

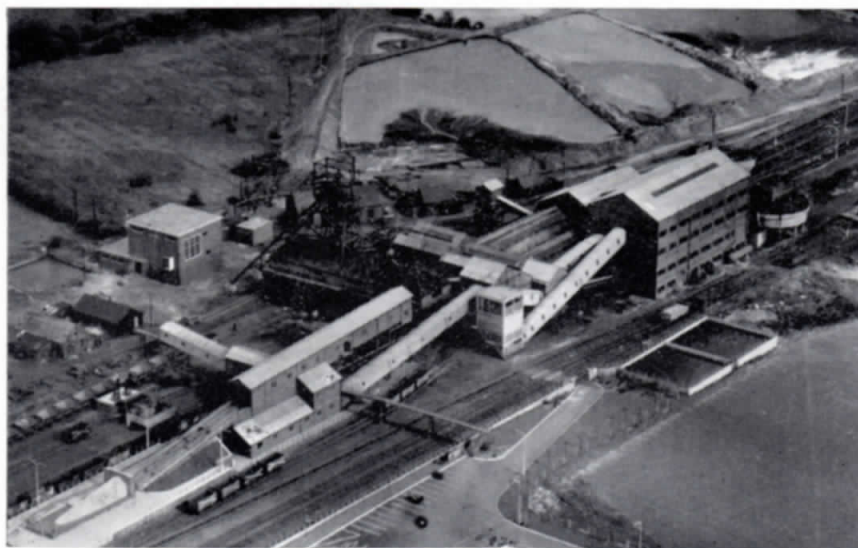
WRIGHT AHEAD

THE HEAD WRIGHTSON NEWS LETTER

VOL. 7

DECEMBER, 1956

NO. 4



PRIMROSE HILL COLLIERY — Coal Preparation Plant, handling 350 t.p.h. Run-of-mine coal.

Chairman's Letter

The connection between these pictures and Christmas may appear to be slight, but it is nevertheless important. They portray two of a number of coal preparation plants which we have lately designed and built.

Christmas being a time of good cheer, we need warmth within and without—in our hearts and in our hearths.

For our hearths, with curtailed oil supplies and our nuclear power schemes taking some years to develop, on account of their size, we are more than ever dependent upon coal. Perhaps some of us will be able to



CALVERTON COLLIERY — Coal Preparation Plant, handling 450 t.p.h. Run-of-mine coal.



Another view of Calverton Colliery Coal Preparation Plant.

A Merry Christmas
and
A Happy New Year
to all the Readers of
"Wright Ahead"

collect a Yule log, thus, for the time being, making us slightly less dependent on these fuels.

But whatever contribution we make to our own Christmas cheer let us not forget those who are less fortunately placed than ourselves.

I know I am expressing the feelings of all of us in hoping that:

*"Let the wind whistle as it will
We'll keep our Christmas merry still."*

Richard Miles



Mr. and Mrs. K. Knudsen

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to :

Eggescliffe Foundry

Mr. K. Knudsen to Miss V. Parker.

Head Wrightson Steel Foundries

Teesdale

Miss Rita Cartwright to Mr. Peter Franklin (S. Forge).
Mr. K. Dawson to Miss A. Noble.

Head Wrightson Machine Co.

Mr. Jas. McLaren to Miss P. McDonough.

McKee Division

Mr. J. Scaife to Miss D. Ramshaw.

Headquarters

Miss N. Greenwell to Mr. D. Hyde, B.Sc.

Head Wrightson Processes Ltd.

Mr. R. W. L. Yates (D.O.) to Miss T. Martyr.



Mr. and Mrs. G. Watson

Machine Shop

Mr. G. Watson to Miss K. Jones.

DEATHS

Condolences to the relatives of :

Eggescliffe

Mr. L. Whitfield.

Stockton Forge

Mr. J. R. Marshall.

Mr. B. Jameson both of whom were the Company's pensioners.

Steel Foundries

Mr. A. Bell, late of Foundry Shop.

ENGAGEMENTS

Best wishes to :

McKee Division

Miss E. A. McPherson to Mr. J. A. Burns.

Colliery Engineering Ltd.

Teesdale

Miss Janet Morgan to Mr. Barry Curson (Eng. Div. D.O.)

Miss Freda Hutchinson to Mr. Derek Raine.

Seaton

Miss A. Kaye to Mr. Keith Collins.

Steel Foundries

Stockton Mr. T. C. Douglas to Miss A. Redican.

H.W. Machine Co.

Mr. Dave Walton to Miss Kendra Shaw.

SILVER WEDDING

Hearty congratulations to :

Mr. and Mrs. W. Newbould — Eggescliffe Foundry.

BIRTHS

Congratulations to :

Eggescliffe Foundry

Mr. and Mrs. D. Haswell — a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Beevers — a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Waters — a son.

Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.

Teesdale

Mr. and Mrs. John Styan — a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron. Johnson — a daughter.

