

WRIGHT AHEAD

THE HEAD WRIGHTSON NEWS LETTER

VOL. 9.

OCTOBER, 1958

NO. 4



Presentation of Long Service Awards: Mr. Richard Miles, Chairman, hands over a clock to "Dick" Addison who has served fifty years with the Company

Chairman's Letter

OUR ANNUAL REPORT

We had our Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 31st July, and an account of it appeared in the papers the next day. Everybody is pleased about the results of our efforts, and not only did we pass a formal resolution of thanks at the Meeting, but as we all know, we have used considerable funds to improve working conditions and terms of service.

The figures in some cases are the results of contracts four years old. At the moment, for the first time for many years, even though most of our companies have a lot of work in hand, orders are not coming in fast enough. The oil industry has curtailed its programme, for example. This almost immediately hits our Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd., and our Head Wrightson Processes Ltd. It has done so already.

When this sort of situation arises, the first thing I do is to criticise myself. Could we have forestalled this recession? Expecting a downward turn in trade after the War — and the good trade has lasted longer than I thought it would — we strengthened our selling organisa-

tion, started The Head Wrightson Export Co. Ltd., broadened the front of our products, and improved our equipment — still proceeding — as we all know.

These were some of the plans we made years ago, but despite the present indications, which we all hope will be temporary, we are so closely linked with world trade that, to some extent, we must go up and down with it.

Things may get worse before the up-turn. Continued forethought, care, and effort are needed, on the part of all of us, at worst not to hinder, at best to expedite, continuing prosperity.

Let us hope and work towards the end that :

*"Peace be within our walls, and
prosperity within our places".*

Richard Miles



Mr. and Mrs. A. Greaves

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to:—

H.W. Teesdale (Machine Shop).

Mr. D. Thurlwell,
Mr. A. Greaves.

H.W. Steel Foundries (Teesdale).

Miss S. Randall to Mr. L. Jackson.

H.W. Iron Foundries.

Mr. J. Wardman to Miss M. Dodds.

H.W. Stampings Ltd.

Mr. A. Forbes to Miss M. Johnson,
Mr. C. Robinson to Miss M. Walker,
Mr. Norman Yale to Miss S. Cooke,
Miss M. Winter to Mr. A. Newstead.

H.W. Iron & Steel W. Engineering.

Mr. A. Idle to Miss D. Parks (Cashiers),
Mr. G. Griffiths to Miss M. Dickenson,
Mr. B. Johnson to Miss B. Nixon,
Miss W. Hutchinson to Mr. R. Foots.

H.W. Stockton Forge Ltd.

Mr. F. Seaman to Miss J. Gill,
Mr. D. Grey to Miss M. Burrows,
Mr. R. Saunders to Miss E. Melville.

H.W. Machine Co. Ltd.

Miss M. E. Bates to Mr. E. Bradburn
(H.Q. Costs).

H.W. Colliery Engineering Ltd. (Sheffield).

Miss P. Illingworth to Mr. A. Green,
Mr. B. Pike to Miss E. Beever.

H.Q. Maintenance.

Mr. T. Baker.

H.W. London Office.

Mrs. Murial Tucker to Mr. B. Roff.



Mr. and Mrs. A. Hird

BIRTHS

Congratulations to:—

H.W. Iron Foundries Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Watton — a son.

H.W. Stampings Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Lobb — a son.

H.W. Machine Co. Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Blankarne — a son, David.
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bloomfield — a daughter,
Mr. and Mrs. Griff Durham — a son,
Mr. and Mrs. H. Errington — a son, Martin.
Mr. and Mrs. J. Flower — a daughter,
Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Green — a daughter,
Terry Ann.
Mr. and Mrs. W. Nicholson — a daughter,
Mr. and Mrs. K. Richardson — a son, David
Michael,
Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Wilson — a daughter,
Julie.

H.W. Iron & Steel Engineering Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. Colin Gamble — a son, Philip
Michael.



Mr. and Mrs. A. Forbes



Mr. and Mrs. R. Saunders

Mr. and Mrs. Ken March — a son, Ian
Alexander.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mason — a daughter,
Barbara Ann.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Miller — a son, Richard.

H.W. Colliery Engineering Ltd. (Sheffield).

Mr. and Mrs. D. Cooper — a daughter,
Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Mawson — a daughter,
Mr. and Mrs. M. Plant — a son,
Mr. and Mrs. B. Rodgers — a daughter.

Nuclear Power Division.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Scott—a son, Paul Quentin,
Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Davy — a son, John
Kevin.



Mr. and Mrs. C. Robinson

H.Q. Maintenance.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Elsegood — a son,
Mr. and Mrs. W. Mallet — a son,
Mr. and Mrs. P. Steiner — a daughter.

H.W. London Office.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Paterson — a son,
Mark Philip.

ENGAGEMENTS

H.W. Stampings Ltd.

Miss M. Brookes to Mr. G. Knaggs,
Miss J. Smith to Mr. D. Begg,
Miss M. Hunter to Mr. K. Duncan.

H.W. Stockton Forge.

Mr. C. Marwood to Miss J. Turner
(H.W.M. Co.).

H.W. Iron & Steel W. Engineering Ltd.

Mr. M. Clark to Miss A. Markham,
Mr. J. Gaffney to Miss B. Leonard,
Mr. C. Irvin to Miss P. Webster,
Miss A. Martin to Mr. D. Gallagher,
Mr. G. Moodie to Miss M. Rutherford,
Miss M. Naylor to Mr. John Jones,
Mr. M. Rhymer to Miss S. Dodds.

DEATHS

Condolences to the families of the
following:—

Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.

Mr. C. McQuillan.

Head Wrightson Iron Foundries Ltd.

Mr. C. Rogers (Moulder),
Mr. R. Henderson (Moulder).

H.W. Stockton Forge Ltd.

Mr. T. Gibbons (Fitter).

H.Q. Maintenance.

Mr. T. McLean (Joiner).



Mr. and Mrs. K. Boughey

**A Goodwill Mission to U.S.A. by Mr. R. B. W. Bolland,
Director and General Manager and Mr. R. W. Wright of
Stockton Forge**



Denver — Gateway to the Rockies

Early this year we were invited to attend a sales conference marking the merger of Colorado Ironworks and The Mine & Smelter Supply Co. Ltd. The conference was to be held in Denver, Colorado, so it was decided that we should stop en route and call on our other American associates in the ore dressing business—Hardinge Inc. of York, Pennsylvania.

We left Thornaby on Wednesday, July 9th, and stayed overnight in London. After spending Thursday morning at London office we travelled to Southampton by train, embarking on R.M.S. "Queen Mary" and setting sail at 6 p.m. for America. The Queen Mary is 1,051 feet long and she has a gross tonnage of 81,000 tons, so one's first impressions are of her gigantic proportions and the immense power which is necessary to drive her through the ocean at average speeds in excess of 30 miles per hour! Although the ship is so massive, I soon realised that she can rock and I did not really enjoy the first few meals on board. Swimming pools, gymnasia, libraries and cinemas are provided on board and the food was superb. The menus covered most tastes, but it was possible to get any special fancy from the larder.

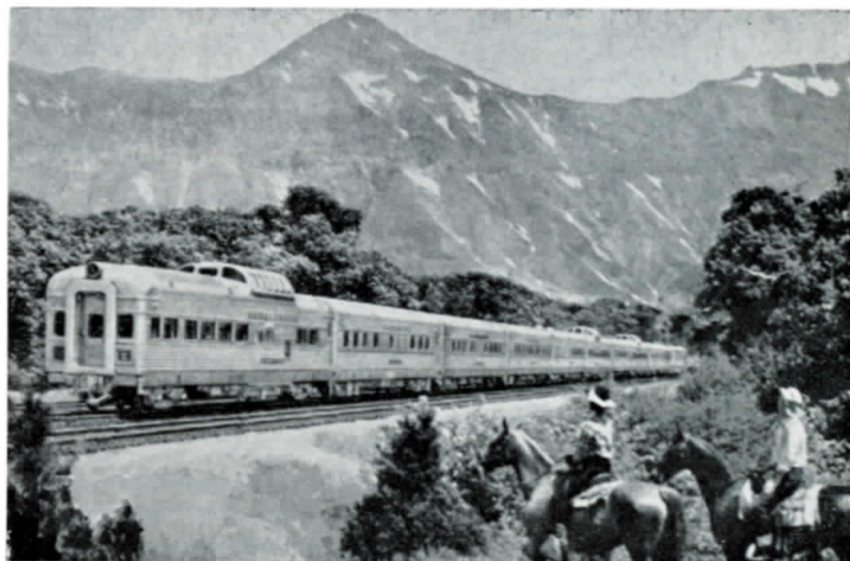
We reached U.S.A. on Tuesday, July 15th, landing at Pier 90, New York in the shadow of the skyscrapers. The Customs inspection took place in a shed with a temperature in the 90's so we were only on American soil for a matter of minutes before we were bathed in perspiration. Leaving New York the following morning we arrived at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, three hours later and we were driven to York (Penn.) by Mr. H. de Forest Hardinge, assistant to the President of the Hardinge Company. This was my first experience of the Cadillac, which is regarded as the Rolls Royce of America. Windows and seat adjustment were power operated and the car was capable of speeds of over 100 m.p.h. which are never realised because the speed limit on most of the main turnpike roads in U.S.A. is 60 m.p.h.

