

WRIGHT AHEAD

THE HEAD WRIGHTSON NEWS LETTER

VOL. 9

APRIL, 1958

NO. 1



*Winter view of the offices of Head Wrightson's NUCLEAR POWER DIVISION,
The Friarage, Yarm, Yorks.*

Chairman's Letter

Can I explain very simply as I see it, why we must maintain the value of the pound sterling.

Starting at the beginning: we must all have food, and we must have raw materials to work with. Much of both comes from abroad.

If the pound goes down in value, we shall have to give more pounds for the same quantity of food, that is to say, the cost of living will go up; if we haven't more pounds, we shall get less food. The same applies to raw materials, entailing serious unemployment.

The increase in the bank rate is to put a brake on spending, and to attract money to this country by the high interest rates, to give backing to our pound.

Any half-baked schemes which would make people, say from abroad, take their money out of the country, would weaken the backing of our pound, which would then fall in value, with the disastrous results mentioned above.

One other point in passing, which isn't fully realised, is that people who take things out of a total kitty, without putting anything extra in, are taking somebody else's share.

It does not matter which political party is in power, these obvious commonsense facts have to be faced; and as usual, ending my letter in *Wright Ahead* with a quotation, I say:

"Ye'll understand, a man must think o' things".

Richard Miles

PERSONAL

BIRTHS

Congratulations to:—

Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd.

MACHINE SHOP.

- Mr. and Mrs. Graham — a son.
- Mr. and Mrs. A. Rigg — a son.
- Mr. and Mrs. Southgate — a son.

Head Wrightson Iron Foundries Ltd.

- Mr. D. Taylor (Dresser) and Mrs. Taylor — a son.
- Mr. A. Peat (Moulder) and Mrs. Peat — a son.

Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.

TEESDALE.

- Mr. and Mrs. W. Rutherford — a son.
- Mr. and Mrs. D. Irvin — a daughter.

STOCKTON.

- Mr. T. Inman (Lab.) and Mrs. Inman — a daughter.
- Mr. G. Bowman (Moulder) and Mrs. Bowman — a son.

Head Wrightson Machine Co. Ltd.

- Mr. and Mrs. J. Parrish — a son.

Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd.

NUCLEAR POWER DIVISION.

- Mr. and Mrs. E. Bowes — a daughter.

London Office.

- Mr. and Mrs. F. Holland — a daughter (Gillian Patricia).

MARRIAGES

Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd.

MACHINE SHOP.

- Mr. Don Thurlwell to Miss A. M. Rigg.
- Mr. Ian Crosby to Miss A. S. Maddox.

BRIDGE YARD.

- Miss S. Mortimer to Mr. Eric Neal.
- Miss Enid Brette to Mr. S. Davies.
- Miss M. Sheldon to Mr. K. Hadman.
- Mr. D. Lackenby to Miss D. Blowman.

Head Wrightson Iron Foundries Ltd.

- Mr. J. Poulter (Moulder) to Miss A. Lumb.

Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.

TEESDALE (Offices).

- Miss Gweneth Dalton to Mr. R. Wood.

STOCKTON.

- Mr. D. Britton (Welder) to Miss E. Richardson.



Mr. and Mrs. J. Poulter



Mr. and Mrs. D. Swales

Head Wrightson Machine Co. Ltd.

- Mr. David Swales (D.O.) to Miss Judith Lordon.
- Mr. Stan Loynes (Costs) to Miss Dorothy Harrison.
- Mr. Dave Walton to Miss Kendra Shaw.



Mr. and Mrs. I. Crosby

ENGAGEMENTS

Congratulations to:—

Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd.

BRIDGE YARD.

- Mr. C. Steel to Miss A. Granger.

Head Wrightson Iron Foundries Ltd.

- Mr. G. Barker (Clerk) to Miss J. Young of Thornaby.

Head Wrightson Machine Co. Ltd.

- Mr. Arthur Baker.

DEATHS

Condolences to the families of:

Head Wrightson Iron Foundries Ltd.

- Mr. A. Walton (Stoves) 8 years service.

Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.

TEESDALE.

- Mr. D. K. Barclay — Chief Metallurgist.
- Mr. Alf Proctor — late brass moulder (Retired).

Head Wrightson Machine Co. Ltd.

- Mr. Steve Thompson — Inspector.

Head Quarters.

- Dr. G. Irving — Works Medical Officer.
- Mr. Fred Johnson — Cost Accountant.

We publish this at the request of the local T.A. Officials
TERRITORIAL ARMY

There was considerable doubt over the boy in the Teddy-boy outfit. The Battery Serjeant Major, his disciplined hackles rising, refused to credit that anyone who dressed like that was human, let alone of any use to a Territorial Army Regiment. He was, however, eventually crushed by some intrepid soul pointing out that a Serjeant Major's claims to be human weren't all that strongly supported, and as for being useful . . . well.

The Troop Commander, who could see the youth being posted to his already richly mixed Troop, protested that the Army Council had a tendency to frown on crepe soled shoes even with gold chain embellishments, and various other people with ingrained prejudices also put in their oars, but to no avail. The Battery Commander, in approving the young man's application to join said, "We don't in this Battery turn anyone away because he is different or oddly dressed. If, after enlistment, they turn out to be horrors, then the remedy lies in our hands. In the meantime, let's hope that many more of them will have the feeling that they want to join and will come along and do it".

The point of all this is to bring home to some of you the fact that the Territorial Army (Yes, this is an unashamed recruiting article) does not restrict itself to enlisting only one class or type of person, nor does it demand any previous military service or knowledge. All too often one is confronted by youngsters who say, "I'd like to join but they don't want blokes like me with no idea of what it's all about!" If only such people would stop being so wretchedly modest and come forward they would be surprised by the response. The Territorial Army needs men (and women), and needs them now. It should not be forgotten that the Territorial Army exists solely for the purpose of training beginners until they, in their turn, are ready to train others.

