



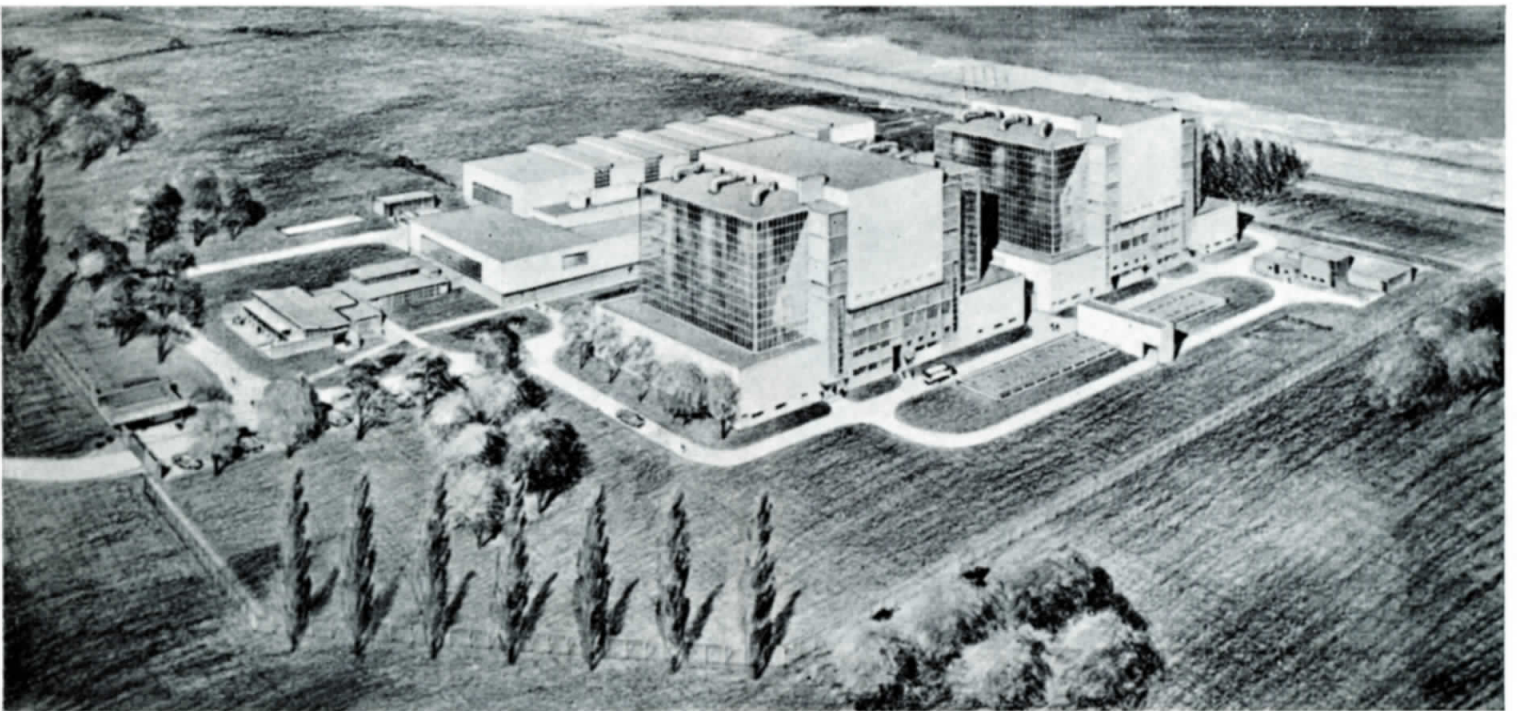
# WRIGHT AHEAD

THE HEAD WRIGHTSON NEWS LETTER

VOL. 7

APRIL, 1957

No. 5



Artist's impression of Bradwell atomic power station

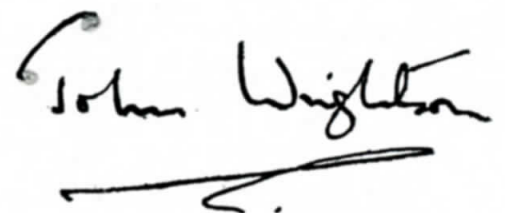
For the next few years many of us will be increasingly occupied with work for the Bradwell Nuclear Power Station. Fabrication will soon commence in the shops and site preparation is well advanced.

Our contribution to this nuclear power station will be the steam raising plant (in conjunction with Clarke Chapman and Co.), the installation of the graphite in the core of the reactor and the supply of the shield cooling; furthermore, the blowdown and evacuating systems, the pond cooling and effluent disposal arrangements. The major items of supply from Teesdale will be the twelve heat exchanger shells. Fabrication will present some interesting problems, because of the large sizes and weights involved and the special conditions which have to be observed during manufacture.

To obtain this contract we have depended, more than in any other case, on the skill and energy of our design and research staff. In a short time, against difficulties, they have achieved a great deal. A large amount of experimental work has already been done and more will be necessary to overcome new problems of which there is

little past experience. I am confident that their skill and ingenuity will be equal to the further challenges we shall meet in this field.

The maintenance of our position in the forefront of engineering in our country will require the greatest efforts of all of us, but we can all take pride in the fact that Head Wrightson is playing so large a part in Great Britain's nuclear power programme, upon which the future of the country so much depends.



John Wrightson



## MARRIAGES



Mr. and Mrs. Cooper

Good wishes to :—

**Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd.**

Machine Shop

Mr. D. Cooper to Miss Jean Bramley.

Bridge Yard

Mr. T. Felgate to Miss K. Pones.

Mr. R. Cuthbert to Miss P. Hutchinson.

Mr. K. Dunford to Miss J. Walton.

**Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.**

Teesdale

Mr. A. McCusker (Labs.) to Miss A. Metcalfe (Costs)

Mr. Brian O'Hara to Miss Jean Truner.

Stockton

Miss Dorothy Hooton to Mr. Norman Wall.

**Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd.**

Ship House

Miss J. R. Elder to Mr. D. J. Simmons.

**Head Wrightson Iron & Steel Engineering Ltd.**

Miss Janet Whiteoak to Mr. J. Barnes.

Mr. Gordon Adamson to Miss P. Ellis.

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

Mr. Frank Pearson to Miss P. Sidway.

Mr. C. Parkin, D.O. to Miss Dorothy Bantoft.

Mr. K. Richardson, D.O. to Miss Joan Woodcock.

Mr. P. Hicks, Dev. Office to Miss C. Shorrock.

Mr. Brian Boughey, D.O. to Miss M. Profitt.

**Head Wrightson Stampings Ltd.**

Mr. B. Braney (Die Shop) to Miss J. P. Brammon.

## DEATHS

Condolences to the families of :—

**Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.**

Mr. J. E. Mercer.

Mr. T. Hadman.

Mr. V. Burrows.

## BIRTHS

Congratulations to :—

**Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd.** Drawing Office.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Stoddart—a daughter, Jacqueline.