We stayed in York for two days during which discussions were held with administrative, sales and technical personnel of the company on matters of common interest

in the design of ore dressing equipment. We toured the works and the office and were extremely impressed with the research department which contains miniatures of most of the machines in the Hardinge manufacturing repertoire. In this laboratory they can simulate the complete action of any of their machines. During our stay in York we were entertained lavishly by the Hardinge family and I was privileged to see a softball game. Softball is a form of baseball, played in a smaller field with a larger softer ball than is used in the professional game. I appreciated the basic rules of the game, but the finer points were lost to me — I had some small satisfaction when I found that cricket is a complete mystery to most Americans. Soccer is a popular winter game in the States, but the greatest interest is in American football.

After taking a train to Chicago from York we travelled on to Denver, Colorado, in a crack train called the California Zephyr. This train covers the 2,500 miles from Chicago to Los Angeles in about 48 hours and it is pulled by diesel electric locomotives. All the rolling stock is clad in stainless steel and various diversions including dining rooms, bars, lounges, observation domes and radio are provided to make the two day journey more interesting.

In Denver we registered at a startlingly contemporary hotel-motel complete with bathing pool and a contest for the title of Miss Colorado 1958! We spent all day Sunday driving in the Rocky Mountains with Mr. Drinkwater, the manager of Mine & Smelting Supply Co., and his wife and after climbing (in the car) to a height of 11,988 feet we toured two mining villages called Georgetown and Central City. Both these settlements are now no longer active in mining, but they have been preserved in the old Western style, complete with saloon, sheriff's office, dirt streets and board sidewalks for the benefit of sightseers. It seems that the spirit of the old West still lives on because at the time of our visit to Georgetown a miner was being held in the city jail on a charge of killing two tourists whom he had caught in his gold mine.



After this day of relaxation we spent three very full days in conference with Mine & Smelter personnel and then we took another famous train called the Denver Zephyr (see photo) to Chicago. I consider that Chicago was the most beautiful American city that we visited. The city is built on the shore of Lake Michigan and the

magnificent formal gardens laid out along the lakeside with the skyscrapers of fashionable Chicago in the background gave me the impression of being at the seaside, rather unlike Scarborough though, as the temperature was nearly 90° in the shade.

We travelled on to New York again by train and there we met Mr. Robinson, the manager of our Canadian company. On this occasion I made the trip to the top of the Empire State Building which is regarded as a "must" for every first visitor to the city. I had the good fortune to make the ascent at twilight so I witnessed the unforgettable sight of the lights coming on along Broadway, Times Square, and on all the great surrounding buildings.

We embarked on the R.M.S. Mauretania on Saturday, the 26th July and set sail for England. The Mauretania is somewhat smaller than the Queen Mary, but just as comfortable, although I suffered again from lack of appetite — it seems that I am not cut out to be a sailor.

After landing in England on Saturday, the 2nd August we stayed overnight in London, travelling north by train on Sunday and arriving home at 4-30 p.m. after a very enjoyable and, I hope, fruitful visit to America.

THE HEAD WRIGHTSON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

The closing production of the 1957/58 season was "Someone Waiting" by Emlyn Williams. This was probably the most difficult play from the acting angle that the Society has ever tackled, and very great credit is due, both to the cast and the producer, for the convincing way in which it finally came over. The plot concerned the efforts of a father to avenge his son, who had been wrongly hanged for murder, and the mounting tension as his plans worked out, was excellently conveyed, though some of the audience were disappointed that none of the murders and sudden deaths actually took place on the stage in full view! The cast included two newcomers, Mary Naylor and Bob Wood, as well as such established favourites as Eileen O'Hara, Enid Thurlwell, Edna Ferriday, Jim McCarten and Albert Patterson. The producer was Fred Mothersdale.

A highlight in the Society's programme took place at the April Monthly Meeting, when a talk was given by Mr. J. M. Rennie, Drama Critic of the Evening Gazette. As well as being very interesting, this should prove to be of great value to all Society Members. The June Monthly Meeting took the form of a beach picnic at Saltburn, while our Annual Outing to Scarborough Open Air Theatre was held on 28th August.

The Annual General Meeting took place in May, and it was very disappointing that so few members attended. Those who did heard the unwelcome news that last season the Society operated at a loss for the first time in its history. There is no doubt that if this trend continues, it will mean the end of the Society. We do hope that all members will rally round, and do their utmost to publicise the Society and to sell tickets for its productions during next season, which is to open with the drama "Four Winds". The newly elected Officers and Committee are :—

President: R. Miles, Esq.; Chairman: F. Shepherd, Esq.; Secretary: Miss E. Turner; Treasurer: Mr. H. Shields; Stage Director: Mr. S. Waites; Business Manager: Mrs. B. Reeves.

Committee :—

Mesdames E. Ferriday, M. Naylor, E. Thurlwell.
Messrs. F. Mothersdale, D. White.

Personality Parade

Mr. Jim McCarten, Head Wrightson Wages Dept.

Although Jim has not appeared in very many productions of the Head Wrightson Society, he is one of our most experienced members. Whilst he was not actually carried on the stage as a baby in arms, he distinctly remembers playing "Tiny Tim" in a "Christmas Carol" at the age of four and around the same age appeared in "Midsummer Night's Dream".

Unlike most of our members, he has appeared in many classic plays, including "School for Scandal" as Charles Surface, "She Stoops to Conquer" as Squire Hardcastle, "The Rivals" and Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" in which he played the part of the Duke. In lighter vein, he recalls being the lodger in "George and Margaret", and taking no fewer than three parts in the Middlesbrough Little Theatre production of "1066 and all that". He has also played in a number of religious dramas. He recalls one incident, when he appeared as Joseph in a Nativity Play. In the inn scene a maid was supposed to appear through a door at the back of the stage, bearing a lamp. When her cue was given, the door remained shut. It was given a few more times, but still she failed to appear. Finally, a frantic voice from behind the scenes echoed round the hall (a church one), exclaiming "The ——— door won't open!"

Jim continued his dramatic career throughout his war service in the navy, and at one time was in the same drama group as Jack Hulbert's sister, herself a former professional actress. In one society at Grimsby, space was so limited that ladies and gentlemen had to use the same dressing room! We hope at different times. While in this society, they were asked to repeat a very successful production at a village hall in the wilds of Lincolnshire for the benefit of American Air Force staff stationed in the vicinity. On arriving, they found the village feet deep in snow, and the Americans were unable to get through. The play was therefore performed to an audience consisting of women making tea in the background, children and a village ancient with a long white beard, who laughed in all the wrong places, an accompaniment being provided by the sound of water dripping in through the leaky roof. To crown everything, when the play was over a huge crowd turned up to attend a dance.

Jim's parts with our Society certainly prove his versatility. He first appeared as Eddie, the blackmailing spiv, in "John Marlow's Profession", and then became a dignified country gentleman as Mr. Darcy in "I Have Five Daughters". In "An Inspector Calls", he was ideally cast as the young man about town, Gerald, whilst in our last production "Someone Waiting", he gave an outstanding performance in the leading role of the avenging father.

When we asked Jim which, of all his many parts, he preferred, he replied "Haven't got a favourite. I like them all".

Teesdale Judo Club

After being in the doldrums for some time, Head Wrightson Judo Club has leapt into the limelight under the guidance and instruction of Sam Grainger (Brown Belt Holder), of the Bridge Yard (Teesdale).

At a recent * grading examination held at Middlesbrough Judo Club and conducted by W. Peacock (holder of the Black Belt) from the South Shields Judo Club, all our members were successful, eight gaining the 1st Grade (White Belt) with two (F. Brown, Treasurer, Steel Foundry and K. Robson, Secretary) doing very well to gain the 2nd Grade (Yellow Belt).

