

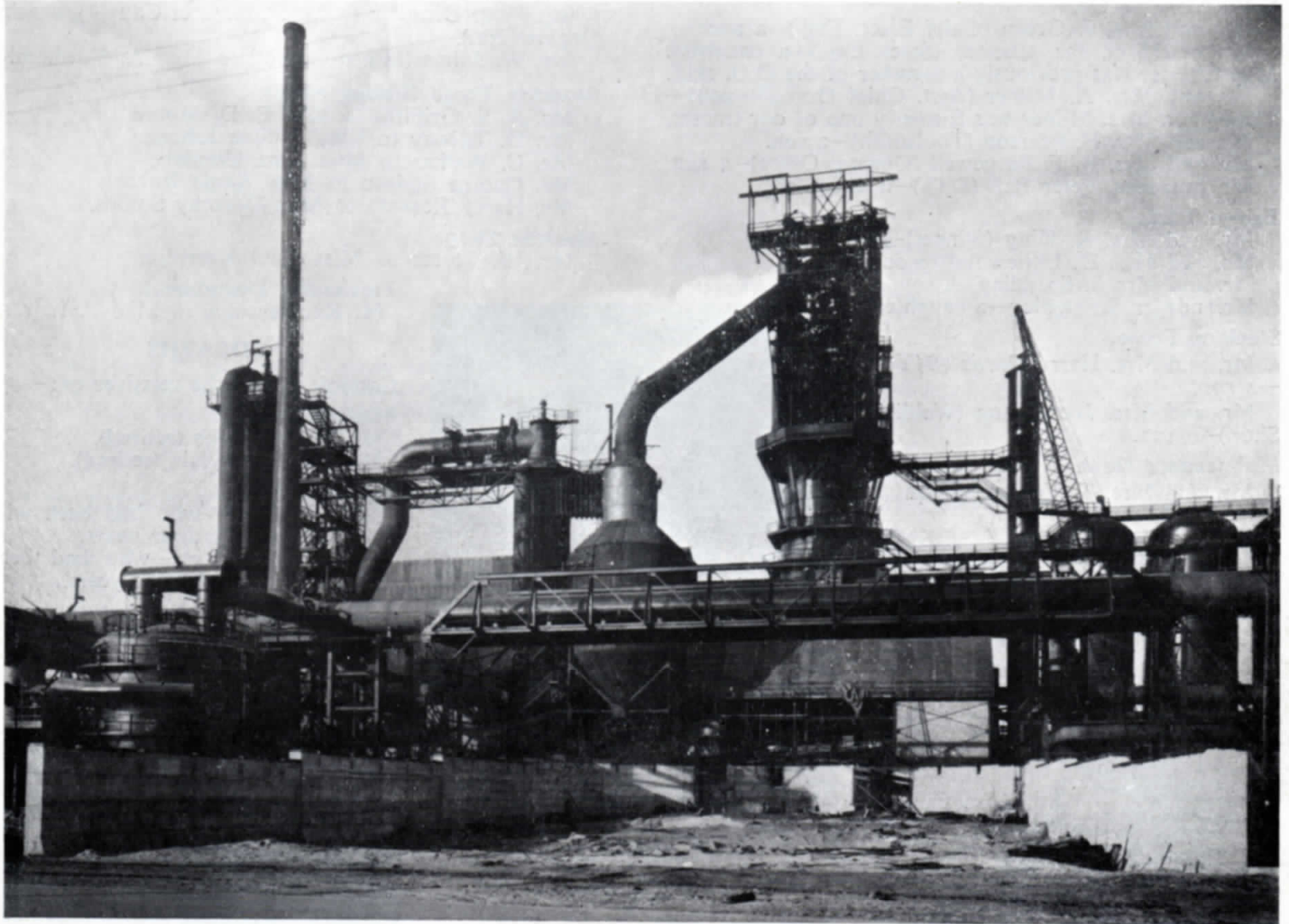
WRIGHT AHEAD

THE HEAD-WRIGHTSON NEWS LETTER

Vol. 4

APRIL 1953

No. 1



BLAST FURNACE PLANT AT MESSRS. JOHN SUMMERS & SONS LTD., SHOTTON BUILT BY HEAD WRIGHTSON & CO. LTD., AND BLOWN IN 27TH FEBRUARY, 1953.

CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR'S LETTER

On this page we show a picture of our latest achievement.

It is ten times bigger than the average size of blast furnace when I was young, and thirty times bigger than some which were in existence in those days.

Increase in size however is only one difference. Other important technical advances concern the elaborate and careful methods of handling and treating the ore, cleaning the gas, electrical control and instrumentation, and in fact making a modern blast furnace plant more like a scientifically operated machine.

Many of us took part in its conception and production. A design on a drawing board; an estimate, or a figure

in the costs, or account books; a purchase indent; an entry on the progress or inspection charts; a test in the lab; the material in the works; a steel plate, or a steel or iron casting; may not give an impression of the finished plant, which produces goods to add to our standard of living.

It requires imagination.

We can use our imagination when we think of our own job, and derive much satisfaction, apart from merely earning our living, from the contribution we make to such work as this, and from the benefits to all it creates.

Richard Miles

BIRTHS

Machine Shop.

Mr. and Mrs. Fowler—a daughter.

Steel Foundry, Teesdale.

Mr. and Mrs. Paddy Walsh—a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Bullock—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. N. Smith (Est. Dept.)—a son.

Steel Foundry, Stockton.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Laverick—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Hutchinson—a daughter.

H.W. Aluminium Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Cummins—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Crawford—a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Ambrosi—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Stephenson (foreman)—a daughter.

H.W. Machine Co.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Green (Chief Elect. Eng.)—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Chesser (Sales Eng.)—a daughter.

Mrs. Chesser was previously a member of the D.O. staff.
Mr. and Mrs. A. Milner (Asst. Chief Draughtsman)—

a daughter. Mrs. Milner was formerly one of our tracers.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Pearson (Toolsmith)—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Bargewell (General Office)—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ball (D.O.)—a daughter.

Bridge Yard.

Mr. and Mrs. R. King (Slinger)—twin sons.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Littlewood—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Spedding—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Stanley—a daughter.

Stockton Forge.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harris (B/Yd.)—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Young (Welding Shop)—a son.

