

WRIGHT AHEAD

THE HEAD WRIGHTSON NEWS LETTER

VOL. 8

NOVEMBER 1957

NO. 4

Chairman's Letter

As we all know, Head, Wrightson's is traditionally interested in designing and building Iron and Steel Plant. Our connection with the Industry extends over a hundred years, and today we are in a stronger position than ever, to take part in the new home development plan over the next five years.

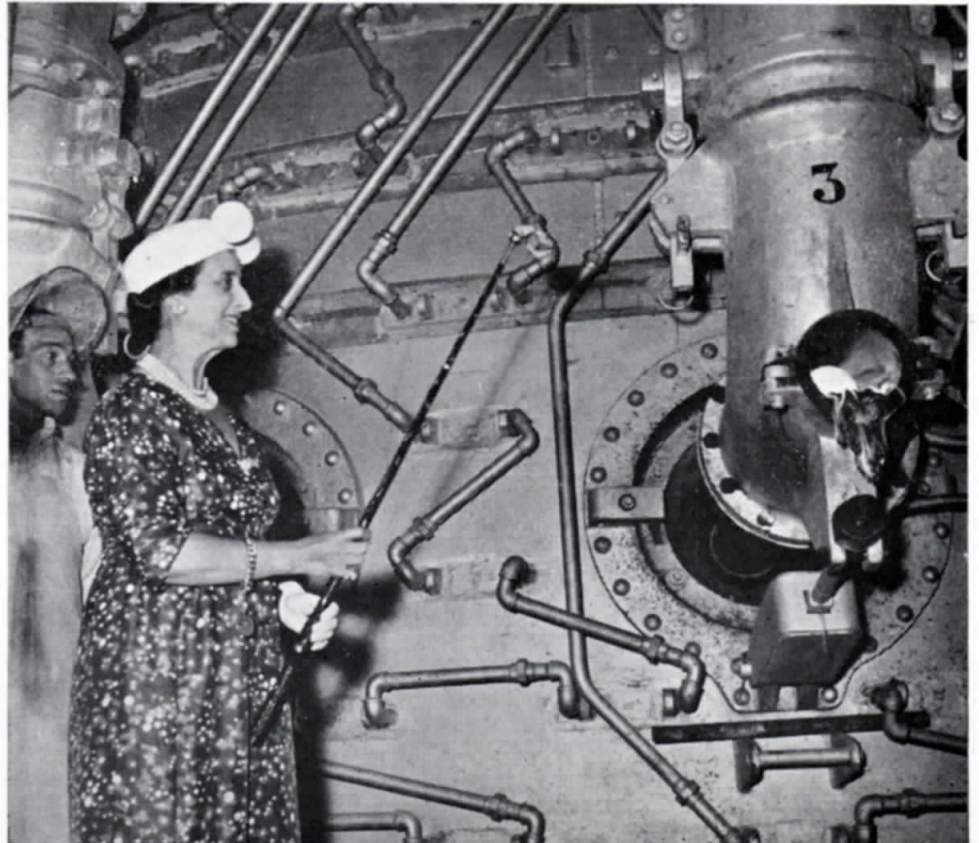
In accordance with our policy to use the brains and skill of our staff and workmen, we have tended to specialise on modern equipment, such as sintering plant, gas cleaning plant, ore preparation plant; and hence we have been able to undertake large orders for *complete* plants.

A recent example of our work is shown in the picture, where a very formal ceremony took place towards the end of September, to blow in our furnace at the Spanish National Steelworks.

Unfortunately, because our savings in this country are so meagre, and hence we are not able to offer such favourable financial terms, our U.S.A. competitors obtained the order for the second furnace. This is a bad show, but it is symptomatic of our diminishing competitive power against the U.S.A., Western Germany, the "Iron Curtain" countries, and Japan.

It cannot be too heavily emphasised, that if we are to buy our food and raw materials to improve our standard of life, we must be competitive in the export market.

The Germans lost the war. Their factories were bombed beyond recognition. Yet Western Germany is



General Franco's wife lights the furnace at Spanish National Steelworks.

more prosperous today than we are. The U.S.S.R. appear to be able to spend much more than ourselves on armaments and scientific developments on guided missiles, including the recent satellite.

There must be fundamental reasons for our continual "crises." They should be examined, and, we all hope, cured; as I am sure they can be, by the co-operation of all concerned.

Richard Miles

EDITOR'S NOTE—All our readers will wish to congratulate our Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Richard Miles, on his appointment as member of the National Research Development Corporation.

PERSONAL



Mr. and Mrs. D. Crum



Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Flanagan



Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Darbyshire



Mr. and Mrs. R. Thomas



Mr. and Mrs. L. Henderson



Mr. and Mrs. A. Peat



Mr. and Mrs. K. E. Clark



Mr. and Mrs. S. Waites



Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Bambridge

BIRTHS

Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.

TEESDALE.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Irish—a son.
Mr. and Mrs. K. Dawson—a son.
Mr. and Mrs. R. McDonald—twin sons.

STOCKTON.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Nicholson—a daughter.
Mr. and Mrs. K. Rhodes—a son.

Head Wrightson Stockton Forge Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Wastell—a daughter.

Head Wrightson Stampings Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Britton—a daughter.
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Winship—a daughter.

Head Wrightson Machine Co. Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Newham—a third daughter.

Head Wrightson Iron & Steel Works Engineering Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Miller—a son.
Mr. and Mrs. K. Bland—a daughter.
Mr. and Mrs. A. Eastwood—a son.
Mr. and Mrs. I. Howden—a daughter.
Mr. and Mrs. D. Eradley—a son.

Head Wrightson Colliery Engineering Ltd.

SHEFFIELD.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Hudson—a son.

Nuclear Power Division.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Dixon—a daughter.
Mr. and Mrs. T. Potts—a son.



Mr. and Mrs. R. Honeyman

Head Wrightson Iron & Steel Works Engineering Ltd.

Mr. G. Reeves to Miss C. Baillie.
Mr. L. Askey to Miss J. Downing.
Mr. K. Whitley to Miss B. Williams.
Mr. S. Waites to Miss R. Husband.

Head Wrightson Colliery Engineering Ltd. (Sheffield).

Miss J. Weston to Mr. J. R. Bambridge.

Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd.