This is quite an achievement because the contests were against some experienced Judoka † from the Middlesbrough Club.

On Saturday, 29th June, we gained one seat on the Committee at the inaugural meeting of the Northern Area Association of the British Judo Association, held at the C.C.P.R. Offices in Durham City. The B.J.A. is responsible for the coaching and grading of members, displays, competitions, etc.

We always have a "welcome on the Mat" for new members, so if you have the urge, old or young, come and get the "Gen" at Teesdale Hall (Trafalgar Street) — Mondays and Thursdays, 7-30 p.m. till 9-30 p.m.

* Grades — White, Yellow, Orange, Green, Blue, Brown, Black.

† One who practises Judo.

Presentations of Long Service Awards — 1957

Our front page picture shows our Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. Richard Miles, on the occasion of the presentation of awards to Long Service Personnel on 27th June, 1958.

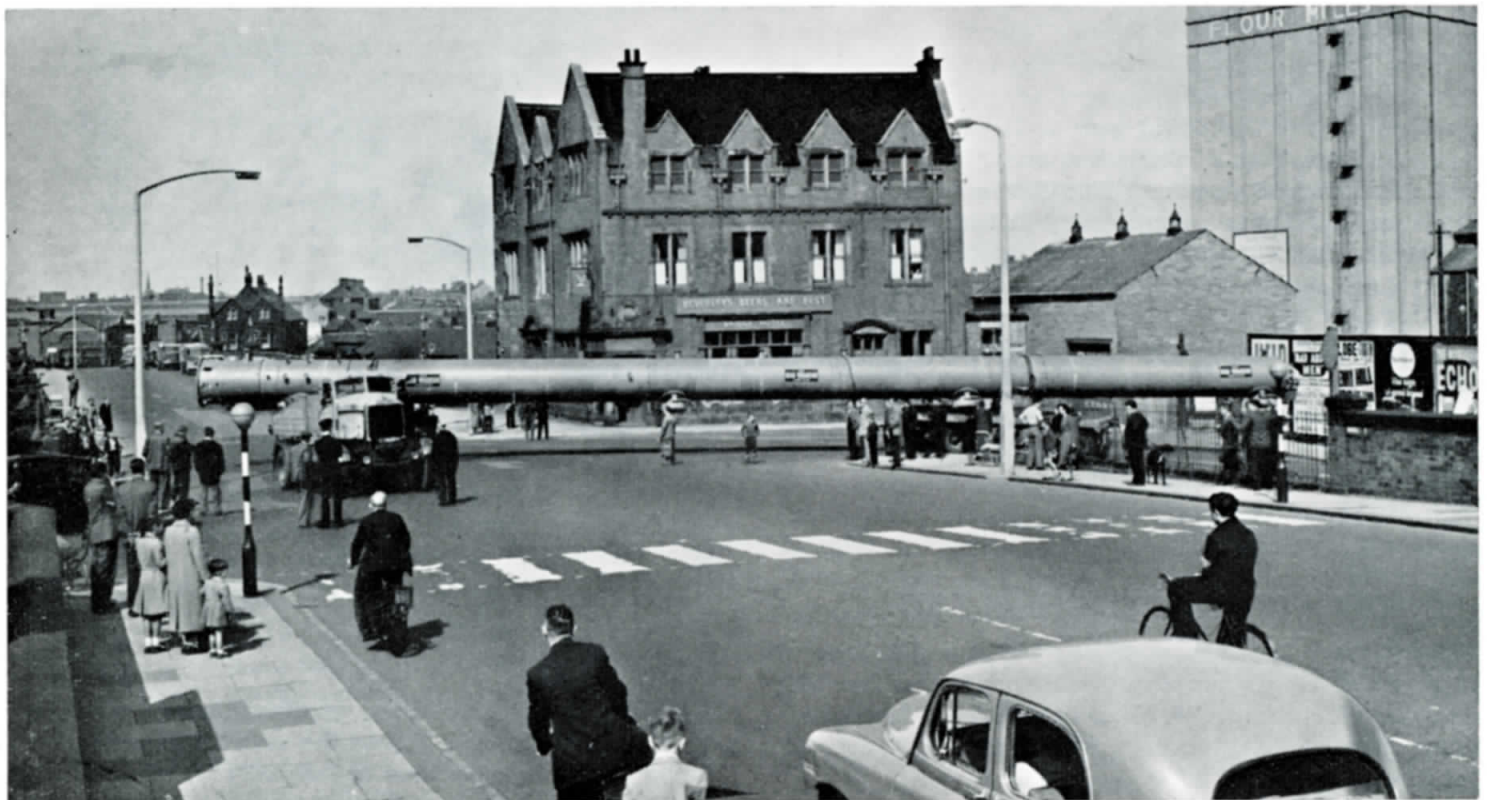
The recipients were as under :—

50 years — J. O. ("Dick") Addison — H.W. Teesdale Ltd. (Machine Shop).

40 years — J. Glasper, A. E. Christon, P. Deere, F. Gray and T. King of H.W. Teesdale Ltd. (Bridge Yard). F. Fallowfield of H.W. Iron Foundries Ltd. H. Agnew of H.W. Steel Foundries Ltd. W. Cook, C. Lawson, J. McDonough, A. Todd, W. Wales, C. F. Wilson and H. Soppet of H.W. Stockton Forge Ltd.

These awards bring the total number of clocks and watches presented since 1953 to 50 and 218 respectively.

(Editor's Note: Notices are posted throughout our organisation informing employees who have or will have completed 50 years or 40 years service with the Company by 31st December, 1958, to forward full details to Mr. Frank Shepherd, Personnel Manager, Teesdale Iron Works, Thornaby-on-Tees, before 31st October, 1958).



4' 0" dia. x 110' 0" long Fractionating Column, negotiating the Bridge Hotel Corner, Thornaby, en route for installation in No. 3 Olefine Plant, Wilton Works

H.W. TEESDALE LTD.

Ross Spur Motorway — Contract No. 4.

The constructional department of Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd., announce that the contract for the bridge at Queenhill, Worcestershire, has now been signed.

The bridge which is over the river Severn is a composite structure of steel and concrete. The total length is 2,468 feet comprising 24 spans of 82 feet of reinforced concrete construction and the main river spans are of rivetted steel construction with concrete decks.

The river spans, which form our contract, comprise two anchor spans of 131 feet and a centre arch span of 238 feet. The centre arch span is made of two cantilevers of 65 feet each and a centre span of 108 feet.

The main arch girders vary in depth from 15 feet to 6 feet, and the total tonnage of steel involved is 1,800 tons and the steelwork is being fabricated at our Thornaby works and erection is also by our own staff.

The work on site is planned to take place during the summer of 1959 and the whole of the motorway is scheduled for completion by November, 1960.

The main civil contractor is A. E. Farr Ltd., of Westbury, Wilts, and the complete contract is approximately three miles of dual carriageway, motorway and all necessary bridge works and roadwork, carrying the motorway over or under existing roads and streams and including the above bridge at Queenhill over the river Severn between Tewksbury and Upton on Severn.

We have included this item of news to show that the Head Wrightson Organisation is taking its share in the country's new road construction programme.

The Consultant Engineers are Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners and the customer is the Worcestershire County Council for the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation.

R. E. Brookes.

Machine Shop.

Our theme for this issue is the "Old and the New" — one, men, the other, machines. Recent months have seen further re-tooling of the Machine Shop. Our biggest Vertical Boring Mill — "Roundabout" to you and me and Planer have been replaced by the very latest types. In the case of the "Roundabout" — it is a French make — "Berthiez".

The new Butler Planer looks a real good, solid job and will be a vast improvement on the old one. Its gate size is 8ft x 8ft. There are two tables each 10ft. long, giving 20ft. table travel when coupled, enabling us to plane a piece 8ft. x 8ft. x 20ft. long.

In the past few months, several of our long service employees have retired. They include Harry Parsons and "Dick" Addison, both of whom had over 50 years service, Charlie Hall with 38 years and Tom Burnip with 20 years. There's very little to say about Harry that has not already been printed in past issues of the magazine — Foreman of the Tool Room at Teesdale, he was well known throughout the organisation. "Dick" was for many years connected with both the cricket and football section. To them all, we wish a long and happy retirement.

We have better news of our workmates on sick. Charlie Arnison is now back at work and Bob Rickaby and Bob Laws are much better.

We offer our deepest sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Orpen on their tragic loss.

H.W. STEEL FOUNDRIES LTD.

Teesdale.

We wish a speedy recovery to Messrs. J. Jordan, H. Gascoyne, H. Peterson, J. Liggett and Mr. R. Brown (Pattern Shop) who have been away from work a considerable time.