Maintenance Dept.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Fowler—a son



MR. & MRS. W. PORTER

SILVER WEDDING

Mr. J. G. Allen and Mrs. Allen (General Manager, H.W. Steel Foundries Ltd.). We extend hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Allen on this happy occasion.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Congratulations to Mr. Fred Wood and his wife on their fifty years of married life.

MARRIAGES

Steel Foundry, Teesdale.

Mr. J. E. Nunn to Miss Stella C. Greenan.

Mr. L. Caswell (Planning Dept.) to Miss B. Atkinson.

H.W. Aluminium Ltd.

Mr. W. Robertson (Foreman Template Maker) to Miss E. Green.

Mr. G. Crawford to Miss E. Miller.

Bridge Yard.

Mr. Costello to Miss Elvira Maziale.

Mr. J. Bloor to Miss E. Myers.

Mr. J. Oliver to Miss Janet Carruthers (Core Floor).

H.W. Machine Co.

Mr. T. Smith (Cost Office) to Miss Peggy Leeks.

Mr. Sid. Curry (Elect. Dept.) to Miss Beatrice Burns.

Mr. Peter Dinsdale to Miss Margaret Cail (Purchasing Department).

Mr. W. Johns (M'bro Cranes) to Miss A. Newham.

Stockton Forge (Fitting Shop).

Mr. R. S. Griffiths to Miss E. D. Moore.

Mr. D. Tilbury to Miss Pauline Johnson.

Mr. C. Walker to Miss Olga Umplebey.

Mr. George Sudron to Miss Annie Robson.

Mr. Harry Hesketh to Miss Dorothy Stubbs.

Machine Shop.

Mr. W. Porter to Miss Joan Kerridge.

Purchasing Department.

Mr. Ken Teasdale to Miss B. Ingram.

DEATHS

Condolences to the relatives of:—

Machine Shop.

Mr. Eli Woolams (retired).

Mr. Harry Playfair (retired).

Iron Foundries.

Mr. O. Wynn—who had been with the company fifty-four years.

Mr. Frank Maine—who had been with the firm thirty-nine years.

H.W. Stampings Ltd.

Mr. C. Midgeley.

H.W. Machine Co.

Mr. W. Readman.



MR. & MRS. TEASDALE

ENGAGEMENTS

Egglecliffe.

Miss Eileen Bainbridge (Telephonist) to Mr. H. Stokes.

Bridge Yard.

Miss J. Thirlbeck to Mr. F. Lee.

Machine Shop.

Mr. Eric Johnson to Miss Kathleen Laven.

Mr. Cliff Bates to Miss Patricia Heslop

H.W. Aluminium Limited.

Mr. William Eric Marshall (Design and Project Engineer) to Miss Avril Heather Tanner.

Mr. Kenneth E. Clark to Miss Kathleen M. Waller.

Stockton Forge.

Mr. John Thomas (Fitting Shop) to Miss Annie Boyd.



MR. & MRS. J. OLIVER

BOWLS SECTION

On Wednesday, 4th February, a social evening was held in the Recreation Hall, Teesdale Park to celebrate the club's success in winning the Championship of the 'C' Section, Cleveland and South Durham Bowls League. Following the presentations about 180 members and friends enjoyed a very pleasant evening. The Company fully appreciated the harmony served up by Miss Sheila Greenwood, Margaret Sullivan, Roy Carter, Jack Taylor and Geordie Stanton, accompanied by Carl Gyson. Mr. Bert Furphy was the compere. Mr. J. T. Farthing, the Secretary, was responsible for all the arrangements including the refreshments.

It is hoped, if favoured by the weather, to open the bowling green on Saturday, 25th April when all interested are invited to join the Club. The charge is 1/- per year plus 1/- for competitions which is optional, but the green and all facilities are available to all employees free of charge.



Arrangements are now almost complete for the annual outing which takes place as usual at Whitsuntide and all we are hoping for is some good weather.

Our photograph shows Mr. W. McInnes (second from left), President of the Cleveland and South Durham Bowls League presenting the 'C' Division Championship Trophy to Mr. A. Littlewood at the function mentioned above. Others in the picture (left to right) are Mr. A. Lackenby, Mr. W. G. Bartaby (General Secretary, H.W. Athletic Association), Mr. J. T. Farthing (Secretary, Bowls Section) and Mr. R. Furphy.



MR. RICHARD MILES, CHAIRMAN, HANDING CLOCK TO MR. I. (TUTTY) SMITH. ALSO SHOWN ARE COL. H. D. P. FRANCIS, MR. K. W. HICKMAN, MR. FRANK SHEPHERD, MR. PETER WRIGHTSON AND MR. T. E. SMITH OF MACHINE SHOP.

As captain of the Teesdale Bridge Yard team, Mr. Littlewood also received the Interdepartmental Cup from Mr. G. D. Cain and also the club individual championship cup from Mr. Lackenby.

HEAD WRIGHTSON SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

It is felt that many of our Personnel would like to play a greater part in the social life of the organisation but may not be quite sure how to get in touch with the people interested in the same activities and to help them we give below a list which may be useful:—

AMATEUR DRAMATICS—

Miss E. O'Hara, McKee Division (Hon. Sec.)

AMBULANCE CLASSES—

Mr. T. Smith, Machine Shop, Teesdale. (Hon. Instructor)

BOWLS—

Mr. J. T. Farthing, Stockton Steel Foundry. (Hon. Sec.)

BRASS BAND—

Mr. J. Burton, H.W. Aluminium Ltd., Teesdale. (Hon. Sec.)

CRICKET—

Mr. H. Treeby, Pat. Shop, Egglecliffe Fdry. (Hon. Sec.)

DARTS—

Mr. E. Smith, Teesdale Steel Foundry Shop. (Hon. Sec.)

FOOTBALL—

Mr. J. Dickinson, Maintenance, D.O., Teesdale (Hon. Sec.)

LAWN TENNIS—

Mr. L. Caswell, Steel Foundry Offices, Teesdale (Hon. Sec.)

SOCIALS, DANCES, WEDDINGS,

PARTIES, DINNERS, in the Teesdale Hall.
Miss E. Thurlwell, Personnel Department, Teesdale.

SWIMMING—

Mr. H. Ayre, Fitting Shop, Stockton Forge. (Hon. Sec.)

TABLE TENNIS—

Mr. J. Dickinson, Maintenance D.O. (Hon. Sec.)