On the subject of training, far too many people, especially young ones, still think of the Army as being almost entirely concerned with cramming people into ill-fitting boots and making them walk long distances in step. They little know . . . !

In most places today there is at least one technical unit, or a specialist unit, which is generally panting for the services of skilled tradesmen and craftsmen so that the man who, in his daily civil life, is perhaps a skilled Capstan Lathe operator need not spend his week-ends jumping out of aircraft or in learning to shoot down aircraft unless he particularly wishes to indulge in these habits.

If he does of course, his wife sits at home worrying about him. But why on earth should she. If she doesn't feel like joining herself one of the many very excellent Women's units, every unit encourages the Regimental wives and girl-friends to get together and take part in social activities and, indeed to run many of the social functions which take place. A very large number of the Whist drives and social evenings, particularly now towards the end of the training season, are entirely organised by the Regimental wives.

In this, the age of Greed and Grab, the man who is in the habit of asking "What's in it for me?" will probably not have read as far as this. Even he is catered for, however, and no-one ever does any training without being paid at the suitable Army rate for his rank. A day's work earns a day's pay and the periods known as drills plus attendance at Annual Camp once a year earns not only the appropriate rates of pay but also a substantial, tax free, bounty.

However, we did not set out to attract the "Grabber" and we are not really interested in him. There is always satisfaction to be gained from having a hobby and many people today are making a hobby of the T.A. Like all worthwhile hobbies it is a demanding one. It sets, and

requires the maintenance of, a high standard of self-discipline and pride in oneself, and of selflessness which means service to and for others.

You will only get out of the T.A. what you put into it and, if you are not prepared to accept this, you might as well not bother. The T.A. will not turn anyone away without a trial, but they do not want the man who is not prepared to put his all into it.

There will probably be some of you who are asking yourselves the age-old question . . . "Yes, all right so far but what is the point of all this T.A. business?" . . . and a very good question it is.

There is only one answer when all is said and done.

Whatever we say or do, and whatever the politicians say or do, none of us can ever be certain that we shall not need, at a moment's notice, to be prepared to defend our country against aggression. Throughout the history of our land there have always been men who have willingly given of their time to learning the art of non-aggressive defence, with no thought of attacking others, but with a commendable desire to be ready for what they doubtless prayed would never happen. There is no shadow of doubt that there are still many men of the same calibre but they are not at present convinced that their services are necessary or required just now. They are required and there is a definite place for them in their local T.A. unit.

And now, lest those who are past their first youth think there is no place for them; there is indeed. The Territorial Army age limits normally range from 17½ to 45 years (in certain Arms the maximum is 54 years) and the ex-serviceman who misses, as so many do, the comradeship of his service days is always assured of a warm welcome. He and his type form an individual centre of every T.A. Unit.

To the younger men, and particularly those who are not too sure, there's no catch! The T.A. wants you if you are good enough. If you think you are, why not give it a try

Drop into your local T.A. Centre and find out more about it. There is always someone there who will be pleased and anxious to answer your questions. Have a go!

That Teddy-boy? Oh, that was two years ago. He is now a Bombadier (Corporal to the rest of the Army) and specialising in Radar. He'll be a Serjeant before long and we shall have to stop him practicing those inhuman noises made by all young Serjeants who can see a Serjeant Major's Crown shining in the near future.

DO YOU KNOW ?

1. Which of the subsidiary companies of the Group specialises in steelworks plant?
2. What amount of steel is expected to be produced in 1962 in this country?
3. Head Wrightson Stockton Forge produces mining equipment for the winning of coal—what are Britains estimated workable reserves of coal and at current rates of consumption how long are they likely to last?
4. At the end of July, 1957 — how many cars were fitted with wirelasses?
5. How many T.V. licences were purchased in 1957?
6. You have your favourite newspaper but do you know
 - (a) How many daily and Sunday newspapers there are?
 - (b) What Sunday newspaper has the largest circulation?
7. What was the date of the first regular I.T.A. service?
8. When did production commence at Head Wrightson Stampings Ltd., Seaton Carew?

(Answers on Page 10)

9. What organisation on Tees-side would you find responsible for Oscillators and Hydrotels?
10. H.W. Processes Ltd., was formed as a Division of the Group — to undertake work in connection with which industry and what was the year of its formation.
11. What was the date of this Company's entry into the field of Nuclear Energy?

"DIP. TECH."

We learn with some satisfaction that Constantine College is being permitted to institute sandwich courses leading to the new Diploma of Technology. This will be of great interest to those of our apprentices who take advantage of the Company's extensive facilities for attending continuation classes as it will be an extension of the awards already being made to those who show, not only an aptitude to pass higher examinations, but a definite ability to apply their knowledge in a practical manner in the course of their work.

In supporting apprentices for this new diploma, it is not intended to reduce the scholarship awards in operation for sandwich courses for Higher National Diploma and full time attendance at University or Foundry College which has done, and is doing, so much to encourage our keen young men.

Our readers will be interested to learn that already the following numbers of our apprentices have, or are being, sponsored by the Company to gain qualifications, which should greatly assist their future:—

- 31 Higher National Diploma Constantine College Sandwich Course.
 - 9 B.Sc. at Durham University — full time.
 - 3 National Foundry Diploma — National Foundry College — Full time.
- and it is anticipated that the additional numbers for the October, 1958 intake will be:—
- 10 Sandwich Course — Constantine College.
 - 4 Durham University.
 - 3 National Foundry College.