We welcome back after illness, Mr. J. G. Allen, General Manager, Mr. A. Fenny, Pattern Shop and Messrs. J. Chantrill, A. Drabble and R. Holmes.

We are pleased to have with us Mr. D. Gould, who is now in charge of the pattern shop in place of Mr. Fenny, who resigned from this position due to ill health and transferred to the Planning Office, Steel Foundry.

Since the last issue of *Wright Ahead*, quite a number of our employees have retired. They include Mr. T. Blackburn (30 years), Mr. T. Thompson (Pattern Shop) who was Shop Steward for nearly 20 years, Mr. F. Parker and last, but not least, Mrs. Sally Dodds who was employed on the Women's core floor for over 15 years. To them all we wish a long and happy retirement.

We offer our condolences to Mr. W. Watson on the loss of his wife.

Our Bowls Team (Mr. Harry Hutchinson, Captain), the brothers Hodgson and Micky Clark, reached the semi-finals of the Interdepartmental Competition (both team and single rink sections) — we hope they will bring the trophies home to the Steel Foundry.

At the recent H.W. Old Age Pensioners' outing, we were pleased to see many ex Steel Foundry stalwarts.

Stockton.

Congratulations to Mr. J. Bell on his promotion to staff.

Since our last issue, Messrs. L. Mineham (Electrician), R. Fisher (Welder) and C. Youlden (Painter) have left our employ. We wish them well in their new jobs.

We wish a speedy recovery to Mr. T. Hugill (Moulder), J. Bulmer (Stores) and "Jarrow" Lambert.

H.W. MACHINE COMPANY LIMITED

Personal Notes.

We bid a temporary goodbye to Frank Pearson during his call-up period.

Among those who have left our employ are —

Mrs. M. Dinsdale, our efficient telephonist is devoting herself to household duties.

Miss Sadie Hodgson has moved farther South with her parents.

Miss K. Davies (Progress Clerk).

Mr. A. R. Colliison, Site Engineer — has developed an interest in Bessemer Furnaces.

We welcome among our new employees :

Miss Margaret Maisie, Mrs. A. Woodhall, Typing Pool.

Mr. Outhwaite, Electrical Department.

Miss Dinah Crooks, Mail Room.

Miss Wendy Knott has left Inspection to grace the switchboard.

Our two lady draughtswomen have returned from their sojourn in the shops to join the crop of 21st Birthdays in the D.O.

Miss "Jan" Macdonald, June 9th.

Miss Beryl Stainsby, August 18th.

Miss June Turner, June 9th.

Mr. Stan Loynes (Cost Office) has been appointed a full lieutenant in the R.A.O.C. (T.A.).

Social Activities.

Adding to their success in the football match the single men have now beaten the married men at cricket. In a twenty overs a side match at Teesdale Park they romped home to an easy win.

An evening Treasure Hunt over a 41 mile course ending at Osmotherley, gave enjoyment to many Benevolent Fund Members. Eighty people in twenty-two cars shared the pleasures of the scenery in Low Worsall, Hornby, Cowton, Yafforth and Brompton.

The excellent catering at final control smoothed away those bitter words for the twisted mind of their inquisitor.

1st prize was won by Mr. R. Sowerby, with Mr. P. Ball in second place. After a lengthy breakdown, Mr. E. Jopling made a remarkable recovery to finish third.

We feel it better to draw a veil over the social activities of young draughtsmen who climb over the backyard walls of young ladies houses.

Congratulations to Mr. G. Knowles (Spec. Cons.) on achieving the rank of sergeant.

A happy and contented retirement to Mr. R. Honeyman (Labourers).

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mr. William Smith (Tool Room).

HEAD WRIGHTSON IRON FOUNDRIES LTD.

Ceremony at Egglecliffe.

On Wednesday, 23rd July, 1958, a very happy ceremony took place at Egglecliffe when a presentation was made to Mr. W. B. Eddy, Foundry Works Manager, by Mr. J. Bashford, Moulder, on the occasion of his retirement. The presentation took the form of a portable radio and a table lamp.

Mr. Bashford referred to his boyhood connection with Mr. Eddy and how they had both worked for Head Wrightson's since those early days. Mr. Eddy completing his 50 years service and Mr. Bashford, at present, in his 54th year. Mr. Bashford said that he was speaking for



all the men, women and apprentices in the Works when he said that Mr. Eddy was acknowledged as a man of integrity, fair-mindedness and tolerance and those three characteristics had enabled Mr. Eddy and the people in the foundries to work together in the most friendly co-operation

In conclusion, Mr. Bashford wished Mr. and Mrs. Eddy, on behalf of everybody, a long, healthy and happy retirement.

Mr. Eddy, in thanking Mr. Bashford and through him all the people connected with this presentation, confirmed that he had always received loyalty and co-operation from everybody, and he was sure that the same good spirit would prevail in the future between the work-people and those who were to follow him on the management side.

Mr. Morris, Mr. Maine and Mr. Gollogly were present at the ceremony as guests of the Works Committee and Mr. N. Addison presided.

Traffic Lights.

A short while ago the Iron Foundries installed road traffic lights at Egglecliffe to cope with the ever increasing amount of road traffic passing through a dangerous corner at the south end of the Works.

As these lights were the first within the whole Group, Sir John Wrightson kindly switched them on and a ceremonial drive was made through them when, of course, they were green.

Get Well Soon.

We wish a speedy return to work :—
Mr. L. Bloom (Crane Driver).
Mr. F. Outhwaite (Crane Driver).

We welcome back to work after his illness Mr. A. Jessop (Labourer).

Farewell to Mr. R. Peat who has gone to do his National Service.

Retired.

Mr. G. Staton (Chair Fitter) Mr. H. Taylerson (Watchman). To both we wish a happy retirement.

H.W. STAMPINGS LTD

An apology is extended to the many readers who commented on the absence of the "Stampings" contribution in our last News Letter. An explanation has been forwarded to the appropriate department and, once again, normal service is resumed.

It is with regret that we note the passing of Mrs. George Jones, wife of our General Manager. When circumstances allowed, she so gracefully consented to attend our Annual Dance at Teesdale Hall. It is felt that this must have needed great effort on her part, but unselfishly her duty to the employees at Seaton Carew came first. We offer our sympathy to her immediate family and relatives.

Our Fourth Annual Dance was held at Teesdale Hall on the 14th February. In the absence of Mr. Jones, Mr. L. Mogridge, Commercial Manager and Mrs. Mogridge acted as Host and Hostess. Mr. F. Shepherd and Mr. R. Wade were the M.C.'s, and the

following were members of the committee:—

Mrs. J. Davidson, Miss N. P. Kaye, Mrs. H. Shadforth, Messrs. R. Ferry, G. Parkin (Staff) and Mr. V. Turnbull (Die Shop). Our thanks are given to all who helped towards the success of the evening.

We wish a speedy recovery to Mr. Oliver Billingham (Shear Shop) who, at the time of writing, is in hospital for surgical treatment.

We belatedly extend our congratulations to Mr. R. Cummings (Die Shop) and Mrs. Cummings who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 31st December, 1957. Mr. Cummings spent 38 years at the Teesdale Works and for the past 5½ years has been employed at Seaton Carew. We wish them many years of happiness.

A letter has been received by Mr. William Hobley (Maintenance) from Mr. Syd. Bristow, who emigrated to Australia in 1957. I have condensed its contents and give the following items which may prove interesting to those who remember him :—

"Arriving at Sydney after a good trip with luxury travel, we found ourselves in a train bound for the South East Coast. From Waterfall the line follows the Coast, and we found it strikingly reminiscent of the North East Coast of England. On one side, the rocky bays washed



H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh at the Brussels Exhibition examining the exhibit of the Skip Plant Association (of which our Company is a member) with great interest.