LONG SERVICE AWARDS

A real highlight in the Company's history took place on Wednesday, 11th February when the Chairman, Directors and Senior Management and Employees' Council representatives entertained some hundred and forty-four of our elder employees at a wonderful dinner in the Teesdale Hall. Speeches were made by Mr. Richard Miles, Chairman, Mr. Peter Wrightson, Deputy Managing Director, Mr. J. W. Wardell, Mr. A. Chilton, Mr. R. H. Sturges, Mr.

N. C. Lake, Dr. R. Fisher and Mr. Frank Shepherd, all of whom paid tribute to the loyalty and service of those who were present. Suitable responses were made by Mr. W. Plumley (Stockton Forge), Mr. Israel (Tutty) Smith (Iron Foundry), Mr. J. O. (Dick) Addison (Machine Shop), Mr. J. W. Lyall (Bridge Yard) and Mr. O. Bell (Chief Draughtsman). Following this Mr. Miles made the presentations supported by the Parent Company Directors, Mr. Peter Wrightson, Mr. K. W. Hickman and Col. H. D. P. Francis. All those with 50 years' service received a very handsome clock and a gold pocket watch and those with 40 years' service received gold pocket watches.

There were many reminiscences and meetings of old friends and the whole atmosphere was one of fellowship and service well done.

DIVISIONAL NEWS.

ENGINEERING DIVISION



Congratulations to Mr. Alex Brown for keeping the Machine Shop to the fore. He refereed the 'Spurs v Birmingham cup-tie. According to the Press, it was a real tough cup-tie. Can't see that that should worry Alex—they don't come any tougher.

Machine Shop.

In common with the rest of the Engineering Division, we were very pleased and proud when John Summers' No. 1 Furnace was blown in. For a long time now, we have been kept busy on the furnace equipment, top gear, and various types of valves, Hot and Cold Blast, Butterfly, Snout and the new type Westerling valve. Perhaps our most interesting contribution to steel plant equipment is the rolling stock. Billie Wallace, Hebron (when he gets here) and gang are now getting quite specialized on this type of work. From the Treadwell Slag Ladles, Transfer cars on to the most recent scale car. No doubt when passing through the shops, you will have wondered just what was their use in a steel plant. The material is first taken on the furnace high line by transfer car from the crusher house and dropped into a series of hoppers or bins. These in turn fill the scale cars, which are on a lower line and the weight taken aboard is recorded and taken to the furnace. Here it is loaded into skip cars which are hauled to the furnace top ready to feed. All these cars are electrically propelled and the discharge doors are pneumatically operated. Their speed is 10 m.p.h. From these few brief details, you will gather that comparatively little time is taken in charging a furnace. The lads who have been on the site tell me the scale car drivers have had difficulty getting into their cabs because so many of the "big boys" want a ride.

We send our deepest sympathy to the families of the late Eli Woolams (one of our pensioners) and Harry Littlefair. Eli's daughter tells me her father was very pleased to receive his gold watch a few days before he died. Both these men had been retired a good number of years.

Constructional Department.

Over the last two years a great deal of time and energy has been expended in our Shop on the production of various pieces of equipment for the John Summers Blast Furnace Plant. All sections of the Division, Drawing Office have been engaged on this work to their credit, and the results of their labour has this month borne fruit as the No. 1 Blast Furnace was "Blown in" on February 27th, 1953.

The photograph on the front page gives an idea of the size of the Plant, although much of the equipment we have supplied is hidden from view. Easily recognised is the Furnace Skip Bridge, Cast House, the three stoves, the Dust Catchers and Precipitators.

The Sinter Plant and Second Furnace and equipment will provide work for all shops for many months ahead.

A further item of interest now going through the Shops is the Hot Metal Mixer. Some twelve of these have now been built for various steelworks. Their size is not fully appreciated when in the Bridge Yard, but this can be judged from the photograph produced here of the two Mixers recently completed for the Steel Company of Wales.

The large amount of equipment produced for the John Summers plant has aroused great interest among the Bridge Yard personnel and much wondering as to their final position and use on the Shotton site. To satisfy this interest, Mr. T. H. Stayman, Chief Engineer of the McKee Iron & Steel Division gave an excellent lecture on the whole subject beginning with various ingredients needed to produce pig iron and then went on to give a detailed explanation of the lay-out of the Plant and how the various components were connected and their uses in the full build-up. Members of the Machine Shop and Stockton Forge were also present and the talk was given so that even the non-technical members could understand the process.

STEEL FOUNDRIES DIVISION

Teesdale.

The department has quite a number on the sick list and we wish a speedy recovery to Messrs. Worsnop, Dunning, Geo. Cox and Mrs. Ridley.

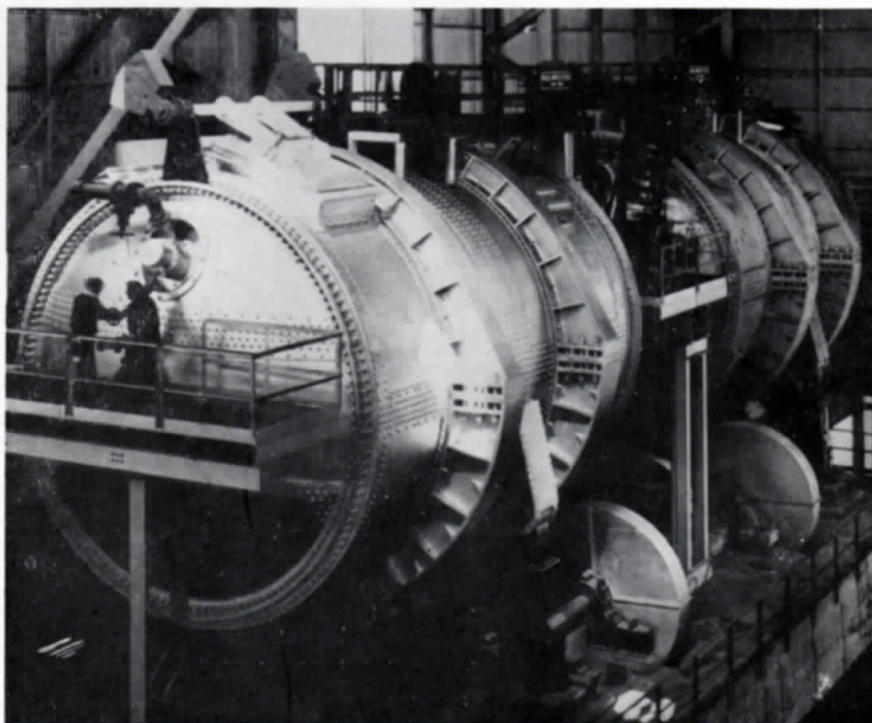
It is with regret that we report the death of Mr. T. Trotter after a long illness. Mr. Trotter worked amongst us for twenty-five years and was held in esteem by his fellow employees.