Stockton

Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Broadbent — a son.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Kirk — a son.

The Head Wrightson Machine Co.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Boston — a son.

Mr. and Mrs. R. King — a son.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Garbutt — a son.

Mr. and Mrs. Braith Orton — a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hudson — twin daughters.

Stockton Forge

Mr. and Mrs. J. Fawcett — a son.

Head Wrightson Processes Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Steward — a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Kent — a son.



Early morning P.T. for our apprentices

VISITORS FROM ABROAD

Headquarters

Mr. L. D. Byrne — Marketing Officer of U.K. Trade Commissioners from Edmonton, Canada.

Mr. E. H. Hilgeman and B. Marquis — Directors, Singmaster & Braher, New York.

Mr. W. Miller — Director, Montreal Locomotive Works, Canada.

McKee Division**Indian Journalists**

Mr. K. S. Ramachandran — "The Hindu," Madras.

Mr. K. Sharda — "The Times of India," Bombay.

Lt. Col. R. Bobb — British Information Services, New Delhi.

Manuel Danvila — Aviles.

The Head Wrightson Machine Co.

Mr. E. E. Swartswelter, Chairman.

Mr. H. G. Coffey — President.

Mr. P. Sapsara, Sales Engineer, Cold Draw Department.

Mr. N. Gordon and Mr. G. Myers, Engineering Department, All of Aetna Standard Engineering Co., Pittsburgh, U.S.A.

Mr. Raha, Chief Engineer of Tinplate Company of India Ltd.

Dr. Rawdon-Smith, Engineering Consultant of Linderman Engineering Co., Washington, U.S.A.

Mr. Mukul Gangopadaya, an Indian student has joined us for a period of six months to study our rate fixing and progressing methods.

Personnel Department

Mr. R. Sathe — High official of Indian Ministry of Labour. Great interest in our apprentice training scheme.

HEAD WRIGHTSON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

The Dramatic Society is, unfortunately, getting off to a late start this season. This is due, partly, to the difficulty in finding suitable plays and, partly, to our not realising the popularity of Teesdale Hall and how far ahead it is necessary to book it. Because of this our next production will not be staged until January.

This will be "The Blue Goose" by Peter Blackmore, a very rollicking comedy, dealing with the impact of a "lone wolf" yachtsman on the snobbish society of a small sea coast town, including the mayor (a former jockey turned undertaker), the borough treasurer and his family and an admiral's widow. We hope that many old and new friends will come along to this production, and that they won't be dissuaded by the news that some members of the cast have to sing as well as act.

During the time which has elapsed since our last production, the Society members have not been idle. While the play selection Sub-Committee read and rejected script, after script, the scenic builders worked away at improving the workshop until it now resembles something from "The Ideal Home Exhibition." On the social side, an evening mystery trip was held in July and, of course, our Annual Dance on the last Friday in October at Teesdale Hall. The latter, following the pattern of previous years, was again a huge success.

Our monthly meetings have gone from strength to strength and are always well supported by our members. They have provided some interesting fare, a highlight being a talk by Mr. Ian Cunningham, producer of the Court Players at Stockton Hippodrome. From all this, you will see that we have been busy, if there have not been any dramatic activities to show our audiences. We do hope that you will come along in large numbers in January to see "The Blue Goose."

ENGINEERING DIVISION**Machine Shop** (by J. Hunter)

When H.M. The Queen opened Calder Hall Power Station, the Press went to great lengths to explain in

everyday language, the wonders of this new plant. What interested us most was the part played by Heat Exchangers and, at the time of writing, the main topic of the day is oil or the lack of it. Though the heat exchangers we normally make are very much smaller than those on the Calder Hall Power Station. It was natural, that we should approach Jack Wellum and find out just what went on in his Heat Exchanger shop.

The type of equipment fabricated in the Heat Exchanger shop falls into two main categories, for Chemical Plant and Oil Refinery Plant.

In the former, we have recently completed for I.C.I. Wilton, heat transfer equipment for the Butadiene and No. 2 Olefines, Plant, both plants now being in operation.

A repeat order has been obtained for similar equipment on the No. 3 Olefines, Wilton, which will give a 50% increase in capacity over No. 2 Plant and the Drawing Office have already begun work on this contract.

The Wilton project holds further interest for us at the present time in the shape of a series of Stainless Steel Blenders and Dryers for the Nylon Plant.

On the Refinery side an ever-increasing volume of equipment is being supplied for the vast installations at Curacao and Cardon in Venezuela. A recently obtained order calls for similar crude distillation equipment for Shellhaven, England.

A series of Tube bundles, a valuable source of work, has just been completed for a new client, the Mobil Oil Company, and this is an indication of a continually expanding interest in this field.

A further series of contracts which caused considerable outside interest, as well as internal problems, were the stainless steel Heavy Water Coolers. As well as fabrication difficulties, the testing involved the use of equipment more searching than previously encountered. A point of major importance in the testing was the very high standard of cleanliness required. The measures adopted to obtain this desired condition, involved a pickling process which necessitated the use of complete rigs of protective clothing, fairly cumbersome to wear, but completely justified by the test results obtained.