Mr. J. B. Darbyshire to Miss J. C. Wood.
Mr. E. J. Flanagan to Miss A. Eonar.
Miss I. Porritt to Mr. L. Henderson.

Nuclear Power Division.

Mr. J. Lawson to Miss P. Todd.
Mr. R. Waller to Miss M. I. Durant.
Miss K. Waller to Mr. K. Clark.

DEATHS

Condolences to the families of :-

Head Wrightson Iron Foundries Ltd.

Mr. T. Allison—eighteen years' service.
Mr. C. Mayle—after nine years' service.
Mr. R. Higgins—after fifty-two years' service.

Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.

TEESDALE.

Mr. T. Reveley.

STOCKTON.

Mr. J. McCurley.
Mr. Lindsay.

Head Wrightson Stockton Forge Ltd.

Mr. T. Foxton—Alloy Shop.



*Mr. and Mrs. Trevor Hill
(vide last issue)*

ENGAGEMENTS

Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.

TEESDALE.

Mr. G. Johnson (Coremaker) to Miss S. Weir (Women's Core shop).

STOCKTON.

Mr. K. Fox to Miss D. Sexton.
Mr. J. Dennison to Miss J. Leonard

Head Wrightson Stampings Ltd.

Miss S. Applegarth to Mr. George Wilson.

MARRIAGES

Head Wrightson Iron Foundries Ltd.

Mr. A. Peat to Miss M. Walsh.

Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd. (Stockton).

Mr. K. Donachie to Miss J. Reed.

Head Wrightson Stockton Forge Ltd.

Mr. A. Harburn to Miss Freda Green.

Head Wrightson Stampings Ltd.

Miss A. Clarke to Mr. Richard Elliott.
Miss S. Siddeil to Mr. Norman Harle.
Mr. Ray Thomas to Miss S. West.
Mr. Lloyd Nelson to Miss Maureen Knowlson.
Mr. D. Crum to Miss W. Scarlett.



Mr. and Mrs. K. Donachie

CRICKET

After a lapse of approximately five years, the section started up again this year on its excellent new pitch.

The team was admitted to the Cleveland and Tees-side League Reserve Section and the Committee's task of building a balanced side had to be started in earnest as all but two or three players of the old team had retired from the game. The hard task of creating a competitive team plus good team spirit, which has always been known as one of Head Wrightson's strong points in the past, has been well rewarded. The team had a most successful season being placed second in the League with two points less than Stokesley—a good result for its first season.

Our best thanks are due to our Ladies Committee which was responsible for providing the teas at Home matches.

The Inter-departmental competition was most successful, with good weather except in the final. Twenty-one teams entered the competition, which was probably a record, and congratulations go to Teesdale Offices, the winners, who beat the Forge Bridge Yard in the final. We were sorry that Mr. Miles was unable to be present due to illness when the presentation of trophies was made but we are extremely grateful to Mr. Shepherd who stepped ably into the breach at short notice.



Head Wrightson Cricket Team

BOWLS

In the final of the Inter-departmental Competition, Teesdale Bridge Yard beat Forge Bridge Yard. The winners were represented by:—

W. Hall, R. Lackenby, D. Littlewood, J. White, J. Bell, J. Crossen, C. Littlewood, M. V. Wilson, A. Colbourne, C. Marsden, A. Waton, A. Littlewood with E. Hunter—reserve.

Forge Bridge Yard were represented by: Messrs. J. Laing, K. Hendry, W. Sawdon, W. Sowerby, W. Orr, F. Felgate, F. Wilson, G. Hesketh, R. Walker, J. Dixon, O. Collin, R. Harburn with F. McLoughlin—reserve.

The Inter-departmental One Rink Competition was won by H.W. Machine Co. who beat Teesdale Machine Shop. Represented by Messrs. F. Maidens, T. W. Frosdick, R. Lyall, F. V. Hall—reserve, F. Skidmore.

Mrs. G. Cain presented cups to the winners.

The Section's team had its best run ever in the Yorkshire Marshall Shield. This competition is open to all clubs affiliated to the Yorkshire County Association. They were defeated in the final by York Carriage Works at Albert Park, Middlesbrough, after beating Hull Springhead Park at York in the semi-final and Redcar Borough Park at Smiths' Docks in the quarter final.



General and Senora Franco tour the new plant

The name "ENSIDESA" has over the last year or two become a household name to us at H.W. Tuesday, September 24th, 1957, was therefore an auspicious day for Head Wrightson, for this was the day selected by the Spanish Government for the inauguration of the Spanish State Steelworks at Aviles. It was with very great pride, therefore, that I attended the ceremony, representing Head Wrightson.

I only wish that every Head Wrightson man and woman concerned with this contract could have been with me to see how magnificent the plant looked. You will be glad to hear that there was no doubt in anybody's mind as to who were the builders, since our name-plates described our responsibilities in Spanish.

The official programme started, somewhat behind schedule, with the arrival of General and Senora Franco. I was interested to note that he rode in a magnificent Rolls-Royce.

I had the privilege of being introduced to General Franco and was thereafter able to present to him Mr. Baxter, Mr. Crosby, Mr. Hewitt, Mr. Chesney and Sr. Danvila. During my conversation with the General, he expressed his pleasure at the work which had been done by Head Wrightson. I informed him that we had all been pleased to work with the Spaniards on this contract and very much looked forward to the opportunity of doubling the plant for him.

The lighting-up ceremony was preceded by the Archbishop of Oviedo blessing the furnace in general, and each tuyere in particular. thereafter, Senora Franco applied a torch to Number 3 tuyere.

Great credit is due to all who have been concerned with this contract, and in particular we owe a debt of gratitude to the Consett Iron Company for the loan of their operating staff.

Peter Wrightson.



TRAFFIC "COPS" DROP A CLANGER—STOP TRAFFIC

A Coincidence and Free Advertisement

"Teesdale" Staff will be interested in the above photograph, which appeared in the Richmond Herald (Surrey) on September 6th.

The photograph depicts the "Wavemaker" en route from "Teesdale" to the Hydrodynamic Shop Testing Laboratory at Feltham, Middlesex.