At the recent dinner when long service awards were presented, our Department was well represented amongst those who had forty years service and over, they were Mr. G. Makin, forty-three years—Mr. J. Wesson, forty-two years—Mr. Geo. Howe, forty-two years—Mr. J. Cheetham, forty-two years—Mr. S. Beeton, forty-two years and Mr. A. Riddy, forty two years. We trust that they will remain with us long enough to qualify for their award for fifty years service.

The foundry will have its representative at the Coronation—this will be Ex-Sgt. Major Stanley Hollis, V.C., we offer him hearty congratulations on his good luck.

Many will have read with pleasure that the Stockton Amateur Football Team has reached the final of the North Riding Amateur Cup. The team comprises several

HOT METAL MIXERS (JOHN SUMMERS)



members from this Department, the trainer and a number of the club's officials are also foundry employees.

We extend our sympathies to Mr. P. Dixon on the loss of his wife.

We offer congratulations to Mr. K. Proctor of Steel Foundry Costs who has passed the intermediate examination of the Institute of Costs and Works Accountants.

We extend our sympathies to Mr. Walter Barker of our Estimating Dept. on the loss of his wife.



NEW CORE DRIER IN THE WOMEN'S CORE SHOP.

Stockton Steel Foundry.

We wish a speedy recovery to Mr. E. Lyons, Electricians' Department—he has been a very patient patient.

We offer our congratulations to Mr. Alf Adams on having been one of the recipients of Long Service Awards of a clock and a watch having completed over fifty years with the Company, also Mr. Jack Nicholson, our Timekeeper, who has over forty years service and received a gold watch.

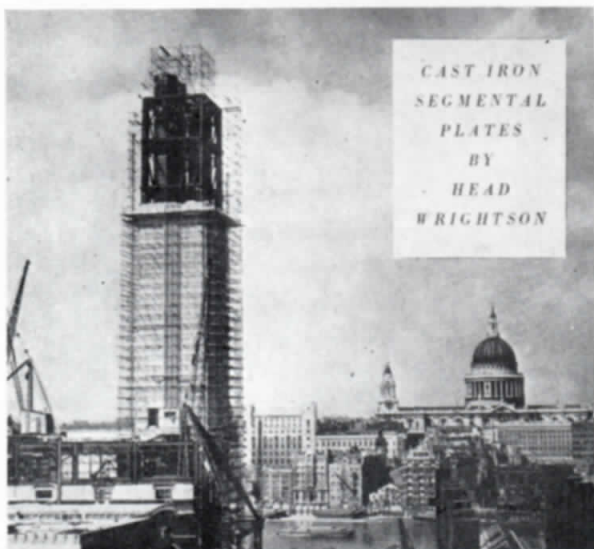
One of our employees, Mr. Fred Wood, will have completed fifty years of married life on 13th April, 1953. Fred is seventy and his wife sixty-eight years of age.

When Stockton Steel was first opened by Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd., Mr. Mercer's first job was to find an efficient "Blower" and after travelling to Sheffield and even further afield and failing to get his man, he found Fred Wood, who was "Blower" for the previous owner of Stockton Steel, here in Stockton.

Fred was, therefore installed as "Blower" and carried on from 1927 until his eyesight was no longer good enough to watch the flame. Since that time he has done various jobs and is now watchman on Night Duty—we wish him many more years of matrimonial happiness.

We extend our sympathy to Mr. D. May of the Pattern Shop on the loss of their infant daughter at the age of two years.

IRON FOUNDRIES DIVISION



The above famous skyline showing St. Paul's provides the background for the Foundries Cast Iron Plates pro-

duced at Teesdale and Egglecliffe for the British Electricity Authority for the new generating station at Bankside.

H.W. STAMPINGS DIVISION

Teesdale.

We express our deepest sympathy with Mr. A. Bentley on the loss of his wife and also a speedy return to good health after his recent illness.

"BOOTS"—The recent flood which caused such disaster throughout the country and not a little here at Teesdale, revealed a trait hitherto unsuspected,—the homing instinct of boots. As you know, the Smiths' Shop lockers were awash and boots afloat but it will come as a surprise that one pair of boots which was missing, actually entered the portals of Middlesbrough Museum before their final collapse.

At the recent presentation, the following members of our Division received watches for forty years service and over, Mr. R. Raine, Mr. H. Roberts and Mr. W. Pearson, (now at Seaton). "Shemmy" says you can bet on him to be first in the queue for a platinum watch.

Joking apart, we congratulate them on their loyal service and trust that they will still be with us to receive clocks for fifty years service.

Jim Rose by any other name.

No skies of blue do we possess
 But Green and three shades of Gray—no less,
 Only one Pole—but a couple of Dacks,
 Two kinds of Raine and plenty of Macs.
 There's a Jackson Bob and a Jackson Stan,
 Sir Lancelot too from the Isle of Man,
 Also Len, the Wizard of Oz,
 We can also supply sketches drawn by "Boz."
 There's also a Jack and Bob Mulhearn,
 Even a Turner who does not turn.
 From music, too, we're not immune
 With Piper and Harper to keep in tune.
 We have one Blackwell and one Whitelock,
 Some sturdy fellows to take the stock.
 We sell Smiths' Crisps, deliver the goods
 We have a Gorman from the wild Westwoods.
 Of Morgan's brood, we have a pair,
 We have Limen, too, with curly hair,
 But now we think we've had enough
 So we'll take Dave Geldart with a pinch of snuff.
 You may consider this a terrible tale
 And feel inclined to rag it,
 But it's true to say, every dog has its day,
 We can always get Jackie to Waggit!

STOCKTON FORGE WORKS.