Having read this report on the Heat Exchange Department, we can look forward to the future with confidence.

Too often in recent months, we have had to record the departure of long service workmates so we derive great pleasure from welcoming back, after a long illness, one of our veterans, Dick Addison. Dick tells us that he has made a good recovery from his severe illness and speaks well of his treatment at Manor House Hospital. We are also pleased to welcome back to duty Les. Usher (Rate fixer) and Ralph Storey.

To all other divisions and departments of the organisation, we extend our very good wishes for the Festive season.

IRON FOUNDRY DIVISION**Welcome back :**

We welcome back after National Service:— Mr. J. Poulter (Moulder), Mr. A. E. Peat (Moulder).

We also welcome back after prolonged illness:— Mr. E. Littlefair (Pattern Shop), Mr. J. Gillings (Ingot Dresser), Mr. J. Greenwell (Moulder).

Speedy Return :

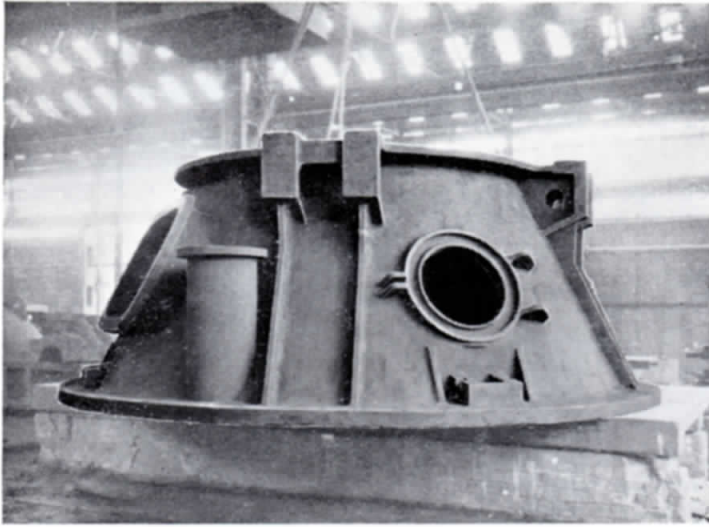
We hope that Mr. W. Hardy will soon be back again after his long illness.

Retirement. Happy leisure and contentment to:

Mr. J. H. Handley (Watchman), who has been with us for fifty eight years.

All at Egglecliffe send to all Divisions and Companies of Head Wrightson's organisation sincere greetings for the Christmastide and New Year.

HEAD WRIGHTSON STEEL FOUNDRIES LTD.



Cast steel distributor base for Broken Hill — weight sixteen and a half tons — from Steel Foundry, Teesdale.

Teesdale

A month or two ago Tommy Hodgson in "Fieldens" Shop invented an appliance for holding small castings to the grinding wheel during the dressing operation. It enabled the job to be done better and easier and he was suitably rewarded for his idea and several of these tools have now been made. A little thought might bring forth other ideas which could improve quality, speed up production, or make an operation easier. The Management is always interested.

Congratulation to Mr. R. McDonald (Labs.) on gaining his City and Guilds of London Institute Insignia Award in Technology. This was in the field of Chemical Industries — Ferrous Metallurgy.

Congratulation, too, to Mr. J. Hodgson and his merry men who won the Interdepartmental Rinks Final after a very long game. The opposing Maintenance team put up a very keen struggle but had to admit defeat in the end. Better luck next time, Charlie.

The Labs. and Steel Foundry office team were also runners-up in the inter-departmental bowls competition but were defeated in a stern battle by the Bridge Yard team.

It is with regret that we have to record the death of one of our old workmates, Mr. Arthur Bell, otherwise known as "Ding-Dong" to his colleagues. Mr. Bell had been ill for a considerable time. We express our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

Congratulations to Miss Rita Cartwright, Typist, (H.W. Steel Foundries Ltd.) on her marriage to Peter Franklin (Stockton Forge) on Saturday 24th, November, 1956.

Stockton

Congratulations to Messrs. A. Stainton, J. Umpleby, T. Peacock, W. Marshall, J. Gaddes all of whom won prizes at our annual fruit and vegetable show.

Your magazine representative says that you are complaining of lack of news about your Division. He says you should bring him the news and he will include it.

H.W. "STAMPINGS" LIMITED

On the 22nd of September, members of the Staff and friends spent a happy week-end in Blackpool. Our thanks to Mesdames Hagon, Russell and Coulson who organised this outing.

The 3rd of September marked the beginning of a week's engagement at Middlesbrough "Empire" Theatre, for Leslie Johnson, who is employed in the Despatch

Department. He is gaining fame as a siffleur — whistler to you and me. Ronnie Ronalde will have to look to his laurels, if this continues. Of course, all that is needed for this kind of thing, is an extraordinary throat and all the time in the world to listen to the birdies on the privet surrounding the Gate-house. Incidentally, he was successful at a recent B.B.C. audition and has been informed that he has been placed on the Variety List for future programmes. Congratulations, Leslie and remember, you will have to learn to write now, in readiness for those autographs!



