

# WRIGHT AHEAD

THE HEAD WRIGHTSON NEWS LETTER

Vol. 10

MARCH, 1959

No. 1



## ***Chairman's Letter***

The picture shows our Works Council and some of our Directors with the Prime Minister, who, in spite of his many other duties was able to spend some time with us. It is a good thing when the Head of our Government can interest himself in our affairs. I have since had a letter from him to thank us, and to say how much he learned from his visit.

Though most of our companies are well employed, and have prospects of substantial orders, the latter are slow in maturing, causing under employment in some directions. This is always grievous. You need no assurance from me to say how we all make the fullest efforts to avoid such a situation.

It does not appear that we have developed a successful technique yet, for running centralised bureaucratic organisations on national lines efficiently. For my part I

should be sorry to see Head Wrightson's run from Whitehall, London, instead of from Trafalgar Street, Thornaby-on-Tees, where there is a personal touch, and where we are all so friendly, notwithstanding ups and downs.

These last thirty years they have mostly been "ups". I sincerely hope that the pattern will continue.

A Roman poet two thousand years ago said:

*"If we have wise foresight, Fortune has no divinity.  
It is we who make it so".*

*Richard Miles*

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Mr. and Mrs. P. Burrows



Mr. and Mrs. W. Metcalfe

### MARRIAGES

Miss P. J. Jeffrey (H.Q.) to Mr. L. Lazarus.

#### H.W. Iron Foundries Ltd.

Mr. P. Renton to Miss M. Bolam.  
Mr. R. Simcox to Miss M. Brockbank.

#### H.W. Teesdale Ltd. Machine Shop.

Mr W. Metcalfe to Miss S. Walker.

#### Bridge Yard.

Mr. G. Powell to Mrs. Jones.

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

Miss E. V. Bennett to Mr. P. Burrows.

#### H.Q.

Miss Kathleen Howard (Canteen) to Mr. W. Newman.

#### Maintenance.

Mr. A. Atkinson (Electrical Dept.) to Miss E. Turnbull.

### BIRTHS

Congratulations to:—

#### H.W. Teesdale Ltd. Machine Shop.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Hunt — a daughter.

#### Bridge Yard.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Ions — a daughter.  
Mr. and Mrs. R. Graham — a daughter.  
Mr. and Mrs. R. Waterhouse — a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. E. Walsh — a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. N. Davies — a daughter.  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Paterson — a daughter.  
Mr. and Mrs. K. Stevenson — a daughter.

#### H.W. Machine Co. Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Smith (Cost Office) — a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. A. Milner (Chief Draughtsman) — a son.

#### H.W. Stockton Forge Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson (Big Andy) — a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. R. Newby — a son.

#### H.W. Iron Foundries Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Thompson — a son.

#### H.W. Steel Foundries Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Lacy — a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Styan — a son.

#### Nuclear Power Division.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Turner — a daughter.

### ENGAGEMENTS

#### H.W. Teesdale Ltd. Bridge Yard.

Mr. T. Garbutt to Miss E. Caswell.

#### H.W. Iron Foundries Ltd.

Miss N. Ritchie to Mr. G. R. Wegg (H.W. Machine Co. Ltd.).

### DEATHS

Condolences to the families of the following:—

#### H.W. Teesdale Ltd. Bridge Yard.

Mr. T. King.

#### H.W. Iron Foundries Ltd.

Mr. F. Outhwaite (Crane Driver).  
Mr. F. Corns (Crane Driver).  
Mr. J. O'Hara (Labourer).  
Mr. W. Linton (Blacksmith).

#### H.W. Steel Foundries Ltd.

Mr. A. Fenny — Pattern Shop Foreman and estimating section.

Mr. J. Cheetham — retired moulder.

#### London Office.

London Office welcomes Mr. K. D. Morgan who joined the Sales Organisation on January 1st as additional Representative for Supply Group Products.

Owing to ill-health Mrs. R. Church, filing clerk, has resigned and we wish her a speedy recovery.