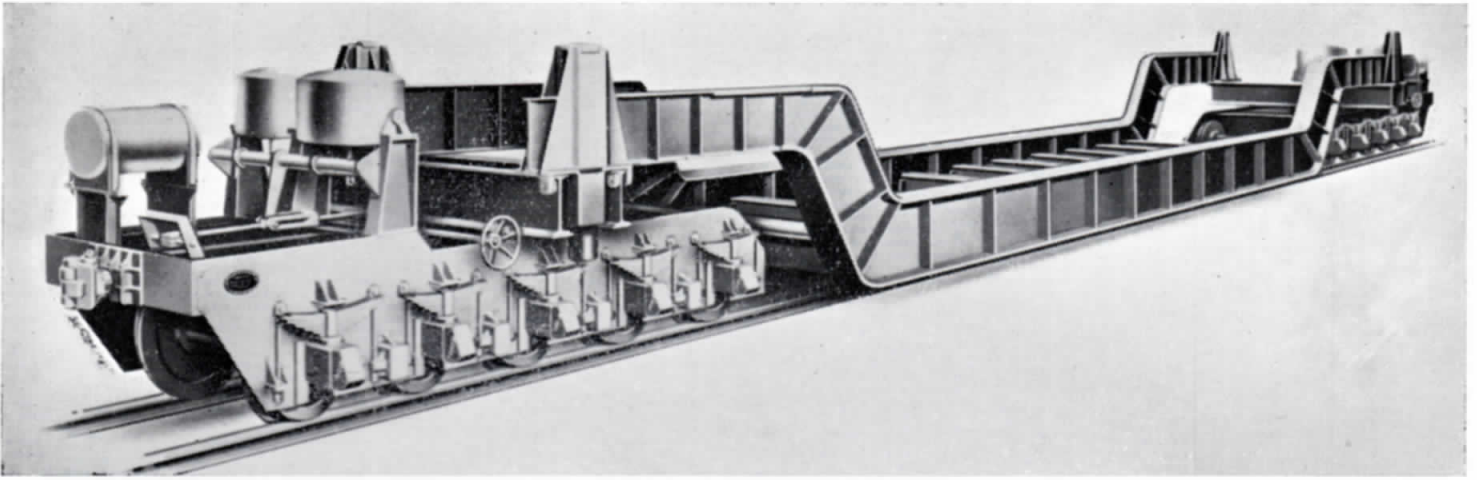
There was a complete hold-up in George Street, Richmond, when the lorry tried to make its way through the town. The lorry had a police escort but was directed through Richmond in error, and should have travelled along the Chertsey road.

The "Head Wrightson regrets any inconvenience" notice was much commented upon by the hundreds of

motorists held up for forty-five minutes whilst the load was reversed and put on the correct route again.

By a remarkable coincidence, Mr. Ferrari of the Ministry of Works, the designer of the Wavemaker, was an eye-witness of the whole affair, being in the bus also shown on the photograph. Mr. Ferrari informs us he was forty-five minutes late for his appointment, as well as being the man on the spot who knew all the answers to what the object was, but kept very quiet in view of the remarks of the irate passengers who stated quite bluntly what they would like to do with the ——— so and so's who were responsible for sending such things around the country.





Artist's impression of 102-ton wagon for Kariba Hydro Electric Scheme

HEAD WRIGHTSON TEESDALE LTD.

MACHINE SHOP

The Machine Shops continue to be fully employed. At present the largest project on hand is the 96" wide sinter machine for Stewarts and Lloyds. The machine which is 150' long has a productive capacity of 1600 tons per day of useable blast furnace sinter from fine Northampton iron ore. The Steel Industry boasts that the steel produced in this country is the cheapest in Europe. Perhaps this is a reason.

An addition to this machine is a new type disintegrator which breaks up the sinter on its way to the store bunker. The squad building this machine is now under new management—Bill Wallace—Tommy Hancock having joined McKee Division.

As was to be expected that old photograph of the shop which appeared in the last issue called forth much comment and from as far away as Leeds comes an even older one (see below). This was sent by Bert Parsons, Leeds (an ex-employee) to his cousin Mr. Harry Parsons (Tool Room Foreman). They are both in the picture which was taken in 1905. There is no prize for guessing which is Harry. It is pleasing to note that our magazine is of such interest to old employees scattered about the country.

Congratulations to John Marchant who has been awarded the Queen's Scout Medal.

The Machine Shop are holding their annual dance on Friday, 6th December. Some tickets will be available for other Divisions.

For transportation work over one thousand miles of difficult terrain, the Rhodesia and Nyasaland Federal Power Board has ordered two 102-ton wagons from our Division. The wagons will be used for carrying transformers and other heavy loads from the port of Beira to the Kariba Hydro-Electric Scheme in the Federation. Costing £15,000 each, the wagons are suitable for running on a 3' 6" gauge track. The well-type beams of the wagons are removable and can be replaced by straight high side beams when special loads are to be carried. Hydraulic jacks are provided in the bolsters, and removable crossbars between the well beams give support for the masses of general equipment for the project. Permissible axle load is 15 tons. The Division is also handling a large contract for the supply of rolling stock to Durgapur in India.



H.W. IRON FOUNDRIES LTD.

Messrs. B. Copeland (Electrician) and K. Littlefair (Moulder) have gone to do their National Service.

His colleagues wish a speedy recovery to Mr. A. Todd (Box Fitter).

Messrs. J. Jubb and A. (Dumps) Gibson, both over 70 years of age, are still working happily with us. Long may they continue.

We were pleased to see two of our retired men recently, Messrs. J. Robinson and W. Bunting. They were with us for many years and we are pleased to see that they are still enjoying good health and a pleasant retirement.

Messrs. L. Bloom and L. Toulson are both on the sick list. We hope they will soon be back amongst us.

The Division offers congratulations to Mr. A. Muirhead of the Pattern Shop who has been awarded a scholarship at the National Foundry College, Wolverhampton. He began a two years' course there in September and we wish him every success.

The beauty of our garden at Eaglescliffe is well illustrated in this picture and it is virtually due to the efforts of Mr. W. Smith (Dresser's labourer) who can be seen rather indistinctly in the background of the photograph.



H.W. STEEL FOUNDRIES LTD.

Teesdale.

Messrs. Jarrett, Carlton, Barker and Skinner are now back after long illnesses and we hope that their health continues to improve.



Presentation to Mr. J. Wesson

We welcome back to civvy street—Mr. D. Fletcher (Labs.) after completion of his National Service.