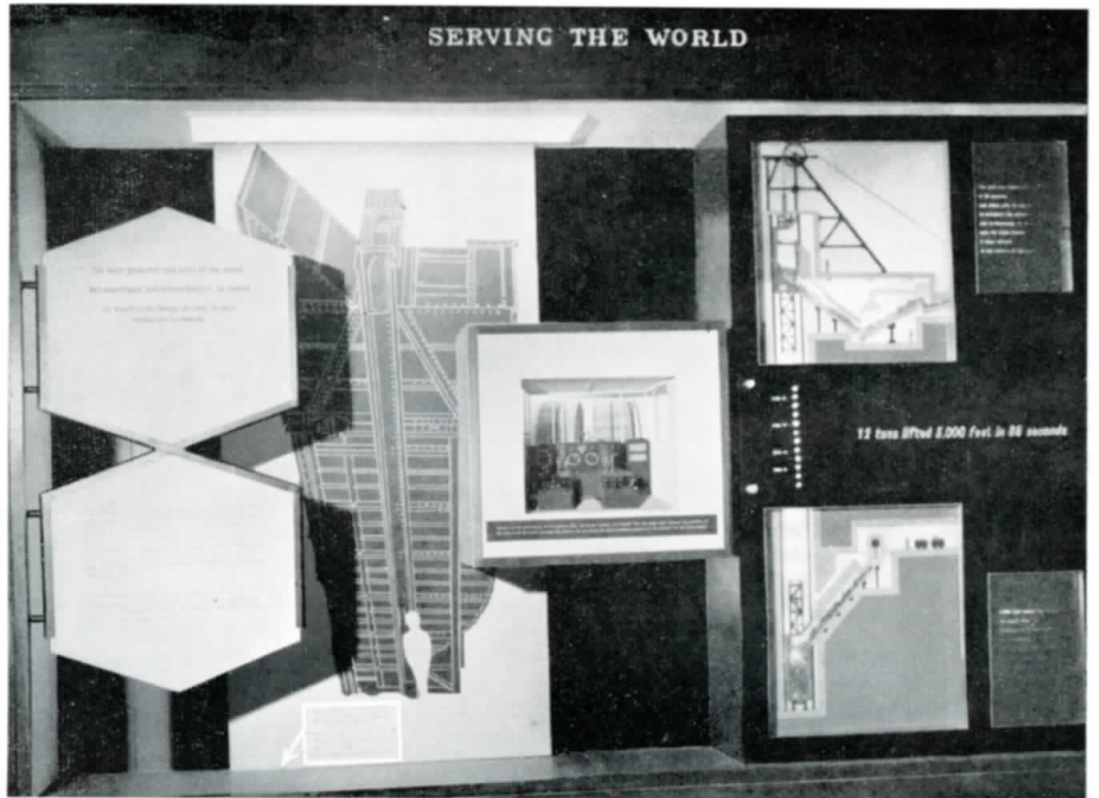


Head Wrightson Processes Ltd.'s stand at the Chemical and Engineering Exhibition at Olympia in June.

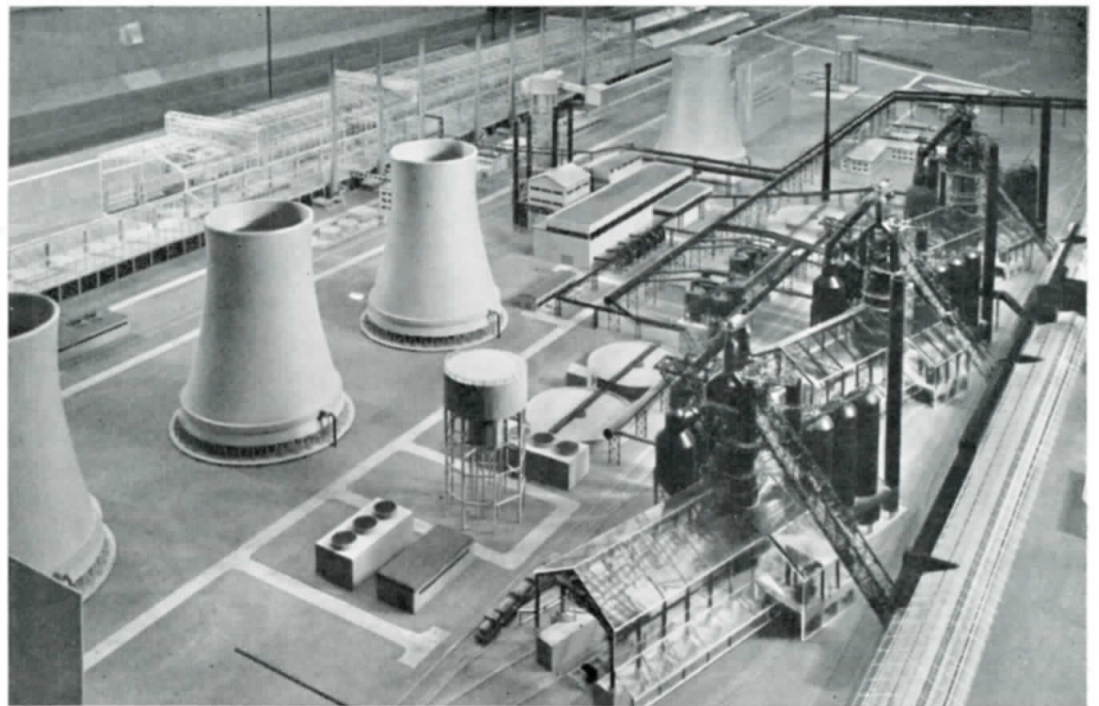


The Bradwell Nuclear Power Station

The exhibit at which the Duke was looking is shown in greater detail and the wording on the plaque at the bottom left hand side is reproduced under the picture.



This exhibit was arranged with the co-operation of the SKIP PLANT ASSOCIATION of Great Britain
 Head, Wrightson & Co. Ltd.
 Rhymney Engineering Co. Ltd.
 Qualter Hall & Co. Ltd.
 International Combustion Products Ltd.



The Iron & Steel Federation's model of Durgapur at Brussels, showing particularly the part of the plant for which H.W. Iron & Steel Engineering Ltd. is responsible.

on also at the Brussels exhibition.

by the South Pacific and the other, mines, but no pit-head gear, due to the fact that they make a hole in the mountain side instead of digging down. Some of the names were familiar — Scarborough, for instance, and although there was no Blackhall Rocks, there was a Coalcliff, which was near enough for me". Mr. Bristow then describes life in general in the Hostel which, at the time of writing, was to be the Bristow residence until such times when they would build their home on the plot of land which he bought on arrival in Berkeley. His job is on the construction side of the Tin Plate Mill of the Australia Iron and Steel Company — a subsidiary of the powerful B.H.P. Tinplate production is a very interesting process with a great variety of work involving hydraulics, electronics, conveyors, dozens of types of rolls, flying mikes and processes involving acids. The wage is £17-5s.-0d. per 40 hour week. With weekend shifts, shift allowance and bonus he can average £22 weekly. There is no shop-steward because a dayshift man is the obvious choice. Trade Unionism in his Mill is almost non-existent, but having attended two Branch meetings and voiced his opinion on various matters, he was besieged by Branch and District Officers to take office in the Wollowgong Branch. This he declined, but mentions the fact that as there is but one copy of the A.E.U. rule book in the district he would be pleased if someone could provide him with a spare.

The price of fruit is very high, the meat good, but no cheaper than in the U.K. Tobacco is half the price and wine about a third of our own. Beer is 1/2 per half pint, but very strong. As the district is very hilly (almost like the West Riding of Yorkshire) he has found it necessary to purchase a second-hand Ford 10. To continue in his own words:—

"Following the initial disheartening weather, the sun took charge and we basked in it like the lizards which abound here, until, as Christmas approached, there were bans on sprinklers, water-rationing and bush fires. In this land of visibly great distances, evidence of the fires soon shows. The weather is glorious — over the 100 mark during the Christmas festivities, but not always like this. For all the disadvantages of Hostel life, the Bristow family have no desire to leave Australia. By that I don't mean that Australia is perfect, there's plenty to be done yet. I couldn't advise anyone to come to here or stay at home. It depends upon what you want, whether you are prepared to put up with it and what you are prepared to do without. If you feel you couldn't live without the highly urbanised amenities of Britain just around the corner, with everything on tap and the vast organisations making up the Welfare State, then of course, there is no place like home. But if you are prepared to accept a certain amount of discomfort and inconvenience, knowing that any improvement in your situation depends entirely on your own effort, and armed with the belief that any individual improvement is also Australia's improvement, then there's a big welcome to our sunny shores." He conveys his thanks to all for their grand send off and his enjoyable stay at "Stampings"

Our thanks also to Mr. Bristow for his wonderful letter. Space does not allow full reproduction of its word picture, but I feel sure that Mr. Hobleby would be pleased to allow any one so interested to read the original.

Twenty First Birthday Congratulations to:—
Mrs. Aileen Elliott, Sales Invoice Typist.
Miss Margaret Hunter, Comptometer Operator.

Mrs. Margaret Forbes, Typist.
Miss Jean Smith, Typist.
Mr. Norman Wall, Yale Driver.