Mr. and Mrs. W. Newman

**H.W. TEESDALE LTD.****Machine Shop.**

Since our last issue, two more of our long service work-mates have retired after over 50 years service. They are Messrs. H. Cryer and Warner Parsons. Warner had 53 year's service in, broken only by service in World War I, and worked in the Tool Room with his cousin, Harry Parsons, who retired recently — between them they had served the Company for over 100 years. Harold Cryer was Foreman in the Heavy Machine Shop, having previously worked at Stockton Forge — the name is still carried on by his son Harold who is Foreman in the Light Bay. We wish them both a long and happy retirement.

We hope that by the time this goes to press the following invalids will be back at work :— Bobby Laws (after a second spell in hospital), Harry Syson after his long lay-off and Arnold Wells after his car accident. At the time of writing Bobby and Arnold are well on the way to recovery.

Doreen Thompson has left after 18 years with us — we offer best wishes for the future.

**Bridge Yard.**

Our department was honoured by a visit from the Prime Minister, who was particularly interested in the work on the Bradwell Heat Exchanger. Several men in the department were presented to him, amongst them Joe Fulton and Jack Cooke — ask the latter what he thought about it.

We were all shocked to learn of the sudden death of Tommy King who had worked for the firm for over 40 years. He will be sadly missed for his kindness and hospitality to all his workmates.

Our annual dance was a great success — thanks to the good work done by the girls.

We hear in the yard that our estimator made a botch of one job recently — result twins. Eddy Lister too, he found his Sunday suit wouldn't fit him.

Messrs. W. McLure, Bob Rhodes, Sam Hamilton and Mrs. Joan Hendry are on the sick list — we wish them a quick recovery and return to work. Ernie Vernon is back with us and we hope his good health will be maintained.

To George Monk of Jim Allsop's section, and who at one time worked in Maintenance — a long and happy retirement.

Best wishes to Richie Dover in India — good health to him. We hope he enjoyed Christmas and New Year in India.

Welcome back from the forces to Harold Thompson and best wishes to "Fluff" Smith who is now in uniform for his National Service stint.



Mr. George Monk with Mr. Allsop and colleagues from Constructional Department (Maintenance Section) on the occasion of his retirement presentation

**H.W. IRON FOUNDRIES LTD.****Get Well Soon.**

We wish a speedy return to work :—

Mr. E. Green, Mr. J. Murray, Mr. A. Thornton, Mr. W. Newbold, Mr. D. Laroche, Mr. Byrne and Miss Snow.

We welcome back to work after illness :—

Mr. J. Chambers, Mr. Ted Gray and Mrs. Harrison.

**First Thoughts on our American Journey by Geoff Morris and Frank Maine.**

Having covered approximately 10,000 miles in four weeks, we are now trying to regain our breath and put our thoughts in order.

The first thing that comes to mind is a memorable flight by B.O.A.C. Comet IV. After having a late breakfast in London we had afternoon tea in New York, and in between had managed to call at Iceland to buy English cigarettes at 200 for 10/9d. During the flight we were at a height of 8½ miles, travelling at 500 m.p.h. with an outside temperature of minus 85° F whilst we sat in shirt-sleeves partaking of the customary beverages.

Our journey within America took us from New York to Chicago with calls at Pittsburgh, Bethlehem, Sharpsville and Latrobe. In all we visited nine works and also called on Tunnel Engineers. We felt very proud that the name of H.W. was well known in the field of tunnel segments and that we can compete with the Americans both with quality and price.

We were greatly impressed by the large tonnages of ingot moulds produced at the various foundries. The largest was making 1,000 tons per day compared with our own normal output of 100 tons per day. To obtain such high outputs metal was obtained direct from the Blast Furnace and in one case it had to travel, by ladle, 17 miles over normal public railroad. We doubt whether this would be allowed in Great Britain.

During our visit to Crane Co., we were inundated with enquiries about different members of our Steel Foundry personnel who had paid earlier visits. The late John Mercer was particularly well remembered. At this plant, high production rates were again noted. One unit employing eight men, produced 1,700 complete boxes 24" x 18" x 14" deep per day.

It is well known that wages are high in America and this is understandable when one realises that it costs approximately £1-15-0d. for a meal and that you have to pay £6 per night for a hotel room excluding breakfast. Clothes are approximately the same price as here, but the cost of housing is at least three times greater.

