

SNIPPETS FROM THE 'S&L MAGAZINE' SPRING 1959

IS A TUBE A PIPE OR
A PIPE A TUBE?

IS A TUBE A PIPE or a PIPE A TUBE?

(Reprinted from "Pipes and Pipelines")

It is a common misconception that the French language lends itself to the expression of delicate shades of meaning, while the English have to be content with a down-to-earth "Call a spade a spade" vocabulary. To disprove this we have only to take, as an example, the adjectives: bashful, coy, diffident, shy, timid, timorous.

All of these have roughly the same meaning, but with each one there is a distinct difference in usage, hard though this would be to explain to a foreigner. Turning now to the French language, we find that in spite of that Academy and all those old gentlemen with red rosettes in their buttonholes it can offer only one translation "timide" for all these six beautiful adjectives!

However, when we come to the words "pipe" and "tube" it would seem that we have indulged in multiplicity without differentiation as it is impossible to say that there is any grammatical or philological difference between the two words. Even the editors of the O.E.D. have to admit defeat. They dwell for as long as possible on the subsidiary meanings of interest to smokers, musicians, boatswains and the London Passenger Transport Board, but when they are finally forced to get down to the meaning as referred to a piece of material wrapped round a hole, all that they can say is:

Pipe.—A hollow cylinder of wood, metal, etc., for conveyance of gas, water, vapour, etc., or for other purposes; a tube.

Tube.—A hollow body, usually cylindrical and long in proportion to its diameter, of wood, metal, glass, etc., used to convey or contain a liquid or for other purposes; a pipe.

The giant combine in the steel tube trade have for many years tried to steer buyers into using "tube" for the smaller sizes of welded tube mainly used for gas, water, steam, air, etc. (They have, in fact, invented the even more explicit description "gas list tube" for these) and they seek to reserve "pipe" for the larger article (usually seamless) used to convey oil, high-pressure steam, etc. This seems logical because one speaks of an "oil pipeline," but never of a "tubeline."

The copper and lead people seem to stick to "pipe" on the whole and the polythene new boys hover between the two. My own

firm uses "pipe" in its polythene section, but we may be in the minority.

If it came to choosing the most agreeable word my vote would be for "tube." To me the word "pipe" has a cold, hard and modern sound and brings to my mind those endless photographs of the things stretched out across some desert for miles and miles with grinning natives welding them together (and returning at night to blow them apart again). Pipelines are also uncomfortably connected with power politics, and the British taxpayer is always being warned that something frightful is going to happen to the oil line between places with names like Matodi and Ishmaelia, and that it will not be worth while re-licensing the car.

On the other hand "tube" (and more particularly "gas tube") has a cosy Victorian sound and one pictures the women of Wednesbury and Walsall stripped to the waist shaping red hot metal into tubes that will convey Mr. Murdoch's new invention to the gas jets situated on each side of the stained oak and mirrored overmantel in some lush Victoria sitting-room. This mental picture, pleasing though it is, is not historically accurate as the naked women belonged, I believe, to the chain trade in Cradley Heath and Mr. Murdoch's coal gas was first conveyed through gun barrels left over from the Napoleonic War.

The resourceful blacksmiths of Wednesbury and district bought these up from the Government surplus of the day and cross-welded them on the anvil to make them, in the words of the O.E.D., "long in proportion to their diameter." The Irish, being a race with a highly developed sense of history, continued to order tubes as "gun barrel" right into the thirties and frequently drove manufacturers into a frenzy by abbreviating to "G.B.," leaving the supplier to guess whether they meant black gun barrel or galvanized barrel.

We do not, alas, seem to have got any farther towards answering the question posed in my title, and it is one that I should like to see answered as I have a tidy mind and am intimately connected with the tube (pipe) trade. In my opening paragraphs I referred to the French Academy with some slight disrespect, but if we had a similar organization in this country we might at least get the matter settled once and for all.



Genial Paddy Charlton is a familiar figure in Natal. He was on the road in the Company's interests while stationed in Durban.

COMPANY
PERSONALITY

Company Personality

MR. PADDY CHARLTON PIETERMARITZBURG

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Joining the Company as a Trainee at Cape Town in 1951, he was transferred to Durban in 1953 where he firmly established himself in "A" Department and became immensely popular with everybody. Recently transferred as Chief Clerk at Pietermaritzburg his quick rise in the Company is a good reflection on his abilities.

Paddy is a keen sportsman and is no mean tennis player and has represented S & L. at cricket in Durban.



1943



1959

THE OLD AND THE NEW

There are about sixteen years between these two photographs, both taken from the same place, of Salisbury Branch Stores. The change for the better is phenomenal and says much for the great expansion of the Branch.

It is unfortunate that in the 1959 photograph, so much prominence has to be given to the Branch's next door Indian neighbour, who specialises in spices and curries and accessories such as Bombay duck!