Machine Shop

Mr. and Mrs. A. Hall—a son.

Bridge Yard

Mr. and Mrs. Henery (nee Margaret Spence)—a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Hamilton—a son.

**Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.**

Teesdale

Mr. and Mrs. R. McKay—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Lacey—a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Laroche—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Hulse—a son.

Stockton

Mr. and Mrs. E. Railton—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Robertson—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Lindsay—a son.

**Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd.**

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Shaw (Ship House)—a daughter.

**Head Wrightson Iron & Steel Engineering Ltd.**

Mr. and Mrs. D. Wanless—a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Griffiths—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Oliver—a daughter.

**The Head Wrightson Machine Co.**

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Byers, D.O.—a son.

**Head Wrightson Stampings Ltd.**

Mr. and Mrs. Derek Jackson (Maintenance)—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. William Neave (Maintenance)—a daughter.

Mr. Benny Kirkbright (Die Shop)—a granddaughter.

**Head Wrightson Colliery Engineering Ltd. (Sheffield).**

Dr. and Mrs. F. Worthington—a daughter.

## ENGAGEMENTS

Best wishes to :

**Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd.**

Mr. Colin Banner, D.O. to Miss Margaret Pearson, H.Q. Costs.

**H.W. Steel Foundries Ltd.**

Stockton

Mr. J. Thomas, Fitting Shop to Miss M. Anderson.

Miss K. Allison to Mr. B. Hedley.

**Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd.**

Miss Irene Millican, Accounts to Mr. R. Robinson.

**Head Wrightson Iron Foundries Ltd.**

Miss F. Bage (Wages) to Mr. K. McDermont.

**Head Wrightson Colliery Engineering Ltd. Sheffield.**

Miss P. Illingworth (Tracer) to Mr. A. Green, D.O.



Mr. and Mrs. O'Hara





### FIRM'S ADVANCES IN NEW FIELDS

There were now more opportunities than ever before in the organisation of Head Wrightson and Co. Ltd. for young men who had completed their technical education, said Sir John Wrightson, Vice-Chairman of the company, when he presented awards from the Mechanical Handling Engineers' Association to eight apprentices of the firm. The presentations were made at the company's Thornaby offices.

A ninth award could not be presented because the recipient, Alan Ramsey, of Stockton Forge Drawing Office, was at King's College, Newcastle, on Head Wrightson's scholarship.

The company's apprentices gained one-seventh of the 77 prizes awarded nationally by the association. The awards to these apprentices totalled £90 and were in the form of books and tools selected by themselves.

Sir John said the company was now reaching a stage when a considerable proportion of its up and coming young men were graduates of the apprentice school. The solid background of the training Head Wrightson's was able to give in the apprentice school was beginning to show in the organisation.

It had always been the policy of the firm to encourage extra effort, and it was pleasing that the prowess of the apprentices was now becoming known throughout the rest of England, as well as being rewarded by the firm itself.

The company today was in a position to offer opportunities that had never existed before. This was because of the advance into the new fields of atomic energy and petro-chemicals, in addition to the firm's established lines.

Awards were received by Ernest Doneathy, of Head Wrightson Machine Co., Middlesbrough; Dennis Harrison, of Stockton Forge Works; Trevor Wilson Jones, of Teesdale Laboratory; John Martin, of McKee Iron and Steel Division Drawing Office; Kenneth Milburn, of Teesdale Bridge Yard; Alan Muirhead of Egglecliffe Iron Foundry; Edwin Watson, of Teesdale Machine Shop; and John Wilkinson of Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd., Stockton. (Picture above)

Kenneth Milburn thanked Sir John on behalf of the apprentices, for the opportunities given to them for training.

### MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE AT MATLOCK

During the last three or four years the company has sent selected members of the staff to a Management Course at Matlock, in Derbyshire, and this year for the February Conference, the two people chosen were Mr. R. A. Shaw, who is Stockton Forge's London representative and Mr. J. E. Chesser, Sales Manager of the Head Wrightson Machine Co. Ltd.

This Course, far from being a holiday at the Company's expense, entails some extremely hard work. Each morning there is a lecture at 9 a.m. by an industrialist who is a leading man in his own particular field. This year's subjects included, Principles of Management, Managing through people, Works Study, Company Economics, Selling and problems of plant development.

After each lecture, sufficient time is allowed for questions and discussion. After lunch, there are further lectures or group studies on a specific case. People studying law learn from past reports on interesting cases and similarly those studying management can learn a lot from cases on industrial problems, labour relations, etc.

In the evenings, conference members are split into groups of six, with the object of solving a given problem. This year's projects included the re-organisation of a steelworks to increase production; the examination of the management structure of a fictitious company, with a view to improvement; and suggestions for policies on training, safety, education and labour relations.

These suggestions keep the groups working until early morning and written reports have to be completed for assessment on the last day of the conference by experts.

On two evenings the project work was interrupted by an informal talk by Canon Wickham on Christian Leadership in Industry and on another evening by a film show, showing films of the making of Iron and Steel.

One of the films described the new steelworks of the Steel Co. of Wales, Abbey and Trostre Works and our two representatives at the conference were pleased and proud to note the number of times the name Head Wrightson appeared on the screen. They had to put up with considerable chaff from their colleagues on this free advertising, but it at least showed that H.W. & Co. have every confidence in their equipment to blazon their name for all to see.

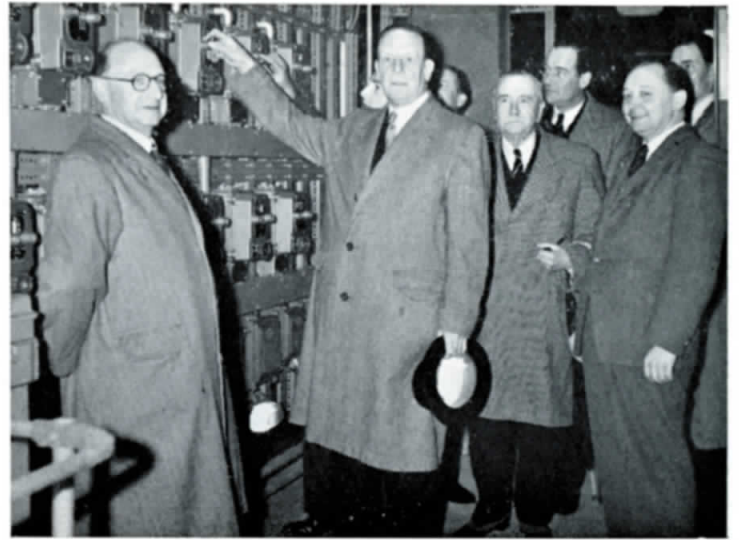


Staff dance, 1953—where you there ?