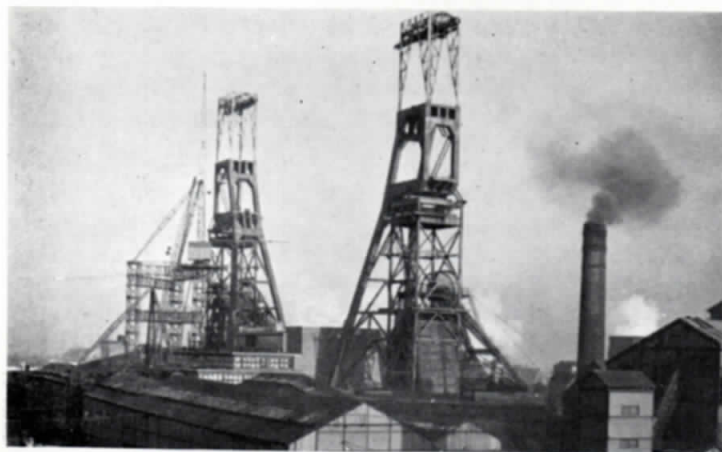
CLIPSTONE COLLIERY

The construction of the two headgears shown is part of a modernisation scheme sponsored by the East Midlands Division of the N.C.B. to increase the output from this Colliery. These headgears are built around the existing structures, which we supplied in 1915. They are designed for Koepe Electric Winders and will enable larger outputs to be achieved from a greater depth.

The headgear nearest the chimney is serving the up-cast shaft with skips of 12 ton capacity and a maximum wind load of 43 tons. The other headgear is serving the downcast shaft where cage winding will be used, and although the loads in this case are slightly less, the general design of the two headgears is similar.

The height to the centre of the pulleys, although these are not yet erected, is 173'-6", and to the top of the gallows frame, which is used for handling the 24'-0" dia. pulleys, is 214'-0". These figures give some indication of the size of these structures, and they are the highest headgears which have been built in this country.

The back legs are of steel plate box structure 4'-0" x 2'-8" in section, and for the guide tower legs broad flanged beams and compound channel sections have been used.



From the photograph it will be seen that the erection work is nearing completion and this has been planned so that no interruption has occurred in the normal working of the pit. At the actual change-over to the new system of winding only a minimum of time will be required.

As in most engineering projects today more attention has been given to the aesthetic aspect than in former days, and these headgears should serve as another advertisement to Head Wrightson's service to the Coal Industry.

Presentation.

On Wednesday, 11th March, before a good gathering of workmen in the courtyard, a presentation of a pair of fireside chairs was made to Mr. (Bert) Allison who has retired after forty years service.

Mr. Wardell made the presentation and said that he thought the gift appropriate because he felt that after the many miles travelled by Mr. Allison on the Company's business—he had earned a rest. He expressed our good wishes for a long and peaceful retirement for Mr. Allison.

Mr. Allison expressed his gratitude for the kindly thoughts and said that he would be visiting us occasionally.

Bang Bentley's motor bike seems to be causing a great deal of trouble at home and at work. He lives, breathes and talks of nothing else.

We hope for the speedy recovery of Messrs. H. Jackson and J. Glenn and welcome back to work Messrs. G. Smith, S. Denholm, A. West, F. Harrod, A. Jenkinson and E. Daglish.



We extend our heartiest congratulations to Councillor J. N. Scott of our Stockon Forge Fitting Shop, who has been nominated as the Mayor of Thornaby-on-Tees for this eventful Coronation Year.

Mr. Scott's activities are very wide and well-known to most of us—besides his excellent work as a member of the Council and many of the committees connected therewith—he is Chairman of the Finance Committee which itself must be one of the most arduous of tasks—he also finds the time to take a leading part in the

activities of the British Legion's Thornaby Branch. He is a shop steward for his Union, the A.E.U. and his

knowledge of social affairs is very wide. His sense of duty is very keen and we feel that he will fulfil this important Civic position with every confidence and efficiency. We wish him and Mrs. Scott every success during their term of office.

We trust that the many calls on his time will not prevent him from maintaining his interest as a member of the Divisional Council, the Finance Committee and the H.W. Employees' Council.

THE H.W. MACHINE COMPANY

Most of the Divisions of our Group use rolled steel sections and it may be of interest to our readers to know the The Head Wrightson Machine Company Ltd. recently installed a mill for the production of these at the Round Oak Steel Works Ltd., Brierley Hill.

The mill is designed to take billets of up to 6" square and 14'-0" long and convert them into angles, channels, joists, tees, rounds, squares and flats. The minimum sizes produced are 4½" dia. rounds, 3½" x 3½" angles, 5" x 3" channels and joists.

Billets are transferred by magnet crane in the stockyard on to a roller table leading to Billet Shears where bars of up to 5" square are cut in the cold state into lengths of up to 14'-0". These cut lengths then pass to a furnace feed table from which they are pushed into the furnace for heating preparatory to rolling.

On emergence from the furnace the billets are delivered by roller table to an 18" 3-high mill in which they are rolled backwards and forwards for three or five passes and are reduced in cross section and roughly shaped before they are delivered to the next mill. Following the 18" 3-high mill is a Shear for cropping the ends of the rolled billets if necessary and also for cutting long billets into two pieces. Then follow seven stands of 16" 2-high mills arranged in what is known as a "cross country" layout. This means that on leaving one mill the sections are moved over sideways into the next mill which is running in the reverse direction.

The alternative is a "straightaway" or continuous mill in which the section keeps moving through successive mills, always in the same direction.