REMINISCENCES OF OUR HOLIDAY IN CANADA AND U.S.A.

by JESSE BUTLER

Editor's Note: Our readers will remember that a previous issue of "Wright Ahead" told us that Mr. Butler was retiring and taking a holiday in North America. He has been good enough to send us an account of the time he spent there.

To those whose wish it is to visit Canada and U.S.A. for a holiday there are quite a lot of preliminaries before you can set sail. You must have relatives or friends who will be responsible for your support whilst you are there. The reason for this is that you are only allowed to take out of England a fixed amount of sterling for use on the boat and which is of no use in Canada.

Passports and booking of passages are all done by your travel agent and the only other requirement is re-vaccination if you have not been vaccinated within the last three years. Heavy luggage must be at the ship thirty-six hours before sailing time and you must present yourself there at the time shown on your sailing ticket.

The ship is very comfortable and every effort is made to keep passengers entertained with free cinemas, dancing, etc. The food provided is ample, good and varied to please all tastes. There is a nursery where small children can be left in the care of trained staff.



Mr. and Mrs. Butler with their grandchildren

When we crossed in May the sea was very choppy and we were pleased when we sailed into the St. Lawrence Basin and over the 1,000 miles of that river which separates Montreal from the mouth.

From Montreal we journeyed by train to London, a distance of 500 miles. This town, which is in the province of Ontario and is named after our own Metropolis, as are many parts of it—it even stands on the River Thames, but all its streets are lined with beautiful trees, chief among which are maple, Canada's national emblem.

In July, we went for a month's holiday to Grand Bend on Lake Huron. Its waters are a beautiful blue colour and are fresh not salty. The weather whilst we were there was wonderful, the day temperature being 84 - 100° and during the night 70 - 84°.

In August, we visited some friends from Thornaby, ex Head Wrightson employees, who have been in Canada for 48 years. Whilst with them we met a lot of people from Thornaby and Stockton, all of whom were delighted to see us and talk about "the Old Country".

In October, we went by car to Detroit which is across the U.S.A. Border and spent a wonderful time there among their noted shops which are a centre for people from all over the world. Whilst there, we stayed for a week-end at the Barlum Hotel which has 625 bedrooms and is one of the many imposing buildings in Detroit.

It was soon time for us to return home, and having packed our trunks, we again made the 500 mile journey by train from London to Montreal where we stayed the week-end. Whilst there, we visited St. Joseph's Oratory, the building of which began in 1904 and which will not be completed for another 20 years. We shall never forget this wonderful piece of architecture.

We boarded the same vessel "Empress of Britain" on which we had made our outward journey and set sail for England. We arrived in Liverpool to find typical English weather — rain, clouds and dullness — and from there journeyed back to Thornaby having had a unique and memorable holiday.



HEAD WRIGHTSON TEESDALE LTD.

We shall shortly have in production our new heavy plate fabricating shop. A recent photograph of the progress of construction of the shop is shown above. This shop is 400 ft long by 100 ft span, and will have a crane lifting capacity for pieces up to 100 tons. Equipment includes a heat treatment furnace 25 ft x 25 ft x 15 ft to arch, mechanical welding and X-ray equipment, 1200 ton press and vertical plate bending rolls for handling plate up to 3½" thick. Though the shop will be in production in April, the heavier rolls and presses will not be installed until the latter half of this year.

Machine Shop.

Some time ago, we referred to the various types of rolling stock being constructed for the Steel Industry. The latest to make its appearance in the shops is a 50-ton sinter transfer car for Dorman Long & Co. It is said to be the first of this particular type in the country. As its name implies, this wagon is used to transfer the hot sinter from the sinter machine to the sinter bench prior to being cooled and conveyed to the furnace. To protect the driver from the heat, his cab is lined with asbestos and has its own air conditioning plant. The doors and brakes are hydraulically operated as against the more conventional pneumatic operation. The car is self-propelled by an axle hung electric traction motor.

Missing from the shops are some familiar faces, Billie Malone (20 years), Jock Gray (7 years) and Joss Crawford (10 years), all of whom have retired. We wish them a happy retirement. Harry Kitchen, Dave Scott, both of whom had been with us for 20 years and L Toulson 17 years, have gone to try their luck elsewhere and Peter Carson, too has taken up a new position — to all of them we wish good luck. Bill Porter and Jack Burridge have joined the Planning Department staff and Alex. Fernie that of the rate-fixers.

Our Dramatic Society have recently produced the play "Someone Waiting" by Emyln Williams but to the best of our knowledge, Mr. Williams is not a driller, nor was the play dedicated to crane-drivers and slingers.

Bridge Yard.

A big welcome back to the Bridge Yard is extended to Mr. Wilf Mawby who has now recovered from his recent accident and is now in the Piece Clerks office. May your luck turn and many happy years be in front of you.

At a recent meeting of the Welders and Burners of the Bridge Yard a pleasing ceremony took place when Mr. W. Brumpton who is the oldest serving member of the welders, presented a Westminster Chiming Clock to Mr. Mick Sanderson on his retirement. Mr. Sanderson had been a checker for the Welders and Burners since the war and had gained great respect from this section of the trade. Expressing his thanks and appreciation Mr. Sanderson said that he had gained many friends during his association with them. Mr. Paddy Robbins presided over the meeting.

Congratulations are extended to Mr. W. Hall, Mr. J. Jeffels and Mr. W. Crossen on their promotion to the Planning department and sincere Best Wishes from the Bridge Yard for the future.



W. Brumpton presenting a clock to 'Mick' Sanderson, 'Paddy' Robbins is on the left.

HEAD WRIGHTSON IRON FOUNDRIES LTD.

Sympathy.

We express our deepest sympathy to Mr. F. Wright (Moulder) on the loss of his wife.

Get Well Soon.