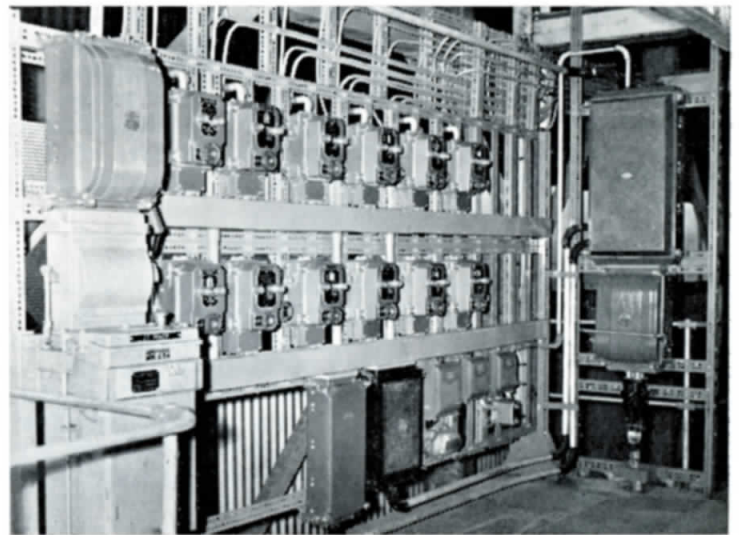
No. 1



No. 2



No. 3



No. 4



No. 5



No. 6



## THE NEW LOOK AT STOCKTON STEEL FOUNDRY

About three years ago the Parent Board of Directors of the Head Wrightson organisation allocated a large capital sum for the purpose of modernising and improving Stockton Steel Foundry and it will be of interest to see how, in the main, the money has been spent.

It is well known how chaotic the pattern storage problem had become due to lack of space, and practically the first consideration was the building of a pattern store on "The Moor." This is fitted with "Dexion" racking and there is now no excuse if Billy and Jock can't find a pattern. The same building houses the pattern shop and the maintenance machine shop, giving both greatly increased facilities which were very badly needed. The photograph No. 1 opposite shows a view of the pattern store.

The next step was to proceed with a modern sand conditioning plant incorporating of course, a knock-out grid for large boxes and a shake-out for small boxes, together with adequate dust control. The opportunity was taken on the afternoon of December 8th, last, to invite the "London" Directors to come to Stockton to set the plant in motion. Mr. K. W. Hickman is shown in photograph No. 2 pressing the switch to start up. Also in the picture are Mr. J. G. Allen, the late Colonel H. D. P. Francis, Mr. Peter Wrightson, Mr. G. Taylor with Mr. John Eccles, Sir John Wrightson, Bart, and Mr. W. Hutchinson, just visible.

Photograph No. 3 shows Mr. J. G. Allen, Mr. John Eccles, Mr. K. W. Hickman and Sir John Wrightson, Bart, watching a box being emptied on the new shake-out. A view of the control panel of the sand plant is shown in photograph No. 4.

The covering of the dressing yard proceeded simultaneously with the construction of the new sand plant and the gantry of the East Bay is through to Riley Street and the West Bay gantry should be finished by 1st May. Overhead travelling cranes are in situ. The east bay is covered the full length and about a third of the west bay has been completed to date. One of the derrick cranes has gone. Who will be sorry to see the last of the other one? Photograph No. 5 shows the new look in the dressing yard.

The last item of expenditure in the allocation is to cover the re-building of the old Burdon furnace to give better control of the all important operation of annealing and heat treatment of steel castings. Photograph No. 6 illustrates the progress so far made on the furnace referred to which should be ready for use in a week or two.

In concluding this short review of the new look at Stockton Steel Foundry the opportunity is taken to say thanks to Bill Hutchinson and his staff; George Taylor, Harry Thompson and Tommy Lee, who encountered and overcame many difficulties, and last, but by no means least, John Eccles, who progressed and supervised "on the spot."

J.G.A.

## "THIS COULD HAPPEN TO YOU" or "HEAVEN HELP YOU"

When my eight-year old sister recently announced that she wanted to be a short-hand-typist on leaving school she little realised the folly of this ambition!

At about the time of her birth I was myself embarking on my "chosen career"—shorthand typing. I now attribute this to the fact that, having left the classroom behind for ever, I was somewhat light-headed at the time. Having spent the major part of my school days absorbing as little knowledge as possible, and my evening-school periods waving to the young men in the next classroom, I was hardly well equipped to take up any intelligent occupation.

However, I was duly admitted into what is commonly called "The Iron & Steel Trade," and put to such mundane tasks as tea-making,

filing, running errands and learning teleprinter and telephone switch-board, which is generally known as "coming up the hard way"—and how!

I distinguished myself on one occasion by dropping a trayload of crockery whilst negotiating a pair of swing doors. Turns had to be taken with the few remaining cups that afternoon, and the atmosphere was somewhat strained, but I remained, and continued to get lost in the vastness of London each time I was sent out, and to frequently elaborate on the injustices levelled at office juniors.

At about this time I started courting—with one of the office boys. Thenceforward our typist-in-charge spent the major part of the company's time guarding the office door against any attempted invasion by the innocent young lad. She could have saved her time—he is now my husband.

I eventually "graduated" to the post of shorthand typist, and later took a job as such, with a firm who specialised in engineering, with some iron and steel thrown in. Here, my output of knitted garments went up by leaps and bounds, since, having sent out my boss armed with plumb-bolt, rule and notebook for site surveys, I was rarely interrupted. I subsequently became rather alarmed at the decrease in my shorthand and typing speeds, and descended on the estate agency business, which I confidently expected to be "rather interesting."

My brief period in this "line" killed all desire in me to ever buy a house of my own, and gave me an insight into the perils of wet rot, dry rot, woodworm and subsidence. If my employer was careless enough not to conceal these numerous hidden defects from the client, the sale "fell through," and the work on which I had been busily engaged for the past week or so, became null and void.

I went into mental mourning for all house purchasers, and moved to Ship House.

Valuing my position at Ship House as I do, I have decided to defer the "next, dramatic instalment" until I retire with my pension!

J.R.P.



Our illustration shows a headgear Head Wrightson Stockton Forge Ltd. have recently erected in the West Midlands Division of the National Coal Board.

This example of a portal frame structure designed and fabricated by H.W.S.F. Ltd., to Coal Board requirements is of a type new to this country. It is 150' 0" high to the upper pulleys and arranged to wind 4 treble deck cages in a 24' 0" dia. shaft. The central guide tower, also the heapstead building shown in the course of erection has also been supplied by ourselves, and the whole plant is now in commission, giving increased output of the coal which this country so badly needs.



# The Dragon

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE STEEL COMPANY OF WALES LIMITED

## VELINDRE LINE IS FIRST OF KIND IN EUROPE

### Preparing Blackplate At 4,000 Feet A Minute

**T**HE first of Velindre's two Coil Preparatory Lines has been commissioned and is now in production.

The Line, on which coils of finished blackplate are prepared for Electrolytic Tinning, is of the latest design and the first of its kind in Europe.

