rather apologetically, three months at the Forge in 1912. He served with the Royal Engineers in World War I and was with the Works A.R.P. squad and later the Thornaby Civil Defence in World War II.

Mr. Parsons, a native of Stockton has lived in Thornaby for the past 12 years. He tells me that previous personalities seem to him to have covered all the outstanding events which have taken place both locally and in the works but there is one great improvement which no one has mentioned — that is means of transport to and from the Works. He recalls that in his early days with the firm, men and boys who worked at Teesdale, had to walk from Yarm and arrive there for 6.0 a.m. He recalls too, how passengers were carried by paddle steamer from Castlegate, Stockton to Middlesbrough.

In his leisure, Mr. Parsons has been a keen follower of Stockton Football team for more than 50 years and thinks that this side was in its heyday as an amateur one.

When asked whether he thought of retiring, Mr. Parsons said he thought he would carry on a few years yet.

### CHILDREN'S PANTOMIME TREAT

The children of employees aged from 5-14 are again to attend the pantomime at the Globe Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, as guests of the Employees' Council.

Bills giving the date and details for obtaining application forms, etc., will be posted throughout the works in the near future.

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### APPRENTICES — NEWS

Two of our junior apprentices — D. J. Hawkins and B. Blackwood, both embryo moulders, are at present at the National Foundry College on a course.

Two of our Staff, J. Johnson and Peter McLoughlan. (past apprentices) both of the McKee Division, have done so well in their period at Constantine College that they have gone on to King's College, Newcastle-on-Tyne. They will be returning to us during vacations.

Another of our apprentices, Bill Day of the Machine Shop, is playing in the First team for Middlesbrough.

### HALIBUT OIL CAPSULES

It is possible that some members of our organisation are not aware that as part of our Welfare arrangements, Halibut Oil Capsules are available at the low cost of 2/6 per 100.

These can be obtained from the Personnel Department.

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### Have you heard this One?

"Excuse me for interrupting you, sir," said the caller, "but I am collecting for the poor. Do you happen to have any old clothes?" "Yes, I do" said the householder. "Would you be willing to give them to me? I can assure you they'll be put to a most worthy purpose."

"No, I'm afraid not."

"Oh," said the other rather taken aback. "Then what do you do with them, sir?"

"Each night I brush them carefully, fold them and hang them over a chair. Each morning I put them on again."

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