

VISIT TO THE RIVER DON WORKS, SHEFFIELD, OF MESSRS. VICKERS, LTD.

DURING the forenoon of Wednesday, October 17th, 1923, a party of more than twenty members of the Society had an opportunity of visiting the River Don Works of Messrs. Vickers, Ltd. In the rolling mill, special tool steel was being passed through a series of rollers whereby an ingot about 15 inches square and 6 feet long was gradually converted into a bar some 3 inches square and 150 feet long. It was then cut up into lengths. In the crank shop, the various processes in the turning of shafts, large and small, were in operation. In another shop, tyres were being forged and rolled. The party was specially interested in the large battery of Duff producers, and appreciated the explanations given by Mr. J. Imrie, the manager of the department. The party was then conducted to another battery of producers, here of the Rehman type, used in connection with the melting furnaces. These producers were fitted with mechanical ash removers.

Messrs. Vickers, Ltd., have three works in Sheffield, with a total area of 94 acres. The River Don Works cover 83 acres and have five thousand employees. The main products are armour plate, guns, and all kinds of armament material, tool steel, rolled bars and billets, forgings of all kinds of sizes up to 130 tons each, steel castings, drop stampings, railway tyres, springs (laminated and spiral), steel pressings for motor-cars and other road vehicles, files, hack-saws, oil-well boring tools, cold-drawn steel tubes, steel sheets, and electric motors and generators.