Friends of Mrs. Edna Thompson (nee Brown) will be pleased to learn of the birth of her son.

We have said goodbye to Mrs. Joyce Davison who left at the end of the Annual Holidays. She was responsible for the organising of "Stampings" Annual Dance and her efforts and ability have been greatly appreciated by all.

H.W. STOCKTON FORGE LIMITED

We welcome back to the Drawing Office, Barry Preece, who has completed his National Service.

P. Grieveson and A. Phipps, once again made Spain their happy hunting ground for the holidays. Peter took along his "Aqualung" and went diving in the blue depths of the Mediterranean. What it was like 80 feet down is nobody's business for his vivid description outdid anything served up by those T.V. stars, Lottie and Hans Haas.

He had also visited Lake Windermere recently, diving to 100 feet and says that things looked a bit murky there, but there were no signs of "monsters".

As for Phipps, this was his fourth visit. We wonder just what the attraction is — certainly not the bull fights — although he did attend a special Gala performance and managed to obtain a seat near to "El Presidente".

Over the August Bank Holiday, John Ward and Tom Chambers, members of the Tees-side Model Flying Group, acted as timekeepers and processors at the World Model Flying Championships, held at Carnfield College of Aeronautics, near Bedford. This event was organised by the Royal Aero Club and the Society of Model Aeronautical Engineers. Competitors travelled from all over Europe and from as far as Japan and U.S.A. to take part.

Hungary won both power (engine driven) and rubber team events, also the individual power championship. With an Australian winning the individual rubber award.

Tom Chambers has been asked to fly his rubber model for the England team at the United Kingdom Challenge match which is to be held near Glasgow on 23rd August.

We offer congratulations to Messrs E. Daghish, J. Gregson and G. M. Pinkney, on their promotions to Fitting shop Manager, Fitting Shop Foreman and Machine Shop Foreman, respectively. We wish them every success in their new appointments. Success also to Mr. R. Snowden, who is now with Planning and Mr. J. Fawell, with Inspection.

We wish Mr. J. Snowden well in his retirement, after thirty years service as a slinger in the machine shop. We hope that he will call and see us from time to time.

We wish a speedy recovery to Mr. A. Greenwood, Mr. C. Moyes, who are away from work through illness and Mr. T. Braithwaite who was injured in an accident during the holidays.

The number of night school "passes" awarded to our apprentices this year makes it impractical to mention all by name. We should like to make special mention of two, however, G. Allison and J. Notman, the former gained S3 Northern Counties and the latter S3 General Workshop

T. Gibbons (Deceased).

On our return to work after the Whitsun holiday, we, of the Forge Fitting Shop, were shocked to learn that one of our number, who had been so full of life on the previous Friday, was to be buried on the day he should have returned to work.

His unexpected passing was felt especially amongst us, because he was a man whom it could be said that he had not a single enemy. Indeed he was one of those rare people of whom no one spoke ill. A religious man, he earned the respect of all, including those who did not share his faith. His quiet manner, both inside and outside the works, could not fail to impress those fortunate enough to come in contact with him. He was never heard to grumble. His workmanship was above reproach, he was a skilled man who knew his trade and took pride in it. An uncommon quality in these days of giving the least for the maximum return. He would not, we know, have approved of our writing this about him, but we feel compelled to speak of his impact on us. We are proud to have known him and feel better for having made his acquaintance. His presence will be greatly missed.

Puzzle.

Recently, whilst on holiday, one of our staff took a check on the weather, and found that on the days when it rained in the mornings, it was fine in the afternoons. He also noted that when it rained on an afternoon it was always fine the following morning. Altogether, he experienced eleven fine mornings, twelve fine afternoons, and it rained on a total of thirteen days. How long was he on holiday?

We offer condolences to Mr. J. Fawell, who recently lost his mother.

H.W. IRON & STEEL ENGINEERING LIMITED

The launching of the "Heat Exchanger" as expected aroused considerable interest in our division, so much so that Mr. Max Clark decided that here at last was a chance to do some work.

Being a keen photographer, Max recorded the highlights of the occasion on 8 m.m. colour film. After censorship members of this division were invited to attend the premier in the apprentice school.

Subsequently the film was shown, together with the B.B.C.'s. inferior epic, to the Head Wrightson Senior Executives.

The financial success of the film assured, we extend our heartiest congratulations to Max and offer our appreciation to all who made this venture possible, particularly to our own Mr. G. E. Newell, for an all too rare appearance during the film.

"Spotlight"

This issue we focus attention upon 21 years old Don McKinley who hails from Redcar.

As this article is written he is at present enjoying his hobby in Spain on a two weeks holiday, extending his Sub Aqua experience (Underwater Swimming to us land-lubbers).

Of late this hobby has had its serious side as I shall relate:—

Being a member of the "Tees-side Branch of the British Sub-Aqua Club", linked with the fact that the club's equipment is housed at Stockton Police station, made Don, and a fellow club member — Peter Grieveson — obvious persons for a police request to undertake the difficult task of searching the bed of a lake for the body of a six-year-old boy, believed drowned.

After dragging operations had been unsuccessful, Don was called from his drawing board by the Police, taken by car to the scene (Ossie's Wood, Norton) where Don's intensive training proved its value in the systematic diving that subsequently took place.

After 1½ hours of grovelling, blind, in the inky blackness, the boy's body was finally recovered in 13-ft. of water.

Together with the appreciation extended by the Police, Fire Brigade and child's parents, we wish to offer our congratulations to Don and Peter for their public spiritedness.

THE GINGER POP PLANT or The Purple People Eater

This is a tale uncanny and weird
Of a dreaded invention that all McKee feared
The squeamish are asked not to look at these pages
For what we relate has respect for no ages
So now you're being warned, please do not peep —
lest into your stomachs the mixture will creep.
Suddenly, mysteriously, it appeared one morning
Bubbling and curdling while the staff were still yawning
Alongside the thing, instructions were printed
"Probably the Russians" young Warwick had hinted
A daring draughtsman peered into the glass,
"My goodness" he said "its producing gas!!"
So lots were drawn as to who'd take it home
For it had to be watched in case it should roam.
The instructions stated it had to be fed —
2 spoonsful at daybreak and one before bed
But alack and alas this grotesque freak
Became two and not one at the end of the week.
And so it continued as one became two —
Just how to stop it we hadn't a clue!!
Physicians came from far and near
The Police were alerted — the Army was here
The Prime Minister when told was completely appalled
and a State of Emergency was immediately called.
But fortunately, the Prime Minister leaned back to think
"I wonder what this stuff's like to drink?"
Down the hatch and round the gums —
Look-out stomach here it comes
And so to this day it's a household chant
"Got any bottles for my Ginger Pop Plant??"

M. Clark

H.W. PROCESSES LTD.

Since the last *Wright Ahead*, we have moved into our new extension building, which is bang up-to-date with an underground car park and car lift, contemporary decor and warm quiet cork floors.

When some of the staff moved into the extension building, the Management made available, to the Sports and Social Club, a floor of the Old Street Building, and since then the Club has advanced in leaps and bounds Table Tennis, Darts, Billiards, "Rock and Roll" and of course the inevitable card games.

Without a doubt, the best attended and most popular of the activities run by the Club have been the Motor Rallies. To date, two evening rallies have been held,

a further one was arranged for the 30th August, and a special one is on the table for September. Our Mr. D. Tow has presented a trophy for annual competition and two replicas of the trophy for the winning driver and co-driver to retain.

We have high hopes for our football team, which has been entered in the London Sunday League and we will keep you informed of progress. If enthusiasm makes up for any lack of skill they should do well.

The Cricket team has been rather unfortunate due to lack of support and bad weather, however, they have played three games winning one game and losing two, but it is hoped that there will be at least one fixture per month next season, which will help to foster more interest.

There is also a boxing section, but as yet we have no 'Brian London's' to challenge anyone.

In June we exhibited at the Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Exhibition at Olympia. A large number of people visited our stand and showed considerable interest in the activities of our Company. We are actively following up the contacts made and already one order has been received.

We have also received a large Cooling Tower order from Messrs. George Wimpey for Petrochemicals Ltd., at Manchester. This will be for three large concrete construction towers for which we are co-operating with Messrs. John Laing Ltd.

From our experience gained on provision of Timber Cooling Tower we are now offering timber pipelines and gas scrubbers. A good press has been received for our new equipment in this field.

H.W. COLLIERY ENGINEERING LTD.,

Thornaby.