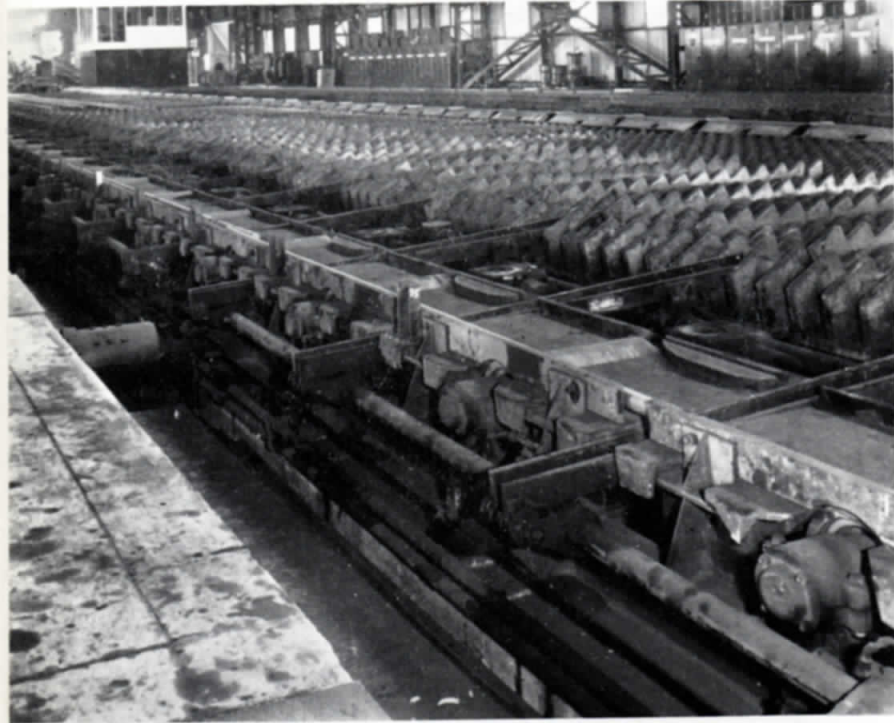
In the first photograph, four of the seven 16" mills can be seen. Some of the other mills can be seen in the background.

On most of the roller tables which carry the section from mill to mill the rollers are set slightly on the "skew," i.e., they are not at right angles to the centreline of the tables.

With this arrangement when a section is leaving a mill it keeps up against a side guard but when the table

rollers are reversed the section automatically moves across the table to the opposite side guard and enters the next mill automatically.

On leaving the last mill the section is fully formed and to size, and passes along a roller table to a Hot Saw for cutting to length or, if not more than 180" long, to a double sided cooling bank (2nd photograph).



The section passes down the entry roller table of the cooling bank on whichever side is being used and at the appropriate moment is thrown off into a receptive pocket. From this it is progressively picked up, carried over 8" and lowered into another notch of the fixed grids of the cooling bank. Each side of this tank is 20'-0" wide and 180'-0" long and there is a considerable amount of machinery in the very large pit beneath this. This pit also serves to allow cool air to rise past the sections so that when they are delivered to the outlet table they are cool.

The outlet tables on either side of the cooling bank deliver the sections to one of two finishing shears where they are cut to length and bundled ready for transport.

The whole of this Rolling Mill plant was supplied by H.W. Machine Company and almost all Divisions of the Group contributed in some way by producing steel and iron castings and welded fabrications etc.

When you next see a piece of steel section with the name "Round Oak Steel Works" on it, remember that in all probability you helped to make it in some indirect way!

Although we are one of the youngest members of the Head Wrightson family, we were very proud to see Bob Lyall receive his gold watch for forty years service, at the recent presentation. His association with the Machine Company goes back to its very beginnings because he worked under Mr. Marshall on the Hot Dip Tinning Plant supplied to Richard Thomas & Co., Ltd., of Ebbw Vale in 1937. It was appropriate that at the time of his presentation he was working on a similar plant for The Steel Company of Wales Ltd., Trostre Works. We congratulate all those responsible for the organisation of the presentation.

We congratulate Mr. W. H. Mather on his transfer from Associate Membership to full Membership of The Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

We were well represented in the recent performance of "The Arcadians" by the Stockton Stage Society. Mr.

R. H. Davies did ample justice to his part as *Simplicitas* and James Smith, and Miss Doris Blows was a great success as Eileen Cavanagh.

As a part time member of our staff, dare we claim just a little of the glory due to Mr. Richard Blakey, whose conducting was up to his usual high standard?

We welcome a newcomer to the Purchasing Department, Miss Pat Lyness,

"Pat, they say's an acquisition,
An expert washer-upper,
But then there is the sad position,
She cannot brew a decent "cupper"

May good fortune attend Messrs. Geo. Green and Brian Heaton who have joined H.M. Forces.

Mr. Harry Bycroft (Labourers) has now got his leg out of plaster and we wish him and Messrs. Robinson and Dunkerley a speedy recovery and return amongst us.

Messrs. Cecil Copper and Joe Gilroy have now returned to work as has Miss Sylvia Harland—our "Hallo" girl.

Miss Maureen Sherris of our Typists Dept. has now obtained her long promised shorts. This should stimulate attendance at the tennis courts.

We extend our sympathies to Miss E. M. Roe on the death of her mother and to Mrs. Yvonne Browlee who has resigned through ill-health.

McKEE IRON & STEEL DIVISION

"The Sands of Dee" is a familiar phrase to most of us and has in the past brought to us sad thoughts of the young girl who, according to the poem, was drowned there.

Today, however, we can think of them in a much happier vein, with pride of achievement, for on these sands stands the largest Blast Furnace in Great Britain—designed and constructed by Head Wrightson. This furnace is now in operation and is producing iron to further increase the nation's output of steel.

This large structure, towering 200 ft. in the air, together with its ancillary plant, stands on land which was originally a marsh partly covered by water and which although sterile from the point of view of agricultural produce, is now yielding another product essential to the life of this highly industrialised nation—iron. Of course, it has been no simple matter manufacturing and constructing such an extensive and complicated plant but the result shows what the Head Wrightson team can do—from the drawing board in the McKee Iron & Steel Division out to every individual tradesman who took part in its construction. We of the McKee Iron & Steel Division would like to express our appreciation of the efforts put forward by all divisions concerned, particularly the Engineering Division who took such a large part in this contract.

It may be of interest to know that Messrs. John Summers & Sons Ltd. have entrusted us with the order for the second blast furnace and this has now been put in hand.

We would like to offer our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bulman on the birth of their second son. Fred, who visited the United States about a year since in connection with servicing of Blast Furnace Plants, must have returned with other ideas too.

With reference to recent statements in the National Press regarding contracts secured by a group of British heavy engineering manufacturers for the supply of iron and steel works equipment for a new works to be built at Aviles in the Asturias on the Biscay coast of Spain, we have obtained one of the largest shares in the project.

Seven years' anxious effort which might, conceivably, have been in vain, brought us a £3,500,000 contract for our share.

We are also responsible for the design and supervision of a further £2,000,000-worth of work which will be supplied from Spain. About a dozen experts from Tees-side will go out to Spain on this job.