We wish a speedy return to work: Mr. J. W. Hobson (Segment Wheeler), Mr. F. Gillings (Ingot Mould Dresser), Mr. H. Taylerson (Watchman), Mr. F. Outhwaite (Crane Driver) and Mr. L. Bloom (Crane Driver).

We welcome back to work after his long illness Mr. A. Todd (Box Fitter) and Mr. F. Fallowfield (Commercial Manager).

Retired.

Mr. A. Robinson (Labourer) after many years service. Mr. C. Hardman (Fettler) after 56 years service.

We are indebted to The South Durham Steel & Iron Co. Ltd., Middlesbrough, for giving such an interesting Saturday morning to some of our men from the Ingot Mould Shop recently. Our people acknowledged that it was most helpful and interesting to see the products they made being used in the Steelworks. The management of H.W.I.F., are pleased to record that it was at the instigation of the men themselves that this visit was made. We have of course already had some of the Steelworks Management from South Durham round our own foundries.

WRIGHTSON

M. WRIGHTSON & COMPANY

Visit to Yorkshire Copper Works

Leeds

On the second day of the New Year three bus loads of works and office personnel, both male and female, gave up a day of their holiday to make an adventurous journey to Leeds.

The journey was made in response to a long-standing invitation to tour the plants of the Yorkshire Copper Works Ltd. (now known as Yorkshire Imperial Metals Ltd.).

Snow and ice made road conditions so bad that we travelled many a mile at pony and trap speed with the result that we arrived in Leeds in time for only a very hurried lunch and even then had to apologise to our hosts for being late.



Mill. Certain alloys are suitable for extrusion whilst other alloys must be pierced.

In the extrusion shop we saw solid hot billets put in the press at one end and by the use of sheer brute force they came out at the other end as rough sized hollow tubes, or as they are called in the tube trade "Shells".

Incidentally, from this point on the constant warning to our party was "don't touch because it might be hot". It is difficult to tell if copper or brass is hot or cold just by looking at it.

The alternative to extrusion for making a "shell" is by piercing. We came to this process when we entered the main mass production Tube Plant known at Yorkshire as Scheme III.

In this plant hot billets are fed to a Head Wrightson 19" Rotary Piercer. This machine drives a solid billet between two barrel shaped rolls and imparts a forward and rotary motion to the billet, forcing it over a pointed plug. Result — a hollow "shell" of considerably longer length than the solid billet and similar to that obtained from the extrusion presses. The



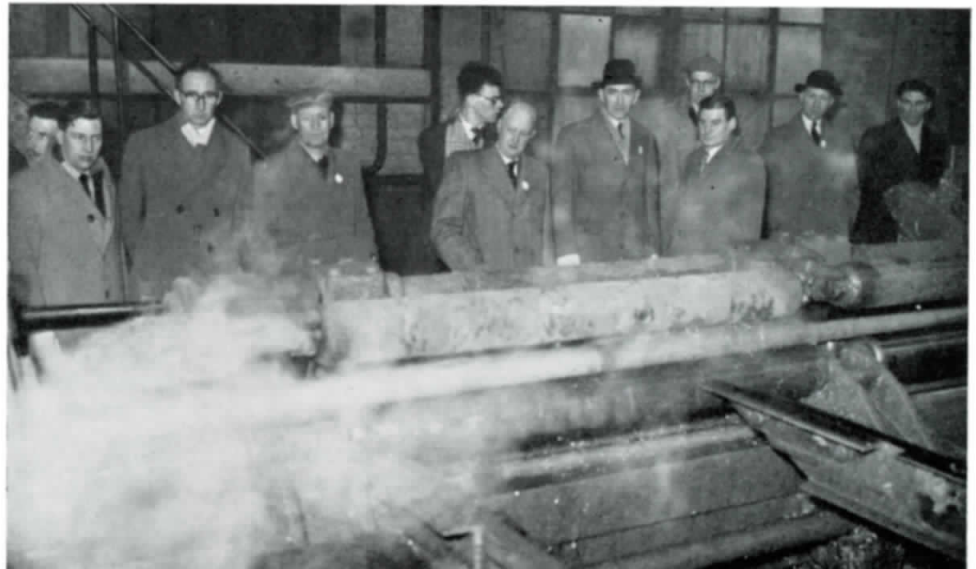
Yorkshire are specialists in the production of copper tubing in various alloys and a large portion of their tube making plant is of Head Wrightson Machine Co's. manufacture.

We were welcomed in the Exhibition Hall and then shown a film with a most effective commentary which gave us all a very clear idea of the general capabilities of the works and the various processes in tube making.

The actual tour of the Works was a pleasure, greatly contributed to by the fact that sufficient guides were available to make the individual parties so small that one felt one was having a personally conducted tour.

We started at the foundry where various methods used in the production of billets for the tube plant were seen.

From the foundry these billets go to the Extrusion Plant or the Tube





Shells then discharged from the Piecer Outlet Table into a quench tank and finally on to a storage rack.

This shell, which is a comparatively rough hollow billet, has now to be processed into finished tubing to various fine tolerances of bore, etc., in accordance with British and other standard specifications.

The way of achieving this result was followed through the plant where the machines in use were H.W.M. Drawbenches (3 Drawbenches each of 45-ton pull, 1 Bench of 22½-ton pull, and 2 Benches of 11½-ton pull).

On these drawbenches we saw the manufacture of tubing under high speed production conditions. The pitch of efficiency in the use and operation of the benches was amazing.

The tubes had been previously "tagged" before going to the drawbench. This is an operation whereby the first few inches of one end of the tube is reduced in diameter to suit the size of the drawbench die.