THE OLD AND
THE NEW



PIPEWORK, DESIGN AND CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT



NEW PREMISES



NEW PREMISES FOR THE UPINGTON DEPOT



"VICOMTE" designed by HENRY A LA PENSEE is a beach ensemble consisting of drainpipe flannel trousers and a bright multi-coloured print cotton top



"CHIO" is the name of this beach hooded-chemise by JACQUES HEIM. It is in a light blue jersey, with a bright red belt

BEACH AND SWIM WEAR

Spring in the air and the mind leaps to outdoor relaxation and holidaying. What has Paris to offer for casual wear for such occasions? Warmer weather heralds a gay season this year. The more feminine lines are back again, and the emphasis is on freshness and vivacious colour.

Top feature this year—printed shirts, worn with shorts, slacks or jeans. These are loose fitting, with or without sleeves, in bold multi-coloured patterns. Candy stripes are to the fore, in royal blue and burnt yellow, or moss green and coral. Floral or abstract designs are also fashion favourites, and gay paisleys are very much here again. As an alternative to shirts, there is the blouse



"TAMPICO," by JACQUES HEIM, is a two-piece bathing ensemble. The beach attire is a long girdled robe of white and red striped cotton which, when slipped off, reveals a fashioned one-piece swim suit in white jersey



with a tie-in waist and scooped or "boat" neck, most popular with the rolled collar.

As regards dresses, the waist is definitely back where it belongs, a fact often celebrated by a triumphant wide belt. Collars tend to be "largely" featured, and broad boat or stand-away collars are popular. Crisp freshness is the keynote and again the fashionable colours are bright blues, greens, reds and yellows, and white is a top favourite.

Bathing costumes seem to be predominantly fashioned one-piece suits. And for beach robes to wear over them, Jacques Heim has designed attractive girdled chemises with, for variety, a low hem-line.

BEACH & SWIM WEAR

OPENING OF NEW PVC PIPE PLANT

Opening of new PVC pipe plant

The evening of Friday, 5th February, saw a very pleasant party held to celebrate the start-up of the new plastic pipe plant for making Unplasticised Polyvinyl Chloride pipe (uPVC for short).

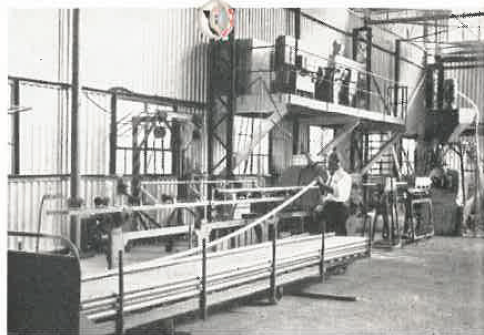
This plant, the first to be installed under a manufacturing agreement between ourselves and a Japanese Company, occupies the first building on the new Vereeniging Works site, between the Recreation Club and the main Johannesburg railway line.

Our Japanese associates, the Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd. supplied the plant, which, at this stage, will make pipe of up to six inch bore. They also supply the raw material, a PVC pipe compound. The installation of the extrusion line and production trials were carried out by Hedisumi Kano, a very pleasant personality, who also proved to be extremely efficient and knowledgeable. It is, however, unlikely that his courteous habit of greeting Company officials by bowing from the waist will be copied by Works' employees generally.

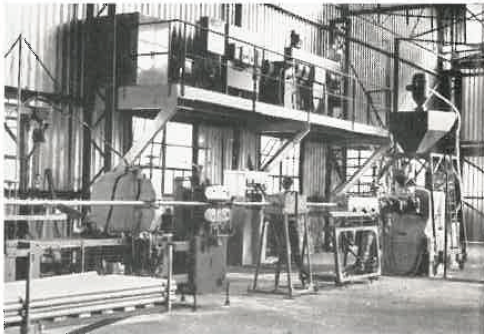
Before Mr. Kano left us on the 16th April, successful trial production runs had been made on all sizes of pipe which we intend, at this stage, to manufacture. Tests carried out by the Works Laboratory, show that the pipe is of a very high standard of quality, and generally, the association with the Sekisui Company, can be said to have saved us years of research and development work.

The pipe will be marketed under the trade mark 'S'-lon, and, as something over 5,000 feet will be produced each month, it should not be long before 'S'-lon pipe is as well-known in the Republic as our other products.