One of the highlights of the trip was the voyage home on R.M.S. Queen Elizabeth. The fact that about 90% of the passengers were American is a fair indication of what service aboard such a liner is like; we understand that most Americans prefer the Queens' to their own ultra modern and faster ship the S.S. United States.

Although we were prevented from landing by fog for one and a half days, there were few grumbles — we can think of many worse places than the Queen Elizabeth on which to be stranded.

Both industrially and socially we feel the journey was very successful, and are certain that favourable repercussions will be felt in our own works in due course.

**H.W. STEEL FOUNDRIES LTD.**

Teesdale.



Messrs. F. Brown (Captain), Ken Robson, Barry Shepherd and Jack Head

It is with regret that we have to report the death of J. Cheetham who had only recently retired after 40 years service, and also of Mr. A. Fenny who had worked here for over 30 years — we would offer our deepest sympathy to their relatives.

Congratulations to Mr. Geo. Taylor, our Assistant General Manager who, with Mr. J. D. Eccles, has been appointed a director of Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.

We wish a long and happy retirement to Sammy Beeton, Rowley Watson and Bob Taylor — all of whom were long service men. We hope to see them from time to time.

Our department includes among its men some of the most enthusiastic judo addicts. The Head Wrightson club was very unfortunate in the Northern Area Harry Marr Cup (held at South Shields), being beaten in the semi-final by a half point. This was a good effort as the other competitors had two years' more experience than ours. The team consisted of Fred Brown (Captain), Ken Robson, Barry Shepherd and Jack Heads.

They tell us there is still plenty of room on the mat for new members and we look forward to new entrants. Sessions are held weekly in the Apprentice School.

Speedy recovery to Mr. T. H. Lamb, our Shop Manager, who has been on the sick list for some time.

**H.W. STAMPINGS LTD.**

"Stampings" 5th Annual Dance was held in Teesdale Hall on 16th January. Once again Mr. H. Wade acted as M.C. The following were members of the committee: Mrs. I. Davis, Miss Joyce Hall, Mrs. H. Shadforth, Mr. Ray Ferry, Mr. H. Robson (Staff) and Mr. V. Turnbull (Die Shop). Our thanks are extended to all who contributed towards the success of the evening.

We are pleased to welcome Mr. Kenneth Clark, former Chief Statistician, Teesdale, who has joined H.W.S., as Assistant Commercial Manager.

We wish him every success and a happy association with our Division.

**We extend our congratulations also to the following:**

Mr. David Hornsby (Costs), who has been accepted as an Associate Member of the Institute of Costs and Works Accountants.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Day (Office Supervisor) who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 1st January and Mr. and Mrs. John Corcoran (formerly Shear-Shop Foreman and now attached to the Purchasing Department) who celebrated their Silver Wedding on 26th December, 1958. On behalf of the Staff, a silver tea-service was presented to Mr. Day and cut-glass wine glasses to Mr. Corcoran.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Elders (Supervisor — Machine Shop) celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 19th December.

Miss Kathleen Fox (Typist) upon her coming of age.

Mr. Lloyd Nelson (Drawing Office) has returned to duty after completing his National Service. We are pleased to report the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson on New Year's Eve.

A presentation was made to Mr. Sol Griffiths (Bath-house Attendant) to mark his recent retirement. He was the recipient of a wallet of notes, contributed to, by the workmen. Those present at the ceremony were, Mr. A. Corner (Work's Manager), Mr. A. Athey (Work's Engineer), Mr. J. Strachan (Die-shop Manager), Mr. J. Riley (Assistant Work's Manager) and Foremen, Messrs. Housden, Burton and McQueenie.

We wish a speedy recovery to Mr. J. Mallam (Electrician) who suffered crushed ribs as the result of an accident.

Mr. Mat Coser (Die-shop) was involved in rather an unfortunate accident, just after the New Year. He was visiting Mrs. Coser who was in hospital, when he fell and broke his hip. We sincerely hope that both will soon make a complete recovery.

We at "Stampings" wish all members of our Organisation a very happy Eastertide.

**H.W. STOCKTON FORGE LTD.**

Mr. Heron with his trophies

Congratulations to Mr. W. Heron on his great successes for the Stockton Bowling Club during 1958. He won the Stockton Bowling Club championship, the President's Handicap and skipped the winning rink in the Cleveland and South Durham rink competition (in which three Head Wrightson men participated). His best performance was the winning of the champion of champions competition.