The Unit can handle coils up to a maximum of 72in. in diameter and 36,000lb. in weight and consists of a pay-off reel, shear, welder, edge trimmer, recoiler and has a maximum speed of 4,000 f.p.m., approximately double that of other Coil Preparatory Lines at present working in this country.

The main difference in design of the Velindre Line is that the strip is kept under tension from pay-off reel to recoiler and no looping pits are used.

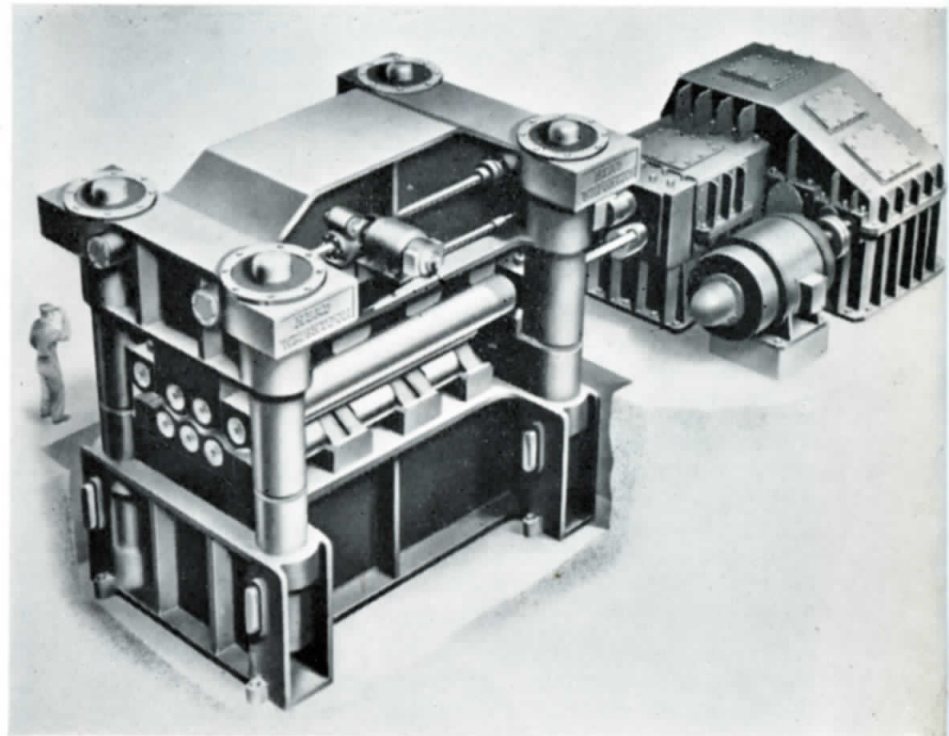
#### Compact

To ensure the strip is kept at all times in the centre of the Line and so enable the side trimmer to trim consistently an "edge control" is used at the pay-off reel, which automatically corrects any irregular wrapping in the coil. Off-gauge strip is detected by a Beta-ray gauge and is coiled on a separate reject coiler.

The Line is very compact, being only 45ft. in length.

weighing up to 20 tons each. In anticipation of this requirement, designs were prepared for roller levellers, suitable for flattening these heavy plates, using the experience gained during the war in designing and building levellers for tank armour plate and in providing smaller ships' plate levellers in the immediate post war period.

We have received, recently, our first order for a machine for use on plates of the maximum size from Swan, Hunter & Wigham Richardson, of Wallsend-on-Tyne and several enquiries for similar and smaller mach-



The above is a facsimile of the feature article on the front page of "The Dragon" which is the monthly newspaper of the Steel Company of Wales Ltd. The coil preparatory lines which are described were built by The Head Wrightson Machine Company Ltd., and are designed to take coils of strip up to 38" wide and 72" in diameter, weighing 36,000 lbs. to unwind them, trim the ends and pass them through an edge trimmer to make the strip accurate in width before recoiling. The line also includes a welder so that, if necessary, imperfect material can be cut out and the ends re-welded to make a continuous coil.

The great feature of these lines is the speed of 4,000 ft. per minute which is more than double that of any similar lines working in this country.

#### A NEW HEAD WRIGHTSON PLATE LEVELLER FOR USE IN THE TANKER CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME

The world wide construction programme for heavy tankers up to 100,000 tons dead weight makes it necessary for shipyards to have facilities for handling and levelling plates up to 2" thick x 12 ft. wide x 48 ft. long,

lines have been received from other leading ship builders. It is anticipated that further orders will be placed with us shortly.

An artist's impression of the Swan, Hunter machine shows the general features of the leveller, which weighs about 200 tons. The overall dimensions are 35 ft. x 13 ft. x 18 ft. high. About 6 ft. will be below floor level. The main working rolls are 15" diameter x 13 ft. face width and each is backed up by three backing rolls of the same diameter across the width.

In view of the large sizes and heavy weights of the plates being levelled, special handling facilities are necessary. To meet this need, we are quoting for complete handling schemes, which include heavy roller tables, suction lifting and transfer equipment and plate manipulators.



**HEAD WRIGHTSON TEESDALE LIMITED****Machine Shop**

Most probably by the time this magazine appears, the Machine Shops will be feeling the benefit of the Indian Steel Works order. With the increased use of Mechanical rolling stock in this field, it has been necessary to extend the lines almost the full length of the Light Bay. This has been used to its full extent by George Hunt for the erection of 16 slag cars for E.N.S.I.D.E.S.A. (Spain). These self tippers, have a ladle capacity of 400 cu. ft., and can operate on either steam or compressed air.

Our main social venture since the last issue was the Annual Dance, which was a huge success. We had a full house and among our very welcome guests were Mr. R. H. Sturges (Managing Director), Mr. Frank Shepherd, Personnel Manager and Mr. H. Cryer and Mr. H. Parsons, of the workshop staff. Jumping in on the present craze and not wanting to be considered squares, we had the pleasure of the company of the "Kaye Sisters" of T.V. "Rock and Roll" fame. Many thanks to the committee for a very pleasant evening.

It is with very deep regret that we record the death of Bob McQuillan. He was a long service employee and pensioner and will be remembered by many at Teesdale and elsewhere as the man on the big lathe. To his wife and family we extend our deepest sympathy.

**Bridge Yard**

Our best wishes are extended to Jesse Butler, who, on attaining the age of 70, has decided to give up plating and go into retirement. He will be starting shortly for a six month's holiday in Canada, so will be making extremely good use of his well-earned rest. (See last page)

Congratulations to John ("Pedlar") Palmer, who now holds the honourable title of Grandfather. John has already put his grandson's name, Michael Joseph, down for a welder's job in the Bridge Yard. Time marches on, John!

**HEAD WRIGHTSON IRON FOUNDRIES LTD.**

The above picture shows, sitting, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hardy, left to right, standing, Mr. W. B. Eddy, Mr. N. Addison and Miss N. Ritchie, on the occasion of a presentation to Mr. Hardy on his retirement.