Since the last issue of "Wright Ahead", two very old employees of the Division have retired. They were Mr. James Wesson (after 46 years) and Mr. Jack Cheetham (after 42 years). We wish them a long and happy retirement. Mr. L. Johnson, Technical Manager of the Steel Foundry presented, on behalf of the Laboratory staff, a silver cigarette case and a lighter to Mr. Wesson.

By the time this issue of "Wright Ahead" is in circulation we should have received a further substantial order for Nickel-Chrome-Molybdenum large diameter gear ring blanks. At the moment, we have still to make eleven from existing orders and it is understood the new order will be for a minimum of twelve. We have undertaken to deliver one every five weeks. Our Director and General Manager has been informed that two of these gears now going through the shops of our customer are as near perfect as makes any matter. Keep it up Sammy, on the remainder.

Stockton

Congratulations to Messrs. Stainton, F. Gaddes, J. Umpleby and H. Gaddes who had successful entries in the Annual Flower Show.

Welcome to Shirley Thomas who comes to us from Seaton.

We congratulate Mr. G. Bell who has been promoted to Methods Dept.

Mr. S. Burdett is in hospital. We wish him a very speedy recovery.

H.W. STAMPINGS LTD.

Our sympathy is extended to Mr. Oliver Billingham (Shear Shop Foreman) and family upon their recent sad loss.

A Blast Furnace was recently completed by Head Wrightson for operation in Spain. The Consett Iron Co. Ltd., supplied twelve skilled operators, who, with their families recently left for a three months sojourn in that country. The Radio Newsreel of the Light Programme (Sept. 5th) made reference to this and a rather pleasant surprise was the voice of Mr. Frank Shepherd of the Personnel Dept., Teesdale, who gave his views on this. This unexpected item in the programme added interest owing to the fact that our own organisation was "in the news" and the familiar voice of Mr. Shepherd was heard clearly and distinctly. I mention this, for there may have been many at "Stampings" who missed the broadcast.

The Staff and Workmen of the Head Wrightson subsidiary, Cupola Mining and Milling Co. Ltd., Derbyshire, paid a visit to "Stampings" on 27th September. They were accompanied by Mr. A. Chilton, the former General Manager of this branch and a short address by Sir John Wrightson preceded the meal provided in the Work's Canteen. Thanks to the following, on behalf of the visitors, who conducted them during their tour of the Works:— Mr. Norman Hutton (Chief Inspector), Mr. J. Riley (Works' Foreman), Messrs. Duncan Ludbrook and Alan Forbes (Draughtsmen). Their thanks also to Mrs. Stathers and Staff of the Canteen.

"Stampings" Fourth Annual Dance is to take place on 14th February, 1958 (St. Valentine's Day). Notices will be displayed in all departments when tickets are available. Owing to the huge demand, it will be advisable to obtain them early as the number will once more be limited. A further reminder will be given in our next issue.

We welcome the return of H. Stathers who sustained injuries to his head and spent some time in hospital.

We welcome back also S. Jacques (Stamper) who recently received injuries to his hand.

I omitted to mention in the last issue, the return to the Drawing Office of Alan Forbes who recently completed his National Service.

We are pleased to submit this photograph of the Head Wrightson Stampings Football team who are members of the Hartlepoons Church League. Their record to date (Week-ending 28th September), is 8 league games and 1 Cup-tie. *Aggregate* 23 for, 33 against, with a total of 6 points, these from their last 4 games. Their biggest success to date—the defeat of the Boys' Welfare team by 5 goals to 3, who have lost only 3 games in 10—the third being their game with Head Wrightson as the opponents. The strip is black and white, but that worn by the players in this photograph, was one kindly loaned by the Caledonian team. The team reads :—



Left to Right—Back Row

Frankie Maughan, (Treasurer), Jack Malham, (Secretary), V. Turnbull, Derek Major, (Captain), G. Leighton, Brian Newman, R. Cooke and J. Embleton, (Trainer).

Left to Right—Front Row

F. Leighton, M. Storey, J. Angell, F. Dalrymple, P. Hitchin and C. Neesham.

Leading Scorers :- Dalrymple (8), Neesham (5), Storey (4); Turnbull (3), E. Cusworth (2-1 game), Baker and Cooke (1 each).

There have been team changes since this photograph was taken and those who were camera-shy were D. Taylor, A. Baker, C. Hill, T. Hockworth and E. Cusworth who suffered a fractured collar-bone in his second game. We wish our team much success and a speedy recovery to E. Cusworth. With an average of 2 goals per game, I think you will agree that he will prove an asset to the team—or was this beginner's 'luck'? They express their thanks to Mr. J. Dickinson (Hon. Sec. Football Section) of Teesdale, who so kindly let them borrow a strip until they obtained their own.

We said "Cheerio" to Mrs. Shirley Thomas (formerly Shirley West of the Purchasing Dept.) who was transferred on the 30th September to the Wages Department—Stockton Forge. Now that Shirley has made her home in Thornaby, she thought it better to be employed more locally. We wish her every happiness in her new surroundings. No doubt she will be kept in touch with her friends at "Stampings" as her husband is employed here as draughtsman.

"IF THE CAP FITS"

You say the job is going wrong,
Because you can't get going,
You're sick and tired of spanner drill,
With puffing and with blowing,
You blame the dies and clipping tools,
The use and furnace too,
But set your teeth and try again,
It ain't the job, its you.

You've had the hammer legs plumbed up,
You've had new wedges fitted,
New dowel and the keys re-packed,
Until you've nearly quitted,
You've pulled the spanner to and fro',
Until the air was blue,
But try again and don't lose heart,
It ain't the dies, its you.

You say the press tools are all wrong,
The clipping tools won't clip it,
The bending tools won't bend it right,
They always seem to nip it,
You've had a few words with the smith,
And say the use won't do,
So don't give up, but try again,
It ain't the use, its you.

You say you've got some rotten fuel,
That you can't get a heat,
You've raked and poked and turned the bars,
And say you're nearly beat,
Just pull yourself together now,
And show what you can do,
And then perhaps you will agree,
It ain't the job — its YOU.

DEDICATION TO A HOOKBOLT

A piece of rod, screwed one end,
The other looped round as a bend,
The finished product plain to see,
A Hookbolt is its destiny.

The Hookbolt has a million uses,
Holding fittings, clamping fuses,
They hold on channel, angle, joist,
Any place, just take your choice.