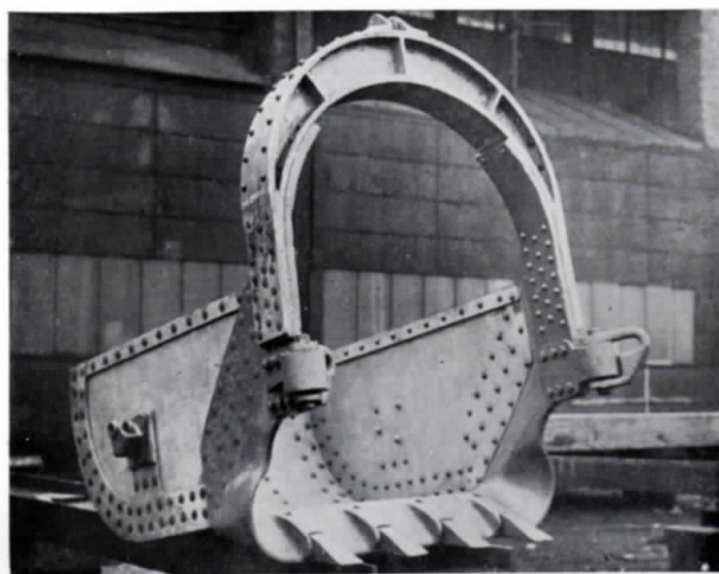
It was in 1945 that our Spanish agents first heard a whisper about the proposed iron and steel works, and only on the 7th February last was final agreement reached with the Spanish Company.

Mr. Peter Wrightson, the firm's deputy managing director, has been to Spain twice and Mr. T. H. Stayman, chief engineer of the McKee Iron and Steel Division, three times. Since the whisper developed into talk and the talk into deeds, many members of the staff have put in long hours on design and estimate work, and latterly, in preparation of the tender and contract.

The managing director of the Spanish Company for which the works are to be built toured America, Germany, France and Switzerland before deciding to place the order with us.

We plan to complete shipment of all equipment from Thornaby in forty-two months, which means that progressively during that period, the drawing office, purchasing branch and constructional shops will be kept busy.

HEAD WRIGHTSON ALUMINIUM LIMITED



Export to the Far East.

Aluminium Division recently exported to Malaya, for the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a ½ cu. yd. aluminium alloy dragline bucket, with a steel lip casting (see photograph). This is similar to a ¾ cu. yd. aluminium alloy bucket, with steel lip plate, which was fabricated for use in the construction of London Airport. During fourteen months hard work this bucket outlasted four made of steel!

Social Activities.

The Aluminium Alloy Shop Social Club continues to flourish, and in addition to the weekly club night, a smoking concert and social evening is held once every five weeks. Entertainment is always by a first class concert party.

The First Annual Christmas darts and dominoes knock-

out competitions were held in the club room at the Victoria Inn, Thornaby. After some very keen play in early rounds the finals were held on the 12th December, 1952.

Mick Morley defeated Tot Sheldon in the final of the darts contest after beating the favourite Terry Devine in one of the semi-finals. A struggle developed in the dominoes final. Dennis Johnson becoming the eventual winner. He defeated Buddy Kirton 3 — 2 after six games, one game being drawn.



The photograph shows from left to right, Tot Sheldon (Darts runner up), Mick Morley (Darts Winner), Dennis Johnson (Dominoes Winner) and Buddy Kirton (Dominoes Runner up).

It is hoped that a bus trip to Scarborough will be run on Whit Monday, for club members, their families and friends. An invitation is extended to other Head Wrightson employees.

Purchasing Department.

Purchasing Department routine has been slightly altered recently since the Chief received his presentation of a gold watch and now we all report for watch checking first thing in the morning. In fact one day because of the number of calls he received wanting to know what time it was, Miss Richardson got quite worried and reported to the G.P.O. that they had got their T.I.M.E. line mixed with ours and as a result the "Golden Voice" had gone a bit husky.

"A woman is only as old as she looks unless another woman is doing the looking."



Two men were having a conversation in a bar. "So you have two grown daughters" said one. "Do they live at home with you?" "No," said the other, "they are not married yet."



"A woman is a person who would spend pounds on a new slip and then be annoyed if it shows."



"All a woman needs to be successful are two good lines, one he can listen to and one he can look at."

Book Review "Memoirs of a P.B.D."**By Mr. N. B. Hall (S2 Failed).**

This outstanding autobiography brings to life with vivid clarity and scintillating wit the thrilling day-to-day activities of a P.B.D. at work.

During his fifty years "chained to the board" (quote) Mr. N. B. Hall has numerous entertaining reminiscences which are recalled and simplified for the layman by the lavish use of graphs, charts and schedules. The most notable of these being a thirty page account of the Higher Level discussions which resulted in his supreme achievement—a sheet of connections completely detailed in thirty six weeks!—thus giving the lie to the older generation who tell us how they **used** to draw two sheets a day.

He lifts the curtain from that intriguing phrase "obscure calculations" with his candid observations: "the true P.B.D. acquires by instinct that rare ability to play safe and stick a bit on." for the first time, too, he throws some light on the myth of infallibility as he recalls being taught as an apprentice to "let it go—leave it to the Template Shop."

The guiding star behind the pencil is unveiled as we are given the gist of the life and death phone calls which are the cream of his existence—"burn a bit off the end," "all right—re-drill it," "won't it pull in?" "how much short?" "just weld it up"—and so on.

Verdict:— Incredible!

SPORTS FIELD

A start has been made with the improvements to the sports field and with the help of the Company's very generous contribution, it is hoped to provide two new football pitches and three new tennis courts as well as facilities for miniature golf and a children's corner. This will, of course, take a little time but we feel that the results will prove to have been worth waiting for.

We offer our good wishes to Mr. A. Monk, our groundsman who has taken up an appointment with the North Riding County Council and welcome Mr. G. Gowland who takes over this important job on 23rd April.

**STOCKTON AMATEUR STAGE SOCIETY PRODUCTION**

The above society recently presented at the Stockton "Hippodrome," the musical comedy, "The Arcadians" and their performances were received with acclamation all the week.

We of Head Wrightsons' were proud to note the important part which our personnel played in this success and we offer our hearty congratulations to:—

Miss E. Jenkins	—	"Sombra"	Steel Castings
Miss D. Blows	—	"Eilleen"	The Head Wrightson Machine Co.
Miss J. Wood	—	"Amaryllis"	Teesdale D.O.
Mrs. M. Crooks	—	Chorus	Steel Castings
Miss E. Moss	—	"	McKee Division
R. H. Davies	—	"Simplicitas"	The Head Wrightson Machine Co.
L. R. Knox	—	"Cellist" (Orch.)	Steel Castings
Richard Blakey	—	Musical Director	Personnel Dept.