Since the last issue of *Wright Ahead* there has been a number of alterations in the staff — Mr. Duffey has been transferred from the D.O. to the Ogilvie Site Office which Mr. Gilbert has left to do his National Service and been replaced by Mr. N. Perks, as the Site Chainman. Mrs. Fowler has also joined the Ogilvie Site Staff.

Two members of the staff, viz., Mr. W. Irwin and Mr. A. K. Barker have now taken up appointments with the N.C.B., no doubt to give them the benefit of the knowledge acquired in H.W.C.E.L. and Mr. Nossiter has moved within the Company to the Research and Development Department.

Mrs. M. Terry has joined the Site Staff at Abernant Colliery.

We hope that all these moves will mean prosperity and happiness to the individuals concerned.

Sheffield.

Mr. R. O'Brien has recently joined the Board of the Company and has assumed the duties of General Manager.

It is good to see Miss Christine Thackeray looking so well on her return to the office after a long illness.

Three members of the Drawing Office staff have completed their National Service and we are happy to see them again. They are Messrs. D. Cooper, K. Cooper and R. Baggaley who, after their travels to distant parts, are settling down with us.

Staff Changes.

A number of staff changes have occurred since the last issue of this magazine.

Mr. J. M. Rigby has transferred from the Newcastle Office to the Sheffield Office to take up the duties of Assistant Chief Estimator.

Miss W. Chamberlain has joined the Filing Department (Sheffield) and Mr. D. F. W. Sharp, the Accounts Department (Sheffield).

Messrs. J. Bowers and M. J. Flint have joined the Drawing Office staff (Manchester).

Messrs. E. Salvin and R. Brookes have left the Sheffield Office to take up new positions with other Companies.

Cricket.

The present season has not been a good one so far as completing the fixture list of the Sports Club (Cricket Section). However, out of sixteen matches played, eight were won, six lost and two drawn. These results show an improvement on last season.

The annual match between the Sheffield Office and the staff of Aerex Ltd., was played on Wednesday, the 13th of August, at the Watt Lane ground. On this occasion the Aerex side, who batted first, scored fifty-seven for six wickets in sixteen overs, beating the Sheffield Office, whose score was fifty-two for seven in the allotted period.

Our congratulations go to the Aerex side, who will retain for the coming year, the Wightman trophy, which was presented by Mr. A. E. Lawrie, Managing Director of Aerex Ltd.

After the match, the teams and friends adjourned to a nearby hostelry where refreshments and dancing were enjoyed by all.

NUCLEAR POWER DIVISION

Coming of Age.

We send congratulations to Mr. G. Reed, who celebrated his Coming-of-Age on the 7th July, 1958.

Get Well Soon.

We were sorry to learn that Mr. J. Lawson's wife has been indisposed. We hope that as a result of the operation which she had to undergo she will soon be fit and well again. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Welcome Back.

We are pleased to welcome back to the office Mr. P. J. Llewellyn (Contracts Manager) and Miss A. Griffiths (Tracer) both of whom have recently spent some time in hospital.

New Offices — Old Wing.

The old wing of the Friarage has now been made habitable after extensive alterations and presently houses the Engineers and the Projects Offices. This is in point of fact the most ancient portion of The Friarage, for it was in 1795 that a large room on the first floor of the old wing of the mansion was converted into the first post-Reformation Catholic Church. A Grecian style of decoration was then chosen for the chapel and there was a good painting of the Crucifixion over the altar. The present decoration is distinctly contemporary and only the exterior gives a clue to the ancient historic background.

"The Other Launching".

The personnel at the Friarage who were not able to attend the official launching of the first Bradwell Boiler, held their own launching ceremony, as the picture indicates.

What matter if the "boiler" was an empty oil drum which shone like tin from between its stick lagging? What matter if the skirt plate was fluted and the dished end made of cardboard? Surely no official ceremony commanded greater interest or excitement.

Even the slipway bore a touch of ingenuity for it had been fashioned from a portion of corrugated roofing and carefully angled to ensure the "boiler's" smooth and easy passage into midstream.

"The other launching" lost not a whit of impetus or momentum for at 1-30 p.m., precisely, our own "Mayor" — complete with Peeler hat and bearing the insignia of his office — was presented with a unique bouquet of fern, bracken and choice dandelion blooms prior to sending the "boiler" on its way, addressed: "C.O.D.— Bradwell".



The picture was taken at the height of the activities — (not without some trepidation) — from the hemlock and nettle-ridden banksides which were crowded with spectators, who cheered boisterously the "boiler" downstream.

Truly, "the other launching" was a noteworthy, if comic, occasion which shall be entered in the annals of N.P.D.'s. history and remembered for a long time to come.

Treasure Hunt.

A Treasure Hunt held on Sunday, April 27th, 1958, resulted in a "photo finish" the first three places from 23 starters being decided by the number of points gained from the objects which had to be collected.

Three competitors having a clean road sheet, the issue rested on the length of a nail.

Results :

First : R. S. Hawkins, Teesdale Erection Dept.

Second : J. S. Franklin, N.P.D.

Third : Mrs. S. Littlefair, N.P.D.
who had a 6", 5" and 4" nail respectively.

Cricket Match.

A cricket match versus the N.P.P.C. team from Knutsford, held on Sunday, July 6th, 1958, at Teesdale Park resulted in a win for the visitors, despite a prodigious feat of bowling by our dark grey (head) horse Bill Hastwell in taking 7 wickets for 45 runs.

Refreshments were taken at the Teesdale Club after the game, and the "Cestrians", flushed with success, ignored the warning regarding the potency of the local "refreshment" and returned to Cheshire slightly in advance of the morning milk.

Our inter-departmental Cricket and Bowls teams were, unfortunately, eliminated in the early stages of the competitions. However, our 'A' team in the Air Rifle Competition managed to reach the semi-final.

HEAD WRIGHTSON EXPORT COMPANY

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs. A. Turner, who joined them during April.

MAINTENANCE

A presentation party was held in H.W. Club to mark Mr. A. Moore's departure. He was presented with a travelling bag and a cigarette lighter, as a token of appreciation from all his friends in the Maintenance.

We welcome back from the Forces, Mr. A. Porter, and say goodbye to Mr. "Jolly" Rodgers.

After a long absence we look forward to seeing Albert Mills (Plumbers and Fitters Sec.) back amongst the boys.

Retirement of Mr. R. Kirby.

After completion of overhaul and repairs to the Bridge Yard radial drills, Bob felt that he had, had enough of work — at least for the time being — and decided to retire.

To mark the occasion, the staff and his workmates subscribed to a presentation in the form of a wallet and notes. This gift was ably presented by the oldest workman in the department, Mr. T. Millican, with Ald. F. Wiseman presiding. Mr. W. Hutchinson, Mr. A. W. Moffitt and Mr. P. Barker all spoke of the high regard for Bob, and wished him many happy years of retirement.

Letter from an ex-Student Apprentice.

Dear Readers,

I should like to take the opportunity of expressing my deepest appreciation of all that has been done for me at Head Wrightson's and especially to all those at H.W. Machine Co. whose unending help has meant so much.

My only regret is that I did not find the time to say good-bye to all those whom I would have wished, to them I send my apologies.

One thing is certain — I shall leave Head Wrightson's assured that what I have seen and learned will be of great value to me in the future and that the prevailing kindness and amicable attitude shown by all will long be remembered.

Good Wishes to all of you,

(S) G. C. Butler.

OBITUARY

It is with extreme regret that we have to record the sudden death of Mr. G. Husband, of H.W. Iron & Steel Engineering Ltd. Age 40 years.

FIRE TEAM'S SUCCESS

Our works fire brigade was placed third in the Industrial Fire Protection Association's annual fire-fighting competition, held at the London Fire Brigade's headquarters, Lambeth, on Saturday, 20th September.

The team which competed in the light trailer pump section, finished only one second behind the winners and was awarded the "Liverpool" Cup to add to the other trophy won this year, the "Glaxo" Cup awarded to them for finishing first in the Northern Region industrial fire-fighting competition.

This is the first time a team from the North-east has been placed in the national competition.

Members of the team were D. Littlewood, A. Waton, C. Littlewood, H. Cuthbert and S. Duckett (reserve). They were accompanied by Mr. C. H. Soppet, honorary fire officer.

Head Wrightson's works fire brigade came into being in 1938, as part of the country's build-up of ARP services. During the war, the brigade reached a total strength of 165, and became part of the National Fire Service, helping the local fire brigade to deal with fires outside the works.

After the war, enthusiasm was such that some of the early "recruits", who were among the keenest members, were retained as a volunteer organisation to look after the firm's fire-fighting arrangements. Present strength is 14 men.