They hang your coat, and clip your cable,
Fasten sheets up to the gable,
I think, and shudder, at our fate,
If they decided to go straight.

On the roof, and round the floor,
There's *never* room for anymore,
They're everywhere and every way,
One thing sure, they're here to stay!

The site shop down the bottom end,
Stands erect on our small friend,
A monument of Silent Praise,
To Hookbolts, in their golden days.

And who's the martyr of the cause,
Who broke the standard fixing laws,
Behind his glasses with a grin,
Stands Shorty Jee, — The Hookbolt King !!!

H.W. STOCKTON FORGE LTD.

Welcome back after illness to Messrs. M. McGowan (Fitting Shop), W. Wilson (App. Welder), W. V. Raine (Bridge Yard), G. Jenkinson and F. McLoughlin (Welding Shop), F. Hammond and T. Fishwick (Machine Shop) and A. Boston (Alloy Shop).

On 30th September, we said farewell to two members of our staff, Mrs. J. Robinson and Mrs. E. Harrison, who have decided to abandon the typewriter for housewifery. We wish them every happiness.

Messrs. J. Smurthwaite, A. West, W. Breedon (Bridge Yard), C. Moyes (Machine Shop) and A. Boston (Alloy Shop) are on the sick list and we wish them a speedy recovery.



We welcome back from the Forces—Alan Cranston.

Jimmy Dryborough will think twice before organising another trip to Blackpool for when he got to his bedroom after "seeing the lights", he found his bed was taken down and the bedclothes hidden. It was not until 2 a.m. that he and his wife got to bed.

The above photograph shows some of those who went on the Forge Fitting Shop trip to Blackpool. Funnily enough, three of them are T.T.



H.W. MACHINE CO. LTD.

Alan Higgins has gone to the Merchant Navy, Ken Curry, who has just reached his majority, and Keith Latheron have gone to the R.A.F. We look forward to their return after completion of National Service.

Jackie Patterson and Steve Thompson have been on the sick list for a long time. Their colleagues wish them a speedy recovery and return to work.

H.W. IRON & STEEL WORKS ENGINEERING LTD.

Bob Alexander, one of our apprentices, together with a colleague of his from the Forge, was by the Company's generosity fortunate enough to be selected to join a party on an educational trip to Germany during the summer and we thought that readers may be interested to read his report:—

The tour lasted nine days, four of which were taken up by travelling. Although the journey was quite a long one it always held our interest. We travelled on the night ferry from Dover to Ostend and then by motor coach, which had been brought over on the ferry, through Brussels, Liège and Aachen, finally arriving at the Hotel Rex in Dusseldorf, where we were to stay the week.

Of the five days spent in Germany four were taken up by factory visits which usually started at 9.00 a.m. and finished about 3.30 p.m. The rest of the time,

apart from two evening engagements, one at a trade union hall where we met German apprentices and the other at a youth hostel, was ours. As will be realised we had sufficient time not only to gain a little knowledge of German industry in that part of the country but also to learn of the German customs and way of life.

The first factory visit was to Mannesmann A.G., a firm which employs over sixty thousand people and is engaged in the manufacture of welded and seamless tubes. The seamless tubes being made for a wide variety of uses ranging from large gas mains to hypodermic needles. Our visit however was confined to shops where seamless and welded water tubes were being manufactured and we were able to see the various processes used in the production of these tubes.

Dr. Nicholas Otto was the pioneer of the internal combustion engine and it was he who founded Humboldt Deutz, a company which specializes in the manufacture of many different types of diesel engines, and it was here we made our second factory visit. Diesel engines produced at this factory range from 4 to 2000 HP, have up to twelve cylinders and are either air or water cooled. In the shops we were able to see the complete construction and assembly of diesel locomotives, tractors, bulldozers and various marine engines. The company also manufactures ninety-five per cent of all the components used in the production of these machines and employs over twenty-three thousand people.

Our third visit was to Demag A.G., a factory situated in the heart of the Ruhr. During the war the company had eighty per cent of its shops and offices destroyed but is now completely rebuilt and claims to be the leading specialist in the world in its particular field. The products of this firm include equipment for mining industry, blast furnaces, steelworks, rolling mill plants, cranes, compressors, excavators and bridges. A firm with such a large

The above photograph shows a compartment boat, commonly known as "Tom Puddings," leaving the Forge Works for transport to Goole. The boat is one of a contract for fifty which has been placed with the Forge by the British Transport Waterways.

The boats are used in what is claimed to be the most unique system of inland water transport in the world, and operate on the Aire and Calder canal system conveying coal from the collieries to Goole. Each boat holds forty tons and a train consists of a tug with nineteen compartment boats, flexibly coupled together; thus seven hundred to eight hundred tons of coal is conveyed by the employment of a single tug with a crew of four men.

DOCTOR 'PROE'



NOT THIS ONE . OR THIS ONE BUT THIS ONE !

range of products has of course many machine shops and, after seeing two films about the company, it was these which we were shown.

To bring to a close our industrial tours we were conducted round Oberhausen Steelworks. This firm, which is engaged in all branches of iron and steel production, including smelting, rolling, forging and drawing, is situated in the heart of the Ruhr and employs over thirteen thousand people. Here we saw the different types of furnaces in operation, the rolling mills, foundry and wire drawing process. The latter was very interesting and because of the intense heat the men work a half hour on the job and a half hour off.

From our discussions with German apprentices, many of whom spoke English, we found that an apprenticeship lasts only three years in the majority of cases and usually commences when the boy leaves school at 14 or 15. This helped to strengthen the opinion, which we formed when visiting the works, that a German tradesman is very specialised and although he has qualified as a tradesman in a particular branch of industry he is not as capable as his English counterpart of completing all the jobs in his particular field.