The method of tube production on a drawbench is to pull the tube through an accurate die of smaller diameter than the tube. At the same time, a plug of accurate dimensions is held up (or in) the bore of the tube and is positioned centrally in the die. The tag is then pushed through the die and the carriage on the drawbench bed then gets hold of the tag and pulls with full power, drawing the tube through the die and over the plug at one and the same time. The result being a smaller outside diameter and bore, and an accurate wall thickness, also a longer length of tubing.

Many of us have worked for years on and off on drawbench design and manufacture, in both the drawing office and works, and have cursed the complexities of these machines, but to stand and watch a drawbench feed tubes mechanically on to plug rods, change backbenches from loading to drawing position, automatically move plugs and plug rods into the draw and retrack positions, grip and draw tubes and finally eject automatically the finished tubes into the discharge cradles, **ALL** at the touch of a few buttons on the control desk by one operator, made one think "Brother, was it worth the worry and puzzling?" Yes! without doubt! It was a grand moment to watch the latest 45-ton H.W.M. Drawbench making three tubes at the same time, side by side and the tubes travelling through the dies at a speed of up to 300 feet per minute.

Certain sizes of tubes are finished for sale on the drawbenches, but other sizes, especially small diameters, go to the Bull Blocks or Coilers as they are sometimes called.

These are wonderful machines which pull the tube through a die and wind the finished tube on to a drum

of about 5 feet diameter and we were told that fantastic shells in one piece are made on the Bull Blocks.

We also saw various machines evolved by "Yorkshire" engineers to meet their own special requirements and marvelled at the way some of them repeated their sequence of operations with such a high degree of accuracy.

Other sections of the Works were seen producing special tubing by various ways of drawing on drawbenches.

Eventually, we all arrived back at the Exhibition Hall where our hosts had kindly provided tea.

We left the works just after 5 p.m., each bus making its own arrangement for "stops" etc. The last bus arrived home at 1-30 a.m. for which "bad road conditions" was blamed!! Well, they're open till 10 in Leeds and there was snow on the roads!!!

Very many thanks "Yorkshire" for having us. Your guides were grand and made our visit a real pleasure.

The photographs taken during the visit by a member of the "Yorkshire" staff gave an impression of the interest shown by our party in the various processes.

G.W.B.

Following closely on the heels of this visit, on 4th January, the Staff Benevolent Fund held its annual Children's party in Acklam Cafe. Again it was a most successful afternoon. We were fortunate in having with us Mr. Graham Reed whose conjuring gave delight to children and parents alike. After games and an excellent tea, Mr. Ron Burley gave a wonderful portrayal of the red garbed patron saint, and as usual the children were overjoyed with the delightful gifts.

The Benevolent Fund held its Annual Dance in Teesdale Hall on 21st February. The evening was very gay and we should like to thank Mr. Shepherd and his staff for the smooth organisation and excellent catering. As usual, most guests pronounced it the best to date.

Congratulations to Mr. E. Jopling on his appointment as Works Manager and to Mr. Jack Harris for his promotion to Chief Cost Clerk.

We welcome back after illness Roly Byers, Geo. Slater, Freddie Dale, Jack Williams and Fred Husband. Senior.

Mr. Ken Monkhouse (Fitting Shop Foreman) left us to take up another appointment and the Fitting Shop personnel said "Adios" with an engraved gold wrist watch. Mr. Geo. Anderson takes up the vacant post.

Mr. Joe Parrish, has had the addition of a son to his family after a lapse of 15 years. Can we anticipate his return to shift work after a month's stretch on days.

"May I take this opportunity through your much circulated *Wright Ahead* to say "Good-bye" to all members of the Head Wrightson Machine Co., who always did their best to make my stay so useful and enjoyable. I offer my sincerest thanks to each one of you. Good-bye and good luck to you all."

Mukul Gangopadhyay, Indian Student.

Welcome back to Miss Y. Young after her second attack of 'flu this winter. Bear up Yvonne, it's nearly spring.

Spring in the air seems to have awakened poetic tendencies at Middlesbrough. The poets are too shy to give their names:—

"An ex-sailor draughtsman was sent out to Site,
Expressing his scorn of the married man's plight.
He definitely stated there wasn't a miss
Who could lure him into so-called marital bliss.
But that was before he became so cognisant
Of a delectable young lady out of Llangysant.
O! Local maids what added attractions make her
Able to engage the attentions of our Arthur Baker."

Soon will be coming our spring treasure hunt
We hope your intellect isn't too blunt.
You will admit — it needs a wit that quick
If you are going to unravel our every trick
So cast off your sloth and blink your eyes
Its quick thinking that gets the prize
When we give you the clues you ought to know
In our spring treasure Calypso.

Its no use searching with energy unstinted
If your leaning on the gate on which the clue is printed
So pick your crew to solve the clues
And watch for the notice that gives the news
That we are ready to test
Your efforts at our treasure chest
When we give you the clues you ought to know
In our Springtime Calypso.

H.W. COLLIERY ENGINEERING LIMITED

Thornaby.

At the moment Mr. J. W. Brown, Mr. W. Hill and Miss P. Smith of the Drawing Office, and Miss Jean Henderson, are absent due to sickness. We wish them a speedy recovery to health.

At the end of December Mr. B. T. Bell left the Company's employment returning to his home town of Hull, and at the end of February Mr. A. S. Rowell left to take up an appointment with a company in Leeds. We wish them both success.

Mr. A. Railton of our Newcastle Office has left the company temporarily to do his National Service — We hope he enjoys the change.

Song of Trafalgar Street

Tune: "Galway Bay"

The Road that's paved with many a good intention
The Proverb says is but the Road to Hell,
But deeper leads the Street that's named Trafalgar,
It leads to H. through W.C. and 'E.L.'

'Tis said there once was pavement down Trafalgar,
So long ago most people now forget
'Twas ere the lorries played the game of Leap Frog
While awaiting to be labelled "we regret".