The competitive spirit seems to know no bounds. Three men, a millwright, a plumber and a welder, had a difference of opinion with regard to noses and it seems to me that the winner to date is the millwright — he nose you know.

Albert Greenwood has retired, due to ill-health, after 46 years' service with the Company. We all wish him a speedy recovery so that he may enjoy his retirement to the full. We wish a happy retirement, too, to Mr. P. Nichol.

Messrs. J. Bajles, A. West and R. Duncan are on the sick list. We hope they will soon be back amongst us.

### H.W. MACHINE CO. LTD.

Mary Spencely left the typing pool to take up full time domestic duties.

Joyce Heselton, typing pool, has decided to seek the wide open spaces of Australia.

#### New Employees.

A welcome to :—

Mr. R. McConnell — D.O.

Mr. E. Wood — D.O.

Mrs. E. Carter — Typing pool.

Our condolences and sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Hickes at their grief during Mrs. Hickes illness. Your many friends wish for a speedy recovery.

A welcome to Bill Elstrop — back from National Service.

The Annual Dance was held in Teesdale Hall on Friday, 13th February and despite the ominous date there was a good attendance for a really happy occasion.

We were glad to receive Mr. and Mrs. Mather and Mr. and Mrs. Gowthorp, Mr. N. C. Lake, Mr. G. Jones and Mr. F. Shepherd. Mrs. Lake was unfortunately indisposed as was Mr. Miles. We hope they have fully recovered.

The Staff Children's Christmas Party was again held in Acklam Cafe. Mr. Graham Reed gave a conjuring performance which was well appreciated. Miss Beryl Stainsby and Mr. R. Sowerby organised the games and Mr. Ron Burley played the patron Saint to the delight of the small recipients.

Mr. Mather and Mr. Dodds tour U.S.A. with R.T.B. Engineers to inspect Electrolytic Tinning Lines in that Country and have a strenuous programme ahead.

Mr. F. A. Batty goes to Sweden with Mr. A. Neville.

**Swan Hunter** — We have recently despatched a 2" plate Leveller weighing 259 tons to Tyneside and followed with a high speed Cut-up-Line to S.C.W. Abbey Works.

The six Silicon Lines to R.T.B. Midland are now in production. Business is picking up with orders for two heavy plate levellers in this Country, a Tinplate Cut-up-Line and a drawbench for Australia, and various lines for J. Summers and a number of smaller levellers and oiling machines.

A new customer to us and local — I.C.I. Billingham, a small Cut-up-Line for their drum plant.

Ivan Atkinson leaves shortly for a period at the BISRA Coating Labs. in S. Wales.

We are delighted at Mr. G. Fenna's return from France, but his repeated visits are now viewed with mounting suspicion. George! what does Pauline say?

Ray Smith goes to Australia to engineer the Cut-up-Line at H.W. Australia.

### H.W. COLLIERY ENGINEERING LTD.

#### Thornaby.

Although they have not been mentioned for some time, the two large contracts, which are being carried out in South Wales for the National Coal Board, are steadily

moving forward, and even though they have their ups and downs, it can be confidently stated that progress is now apparent. In this connection, Mr. O. Lee has joined the Abernant Site Staff as the Inspector for Shaft furnishings which are to be installed in the North Shaft during the next few months. We hope he enjoys working on the "outpost" of the H.W. "empire".

Mr. R. Britton recently joined the Newcastle Office Staff and since that date has become the father of a bouncing baby boy — we offer congratulations both to him and to Mrs. Britton.

Miss Kathleen Duffell has also taken up duties in our Newcastle Office — we hope she is happy in her work.

Our congratulations also go to Mr. and Mrs. A. Mansell who have once again become proud parents — a boy this time — overtime bonus?

Finally, our best wishes for a speedy recovery go to Mr. J. B. Dobson who is at present in hospital, and Mr. K. Tallantyre who is recovering from a motor cycle accident.

#### Sheffield.

##### Annual Staff Dinner and Dance.

On Friday, 16th January, 1959, this function was held in the Royal Victoria Hotel, Sheffield.