It might not be generally known, but "Monty" is none other than Shirley Montgomery of the Wages Department. We all agree, she does a fine job of work — with her sketches.

It is quite possible that before the publication of this issue has taken place, two of our draughtsmen, Lloyd Nelson and Arnold Gascoigne will have been "caught in the draught." Already they have been given expert advice as how not to pass their medical, appear intelligent and even prove their existence. It's nice to know that there are some who would prefer that they stayed with us.

Congratulations to Miss Anne Kay (Comptometer Operator) upon her engagement to Mr. Keith Collins of West Hartlepool.

Congratulations also to Miss Shirley Siddell (Abstract Clerk) (the Department not the condition) upon attaining her majority.

We wish a speedy recovery to Mr. L. Dent (Shear Shop) who is suffering from a fractured foot.

Congratulations to Miss Audrey Readman (Costs) on the occasion of her 21st Birthday — 26th of November.

The Staff extend their best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mr. Arthur Day (Cost Office) who is at present in hospital.

Friends of Mr. "Tutty" Smith will be sorry to learn that at the time of writing he had suffered rather a bad burn to the eye, in the course of his employment. We hope that he will soon be well again.

It would help considerably the distribution of the Magazines, if the Foreman or Shop-representative of each department would collect them from me, when they are received at Seaton. A notice to this effect was recently displayed in the Work's Canteen, but apparently ignored. Personnel Department at Teesdale has kindly supplied the extra copies asked for.

We welcome the return to "Stampings" of Mr. A. Athey, Works' Engineer.

We at "Stampings" wish to extend to all departments at home and overseas and to members of our Organisation serving with H.M. Forces, a very happy Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year. "Once again a page is turned in the Book of Remembrance." May I also take this opportunity to wish all connected with our News Letter, "Seasons Greetings" and especially to all magazine representatives — "Happy Writing" for 1957.

STOCKTON FORGE

We wish for a speedy recovery for Messrs. A. Bowes, W. Jordan and G. Rowe, and are pleased to have back with us after a long illness, Mr. E. Nugent.

Mr. J. Hunter of the Fitting Shop was unfortunate enough to break his arm while playing football for Stockton West End.

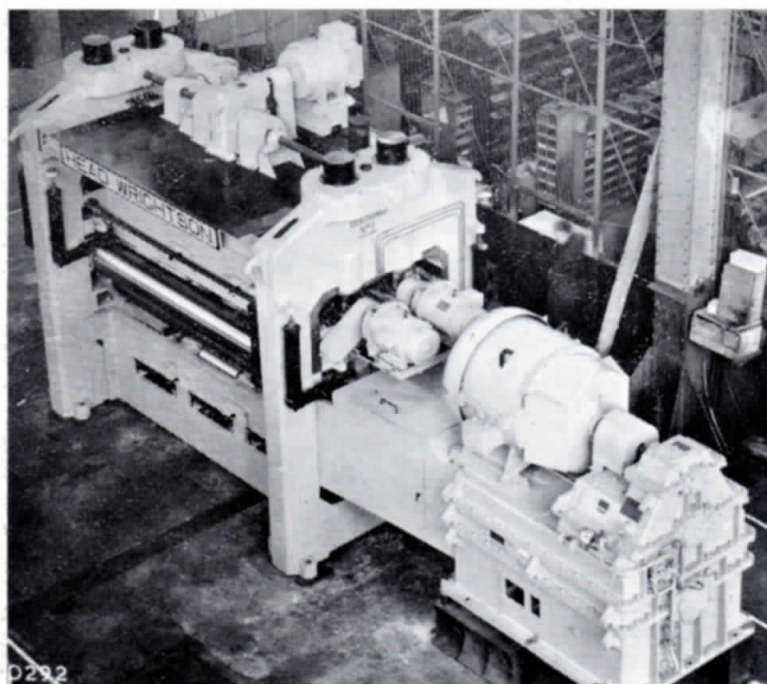
One of our fellow employees, Mr. J. Skipper, sailed for Salt Lake City on 16th November last. We wish him "Bon Voyage" and hope he will settle down among the Yanks.

HEAD WRIGHTSON MACHINE CO., LTD.

Pleased to say that John Ridsdale (Estimating) is out of hospital and is now managing to get around on his crutches — (No rock'n roll yet, John).

Welcome to new starter, George Hunt, (Estimating) and a return to the fold for R. Sowerby (Purchasing).

Farewell to Don, Burns, who has moved on to Teesdale (Colliery Engineering) we wish him luck in his new post. The married men's team at Middlesbrough will now have a scout round for a new centre forward.



Shipyard Plate Leveller for 10' x 1½" thick plate supplied to Altos Hornos de Vizcaya, Spain, by H.W. Machine Co.