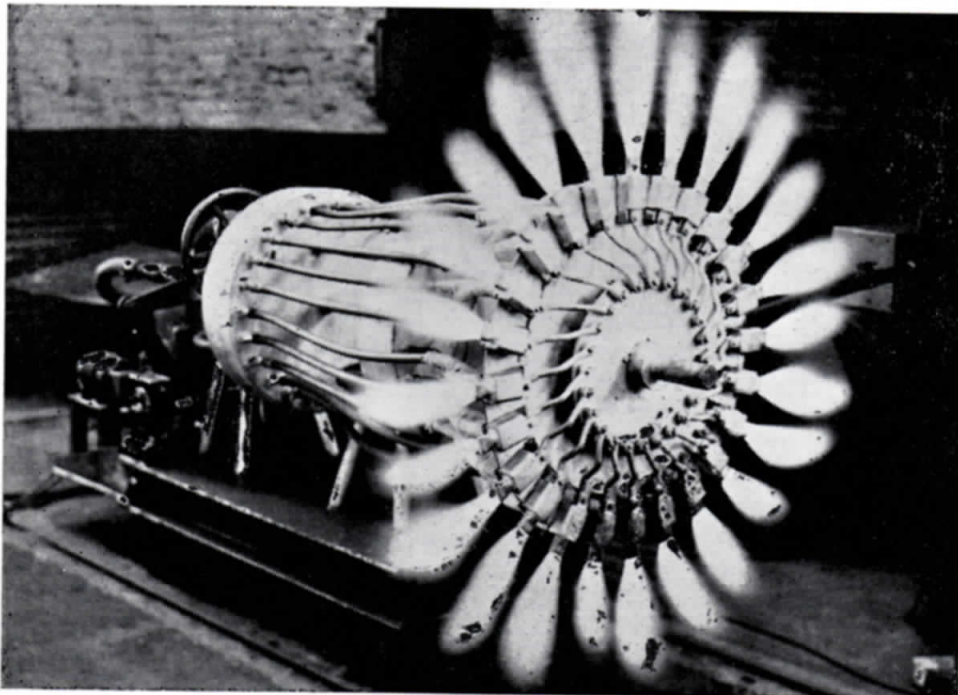
We found the German people most friendly and if any traces of the last war were to be found they were only in the form of destroyed buildings, most of which were being rebuilt. Out of the ruins the Germans have erected large modern stores and flats. The stores are much larger than anything to be found on Tees-side and shopping is made very easy.

The Germans are very hygienic in all their ways, smoking is not allowed in trains, stores or cinemas, and litter is very rarely seen on the streets. Their spare time is passed in a very similar way to ours although the bars in Germany are open about eighteen hours in twenty-four.

The food was perhaps the only thing with which we faulted the Germans. We couldn't find one fish and chip shop despite our thorough searching and a breakfast of hard rolls, marmalade and coffee was far from our idea of an enjoyable meal!!

I should like to thank the Company for making this visit possible.

There are no prizes for the answer to the following puzzle in rhyme and picture but there are many wild guesses in this office. In fact we have it on one authority that the whole contraption is at present circling the earth some six hundred miles behind a certain satellite— Could this be true?

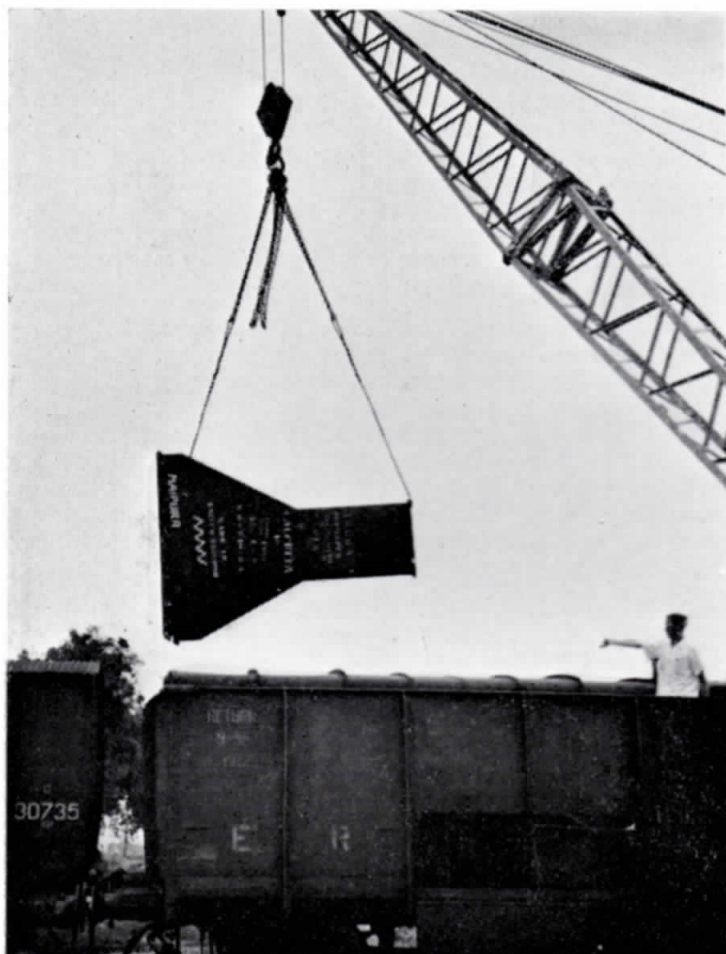


Forerunner of Sputnik?

There rests upon a Pier Grand
An ancient contraption upon a stand.
It's made of steel, and brass, and gumption
With bits of that to make it function.
Snaffle valves and gimbal rings
Double worms and eccentric flings.
Slotted guides and mixing boxes
Go to make it not obnoxious.
Sliding tubes within a sieve
Turn the gears with naive
Radial jets upon a plate
Place Frank Whittle out of date.
Alas, and now without compare
The parts with rust will need repair
Remaining for they who venture here
A memorial to those of yester year.
From those who know, we want to hear
Because to us it's not so clear
Its function why, its make and age
Will close its chapter and its page.



As you are well aware, the ISCON contract is well in hand and work is proceeding rapidly at site. We have now established an office in Calcutta under the able guidance of Bill Adams, who has taken up more or less permanent residence. John Lander, of course, is firmly established at the building site at Durgapur and we have now said Au Revoir to Andrew Mair, Len Matson and Jim Rickards who have gone out to give assistance in their respective capacities. We are also employing Indian engineers and reproduce a photograph showing Mr. Adams and Mr. Pulimood in conversation with Mr. Hindson, the Chief Engineer of ISCON. The other photograph is of interest only in that it is the first piece of our equipment to be off loaded on the site and is, of course, a blast furnace column casing.



First piece of equipment arriving in Durgapur

H.W. COLLIERY ENGINEERING LTD.

Thornaby.