The outline of the buildings keeps a'changing.
At this they're really "smashing" down this street,
And with each alteration to the buildings
Some new and better pot holes trap the feet.

You should walk this street in every season,
See flooding by the Tees from up the drain.
See the mud and slime that's left across the roadway
And picture what it's like when comes the rain.

If you're splashed with slimy water down Trafalgar
Don't think the driver's learning something new,
It's the old Rule of "Just doing unto others
The things the others cannot do to you".

Good intentions can be seen in Building Progress,
To walk in step with Progress let us aim,
Though soon pedestrians of the street Trafalgar
May form an Army of the Halt and Lame.

J.L.B.E.

Sheffield Office.

We welcome Miss E. V. Bennett, who has recently joined the staff of the Wages Department, and Miss M. Lindley who has joined the Filing Department.

The following members of staff have left the employ of the Company and carry with them the good wishes of their colleagues:—

Mr. B. Prior — Laboratory.
Mrs. B. Prior — Wages Department.
Mrs. T. Hope — Switch Operator
Mr. E. Cowley — Wages Department.

Annual Dinner and Dance.

This happy function was held on Friday, 17th January, 1958, at the Royal Victoria Hotel, Sheffield.

Once again, we were able to renew friendships with old friends and make new friendships as the staffs from Thornaby, Newcastle, Manchester and Sheffield mingled together. Our guests included many officials of the National Coal Board, together with directors and senior staff of contracting companies, all of whom we were very happy to meet again.

Mr. Peter Wrightson welcomed warmly all guests and spoke of the excellent co-operation between all parties which resulted in many projects being brought to a successful consummation. He also spoke of the many interests, both old and new, of the Head Wrightson Group and of the steady advance throughout, especially in the field of Nuclear Energy.

Mr. A. Grounds of the National Coal Board responded for the Guests in appreciation of the warm welcome which was traditional at this function.

Time flew rapidly as we danced gaily to the music of Edgar Godber and his orchestra.

Mrs. Church and Mrs. Macgregor were responsible for the organisation of this successful occasion and they fully earned our appreciation.

HEAD WRIGHTSON PROCESSES

Since our last contribution to *Wright Ahead* the H.W.P. Sports and Social Club has been very active, the two main features being a New Years Party and a visit to the Russian Circus at Harringay Arena. Both of these activities were well supported and a good time was had by all.

We are now waiting for our next big event which is the Sports and Social Club Annual Dance and which will be held on Friday, April 17th at Caxton Hall. Should any of you be in town on that day, please do not hesitate to contact us, if you would like to come along.

By now, you will have most likely seen the British film "The Bridge over the River Kwai". The management of a local cinema invited ex-P.O.W's. to go along to see the film as their guests. One of our colleagues proved to be very popular with the press reporters as he was the only one of the ex-P.O.W. guests who had actually worked on the "Railway". The film is well worth seeing and is highly recommended to all who have not yet seen it.

Our new extension building, Teesdale House, is well under way, and is expected to be ready for occupation about two months hence. It is believed that the internal colour scheme of these new offices will satisfy the most ardent critics!

In addition to our work for the U.K.A.E.A., the Australian Atomic Energy Commission, Danish Atomic Energy Commission and German Atomic Energy Authorities we have recently been carrying out preliminary work for the Swedish Atomic Energy Commis-

sion. This additional extension of our activities further justifies our claim to be the most experienced company in Britain on the provision of nuclear research equipment.

Our products sales are being maintained despite the restrictions on finance and the corresponding effect on new development projects.

Plans to strengthen the activities of our overseas representatives in Germany and Australia are well advanced and this we hope will increase the sale of Fluor and H.W.P. products in these areas.

H.W. STEEL FOUNDRIES LTD.

Teesdale.

We wish a speedy recovery to Mr. A. Fenny, Pattern Shop Foreman, Mrs. Dodds, Messrs. T. Alderson and A. Drabble.

Mr. S. Behan has gone to do his National Service and Mr. J. Johnson has completed his and is back amongst us.

Two of our oldest colleagues, Mr. D. K. Barclay, Chief Metallurgist, and Mr. Alf Proctor (retired Brass Moulder) have died recently. We express deepest sympathy with their relatives. Mr. Barclay had been with us for very many years and was a familiar figure in the works. Towards the end of his life he had not enjoyed the best of health but in the past years had been interested in the Institute of British Foundrymen and was one of their past branch Presidents.

Mr. Proctor, who retired some two or three years ago, was for many years employed in the brass shop.

We are glad to see Mr. R. Bulmer restored to health and back with us again.

We welcome back from the Forces Mr. P. Thomas and wish all the best to Les. Winn who has just gone to do his National Service.

Billy Hopper is on the sick list and we wish him a speedy recovery and return to work.

NUCLEAR POWER DIVISION

Dance.

On Friday, January 24th, the Research and Development Department joined us in holding a most enjoyable Dance in Teesdale Hall. This was organised by Mr. K. E. Nixon and Mr. P. Shepherd, and a most enthusiastic Committee. We are grateful to Mr. F. Shepherd who gave his services as M.C.

Social Committee.

A Committee has been formed to take care of the social aspect and in addition to the Dance already mentioned, a Motor Treasure Hunt was held in October, the winner being Mr. A. F. G. Austin.

It is hoped to issue, very shortly, a full programme of future social events.



Pioneers of Nuclear Power Division who were present when Division was first formed at Thornaby: Left to Right—Front Row: Mr. A. F. G. Austin, Mr. G. P. Davidson, Mrs. Clark, Mr. P. Llewellyn. Back Row: Messrs. K. Nixon, R. Miller, P. Shepherd, K. Knudsen and S. Franklin



Augumented Staff of Nuclear Power Division after move to "The Friarage"

Mr. J. W. Gowland.