Welcome also to Miss Anne Purvis, who joins the Progress Department in place of Miss Hilda Archer.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Messrs. Robert Reed, Danny Murray and Fred Lochrie.

Congratulations to Mr. Robert Lyall on his bowling prowess which brought him the Four-wood cup.

In the Soccer sphere, the married men were more than a match for the bachelors, so there must be something in this Benedict stuff. Verb. sap. (Get cracking).

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hudson on the advent of twin girls, Julie and Anne. We understand there is no further use for the family alarm clock.

Mr. Dave Walton celebrated the attainment of his majority and his engagement to Miss Kendra Shaw on the same day by acting as host at a dinner for both families. Hearty congratulations, Dave.

Holiday interest.

Engineering of the pre-railway period provided the excuse for Mr. F. A. Batty to spend a late summer weekend on the North Welsh Border when along with other members of the Railway and Canal Historical Society, he visited places of interest along the Ellsmere and Chester Canal.

In addition, a five mile section of the canal, along which were situated some notable feats of engineering, was traversed by narrow boat. This section was built in 1805 and included two aqueducts built by Telford, the larger of the two being at a height of one hundred and twenty five feet above the level of the river Dee and over two hundred yards long. Also included in this section were two tunnels, one of which was about half a mile in length.

The boat was horse drawn over most of the section but it was necessary for the bargee to pull it slowly across the aqueducts in order to reduce the pressure on the side plates due to the displacement of water. Both aqueducts were constructed from cast iron flanged plates and the clearance between the side of the boat and the side of the tank was only a few inches either side, as can be seen from the illustration which shows the boat crossing the river Dee. Torches were used for the passage through the two tunnels.

During the journey frequent stops were made to open bridges, inspect old tram roads and various lock installations. A repair depot, complete with dry dock and equipped with many old tools still in use, was examined. On Saturday evening a number of old documents and photographs relating to the formation of the canal were examined.

On the Sunday by permission of the War Department, members travelled by special train along the length of the Shropshire and Montgomeryshire Light Railway into its old terminal station at Shrewsbury Abbey and then returned making frequent stops to examine items of interest.

After lunch they travelled by petrol rail car along the branch line of the S & M Light Railway to the village of Criggion, a distance of about six miles. This branch line had been built to serve a granite quarry which is still being worked extensively. The S & M L. R. was built in 1862 and many of the sections were still laid with the original rails and chairs of a rather peculiar pattern. The total length of the line was eleven miles, plus the six mile branch to Criggion. Amongst the many engineering features of this line were two crossings of the river Severn on substantial viaducts. These are now being replaced by War Department bridges and the original bridges are being demolished.

The special train crossed the roads at a number of points without the aid of crossing gates. The technique

used was to ease the nose of the locomotive out on to the road and then rush across when all was clear, much to the amazement of the road users.

The party was accompanied throughout by a film cameraman of the B.B.C. recording the occasion which was shown on Television news reel during the following week.



Crossing the Aqueduct

H. W. COLLIERY ENGINEERING LTD.

Thornaby

At last the alterations to the offices and decorations are almost complete, and to coin a phrase "You wouldn't know the old place." We must thank all members of the Works Engineering Staff who have contributed effort to effect this and say we think they've done a good job. The highlight of the proceedings came towards the end when two men (no names — no packdrill) came to adjust the strong room door, which would not shut properly, and after much filing and grinding successfully closed it — only to find it would not open, even with four men on the end of the rope. It was fortunate for them they closed it from the outside.

Mr. Wass has just got over the shock — the shock of at last being in his own office — he has been waiting since February and had almost become resigned to being a nomad. However, he can now work out all his technical problems in peace and privacy.

We wish to welcome to our Newcastle Office — Mr. J. Holmes, and to Thornaby — Mr. D. Burns, Mr. C. J. Hobson and Mrs. B. M. Watts.

Our congratulations and best wishes go to Miss Janet Morgan on her engagement to Mr. Barry Curson of the Engineering Division Drawing Office, and to Miss Freda Hutchinson who has become engaged to Mr. Derek Raine.

Sheffield

We are pleased to welcome back Mr. Gerald Gibson and Mr. Grenville Thorpe who have completed their national service.

We wish to congratulate Mr. Roy Baggaley who has obtained his Higher National Certificate in Engineering, and Messrs. Brian Walker, Eric Salvin and John Gulson who have obtained their National Certificate in Engineering.

Our best wishes to Mr. Brian Walker and Mr. Keith Cooper who have joined the Forces to commence their national service.

Mrs. E. Nash (Head Tracer) and Mrs. B. Keeling (Tracer) have left us after being employed here for a number of years. They will be shortly taking up "full-time" domestic duties.

We welcome into the Tracing Office Mrs. Wilson who has taken up the appointment of Head Tracer.

Mrs. K. Spikesley (Filing Dept.) celebrated her Silver Wedding Anniversary last month, and we offer her and Mr. Spikesley our hearty congratulations.