As one looks at the wall and again sees the annual display of holiday postcards almost complete, with its views of Continental and Mediterranean resorts and the ever regular reminders from the old favourites—Lakeland, Scarborough and Blackpool, we know that another summer has gone by. As the weather was very erratic, our memories will no doubt be very varied according to our luck, but one member of our Staff will not forget this year's holiday as long as he lives, he is Harry Nichol, who, while taking part in a motor cycle race in the Isle of Man, had the misfortune to crash. He received some very nasty injuries but we understand that he is progressing favourably and hope that he continues to do so.

During the last two or three months we have had quite a number of changes in our staff. In the Drawing Office both of our tracers have left—Mrs. Irvin to prepare for a happy event and Miss Rowland to take up employment elsewhere. Derek West has left us temporarily to do his Military Service and Len Duffy has returned after completing his—no doubt H.M. Forces will be kept in good order as long as one member of H.W.C.E.L. is there to keep an eye on things. Ian Hepburn has also joined us as an apprentice draughtsman.

Mrs. Watts, one of our typists, decided she could not cope with husband, home and H.W. so left us to concentrate on the first two—in her place we now have Mrs. Marlborough who is well settled in and has become part of the family.

There have also been some changes at our Newcastle Office—Mr. J. Rigby has joined us but Mr. G. Green has

left the Company, and at our Abernant Site Office, Mr. Browning has decided to try his fortune elsewhere.

Finally, within this organisation Mr. W. Bell has taken on the job of Project Engineer—Abernant, as Mr. Eden has been appointed Sales Engineer.

We hope all these moves are for the best and that the individuals concerned are happy in their new jobs.

Sheffield.

Examination Successes.

We are very interested in hearing of the successes of members of the staff in their examinations and offer our Congratulations to the following:—

Mr. R. Brookes (Laboratory), Higher National Certificate in Chemistry.

Mr. D. Thomas (Drawing Office), Higher National Certificate in Engineering.

Mr. B. Baxter (Drawing Office), Higher National Certificate in Engineering.

Mr. D. Coldwell (Drawing Office), National Certificate in Engineering.

Return from National Service.

We are pleased to have back with us Mr. F. Jenney whose National Service was terminated on medical grounds.

New Staff.

Mr. D. Williamson has joined the Company in the Drawing Office. Dennis is an old friend who commenced his apprenticeship with the Company and, after a long period of service, left some years ago to join another firm. His many friends are happy to have him with us again.

Cricket.

Following the draw in the match between Aerex and H.W.C.E.L. Sheffield, when the weather put a stop to any further play, our friends at Aerex thought it would be much better if the game was replayed and threw out a challenge to that end. This was readily taken up by the Sheffield Office and the match was replayed when H.W.C.E.L. Sheffield, batting first, scored 72 and Aerex Ltd., were dismissed for 32 runs.

Even on this occasion the weather was far from pleasant, but as a decisive result was obtained, H.W.C.E.L. Sheffield will hold the Wightman Trophy this year.

The Lyndhurst Cricket Club had a very successful season during 1957 in which ten matches were won and one drawn, out of a total of nineteen played.

All the matches were very enjoyable and, in many cases, arrangements for fixtures for the coming year have already been made with a number of the clubs which we played during 1957.

NUCLEAR POWER DIVISION

“THE FRIARAGE”

September 9th, 1957, was a memorable day for the Nuclear Power Division, for on that day they were removed from the grit and greyness of Trafalgar Street and set down at The Friarage, Yarm. No greater contrast could possibly be imagined. One could almost believe that a magic carpet had been used to effect the removal. They found themselves in an eighteenth century house, in a setting of terraced lawns, majestic trees, walled gardens and with the rural, as distinct from the industrial, Tees for company.

The Friarage is an anachronism as far as 20th century domestic life is concerned but it has been converted into a most inspiring suite of offices in which it is a privilege to work. The whole conversion for which we must thank the Works Engineers, has been accomplished without destroying the essential character of the house. From the outside, it looks like the residence of a prosperous 18th century gentleman and within, it is a place of colour and light, with huge windows each framing a wonderful view of river or woodland (incidentally we have found it wise to work with our backs resolutely to the windows, lest we be distracted by the views).

To those who saw the house in its "Before" stage, damp and forlorn, the work of conversion is even more impressive. The "After" represents a blue-print for efficiency allied with beauty.

The acquisition of The Friarage has acted as a spur to the historically-minded and there has been much delving into Mr. Wardell's history of Yarm with special attention to the most interesting chapter on The Friarage.

At the risk of being labelled "materially-minded", appreciative mention must be made of the Canteen and the unvaried excellence of our meals.

The Friarage is proving in every way an inspiration to those who work within its walls.

The opening of The Friarage was officially celebrated by a house-warming on Friday, September 20th, when a large number of guests came to admire and to marvel. They included Head Wrightson personnel and their wives, prominent industrialists and many of the leading citizens of Yarm. There were many appreciative and envious comments and the most interested guests were those who had known The Friarage in its pre-nuclear days. The new version of the old house seemed to arouse everyone's admiration and surely no new venture was ever housed in more beautiful surroundings.

SHIP HOUSE

Daft Definitions

Rotary Dryer—Roller towel.
 Scalping Machine—Automation for Red Indians.
 Steel Jaws—For robots.
 Billet peeler—Conscripted housewife.
 Rubber buffers—For rubber trains.
 Humble hooks—For shy eyes.
 Bar reeling machine—Machine for holding up drunks.
 Launching trusses—To provide straws for drowning men.
 Pulsation dampeners—Censors?
 Wall hoists—For low walls.
 Wearing shoes—Isn't everybody?
 Wearing rings—Congratulations!
 Gondola Car—Venetian jalopie.
 Double deck cage—For two birds.
 Feeder shoes—Champagne in a slipper.
 Jaw crusher—Nut Toffee.
 Face shovel—Something to do with the cosmetics used by the ladies in the Company?

RGW.

The Head Wrightson group make many a thing
 With names from the "Goon Show" it seems —
 My versions to you in ignorance I bring.
 I promise I won't write reams.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND STORY

At a recent shareholders' meeting, we were very pleased to have a visit from Captain Downes, a native of Thornaby, who has had a very interesting life in the Merchant Navy, including service in two wars and is now Marine consultant to a Saudi Arabian Shipping Co. situated at Jeddah. During the course of a conversation with him your Editor was interested to learn of the Captain's experience as it affected the company and this is what he told him.