The presentation was made at Mr. Hardy's home at Linthorpe; Mr. Hardy has been ill now for some time but is progressing favourably. Mr. Addison, who made the presentation on behalf of Mr. Hardy's former friends and colleagues, paid tribute to the long (over forty years) and faithful service which Mr. Hardy has given to H.W., and expressed good wishes that Mr. Hardy, along with Mrs. Hardy, would have a long and happy retirement and that Mr. Hardy would soon be completely well again. Miss N. Ritchie presented Mrs. Hardy with a bouquet of flowers.

We welcome to the staff of Head Wrightson Iron Foundries Ltd., Miss M. Allison (telephonist) also Miss F. Bage, transferred from Teesdale to our Wages Department.

**Speedy Return**

We wish a speedy return to work after illness:—

Mr. E. Hind (Labourer).

Mr. C. Rogers (Moulder).

Mr. McConnell (Slinger).

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Ingledew (Moulder) on their 30th Wedding Anniversary, 5th March, 1957.

Congratulations to Alan Muirhead (Pattern Shop) on passing the City & Guilds Intermediate Examination and winning one of the prizes offered by the Mechanical Handling Engineers Association recently.

We welcome back to our firm after two years service with the Parachute Regiment, Mr. P. Metcalfe (Moulder).

We are pleased to learn that Mr. A. Todd, who is in hospital following an unfortunate accident, is progressing favourably and we wish him a speedy recovery.

We hope that Mr. S. Wade is soon back at work again following his accident a few weeks ago. We would also like to extend our deepest sympathies to Mr. Wade on the death of his wife.

**HEAD WRIGHTSON STEEL FOUNDRIES LTD.****Teesdale**

Before the next issue of "Wright Ahead" the latest extension to the "Induction Bay" should be completed and in full operation. Then the whole of the dressing operations will be under cover. Radiography of steel castings is being more frequently demanded as a standard of acceptance, and in the new extension, provision has been made to give the X-ray boys full facilities for doing their job in the production line. A complete plant for pickling castings is on order. This will be sited at the south end of the "15 ton Bay." The order is already placed for modernizing the Burdon annealer, but unfortunately the job has had to be slow-timed due to the present uncertainty in fuel oil supplies.

Congratulations to Mr. R. McDonald on being made an Associate of the Institute of Metallurgists.

We wish a speedy recovery to Mr. J. Jarrett who is suffering from a fractured leg.

It is with extreme regret that we have to record the death of Mr. J. E. Mercer, our late General Manager and Director. Mr. Mercer started work at our foundry as far back as 1922 and was a good friend to many of us.

We express our deep sympathy with the wife and daughter of Mr. V. Burroughs (Moulder) who died as a result of an accident whilst at work. Vince had worked with us for over 20 years and will be greatly missed by his workmates.

Mr. J. Hadman (Dresser) died after a long and trying illness. Our condolences go to his family.

We welcome back, after National Service. Mr. Brian Hamilton (Moulder).

Messrs. A. Spencer, R. Bulmer and H. Styan are now back with us after spells on the sick list. We hope they will continue in better health.

**Stockton**

The marriage of a well-known bowls player will take place on 30th March. This event is noted by his friends with the following comment.

"Marriage of J. Thomas (Fitting Shop). The end of snooker, darts, bowls and following the Boro' is now in sight. He will now be ready for the half shifts and week-ends.



### From the Office Girls at Stockton Steel Foundry

It was mentioned in the last issue of "Wright Ahead" that we hardly ever have any news for the magazine. It is not that we have nothing to say, but that we have no time to say it. However, here's a paragraph to keep you in the "know."

In November, we said goodbye to Mr. Peter Findlay, who left us to join the Police Force. He has since been to visit us, and seems to be doing quite nicely.

Almost the same day that Peter left, we welcomed Miss Joan Bates, who has now taken over the switch-board.

### THE HEAD WRIGHTSON MACHINE CO. LTD.

Once again the Staff Benevolent Fund held their annual Christmas Party in the Acklam Cafe on Wednesday, 2nd January. This feature proved to be very popular and although petrol rationing prevented a few from attending, there were over 50 children present. Ice-cream, pop and cream cakes were consumed at an enormous rate and Ken Monkhouse and Tom Frosdick were kept busy looking after the ice-cream department. A surprise item of a few conjuring tricks was kindly given by Tom Buttery of our Rate Fixing Office. He delighted the children for about half an hour during which time complete silence was maintained, except for one small boy who piped up "I've seen that one before," much to Tom's disgust. Many thanks Tom, and also Miss Bewley, for the grand way in which you helped to make this the huge success it was.

Father Christmas, complete with sack, managed, in spite of petrol rationing, to make the long journey from the North Pole, and there was great excitement when he arrived to hand out the presents. Our thanks are due, once again, to the Committee for this wonderful annual event.

On February 1st, the Benevolent Fund held their Annual Dance in Teesdale Hall. Over 400 guests were present, including Mr. and Mrs. Lake and Mr. and Mrs. Mather and the whole evening was a tremendous success, due to the very fine efforts of our Secretary, Ray Smith, and also Mr. Frank Shepherd and his helpers, who did their utmost to make this such a grand event.

We are sorry to report that Sid Currie, our Assistant Electrical Engineer, has left us to work for one of our customers, Richard Thomas & Baldwins, and we would like to wish Sid, his wife and family good luck in this new venture. Mr. Green presented Sid, on behalf of the Benevolent Fund, with a Chiming Clock.

We are pleased to hear that Margaret Dinsdale, our telephonist, has been selected to play the leading role in the forthcoming amateur production of "Hit the Deck" at the Empire, Middlesbrough. We understand that her husband, Peter, has been given the male lead and wish them both success.

Congratulations to Brian Hackett on attaining his majority.

Best wishes and "au Revoir" to Mr. Terry Dunn, of the Fitting Shop and to Mr. Jim McClaren, of the Pattern Shop, who are both emigrating to Canada. Incidentally, the many friends of Walford (Taffy) Davies, who went to Canada five years ago, after his apprenticeship here, will be interested to know that he is doing well and getting "Wright Ahead" regularly in Ontario.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Elsegood, on the tragic loss of their only son, Colin, in the Abingdon Air Disaster.

We hope to see Fred Lochrie back soon after his second motor cycling accident.

### HEAD WRIGHTSON STAMPINGS LTD.

"Stampings" 3rd Annual Dance was held in Teesdale Hall on Friday, 14th December. The demand for tickets was excellent, unfortunately, a great number of people were late in their applications and as the number of tickets available was limited, subsequently had to be refused. I think that they will understand that this limitation was brought about to ensure that Teesdale Hall was not over-filled to the extent that the comfort and pleasure of those who attended was affected.

During the evening, a Bouquet was presented by Joyce Davison to Mrs. George Jones who so graciously consented to present the prizes. In appreciation of the fine effort of Joyce in organising this Dance, a Bouquet, on behalf of the Staff, was presented to her by Sheila Hagon.