Mr. Charles Priest (Drawing Office) has been in hospital for a number of weeks following a car accident, and we hope that he will soon be returning to the office.

On Saturday, the 27th of October, a number of the staff visited the CENTRAL COAL PREPARATION PLANT at MANVERS MAIN in whose design many of them have been associated. The party were conducted round the plant by the Technical Staff who were very helpful in explaining the intricate working of this huge project.

Heartiest Christmas greetings to all members of the Head Wrightson Group of Companies and best wishes for the coming year from the Sheffield staff.

McKEE DIVISION

At this festive season we should like to wish everyone in H.W. a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

As promised in the last issue, Jack Johnson has been persuaded to give us some more "gen" on his visit to Finland.

"Although most of my time spent in Finland was in Helsinki I was able to see much of the countryside and landscape south of the Arctic circle by means of excursions. The country itself is approximately three times the size of England though the number of cities and towns is considerably less and most of these, especially the large and industrial towns, are situated along the sea coast.

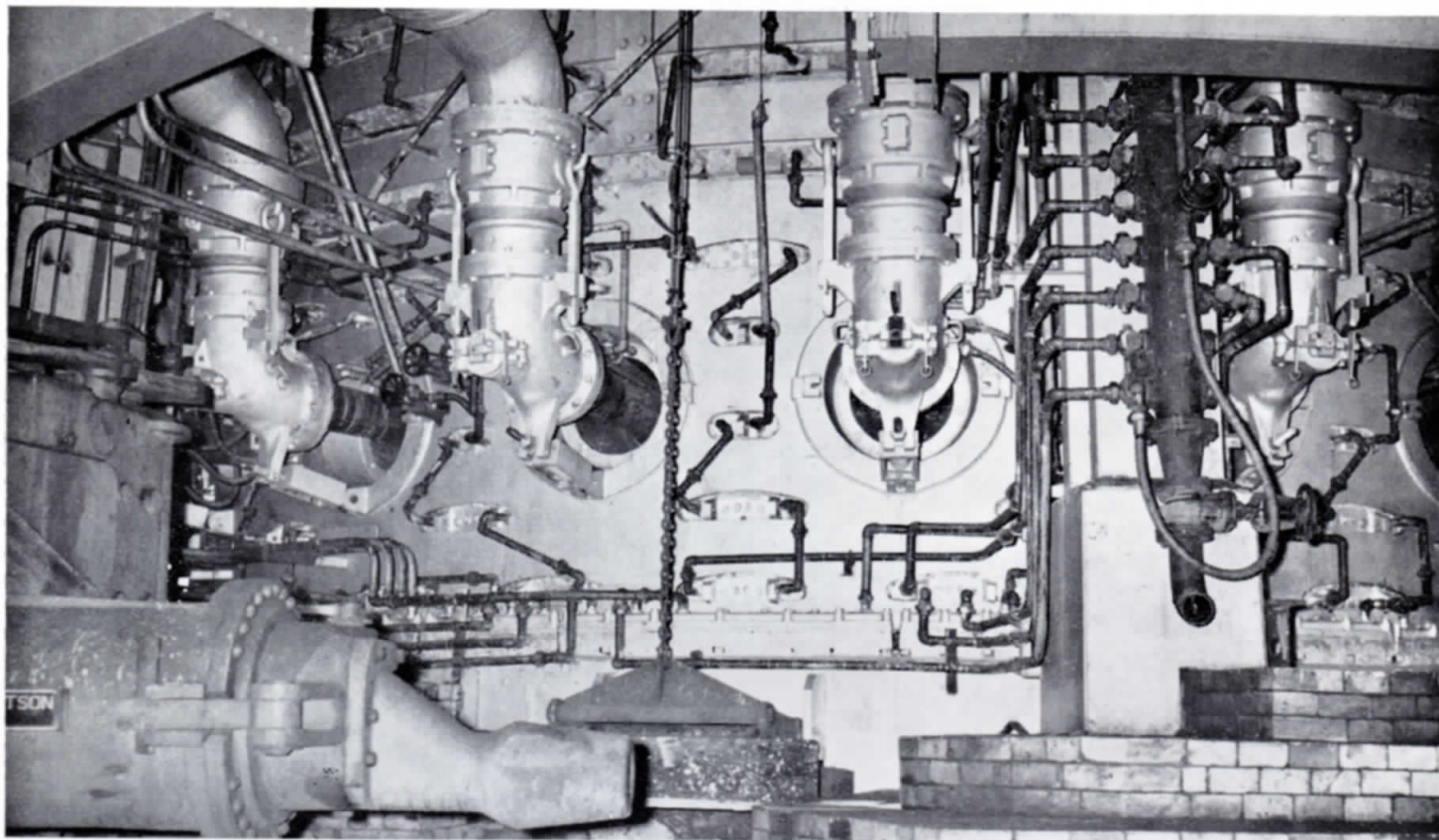
The landscape in the eastern and middle parts of Finland consists mainly of immense forests of pine, spruce and birch trees, interspersed with thousands of lakes. The eastern parts, however, are largely devoted to agriculture although here, too, there are lakes and much forest land. In all, 71% of the land area is made up of forests whilst 60,000 lakes make up 9% of the total area. Although the land rises gradually towards the north from the south coast, there are no really high hills or mountains south of the Arctic circle.