Mr. Gowland severed 30 years association with the Company on January 31st, when he left to take up an appointment with Pollard Bearings Limited in Canada. To mark the occasion he was presented by Mr. G. P. Davidson, on behalf of the Nuclear Power Division, with a silver cigarette box. Mr. Davidson remarked that Mr. Gowland's pleasant personality would be missed by all his associates. To begin a new career in Canada was, said Mr. Davidson, a most courageous step, and that same courage would be invaluable in his new work. Mr. and Mrs. Gowland departed to Canada with the good wishes of all at Head Wrightsons.

Coming of Age.

Congratulations to:

Mrs. P. Chudley on February 8th, 1958.

Miss A. Hodgson on February 28th, 1958.

H.W. STOCKTON FORGE LTD.

We welcome back Clive Harding after having completed his National Service in the Navy and we trust that by now he has settled down to his shore job.

Information has recently reached us that an old colleague, Tom Pattison, was killed in a motor car accident in Johannesburg.

"Tom Pat", as he was called, went out to our South African Office in 1934 and some years later joined up with Anglo-American Corporation where he attained the rank of Assistant Consulting Engineer.

To his wife in South Africa and his mother in Stockton-on-Tees, we send our sympathy in their sad bereavement.

HEAD WRIGHTSON & CO. LIMITED**London Office.****Staff Changes.**

Mrs. J. R. Powell resigned at the end of December for domestic reasons. We wish her every success in her new surroundings.

Miss L. Boorman has also left us. She contemplates following a course of study with a view to becoming a librarian.

New appointments include Miss Patricia Uden (successor to Mrs. Powell), Mrs. Audrey Webb (successor to Miss Boorman) and Miss Barbara Wheatley who has joined the Publicity Department.

THE H.W. EXPORT COMPANY LIMITED

Mr. A. Dodds-Parker, M.P. for Banbury, has joined the Board of H.W.Ex. as a "non-executive Director". His is the first appointment from outside to the Board of any H.W. subsidiary company. Mr. Dodds-Parker has long experience of overseas affairs, and was for a time Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Commonwealth Relations Office.

Another appointment in H.W.Ex. is that of Mr. Anthony Neville as Manager — Europe, following the resignation of Mr. W. B. Thomson. Mr. Neville was formerly in the International Department of the British Iron & Steel Federation. We wish Byars Thomson the best of luck in his new job of Export Manager of A.P.V. Ltd., Crawley.

Mr. Jenks, our Sales Engineer in Calcutta, who was on leave last summer and spent some time on Tees-side, has now finished his work as Commercial Manager of the Durgapur Project, for which he was seconded to H.W. I.S.E.L. for a year. He will be engaged whole-time on general sales work from 1st February, working from the H.W.Ex. Office in Calcutta.

Mr. Pendred left for a seven week tour of India and the Far East at the beginning of February, returning via Vancouver and Toronto, where he hoped to meet Mr. E. J. Robinson.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

The second Electrical & Mechanical Annual Dinner was held in the Queens Hotel, Stockton, on Saturday, 21st December, 1957, and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all to judge from the reluctance to leave. Indeed had it not been for the bus crews stood at the door with pleading eyes it could easily have turned into an "ALL NIGHTER".

Representing the management were Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson, Mr. and Mrs. Moffitt, Mr. and Mrs. Briggs and Mr. and Mrs. Barker. A bouquet of flowers was presented to Mrs. Hutchinson by Mrs. J. Lytollis. A second bouquet was presented by Mrs. Briggs to Mrs. Lynche in appreciation of work done by Bob in helping organise the dinner.

After a splendid meal the entertainment was supplied by that popular local comedian Mattie Innes. The fine voice of Josie Sullivan was well appreciated and she was accompanied on the piano, firstly by Mr. Tom Marshall and finally by Ron Davis.

The amateur talent was provided by Mr. Des Preece whose soulful rendering of "Hey There" left no doubt as to why good singers are so highly paid.

The ovation which greeted George Howe was only exceeded when he finally sat down amid communal singing of "Oh my, what a rotten song!"

Mr. F. Robinson gave a turn in his own style and despite numerous requests sang two songs.

An exceptionally fine voice was also heard, Miss Norma Kitson. The quality of her singing can only be assessed by the complete silence as she sang.

ANSWERS TO "DO YOU KNOW?" (Page 3)

1. H.W. Iron & Steel Works Engineering Ltd.
2. 62 million tons.
3. 43,000 million tons — 200 years.
4. 319,613.
5. 7,269,748.
6. (a) 150. (b) News of the World — over 7,000,000.
7. September, 1955.
8. 1938.
9. H.W. Stampings Ltd.
10. Oil Refinery. 1941.
11. 1952.

ANSWERS TO "FORGE" TEASERS IN LAST ISSUE

1. Smith's question to the twin was:—
"Down which road would your brother have directed me, if I had asked him the way I should take."
2. 492
816
357
—
1665
3. Vacuum.



Left to right: Mr. Albert Patterson, Miss Enid Thurlwell, Mr. Bob Wood, Mr. Jim McCarton and Miss Eileen O'Hara in Head Wrightson Dramatic Society's Production "Someone Waiting" by Emyln Williams

OBITUARIES

MR. FRED JOHNSON

Mr. Fred Johnson, who died in November last, was well known throughout the Organisation. In case this tribute is thought belated, the previous edition of *Wright Ahead* had already gone to press at the time of his death.

He was 62 years of age and had served with the Parent Company during the whole of his business career, which spanned a period of 47 years, including war-time service in H.M. Forces.

In World War I he served in the Rifle Brigade, having volunteered in 1914. He was in action in France where, in 1915, he was wounded and when recovered served at Home for the rest of the war.