The "Missing Link" competition was won by Mrs. K. Lobb, of West Hartlepool. Incidentally, the "Missing Link" was a member of the Seaton Staff—Heather Shadforth, who was also rewarded for the part she played in helping to add interest to the occasion. And the "link" itself—the unvarnished finger-nail.

May we extend a vote of thanks to the following members of the Committee:—Joyce Davison, Sheila Hagon, Joyce Hall, Lloyd Nelson and Ray Thomas (Staff) and V. Turnbull (Die Shop). To Mr. F. Shepherd and Mr. Ray Wade who acted as M.C's. Miss E. Thirlwell (Personnel Dept.) and the Catering Staff.

### 21st Birthdays

Congratulations to the following who have attained their majority:—

Heather Shadford (Sales Dept.)

Ray Thomas (Drawing Office).

### Engagements

Congratulations and Best Wishes for their future happiness to the following who have become engaged:—

Audrey Readman (Costs) to Mr. John Lancaster.

Shirley Siddell (Abstract Clerk) to Mr. Norman Harll.

Margaret Winter to Mr. Alan Newstead.

Margaret is our "Hello" girl and contrary to the old saying—"should be seen and not heard," is more often heard than seen. I'm sure all will agree that this is one "line" we are pleased to learn is "engaged." Our Best Wishes to you—and may your lines never cross!

### Bereavements

Our sympathy is extended to Mr. George Dobia (Shear Shop) upon his recent bereavement.

A Speedy Recovery to:

Mr. W. Jackson (Bill the Greaser) who is at present in hospital.

Mr. Bob Kirton (Accident to ribs).

Mr. Arthur Day (Cost Office).

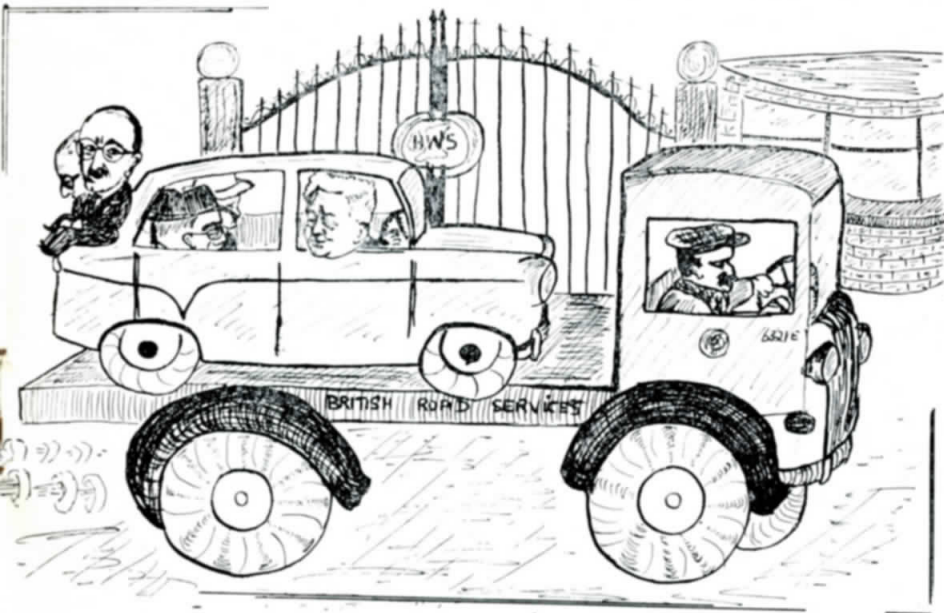
We welcome back Mr. Ronnie Jackson—Oil Pump Attendant.

I'm pleased to report that production at "Stampings" continues to increase. While collecting material recently, I noticed that what I first thought was the Helicopter—a familiar sight here, turned out to be the Stork, hovering between the Maintenance and Inspections Shops. A Happy Landing, Boys!

The Petrol shortage has affected many, but I think that the hardest hit are the "Stampers" and those on Inspection—they can no longer go home for lunch, instead, they're having to make do and mend in "Ye Olde Canteene."



Petrol may come and petrol may go,  
 And if none you are able to syphon,  
 There's always this method, for travelling on tow,  
 This you can stake your sweet life on,  
 Three hundred miles per month, they say,  
 They seem proud of their wonderful gift,  
 If we don't get more by the month of May,  
 Then it's "OPERATION LIFT."



**Shape of things to come**

"Please pass—running out."

WANTED—1 cycle inflater and pair of cycle clips, in exchange for Ford Zephyr. Cash adjustment if required.

Can the Identity of those concerned be discovered in the following expressions:—

"I'm so mad I could spit."

"Yes, but don't forget this the thing is this—"

"Listen, Brother."

"Yes, err—I—err—told him about the err—"

"Well I'm not, REALLY."

"How are you off for light, luv?"

No prizes are offered, but if anyone would like to dispose of a shot-gun.....

We have said "Au Revoir" to Lloyd Nelson (Drawing Office), who left recently to complete his National Service. The new Army catch-phrase no doubt, is now, "Everything's under control, Lloyd's here!"

We will soon say "Au Revoir" to Mr. Colin Bowron—Commercial Manager at "Stampings," who is leaving to take up employment in Slough, Bucks. We wish him every success in his new surroundings.

We welcome to "Stampings" Mr. L. J. Mogridge, who joins us on the 1st April. We hope he will be happy among us and also wish him every success.

As I mentioned in a recent edition, Shirley Montgomery (Wages Dept.) has been responsible for the sketches submitted for reproduction in our Magazine contribution. Once she was given the idea of that which I required, she found no difficulty in producing the desired effect. Shirley, however, is leaving us soon and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her co-operation. I regret that her talents were discovered so late, but she has agreed to carry on with the "good work" whenever required.

Some newspapers are read and some are used for lighting fires, but there are other uses, as the following suggests:—

Into an office he walked one day,  
 "Financial Times" espied,  
 They could be of use, he thought,  
 To borrow them he tried.  
 This request was granted,  
 He promptly parcelled them,  
 Alas! they had to be recalled,  
 Their use had been pro-tem.  
 By now the lad was in a state,  
 For they had found their way,  
 Not to his home, as we all thought,  
 For he had won the day,  
 By handing them to his best friend,  
 Who, cutting them in strips,  
 Decided they would have more use,  
 In wrapping fish and chips.  
 So now poste haste this laddy ran,  
 These papers to retrieve,  
 You may think this all sounds far-fetched,  
 And harder to believe,  
 But should you ever doubt it,  
 Then if you care to trundle,  
 You'll see them nicely parcelled up,  
 In one big greasy bundle !

**HEAD WRIGHTSON IRON & STEEL WORKS ENGINEERING LTD.**

Now that we have become an "infant" nurtured by the parent board, it seems to be a very good time to review the prospects for the future and make some comments on the work we have in hand.

Firstly, of course, there is the contract for the Indian Government for an Integrated Steelworks at Durgapur, of which our part comprises the supply of three Blast Furnaces, Gas Cleaning Plant, Pig Casting Machines and Materials Handling Plant. As the whole project involves working in close co-operation with several other British companies, an organisation, familiarly known as Iscon, acts as liaison between all the companies and the Indian Government consultants.