Members of the staffs at Thornaby, Newcastle, Manchester and Sheffield, together with officials of the National Coal Board, and Directors and Senior Staff of Contracting Companies, joined in making this a very enjoyable evening.

Following an excellent repast, Mr. Peter Wrightson welcomed our guests and thanked all for the co-operation which was so evident in the successful completion of various Contracts. He expressed his confidence in the continued success of the Company and of our expectations during the New Year.

Mr. Muller, of the Dutch State Mines, in a charmingly witty speech, gave the thanks of the guests for the very happy evening they were enjoying and the friendly atmosphere which permeated all business with the Company.

The evening's pleasure continued by dancing to the music of Eric Godber and his Orchestra.

The organisation of the function was again carried out admirably by Mrs. Church and Mrs. MacGregor.

#### Staff Changes.

We welcome Mr. P. F. Norrish, who has taken up his duties as Sales Engineer of the Mineral Dressing Department, and Messrs. G. Bloor, R. Brookes and C. Matthews, who have joined the Drawing Office staff.

Mr. Dennis Wales has left the Company after twenty year's service in the Drawing Office. Before leaving he was presented with a cigarette case and a wristlet watch by the Company and his Colleagues. He carries with him the warmest wishes of all for success in his new appointment.

Mr. M. H. Crehan has joined H.M. Forces to carry out National Service Duties.

Mr. G. Wilson has transferred from the Drawing Office at Thornaby to the Estimating Department at Sheffield.

#### Congratulations.

Miss E. V. Bennett, Accounts Department, has married Mr. P. Burrows and has been the recipient of warmest good wishes from all friends.

#### Visit to Essen Exhibition.

In the latter part of last year Messrs. W. Bell, C. Elms and H. T. Walker visited the Essen Exhibition. The exhibits showed the latest equipment in many fields of engineering and the reports received, as a result of this visit, enable us to keep up-to-date regarding new developments on the Continent.

## H.W. PROCESSES LTD.

Our photograph shows Sir John presenting a V.H.F. Radio Set to the U.K.A.E.A. staff at Harwell, on 2nd December, 1958. The set was inscribed as follows:—

"Presented to the Staff of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority Research Establishment by Head Wrightson in appreciation of the happy relationship during the building of Pluto".

At the time of writing our contribution, we at Teesdale House, are under the shadow of belated November fogs and a minor epidemic of flu, but very pleased to be once more leaving the office in the light which is an indication that better weather is on the way?

The competition for the most original Christmas decoration certainly caused a stir and the predictions of weird and wonderful designs was met. The judges, Messrs. S. H. Burton and H. A. Godfree, had a difficult job to choose a winner, but finally settled for the highly original effort by our Civil Engineering Department — "Christmas Island" — which was complete with Radar Station, Launching Ramps, Floodlights and track vehicles, not forgetting a Rocket in flight and an atomic mushroom invisibly suspended (perhaps by sky hook left over from some contract or other).

The dance held on the last Friday in November at Barrington House was very successful and the members attending enjoyed a buffet supper, good band and a cabaret called the Tropicanos (which, by the way, appeared recently on T.V.) and seemed very sorry to leave even though it did not finish until 1 a.m.

Our football team still holds its position in the league, no one as yet being able to unseat them; yes, you're right, they are still bottom.

The Social Club has many activities arranged for 1959 and the seemingly favourite one, motor rallies, start in early April and it is expected to run 5 or 6 this year. Another very active section is the Engineering Society which is steaming ahead with its monthly meetings, picture shows, lectures and visits.

The club night carries on as usual except the Rock'n Roll is out and CHA-CHA is now the rage.

Our Polygrid Plastic Cooling Tower packing continues to create considerable interest with many tower users. Its lightness, durability and increased efficiency make it very attractive for old as well as new towers. The Central Electricity Research Organisation has tested the packing and find it the most efficient they have investigated.

A tremendous market will be available if it is accepted by the C.E.G.B. for their power station to towers.

## NUCLEAR POWER DIVISION

### Sympathy.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mr. E. F. J. Hayes on the death of his father.

### Welcome to New Staff.

We should like to take this opportunity of welcoming the following personnel to the staff of NPD:—

Mr. J. C. Barrett, Mr. W. T. Britton, Mr. A. Browell, Miss M. Gillson, Mr. K. Y. Lee, Mr. N. C. Marrow, Mr. McIsaac, Mr. S. Phillips, Mr. R. Rutherford.