At the age of 34 years, in 1929, he was appointed Head of the Cost Dept. and his devotion to his work in this capacity will remain a memorial of him. Many cost accountants in responsible positions in the Group to-day benefited greatly from the early training which they received from him.

In World War II, when nearly all prices were based on audited costs and staffs were depleted, he carried a burden which, for a time afterwards, impaired his health.

He died following an operation which he faced with remarkable fortitude. The funeral service, which was held at St. Michael's Church, Norton, was attended by present and past colleagues and representatives of the Board of Directors, Management and Branches on Tees-side.

He married Gladys Raper of Billingham in 1929, who survives him, and there were no children of the marriage.

DR. G. IRVING

Most of our readers will have already learned of the death of our Works Medical Officer, Dr. Irving. "The Doctor", as he was known to all, had been a familiar

and welcome figure at all our works for several years. His wide interests in sport, colour photography, amateur dramatics and music made it easy for him to find common ground with all those with whom he came in contact.

To many who read the obituary, it would come as a surprise to learn that he was a barrister at law though he never practised in the legal profession. His friends knew how brilliant was his mind, and how easy it was for him to undertake and master new interests and hobbies.

His many friends will wish to join in our condolences to his widow and family.

His vigorous presence and hearty laugh will long be remembered and missed by all, and, more particularly, at all the functions which he attended.

FIRST AID

Accidents, trivial or otherwise, can happen at any time. When they do, we frequently find that because we have no knowledge of first aid, we must stand helplessly by or, in our wish to help, unwittingly, aggravate the injury already sustained.

For those who would like to be able to help on such occasions, First Aid Classes are to be held each Wednesday evening at 7-15 p.m. in the Canteen at Teesdale Works. After a general course of instruction, a series of lectures will be given by a doctor, followed by an examination for proficiency certificates.

It is hoped that these classes will be well attended by works and staff personnel as it is proposed, if the attendance warrants, to hold both inter-departmental and inter-works competitions.

Further information can be obtained from Mr. T. Robinson, Time Office, Steel Foundry, Teesdale, or Mr. T. Smith, Machine Shop, Teesdale.

H. W. PERSONALITY

MR. J. W. WARDELL — Stockton Forge



Mr. John W. Wardell started his connection with Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd. in September, 1903, when he became an apprentice in the Stockton Forge Drawing Office. In his early years he worked on the design of colliery equipment, in which Stockton Forge then specialised, but later he developed a preference for ore treatment plant and was, eventually, instrumental in furthering the design and manufacture of this equipment by Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd.

In October, 1913, Mr. Wardell joined the staff of a firm of Consulting Engineers in London to obtain further experience in the design of this type of equipment, and he assisted in the completion of proposals for a copper smelter extension and a new ore reduction plant for the Spassky Copper Mines Ltd., in Southern Siberia. He joined this Mining Company in May, 1914 and worked for two years on construction of equipment and on its completion worked for three years on mill operation becoming Assistant Mill Superintendent. Because of the Russian Revolution in 1917 and the Kolchak counter-revolution in the following year, conditions became very difficult and when the Whites collapsed the British Staff of the Mine started on an arduous and eventful journey back to England.

In February, 1920, Mr. Wardell rejoined Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd. as the Stockton Forge representative in London and during his stay there was in very close contact with all the head offices of the mining companies, thereby enlarging the activities of Head Wrightson & Co.

Ltd. in the supply of ore treatment equipment. In August, 1925, he was appointed Chief Draughtsman at the Stockton Forge works and continued as such for three years, after which he became Manager and later General Manager of the Stockton Forge Works. His knowledge and experience in ore treatment was securing large orders for the manufacture of this equipment as he was a recognised authority on the subject.

In February, 1957, as a result of the re-organisation carried out by Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd., Stockton Forge Division became a subsidiary company under the title of Head Wrightson Stockton Forge Ltd. of which Mr. Wardell became Managing Director. Mr. Wardell retired from active work at the end of January, 1958 but he retains his seat on the Board.

Mr. Wardell took a very active part in the organisation's joint consultative and welfare scheme, being Chairman of his Division's Council and also of the Group's Welfare Committee. He was extremely interested in all activities relating to the welfare of past and present employees.

All his life, Mr. Wardell has been a keen amateur historian. For the past ten years, he has been the Chairman of Stockton or Tees-side Branch of the Historical Association, and last year, he published "A History of Yarm" which he wrote in his spare time during the six previous years. Similar interests will occupy his retirement and it is rumoured that he has started a new book with a very different background to his first one.

NEWS FROM GREECE

Our agent in Athens — Mr. Spyro John Buhuyar has proudly informed Sir John Wrightson that he has been honoured by H.M. Queen Elizabeth by being appointed a member of the Order of the British Empire.

TOMBOLA FOR CHARITY

Unknown to a large percentage of Head Wrightson employees, there is a small group of people which is doing a great deal of good work. The members of this group give up a lot of spare time to helping others less fortunate than themselves and after reading about their good work, one must agree it is time their efforts received recognition.

The names of the members of the group are :—

Messrs. Jessop, Whitehead, Branson, Bartaby, Mendum and Riley.

Their aim is raising money for deserving charities and H.W. pensioners. Although the group has only been formed ten months, at Christmas 58 pensioners each received a chicken, Christmas pudding and a quarter bottle of rum. Four pensioners who live quite a distance away received 35/- each. These gifts were much appreciated.

All told, the group have raised £140 for pensioners by running tombola games in the club. The last Spastics night raised £20 and another £7 from the raffle, bringing a total of £27. A Club night held on Wednesday, 5th March, brought this total to £50.

You must admit that this is a handsome total in a short time and a big "thank you" is due to all concerned.