Work on the project is proceeding with all possible speed and a tremendous amount of preliminary "digging" is now behind us, leaving a settled layout and the opportunity for getting down to design details.

John Lander, who was our site Civil Engineer in Spain for three years or so, has now taken up residence in India in order to look after our site engineering interests there, and we look forward to seeing him—possibly after an interval of another three years—when he will no doubt speak Hindustani as fluently as he now speaks Spanish.





Jack Crosby, Chief Site Engineer in Aviles, Spain, wandered into the office the other day—he tells us that work has now speeded up considerably over there and that our furnace will blow in later this year. He left us a photograph of the H.W. site staff, which is reproduced in this issue, appropriately enough with the furnace as a background.

In addition to the above contracts, we have on hand the construction of Sinter Plants for South Durham West Hartlepool and Cargo Fleet, John Summers (2nd strand) and Stewarts & Lloyds, together with the final stages of Colvilles Gas Cleaning and Sinter Plants and Appleby-Frodingham's No. 6 Precipitator. Of Dorman Long's new blast furnaces at Cleveland Works, which were built to our design, the first went into blast in December last and the second one is due to be completed in the very near future. We have been responsible for the erection of the whole of the furnace shell cooling water piping and Farvalube greasing systems on these two furnaces together with the supply of major items of equipment.

From the above brief resumé it can be seen that we are being kept busy and, judging from enquiries received, we have high hopes of maintaining our level of production.

There are many people throughout the H.W. organisation who will remember Pres Irwin, Arthur G. McKee & Co's. Engineer, who spent two periods of about six months with us some seven years ago. In particular, his monstrous (to our eyes) American car will be remembered for the interest it aroused during the time it was parked outside the offices. It is, therefore, with deep regret that we record his sudden and untimely death a few days after Christmas. Pres was a gentleman in every sense of the word and his many friends in England will feel, as we do, a sense of grievous loss at his passing.

#### HEAD WRIGHTSON PROCESSES LTD.

In 1956 our products sales of Cooling Towers, Fin-Fan, Furnaces, etc., kept up the same high level as had been achieved in 1955. We had received a number of orders for equipment from overseas countries. In particular, through our connections in Germany, we are extending our activities in that country with the sale of several large cooling tower installations.

With German conditions cooling towers have to be concrete construction. We are also having success in the United Kingdom with towers of concrete construction. As has already been reported we have received an order for the largest concrete induced draft cooling tower in Britain and this is due for completion very shortly. In addition we are working on a concrete cooling tower project for Petrochemicals at Manchester. For this Site we are also carrying out considerable detailed engineering of chemical process plant.

The shortage of cooling tower water in Britain caused by the increasing industrial needs and the strong attitude of the River Boards has resulted in a large number of enquiries for Air Cooled Heat Exchangers. Prior to these enquiries we had sold several large installations overseas, but only one or two small items in this country. We are now hopeful of receiving orders for large British installations.

Repeat orders have been received for equipment from Stewarts and Lloyds, Woodall Duckam, and Laporte Chemicals, and we were pleased to receive our first cooling tower order from our friends, C. A. Parsons and Company. The tower is required for their turbine testing plant.

Expectations for 1957 both in work and play are extremely bright!

The H.W.P. Annual Staff Dance, held at Dunster House, Mincing Lane, at the end of November last proved to be as highly popular as ever, and was voted

a "good show" by all participants. Our thanks must go to the organisers of the evening's pleasures. We were very pleased to welcome several members of the H.W. family group from the North, once again.

During a talk by Mr. D. H. Carter, he suggested that it would be well worth while to re-form the H.W.P. Social Club. The suggestion has been taken up enthusiastically by certain of our Staff members with the happy result that the Social Club is functioning again. The Club's Committee is now considering plans to spring such pleasant surprises as a dance in the not too distant future; football, cricket, tennis (in due seasons); table tennis; theatre parties; amateur theatricals. All look forward to these activities.

Considerable interest has been shown by overseas countries in the "Dido" and "Pluto" Atomic Energy Research Reactors which we are engineering in Britain and Australia, and we are very hopeful that we shall receive further orders for these reactors in the near future.

The Suez crisis temporarily restricted capital investment in the petroleum industry, but projects are now being revived again and our work in this field should increase.

#### HEAD WRIGHTSON COLLIERY ENGINEERING LIMITED

##### Thornaby

Once again the evenings become lighter and with Spring just around the corner winter becomes a memory or a series of memories, and amongst the pleasant ones which some of us will be able to keep will be the visit to Sheffield for the Annual Dinner and Dance arranged by our "other half" at Sheffield Office. It was really a first class affair, which was very much enjoyed by the Thornaby contingent and gave members of the Staff from Sheffield and Thornaby the opportunity to meet again members of the same team who, although geographically separated, were both working to the same end—the success of H.W.C.E.L. Needless to say the evening passed much too quickly, but at Thornaby we can, once again, only say "thank you" to our "brothers" in Sheffield.

We were sorry to lose the services of Ken Rutherford, one of our draughtsmen, who has decided to try his fortunes elsewhere, but at the same time welcome Mr. Wilson, who has recently joined our Drawing Office Staff. We also welcome Mr. R. F. Sharp—Progress and Inspection Dept.—Mr. T. Bambro—General Office—Miss S. A. Walpole—Shorthand Typist—who brings our typing staff up to full strength. We hope the newcomers will be happy with us.

There have also been some changes at our Ogilvie Site Office, and Messrs. Digweed, Swan and Evans, together with Miss Stockdale, are welcomed to H.W.C.E.L. even though we may not know them personally due to the remoteness of this site.

##### Annual Dinner and Dance

Sounds of revelry issuing from the Royal Victoria Hotel, Sheffield, on the evening of Friday, 18th January, 1957, evidenced the happy time enjoyed by all who were present at our Annual Dinner and Dance.

On this occasion when members of staff from the various offices of the Company are able to join together we have the pleasure of enjoying meeting those who otherwise would be but names to us.

Our guests comprised senior officials of the National Coal Board, and Directors and Staff of Contracting Companies, who were warmly welcomed by Mr. Peter Wrightson. Mr. A. Grounds, of the N.C.B., and Mr. H. Manning, of Messrs. Holst & Co. Ltd., spoke in appreciation of the welcome extended to them.

During the remainder of the evening the dance floor was a busy scene, with exhibitions from the sedate waltz to "Rock and Roll."



We are happy to welcome the following new members of staff:—

- Miss B. Naylor, Secretarial.
- Miss J. Green, Typist.
- Miss A. Gregory, Filing.
- Mr. Roberts, D.O. Records.

Mrs. R. Gill has now left our Secretarial Staff and we wish her much happiness in the future.

Mr. Charles Priest has now returned to the Office after a long period of recovery following a motor accident and all members of staff were glad to see him fully returned to health.