### Chess.

If any department or division boasts chess players, the NPD would like to issue a challenge for a friendly game at some future date. Those interested should contact Mr. A. Fawcett, Drawing Office.

### Children's Party.

A children's party was held in the canteen on Saturday, 20th December. The entertainment began with a show of sleight-of-hand and mystery by Mr. Graham Reed (Purchase Section); followed by an excellent tea, film show and games. The climax of the party however, was with the arrival of Santa Claus (alias Mr. E. M. Woolley, Engineers) who really delighted the children. Each child received a present from Father Christmas — and as the picture below indicates, some children helped themselves from the sack in their anxiety not to be missed! The party terminated with Carol Singing lead by Miss I. Hatton (telephonist).



### Ornithology.

During the lunch hour, excursions in the grounds of the Friarage offer a certain attraction in the form of bird life. Many different species of birds frequent the river and woodland and in fact a total of over thirty different kinds have been seen over a period. Of these, the most uncommon are the nuthatch, the treecreeper and the lesser spotted woodpecker. The river is the haunt of various types of gulls; a heron was observed in the vicinity of the river, and, during the recent cold weather, a cormorant was seen fishing.

One snowy lunch time in January, we had a visit from a swan, which flew in from the Nursery Gardens in Yarm, and strutted quite happily on the lawn before being guided back by the owners to its rightful pond.

February brought ensigns of spring to the Friarage in the form of snowdrops, and all who observed the little grey squirrel scurrying across the lawns felt that his presence heralded warmer weather.



N.P.D. Christmas Party

**Social Evening.**

On Friday, 9th January, a Christmas Party-cum-Dance was held in the Corporation Hotel, Middlesbrough for staff members, organised by the Social Section. Despite a snow storm which persisted throughout the day, the evening was a resounding success, as the picture shows. Mr. C. H. Moore (Projects) was M.C. for the evening and the music was provided by Jimmy Liphthorpe (Forge) and his Band.

Our Division combined with Research and Development and held a successful dance on 6th March, last — more in our next issue.

**H.W. EXPORT CO. LTD.**

We are often asked what proportion of our time is spent away from England, travelling on H.W.'s business; how far we travel and where we go.

In the H.W. year which has just ended, Mr. Vaughan Pendred, our Managing Director, was away from home on business 111 nights and travelled, excluding travelling to the office, 53,200 miles, visiting 18 countries. Of the total distance travelled approximately 49,000 miles were covered by air, involving 138 take-offs and landings, and over 200 hours flying time. On a 27,000 mile round-the-world journey included in the above, only one aircraft was more than half-an-hour late on any flight. The whole of the trip concerned was made on British or Commonwealth airlines.

In the same year, Mr. Neville, Manager — Europe, covered over 24,000 miles at home and abroad, of which 15,000 were tackled by air. He visited 11 countries and was away for 97 nights.

Mr. Jenks, Manager — India and the Far East, covered approximately 45,000 miles, visiting Ceylon, Singapore, the Federation of Malaya, and Hong Kong, as well as doing his normal work in India.

We take this opportunity of welcoming to our staff Miss E. Heywood as Secretary to Mr. Neville.

**RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**



Technical experts take a ski-ing course —

Left to right: Mr. Folke Johansson, instructor with "tyros", E. Amos (Consett Iron Co.), Dr. Hoyle (H.W. & Co. Ltd.), M. I. Pearson (H.W. & Co. Ltd.), and T. F. Pearson (Consett Iron Co.).

**EXTRACT FROM SWEDISH NEWSPAPER**

"Five technical experts are at present visiting Domnarvet in order to study the Kaldo process, but they also get some spare time for practising ski-ing at Bergeby club-house with Mr. Folke Johansson as instructor.

Since Monday, five technicians from England are visiting Domnarvet Steelworks for studies of the Kaldo process. They represent one engineering company and one steelworks in the north of England. The visit, which will last about a fortnight from the date of the gentlemen's arrival, is meant to be a preliminary study of the premises for an eventual agreement between Domnarvet and English steelworks. In this connection can also be mentioned that, as a stage of these investigations, tests are made at Domnarvet to make steel from English pig iron.