SNIPPETS FROM THE 'S&L MAGAZINE' WINTER 1965



Mr. B. E. Ahlin, Superintendent, Plastic Tube Plant, examining new tubes



Plastic Tube Plant, showing Extruder, Water Baths, Take-Off and Flying Saw

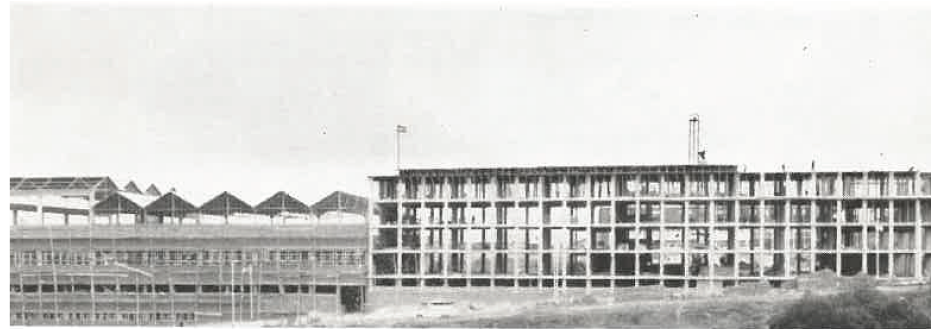


Plastic Tube Plant, Mr. Ahlin, Superintendent, and Mr. Kano discuss a technical point



Roofwetting of the new Johannesburg Offices on Park Central

APRIL 2, 1965



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Top
Mr. T. M. King and Mr. J. Winn

Centre
Johannesburg Offices and Stores on
Park Central, Johannesburg

Bottom
Left to Right: Mr. A. Caruthers, Mr. J.
W. Winn, Mr. J. Kok, Mr. A. V. Edwards
and Mr. D. F. Hanson



ROOFWETTING OF THE NEW JOHANNESBURG OFFICES

APPRENTICES ANNUAL PRIZE-GIVING



Senior Apprentice: A. L. Gullan

120 Apprentices gathered in the Apprentices Basic Training School on 15th April, 1965, for the Annual Prize-giving.

Mr. W. L. Morrison, Managing Director congratulated the prize win-

ners on their achievements and said that the high standard of apprentices in the Works was a source of pride to the Company.

Prizes were then presented to the following apprentices:

Senior apprentice - A. L. Gullan.

Best 4th year - J. R. Millett.

Best 3rd year - Joint Award—

D. F. Darby, R. Gray,
A. E. Stillwell.

Electrician making best progress —
A. J. Heystek.

Welder making best progress —
N. J. Mayer.

Special Awards for Schooling —

D. F. Darby, R. Gray,
A. E. Stillwell, R. O. Paxton,
J. N. Potgieter, L. R. Beasley,
C. Reed.

Award for practical work —
O. J. S. Boshoff.



Best 3rd Year Apprentices Joint Award: Left to Right: R. Gray, D. F. Darby, A. E. Stillwell

MARRIAGES



AN ALL S & L AFFAIR: Wedding of Mr. J. A. West to Miss I. Barnes in April. Left to Right: Bob Ross, Jimmy West, Isabel Barnes and Doreen Lawrence,



Married at Meyerton Dutch Reformed Church on 6th February, 1965, Mr. O. R. Smit, Specials Maintenance Fitters, to Miss Alida Du Toit



Marriage of Miss A. M. Cilliers to Mr. D. C. Kleyhans

MARRIAGES



Mr. and Mrs. J. Biehler



Mr. & Mrs. Michael Neale
nee (Gillian Waetzel)



Mr. and Mrs. John Oosthuizen,
S.T.C., Johannesburg



Mr. & Mrs. J. Maynard,
Kimberley Branch

APPRENTICES ANNUAL PRIZE GIVING

Johannesburg Re-organisation

JOHANNESBURG REORGANISATION



MR. J. W. KOK
General Manager,
Johannesburg Branch
Area



MR. A. CARRUTHERS
Manager, Mining and
Mining Supplies



MR. A. V. EDWARDS
Manager, Industrial, Com-
mercial and Agricultural



MR. W. VAN ASWEGAN
Manager,
Fuel and Power



MR. J. WINN
Administrative Manager



MR. D. DAKERS
Asst. Manager
Commercial Commodities



MR. H. P. BATTERSBY
Asst. Manager
Technical Commodities

30 YEARS SERVICE



Recipients of 30 year service watches presented by Mr. W. N. Menzies-Wilson on 12th February, 1965, at S & L Recreation Club.

From Left to Right: E. W. Light (Chief Storekeeper, Johannesburg), A. V. Edwards (Manager Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Markets Jhb.), W. N. Menzies-Wilson, D. C. Wolmarans (Clearance Dept.), E. Ferreira (Yard), W. J. Groves (Progress Dept.).



Congratulations to Mr. J. L. Handley, Foundry Superintendent, on winning the Alexandra Medal for his paper entitled "An exercise in Method Study" dealing with the moulding of an air vessel using CO₂ process.

The Alexandra Medal was instituted by Mr. G. F. Alexandra, Past President of the South African Institute of Foundrymen, in 1958. The award consists of a bronze medal, and is open to all grades of membership within the Institute.



30 YEARS OF SERVICE