It is with regret that we record the death of Mr. A. B. Crocker who during the past four years was Progress Engineer. During his employment with the Company he made many friends who were deeply shocked by his sudden passing. To Mrs. Crocker and family we offer our deepest sympathy.

We offer our congratulations to Mr. B. F. Prior, Technical Department, who has obtained his Higher National Certificate in Chemistry, and to Mr. G. Pickin, Technical Department, who has obtained his National Certificate in Chemistry.

**LONDON OFFICE**

Mr. L. J. Mogridge, the Assistant London Manager, has been appointed Commercial Manager of Head Wrightson Stampings Limited, and will take up his new duties on April 1st. 1957.

Mr. Mogridge, who has been in the London Office since 1948, was for some twelve years previously Manager of the Birmingham Office, having formerly worked in London.

All his Ship House colleagues wish him every success in his new appointment.

Mr. W. C. Paterson has now settled in at Ship House, following his appointment as Chief Publicity Officer of the Company.

Mr. Paterson was formerly with Head Wrightson Processes.

**Words or Variations on a Theme**

I joined Ship House a month ago to take up engineering, I'd been "in shipping" for three years which had become quite wearing.  
 They used the same words every day "cargo," "ship" and "export"  
 I felt I'd like a change from that—a new job was my next thought.  
 The "Sit. Vac." column bore no fruit, it really was a pity. Could I find a job I liked? Nowhere in the City!  
 I found my niche at last you see and feel I've settled down  
 But one thing worries me right now and really makes me frown.  
 The words I knew I've left behind and others take their place  
 Words I've never met before and just can't seem to trace—  
 "Fin Fan Coolers" "Transfer Cars" "Agitator Shafts"  
 "Tumbler Tread Cars" "Goggle Valves"—nothing like "ships' drafts."  
 "Electrolytic Tinning Line"—I nearly had a fit, man.  
 My shorthand was illegible—poor Sir Isaac Pitman!  
 My machine can't spell these words; how I ejaculate  
 "Imperials" weren't made for this. Is this to be my fate?

One day I'll know them all I'm sure and know their meaning, too;  
 Meanwhile I'll struggle on with pluck and leave the rest to you.  
 R.G.W.

**MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT**

A most enjoyable evening was spent on December 22nd at the Vane Arms, Stockton. The occasion was the first Annual "Electrical" and "Mechanical" Departments' dinner and social evening. Our chief guests at this function were:—

Mr. and Mrs. W. Hutchinson, the latter being the recipient of a bouquet ably presented by Mrs. R. Lynch. In turn Mrs. A. W. Moore presented Mrs. Lynch with a bouquet. Also in attendance were Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Moffitt, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Barker.

After we all had enjoyed an excellent meal the following artists provided some good musical entertainment for the remainder of the evening:—



H. Thompson, Miriam Reid, Harvey Bowes, Joyce Arnold, Redman Bros., and B. Cummings at the piano. It was no surprise when our Frankie, Des, Preece, The Baker Bros., Geo. Howe, not forgetting Jim Stockdale, the singing wrestler, gave one or two items to round off the evening. Much of the success of this new venture goes to the Bridge Yard spark and financial wizard, R. Lynch and his committee.

This event being the success that it was, will be the forerunner of many more such gatherings.

**TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT**

On Friday, 28th December, 1956, as a token of esteem and to mark his retirement, after 51 years with the Company, Mr. William Marshall, senior mechanic of the Work's garage staff was presented with two fireside chairs from members of the management and his fellow workers in the Works Engineer's Department.

Mr. W. Hutchinson, Work's Engineer, who made the presentation, spoke in appreciative terms of Mr. Marshall's long association and service with the Company.

The occasion ended on a happy note when Miss K. Robinson presented Mrs. Marshall with a bouquet of flowers.



## H. W. PERSONALITY

JESSE BUTLER—PLATER

HEAD WRIGHTSON TEESDALE LTD.

Constructional Dept.

On 18th April next, Jesse Butler, a well known figure at Teesdale, is retiring. He is now 70 years of age, but unless he tells you, you would never believe this.

He started at Head Wrightsons in 1913 and stayed until 1921, when work throughout the district became extremely short. He returned in 1938 and has been with us ever since.

Mr. Butler has had an extremely interesting life. He has been engaged for the last nineteen years as a maintenance plater and has had much to do with the training of apprentices. He thinks that the opportunities for them are greater than in his day, but wonders if the discipline is as good. Apprentices were encouraged then to take an extreme pride in their work and this remained with them throughout their working lives.

He considers that the company's present scheme is a big improvement on the past method of selection. When he was a boy, parents decided what trade their son was to take up whether his aptitude lay in the direction of their selection or not. To-day, boys go into the trades for which they prove, after their first year's apprenticeship, to be most suitable.

In 1948, Mr. Butler went to the U.S.A. on a visit, after a serious accident. He found his visit both interesting and stimulating. He is going again to the North American Continent on 10th May, next, but this time to Canada, where he will see two of his grandchildren for the first time. He is sailing in the new Canadian Pacific liner "Empress of England" for a six months' holiday over there.

Mr. Butler, an extremely happy man, is the superintendent of a Sunday School and a big Church worker. He thinks he will have no difficulty in filling in his time as he has in mind a great deal of voluntary work. He considers that families who are regular attenders at Church are founding the basis of a happy life.



His fellow employees wish him an enjoyable holiday in Canada and a long and happy retirement.

The following verse applies well to Mr. Butler's outlook on life:

"The important thing in life

Is not the triumph, but the struggle,

The essential thing

Is not to have conquered, but to have fought well."



Members of the Dramatic Society: Eddie Dunne, Ian Griffiths, Edna Farriday, Barry Curson and Don Raper who entertained for Hungarian Relief.

### CRICKET ENTHUSIASTS

The cricket field has now been put in order and a team has been entered in the Cleveland league.

Will potential players wishing to join the section please get in touch with any of the following:—

- H. Wilson —Template Shop (S. Forge).
- P. Heron —Teesdale Bridge Yard.
- S. Hillman—Teesdale Bridge Yard.
- N. Treeby —Pattern Shop (Teesdale).
- A. Wells —Machine Shop (Teesdale).
- F. Wales —Stockton Steel Foundry.
- W. Hopper—Stockton Steel Foundry.
- R. Brown —Wages Dept. (Teesdale).
- G. Reeves —McKee Division.

### DEDICATED TO THE PERSONNEL MANAGER BY ONE NEWLY RETIRED

A few years ago you started the "Personnel" line  
The road then was rough—the hill hard to climb  
But you've made a success and your efforts are good,  
Now enjoyed by the workers who appreciate such,  
As time has advanced, the room then intended  
Was found much too small so has now been extended.  
How I hope you'll have health in the years yet to come  
And be able to enjoy it with loads of good fun  
I'm sorry my time has come to resign  
But I'll always remember you as a good friend of mine.

J. C. Boucher.