Teams from the brigade have had several successes in the regional competition in recent years, and twice before a team has competed unsuccessfully in the national competition.

WORK'S BAND TO COMPETE IN LONDON

Our Works Band recently competed in the North Eastern Area section of the "Daily Herald" Brass Band Competition and finished up in third position. Since there were only four points difference between them and the section winners, they were invited to compete in the Finals of the Competition at Seymour Hall in London, on Saturday, 25th October. All our readers will join in wishing them every success.

THANK GOD ! IT'S AN ENGLISHMAN

This heartfelt remark heard over the translation system caused a ripple of laughter to pass through the large Conference Hall of the Palais De Congress in Liege (Belgium) at a few minutes before five o'clock on June 18th.

From 9-30 a.m. onwards throughout the day several hundred men representing the Iron and Steel Industries and the makers of Iron and Steel Works Equipment of the whole world had been listening to highly technical papers on the newly developed processes using oxygen for making steel.

These papers were read by the Authors from Germany, France, Sweden, Austria and U.S.A. in German, French and English. To enable everyone to understand, a number of linguists were in a soundproof box at the back of the Hall translating the speeches as they were made. At each seat in the Hall were headphones and a small switchboard to enable hearers to pick up their own translation. After several hours of continuous translation of other languages into English the lady translator who made this remark was greatly relieved to hear Dr.

P. A. Young of our Research and Development Department called upon to speak.

He and Dr. A. G. Raper, also of the Research and Development Department, were the only Englishmen to make a contribution to this discussion and what they had to say on the research we had done on these processes was very well received and served to confirm that Head Wrightson's are one of the leaders in this field today.

This meeting was one of a number held in Liege, Luxemburg, Brussels and Charleroi organised by the British Iron and Steel Institute and a number of European Metallurgical and Scientific Societies to discuss the latest developments in Iron and Steel making and to see continental works.

In addition to Drs. Young and Raper, Head Wrightson's were represented at these international meetings by Mr. N. C. Lake, Mr. V. Pendred (H.W. Export Co, Ltd.) and Mr. W. H. Mather (H.W. Machine Co. Ltd.) and contact was made with many influential people from many countries.

GO NORTH, YOUNG MAN

In the June Issue of the Church Illustrated there appeared an article "Go North Young Man" which was an account of the visit to "Middlesbrough of Public Schoolboys from Oxford and Winchester. We give below an extract from this article which concerns their visit to Head Wrightson's:—

"Next morning, the Industrial Chaplain took the party to the world-famous engineering works of Head Wrightson and Company at Thornaby-on-Tees. Here they were met with typical North Country hospitality, coffee and biscuits on arrival, and a three-course lunch at the end of the tour. Two representatives of the firm were ready to take the boys round: on being asked first what Head Wrightson's made, they thought it would be easier to list what they didn't make; nothing is too small or too big; it might be a valve for an American oil pipeline, or it might mean (as recently in Spain) reclaiming a swamp of eighteen square miles and building on it a complete blast furnace plant, with all the ancillary trades.

The "Captain Cook" Spirit.

The Captain Cook spirit is well illustrated by a project on hand at the moment. The Company are building "heat exchangers", for the atomic energy station at Bradwell in Essex. Every square inch of the enormous contraption is tested by X-rays to find the slightest fault, but that is the least of the problems facing the Company. The big headache was how to transport them — they are far too big to go by road or rail. So they are to be launched into the Tees and towed by tugs down the North Sea coast. "We've a few questions to which we don't know the answers yet, but we are used to being the first people to take on awkward jobs."

The boys then had a fascinating morning in an atmosphere completely new to most of them. They saw carbon arc furnaces for making steel, the dirty strenuous piece-work of the moulding shop, a great truck being made for a blast furnace plant (the contents would be so hot that the driver had to have a refrigerated and air-conditioned cabin), and perhaps most absorbing of all, a supreme example of the combined arts of the drawing office, the pattern shop and the casting shop: a giant mixer for British Celanese, every inch of the great mixing arm on a spiral twist, graceful as a ballet dancer.

Ability on Top.

Our last call was in the apprentice school. This is Head Wrightson's pride and joy. Every boy who joins the firm as an apprentice spends forty-eight weeks on a complete tour of the works. "We have at least 33 separate crafts here, and a boy cannot know what he wants until he has spent some time in every department. So we give him a year to look round and then ask him what he wants to do. We then start his training, including

one day a week at the Technical College and right to the end there is no contract with us. We are so proud of our firm that we only want the boys and men who have considered all other firms and still of their own free will want to stay with us. We are quite willing to send boys to the University if they have the ability. We have two boys at the University now who both failed the '11-plus examination'.

At a later date the Editor of the paper wrote to Mr. Peter Wrightson enclosing a letter, copy of which we reproduce, as we feel that our readers will be interested to hear of the wide spread interest in the work we do:—

Rosellon 250,
BARCELONA,
18th June, 1958.

Dear Sir,

I read with more than ordinary interest the article "Go North, Young Man". The great firm of Head

Wrightson is mentioned as having a large Blast Furnace contract in Spain. I happen to be extremely well-acquainted with this fine project for I have the honour and joy of visiting Head Wrightson's men, as their chaplain, ever since work began in the town and port of Avilés, on the Bay of Biscay. I would like you to know that the men sent out to Spain by this Firm are of sterling character. I am proud to be their honorary chaplain, and prouder still of the Christian example they set in a foreign country. In most cases they are allowed to have their wives and families with them, so that when it is possible for me to go to Avilés we get a sizeable congregation and the heartiest of services.

Yours truly,

(Signed) JAMES JOHNSTON,
(Archdeacon of Gibraltar).

The Editor,
CHURCH ILLUSTRATED.

**CRICKET
INTERDEPARTMENTAL
1958**

This year's winners of the above Competition were the General Offices, Teesdale. The runners up were Stockton Forge. Trophies were presented to both teams by Mr. Frank Shepherd.

Back Row:

C. Fairs, A. Court, M. Robinson, D. Fryer, W. Kemp, I. Armstrong and B. Curzon.

Front Row:

M. Stayman, T. Pearce, R. Brown, C. Campbell, and B. Hutchinson.



**PRESENTATION TO
MR. J. W. WARDELL**

Our picture shows Mr. Richard Miles, Chairman and Managing Director, handing over a silver tea service to Mr. J. W. Wardell who recently retired from his position of General Manager of H.W. Stockton Forge Ltd. after 50 years service with the Company. Also in the picture are Sir John Wrightson, Mr. Peter Wrightson and Mrs. Wardell.

H. W. PERSONALITY

MR. W. EDDY—Eggescliffe Foundry

Mr. Eddy, who retired from the position of Works Manager at Eggescliffe Foundry in July of this year, had been with the firm for fifty years.

He began work with the Company in 1908 at the Iron Foundry, Teesdale. In those days the foundry was lit by gas jets on the walls. This form of lighting was followed by incandescent gas lighting and, finally, by electricity. Waste material was led away from the foundries on carts drawn by horses. There were three hand-powered cranes in the General Foundry at that time and there were green fields where the steel foundry now is — in fact, bowl chairs were stacked on this open space.

He recalls, too, that work began at 6 a.m. in those days and any employee who did not draw his board before this time, had to see the time-keeper and then get permission to start from his departmental head. Hours were 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and sometimes 4 a.m. till 12 noon on Saturdays. There was no buzzer, but a bell was rung at starting times, etc.

In 1940, Mr. Eddy was transferred to Stockton Forge and returned to Teesdale Iron Foundry in 1944. In 1950 he went to Eggescliffe, but remained in charge of Teesdale Iron Foundry until its final transfer there.

Mr. Eddy was an ardent cricketer and played for many years for Thornaby first team. He also played tennis and football and since his playing days ended has been a regular attender at Middlesbrough football matches. He has been and still is a member of Thornaby Cricket Club Committee for thirty years. He has given great support to successful schemes for raising money for the improvement of the Thornaby ground and is at the moment very interested in the plan to erect a new tea pavilion.



He is keenly interested in the countryside and derives great pleasure from country walks.

All our readers will join us in wishing him a long and happy retirement. When he called on us the other day — he was delighted with his life of leisure and looked very well indeed.



PRESENTATION TO MR. HARRY PARSONS

Our photograph shows Sir John Wrightson, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director making a presentation to Mr. H. Parsons who, after 50 years service, has retired from the post of Tool Room Foreman.

Also in the photograph are Mr. R. H. Sturges, General Manager, Mr. T. H. Hall, Works Manager and Mr. J. Franklin, Machine Shop Manager, H.W. Teesdale Ltd.