Many people seem to be of the impression that Finland is a cold country — well, so it is during the winter, extremely cold, but during the summer the southern parts have average daily temperatures of 60°F. for the months of June, July and August. Like most parts of Europe, Finland had more rain this year than usual, but generally the average annual rainfall is similar to that in this country.

The population of Finland is just over 4,000,000 and of these, 400,000 live in Helsinki. It is really a bi-lingual country, many people, especially on the south and west coasts, speaking both Swedish and Finnish.

Personally I found the people to be extremely friendly and in the many homes which I visited I was overwhelmed by their generosity and kindness. In a few of these I was invited to have a sauna, which is something so typically Finnish that I think it is worth a full description.

The sauna is a bath-house heated by a stove, the top half of which is filled with cobble stones. Water is thrown over these to produce steam. The cleansing effect results from the sweating caused by the heat of the steam, and this is often stimulated by beating the body with whisks made of leafy birch twigs. The temperatures produced may be anything from 75°C. to 120°C., though the higher temperatures are mainly produced in the electrically



View of new Blast Furnace at Dorman Long's showing Water Cooler Piping, Tuyere Stock and Clay Gun (designed by McKee Iron & Steel Division).

heated saunas. The sweating session is followed by a cold shower or, depending on the situation of the sauna, a plunge into a lake. This form of bath may sound rather horrifying to some people and the wary foreigner may be justified in agreeing to take his first sauna with trepidation and the wish not to hurt his host's feelings.

However, the exhilarating after-effects makes one wonder why the sauna has not been made more popular in other countries.

The Finns are very keen sportsmen and though ball games are the most popular they are closely followed by athletics and winter sports such as ski-ing and skating. There are, however, ample opportunities for swimming, boxing, cycling and sailing.

The food in Finland is plentiful and not very different from that in this country, although it is a little more expensive. Of the restaurants which I visited, many of which were the self-service type, I thought that the general standard of cleanliness and hygiene was superior to that in our restaurants.

Although the roads in the cities and larger towns are reasonably good, the connecting roads are only moderate and in some cases they are very bad. The railways however are not too bad and travel by rail can be quite comfortable, providing one sticks to the diesel trains or the modern coaches. The older coaches have wooden seats with extremely little padding and no head rest, which makes long journeys uncomfortable and tedious. All this however applies only to the equivalent of our third class coaches — not possessing the means to travel first class in either country I am unable to make any comparisons between the two. Lots of people undertaking rather long journeys travel by air, as the services to most parts are frequent, speedy and very little more expensive than first class rail fare.

I have endeavoured above to describe, rather sketchily I am afraid, something of the country and people of Finland. Of course there are many things that I have omitted, but I hope you find those of which I have written of interest."

H.W. PROCESSES LTD.

We wish all members of the Head Wrightson Organisation our heartiest greetings for the Christmas, 1956, festive season. This age old wish of peace and goodwill is extended to all peoples wherever they may be with the sincere hope that they, too, will enjoy the spirit of Christmas.

Our Annual Staff Dance took place on 30th November, when it was our pleasure to welcome as many of our friends from Thornaby and district, as were able to attend. Look out for a full account in our next number!

Reverting to day to day business, "Dido" the first nuclear research reactor to be designed by H.W.P. went into action at Harwell on the 6th November, 1956.

The reactor will step up greatly the production of radio isotopes which are widely used for medical and industrial research, and will serve as a chamber for testing the behaviour of materials under high flux conditions.

A team of engineers and draughtsmen from our offices in London has been working closely with the Authorities at Harwell on this project, and at the present time the Atomic Energy Division of the Company is handling the design of three similar reactors, two for this country and one for Australia.

The design of a research reactor is a major engineering feat, calling for the closest attention to detail, and necessitating the use of unusual materials which have to be manufactured to very fine tolerances.

We proudly claim to be pioneers in the atomic industry, and this first monument to our skills surely establishes beyond question our right to this distinction.

Another achievement by H.W.P. is the award by the Regent Oil Company of a contract for the design, engineering, procurement and erection supervision of a Lubricating Oil Blending Plant, which is to be built at Dagenham in Essex.

Again we wish all a merry Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.