It is, however, not only the question of technical studies. The English gentlemen also take the opportunity of learning how to ski. When the practice started on Thursday at the Bergeby club-house, none of the four who take part in the ski lessons (one renounces from it) had run on skis before. It was therefore natural that some difficulties arose for keeping balance. But practice is necessary, because on Sunday they are taking a trip to Dalecarlia, and there they shall probably have to run down higher hills".

**Head Wrightson Dramatic Society**

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**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**7th MAY, 1959**

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**Watch for notices**

Middle age is when your memory is shorter, your experience longer, your stamina lower and your forehead tighter.

## PRESENTATION TO MR. FRANK WALKER

Sir John Wrightson, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director of Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd., made a presentation of a Portable Wireless and Automatic Tea Making Set to Mr. F. J. Walker in London on the 17th December, to mark his retirement as a Director of Head Wrightson Aluminium Ltd., after over 50 years' service with the Company.

Sir John spoke of Mr. Walker's inspiration to the youth of the Company and the pioneering work he did on the use of Aluminium as an engineering metal whereas previously it had been used only in aircraft construction. Head Wrightson's success in the light alloy field was due in no small measure to Mr. Walker's ability as a designer. In his reply Mr. Walker mentioned the highlights of his career and recalled the early days with Sir Thomas and Sir Guy Wrightson. He had enjoyed his service with the Company and quoting Sir Guy said: "it's not so much the job but the chaps you work with that counts".

Mr. Walker joined Head Wrightson in 1904 as a drawing office apprentice. After service in the 1914-18 war he commenced work in the Company's design office and in 1936 became Chief Draughtsman at the Teesdale Works. During the second world war Mr. Walker was engaged on the design of tank landing craft and Pluto drums. In 1945 he took out a patent for welded dock gates and negotiated contracts for the Calais gates, and Head Wrightson are today among the leading suppliers to the Dock and Harbour Industry.

More recently Mr. Walker has been actively engaged in the design and fabrication of light alloy structures and was concerned with the first Aluminium Alloy Bascule bridges in the world at Hendon Dock, Sunderland and at Aberdeen.

### H.W. APPRENTICE'S SUCCESS

Two Awards made by the British Constructional Steelwork Association have both been won by students of Constantine Technical College, Middlesbrough.

The Association makes the awards on the basis of recommendations by the City and Guilds of London Institute, following the latter's final examination in fabrication of steelwork.

First prize, the Institute's silver medal and six guineas, has been won by Dennis Harrison of Stainsby Street, Thornaby, an employee of Head Wrightson and Company and a former pupil of the Robert Atkinson School, Thornaby.

He is a former student of Stockton-Billingham Technical College.

Dennis, who is employed in the D.O. at Stockton Forge, is now doing his National Service with the R.A.F.



Sir John Wrightson, our Vice-Chairman, hands over the gift to Mr. Walker — also in the picture are Mrs. Walker and Mr. Peter Wrightson

### LADIES — BOWLING

For some time a few ladies have been playing bowls regularly on the Green at the Sports Field and have a very enthusiastic though small Ladies' Section led by Mrs. W. Bartaby.

They are desirous of increasing their membership and are inviting the wives of employees to visit the Field and join in this interesting and healthy sport. It is not necessary to have had any experience as the members will be only too willing to teach new entrants.

### THE KNOW-HOW

Three men were being tested for all-round ability. The man in charge of the test pointed out a church tower — "I want to know the height of it". So he gave each man a barometer.

One man was a technologist type with a Higher National Certificate. The second was a technical type with the Ordinary National Certificate. The third was just a chap who was clever with his hands but not his head.

Chap Number One took the barometric pressure at the top and bottom of the tower, and by a series of intricate calculations worked out the height.

Chap Number Two was a bit cruder — he went up the tower with a stop-watch, dropped the barometer, and knowing how long it took to reach the bottom, he calculated the height of the tower.

Chap Number Three, who was only clever with his hands, went and sold the barometer for £2, then tipped the verger 10s. to tell him how high the tower was!

Fathers are what give daughters away to other men who aren't good enough for them—so they can have grandchildren that are smarter than anybody's.