In 1906, Captain Downes was an apprentice on a sailing ship which visited Christmas Island in the Pacific Ocean to load phosphates and on going ashore on a jetty which extended at least three-quarters of a mile into the sea, he found out that this jetty had been constructed by Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd., Teesdale Iron Works, Thornaby-on-Tees. The main pillars had been erected in 1875 and on each of them was an oval plaque bearing our name. It seemed obvious that each plaque had been cast to fit its pillar perfectly and that they were the work of a skilled craftsman.

In 1947, Captain Downes again returned to Christmas Island and remembered from his boyhood's visit the jetty and with the more particular interest since he was now a shareholder in Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd. The jetty was still in excellent condition and the pillars showed no sign of corrosion. This was after occupation by the Japanese when everything which was moveable had been removed from the island.

It gave the Captain considerable pleasure and a feeling of pride to see these pillars, erected as long ago as 1875, still intact, constructed by a firm in his native town in which he was a shareholder.

SWIMMING GALA — 11th OCTOBER

A successful Gala was held in the Stockton Swimming Baths. Mr. G. Cook, Works Manager, Stockton Forge, who presented the prizes, expressed thanks to the Stockton A.S.C. for their help at the bathside.

The Gala ended with a polo match between the Stockton team and a side composed of Middlesbrough and Head Wrightson players.

Prizewinners were as under:—

Junior boys, one length free style (10 to 12 years):
 1, T. Fleming; 2, E. Marley; 3, T. Little. Up to 14 years:
 1, E. Green; 2, A. Wood; 3, R. Brown. Up to 16 years:
 1, N. Milner; 2, E. Green; 3, J. Green.

Junior girls (up to 12 years): 1, C. Dalton; 2, C. Noble; 3, J. Littlewood. Up to 14 years: 1, A. Duckett; 2, P. Hornby; 3, E. Reed. Veterans' one length free style:
 1, J. Brown; 2, J. Newcombe; 3, A. Littlewood. Plain dive: 1, K. Davies; 2, J. Fleming; 3, P. Partridge. One length back stroke: 1, C. Marrison; 2, P. Partridge; 3, J. Middlewood.

Diving for objects: 1, D. McKinlay; 2, A. Hird; 3, C. Irving. One length breast stroke: 1, C. Marrison; 2, P. Partridge; 3, J. Seaman. Two lengths free style: 1, C. Marrison; 2, P. Partridge; 3, K. Davies. Men's invitation, two lengths free style: 1, M. Wilkinson; 2, A. D. Wilson; 3, M. Cook.

Inter-departmental relay: 1, Teesdale Bridge Yard; 2, Maintenance.

Women's one length free style: 1, A. Lyall; 2, J. Lacey; 3, S. Burton. Women's invitation, two length handicap: 1, V. Milne; 2, M. Hobday; 3, B. Terrill.

Thanks are expressed for the valuable assistance provided by Messrs. H. Ayre and A. Lackenby and the members of the Committee.



PRESENTATION OF LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Our photograph shows our Chairman, Mr. Richard Miles, Sir John Wrightson and Mr. Frank Shepherd, with recipients, on the occasion of the presentation of clocks and watches to employees with fifty and forty years' service. Clocks for fifty years' service were received by Messrs. W. Pearson (H.W. Stampings Ltd.), O. Bell (Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd.), P. Reed (Maintenance Dept.) and R. Metcalfe of Teesdale Steel Foundry on behalf of his father who had died before the presentation was made.

Watches were received for forty years' service by Messrs. G. E. Vernon and J. Cuthbert (H.W. Teesdale Ltd. Constructional Dept.), R. Gibson (Head Wrightson Iron Foundries Ltd.), A. Raine (Head Wrightson Stampings Ltd.) and Mr. N. Cummings (Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd), Stockton.

RETIREMENT OF MR. OSWALD BELL

On 3rd October, we said farewell to Mr. Oswald Bell one of the most familiar figures in our organisation. Mr. Bell, Technical Manager, General Engineering Division had been with the firm for fifty years and the whole of that time had been spent with Head Wrightson apart from service in World War I, from 1914 to early 1919. Mr. Bell had served with the company under three generations of the Wrightson family and on the occasion of his retirement, Sir John Wrightson, a member of the third generation, on behalf of Mr. Bell's many friends in the organisation, presented to him a pair of binoculars and a cheque. Mrs. Bell, who was also present, received a bouquet.



LAWN TENNIS

Another successful tennis tournament was held this year and the results were as under:—

Brian Flanagan holds the record for the Men's singles—this is the fourth time he has won the event. Readers will see a picture of his wedding on another page and we wish him every success, and happiness.

Men's Singles—Miles Trophy, B. J. Flanagan, winner; P. J. Carson, runner-up.

Women's Singles—Mrs. Miles Trophy, Miss J. C. Wood, winner; Mrs. D. L. Lonsdale, runner-up.

Mixed Doubles—winners; B. J. Flanagan and Mrs. D. L. Lonsdale. Runners-up—J. B. Darbyshire and Miss J. C. Wood.

Men's Doubles—winners; B. J. Flanagan and Mr. P. Carson. Runners-up—D. Kirkpatrick and G. Semple.

H. W. PERSONALITY

TEDDY DEA — Cranedriver

HEAD WRIGHTSON TEESDALE LTD.

Constructional Department

Mr. Dea retired from the Company in September. He had worked with us for fifty-three years during which time he had been consecutively labourer, driller, slinger and crane-driver. He was employed in the latter position for his last thirty-five years with us.

He recalls the days when the drilling machine was driven by long belting from the drum which was fixed to the columns of the gantry.

Many bridges were constructed but the one which stands in his memory is the Carter Bridge in 1927 (for Lagos, Nigeria) when he worked fifty-three hours per week.

There was no such thing as paid holidays in his early days and he notices as do many other of our old servants the great improvements in working conditions.

Mr. Dea's main hobbies are watching cricket and football. We wish him a long and happy retirement.



Mr. J. Shaw makes a presentation of a wallet of notes to Mr. Teddy Dea on behalf of members of the constructional department at Teesdale.

Head Wrightson have now opened a hostel for members of the staff who are living away from their homes. Our photograph shows our Chairman, Mr. Richard Miles, and Mrs. Miles with members of the management on the day of the opening ceremony.