H. W. PERSONALITY

MR. J. Geo. ALLEN

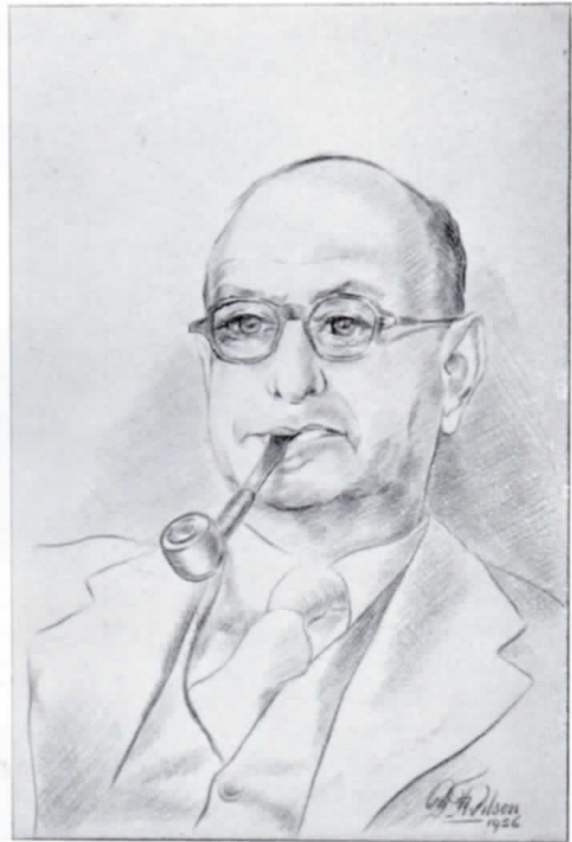
DIRECTOR AND GENERAL MANAGER

Head Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd.

Mr. J. Geo. Allen commenced work as office boy at Egglecliffe Foundry on 6th of April, 1914 and after two months was transferred to Stockton Forge Works, where he carried out the duties of office boy for about a year. Then came a move to Teesdale Shipping Department with the oversight of sales of Moores Pulley Blocks and Humble Hooks as a side line. From October, 1915 to early 1919 his service with the Company was interrupted by World War I during which period he was in the Yorkshire Regiment. In June, 1923, Mr. Allen became the one and only member of the Steel Foundry department commercial staff. In those far off days, the steel foundry consisted only of the brick portion of the buildings we see to-day, and the output of castings was very small indeed when compared with present day figures. J.G.A., who is now a Director and General Manager of Head, Wrightson Steel Foundries Ltd., was appointed to the Board of the old Stockton Steel Foundry Co., Ltd., in May, 1946.

Mr. Allen is a member of the Institute of British Foundrymen and Chairman of the Main Cost Committee of the British Steel Founders' Association. In addition he is a member of the Steel Castings Specification Committee of the British Standards Institute. For more than 35 years he has been actively associated with the St. John Ambulance Brigade and in June of this year, the Queen sanctioned his admission as a Serving Brother of the Order of St. John in recognition of his services to the Stockton and Thornaby Division, of which he is President and Treasurer.

He has not forgotten the early training he received under Ben Elliott and the late Freddie Ball, and takes



pleasure in the measure of success achieved by some of his old boys among whom can be mentioned Norman Rutherford, Director, H.W. (South Africa) Ltd., George Gowthorpe, General Manager, H.W. Machine Co., George Holligon (H.W. Cashier), Norman Addison, Commercial Manager of Egglecliffe Foundry and Angus Vickerson (H.W. Planning and Progress).



HEAD WRIGHTSON SENIOR STAFF GUILD

A hundred members and guests attended the fifth annual dinner held in Teesdale Hall on Wednesday, 7th November.

The chief guest was Mr. R. Miles, Chairman of the Head Wrightson Group, who was supported by the senior management and officials of the various companies and divisions.

Mr. J. Shaw, President of the Guild, proposing the toast of "The Company," welcomed the guests and remarked on the rapid and continuing development of the Head Wrightson Group. He said that the increasing need created for technicians offered great scope for young people in the future.

Mr. Miles, in responding to the toast, said he had a pleasant duty to perform; now that the Guild was firmly established, he wished to present — on behalf of the Directors of the group — a Badge of Office to be worn by the president at future Guild functions (see photograph). Mr. Miles stressed that the Guild Dinner was the only function when most of the the senior management and staff were assembled, and he took the opportunity of outlining present developments of Company policy, including changes in the status of various divisions in the coming financial year. He intimated that official announcements would be made in due course.

Mr. Shaw, in accepting the Badge on behalf of the Guild, said how much it was appreciated, and thanked Mr. Miles and the Directors for their support and encouragement in making this presentation.

The toast of "The Guild" was given by Mr. R. H. Sturges, General Manager Engineering Division, who, in the course of his speech, offered facilities for Guild members to visit the Engineering Division workshops in the near future.

Mr. G. Burton, Vice-President, replying, outlined past and future Guild activities, and also accepted Mr. R. H. Sturges' kind offer.

The Guild and their guests were entertained for the remainder of the evening by musical items provided by D. Rainbow and Company.

The members of Head Wrightson Senior Staff Guild regret the passing of the first President, Mr. F. Marriott of Stockton Steel Foundry.