FLOODS IN TEES-SIDE



The above photographs show Stockton Racecourse and Thornaby Cricket Club during the recent floods. They were taken by Mr. B. A. Poyner of our Aluminium D.O.



HEAD WRIGHTSON SILVER PRIZE BAND

At last we are able to give this title to our Works Band as on 15th March last they competed against eight other bands in the Durham Brass Band Competition for the Thornley Cup and were the winners of the "C" Division for which this cup is awarded. We offer our sincere congratulatsions to Mr. C. Midgeley, the conductor and all the members of the Band on this achievement and wish them continued success in future competitions.

Brevities

"Thousands of germs live on one dirty bank-note," states a doctor. As a hard pressed Briton, I should like to know how they manage it.



Did you hear about the two disappointed butterflies who went to a dance and found it was only a moth ball?"

"Last night I went to a bookmakers' dinner. We had a silent toast for the "dead certs."

Misprint

Asked what other improvements he would like to see at the rectory the vicar said he wouldn't mind having a couple of nice French widows put in his study.



Modern authors are weak in punctuation, says a literary critic. Apparently they have no comma sense.



Women accepts man for the sake of matrimony, man accepts matrimony for the sake of woman.



For years Stanley Black was a pianist at the Windmill. That's where he learned to play by ear.



Even ghosts are being infected with the wave of present day apathy. One we've heard of, goes about moaning, I couldn't scare less.

Definition

"Bikini" The bare minimum of suit designed to show the bare maximum of girl.



When a girl discovers she isn't the only pebble on the beach, she becomes a little boulder.

CORONATION OF H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH II

2nd June, 1953.

By popular request and so as to avoid any interference with our Whitsuntide Holidays, it has been arranged to transfer the Boxing Day Holiday, 1953 to 1st June, 1953. This will mean that the works will be closed for two days at Whitsuntide and two days for the Coronation.

The Employees' Council has arranged that all the children up to the age of 15 of employees who subscribe to the scheme shall receive a book token to enable them to obtain a book of their own choice from any of the branches of H. D. Dodds & Co., Ltd. After making the selection, the bookseller will put in a handsome book plate which will serve to commemorate this occasion.

The Chairman and Directors also feel that this occasion should be marked with a souvenir and to each child there is to be presented a spoon bearing a facsimile of the Queen's head on one side and the Company's crest on the reverse.

Posters have been issued and all Council Representatives have the application forms. It is hoped that these will be completed in a proper manner by the due date to avoid disappointment.



H.W. PERSONALITIES

MR. WILFRED ADDISON—

CHIEF SHIPPING CLERK, STOCKTON FORGE.

Mr. Wilfred Addison has just completed half a century of service with the Company, as it was 17th December, 1902 that he was engaged at Teesdale and he has in his possession a copy of the Agreement made when he entered the Company's service specifying the weekly salary and annual increase and also stating that a bonus of twenty guineas would be paid on the satisfactory completion of his indentures at the age of 21. Unfortunately, because of an alteration in the scheme before the attainment of his majority, Mr. Addison never received the twenty guineas. After two years service at Teesdale, he was transferred to Stockton Forge where he has served continually, apart from his war service in the Royal Field Artillery, Brigade H.Q. Signal Section from September, 1914 to March, 1919. For the last twenty-five years he has been chief shipping clerk for the Forge Works.

Mr. Addison's favourite spare time interest is campanology (bell ringing), mainly at Thornaby Parish Church, where a tablet records that the ring of eight bells was presented "By Thomas & Elizabeth Wrightson in January, 1899 in commemoration of the 60th year of the reign of Queen Victoria." In the year 1932, these bells were re-tuned and re-hung in ball bearings by the generosity of Sir Guy and Lady Wrightson.

All Mr. Addison's family have been connected with the Head Wrightson organisation at one time or another. His daughter, Josephine, was employed in the Teesdale D.O. as an apprentice and later as a draughtswoman, but is now studying mathematics at Nottingham University, whilst his son, Michael, who is now at Durham University also studying mathematics, has been employed by the Company during his summer vacations. Mrs. Addison, before her marriage, was employed in the shell shop during the 1914/18 war.

We wish Mr. Addison many years of health and continued service.



In a previous edition we reported the retirement of Mr. J. E. Mercer, Director and General Manager of the Steel Foundries. We show above Mr. John Waller making the presentation to him whilst the Chairman and members of the Parent Company Board look on.

BRITISH STEEL FOUNDER'S ASSOCIATION

At six monthly intervals a large van drives up to the gates of Teesdale and Stockton Steel Foundries. It is "the X ray van" to take radiographs of employees subject to the dust hazard. The van is under charter to the British Steel Founders' Association.

The question might be asked "What is the British Steel Founders' Association?"

Under the guidance of an Executive Council consisting of men with vision (our Chairman, Mr. Miles is a member of the Executive) of the Association, a medium through which many benefits are coming to the industry and the purpose of this article is to make known one or two of the activities of the Association.

One very important step taken by the Association was the setting up of its own Research and Development Division. This organisation consists of a Director of Research who has working with him a number of technicians who are experts in various subjects of vital interest to founders. They are continually investigating new developments and examining and advising on major technical problems which arise from time to time.

Although each Steel Foundry still handles its own individual advertising, a section of the Association is responsible for the wider aspect of publicising the whole steel castings industry in this country and abroad, and a large amount of literature, valuable to designers and buyers, has been published with a view to increasing the use of steel castings wherever possible and thus enlarging the volume of trade.

A Standing Committee of the Association is concerned with the health of operatives and the van referred to above is a result of the work of this Committee. The present mask issued to the Dressers was sponsored by the same Committee.

Head Wrightson are proud of the fact that one of our people, Harry Lamb, was appointed a member of the first productivity team to visit the United States. The British Steel Founders' Association undertook the responsibility for making the arrangements to send the team abroad and for publishing the report it made, on return to this country.

Production specifications, radiography of castings, and recruitment for the industry, are among a number of important matters which have received consideration by the Association and if we continually strive to improve our quality, standard of workmanship, and service to our many customers we will be able to take full advantage of a live and far-seeing trade association.

We must not be one step behind our competitors.