



EDWARD J. OSTROWSKI • IRON & STEEL SOCIETY

On March 7, 1977, Edward J. Ostrowski will become the fourth President of the Iron and Steel Society of AIME. The new president will be the first representative of the Ironmaking Division of ISS-AIME to serve as Society President. Ed Ostrowski has been an active participant in the affairs of the Ironmaking Division since the early Sixties.

The new ISS-AIME President will begin his second year on the AIME Board of Directors and will also serve on the 1977 AIME Executive Committee. The incoming President will also serve as Chairman of the Site Selection Committee which will select the location in Pittsburgh for the Society Headquarters.

Ed is Division Chief, Process Metallurgy, Research and Development, National Steel Corporation. He joined National Steel in 1960 following 15 years with the US Bureau of Mines. A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a metallurgical engineering degree, he has completed Continuing Education Courses at Carnegie-Mellon, Penn State and the Industrial Research Institute at Harvard.

He is a recognized authority on blast furnace technology and on can recycling. He has authored numerous papers on ironmaking and steelmaking and holds patents in the same field. His work at National Steel encompasses research on raw materials, ironmaking, steelmaking,

energy and resource recovery.

Mr. Ostrowski served as industries representative to Blast Furnace Research, Inc. Currently he serves on the American Iron and Steel Institute Energy Committee and is Secretary of the Blast Furnace Technical Committee. He is chairman of the subcommittee for standards on Ferrous Scrap from Solid Wastes of the American Society for Testing and Materials. He is a member of American Society of Metals, American Foundrymen's Society, Inc., West Virginia Society of Professional Engineers, American Iron and Steel Institute and Eastern States Blast Furnace and Coke Oven Association. He is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Metallurgical Society of AIME as well as the Iron and Steel Society. He served as chairman of the 1974 Ironmaking Conference and received the J.E. Johnson Award of AIME and the Ironmaking Award of the Metallurgical Society in 1963.

In October Ed Ostrowski invited I&SM to visit with him in his offices at the National Research Lab in Weirton. It became immediately obvious that the incoming President of our Society has two immediate concerns: making the Society attractive to young people now in school and entering the industry, and the growth of the Society to meet the challenges of today's technology.

I&SM: The Iron and Steel Society has taken a different approach to establishing a contact with students in the University. What are your feelings on this approach?

OSTROWSKI: The Iron and Steel Society is interested in attracting students who have been trained to approach and solve problems in a logical manner. Our job is to expose them to the many problems and challenges and career directions that the steel industry provides. This is the basic purpose of our student program. We have started our programs for students through the local Iron and Steel Sections. I think that this is the correct place to start. I

like the Program that the Society has set up. I like it from the standpoint that it's up to the local sections to do the work to interest students in our activities. The sections must make contacts with local universities in their respective geographical areas and set up cooperative interests with faculties involved in the disciplines encountered in the iron and steel industry. The Society must encourage the sections in every possible way to develop student programs.

The local sections must set up strong very well organized programs that provide the opportunity for students to understand what some of the major problems in our industry are all about. From this point we must make certain that these interested students then receive the information that we publish which relates to the technology of our industry. The student has to be aware of our technical publications such as the Conference Proceedings, our reference books, and our monthly magazine. The student won't look for these things. He doesn't have the time.

I&SM: What do you see as an important function for our Society to undertake?

OSTROWSKI: To broaden the scope of the Society. For example, the somewhat different conferences that are forthcoming. When you talk of our Society embracing a multitude of disciplines and accordingly a multitude of problems, these special conferences enter the picture.

The Agglomeration Symposium which we are co-sponsoring with the Society of Mining Engineers in Atlanta at the AIME Annual Meeting is a good example of broadening the Society's scope.

There is also the conference proposed by Gene Harris on Coal and Coke that the Iron and Steel Society will hold next fall. The Ironmaking Division is working with the Coal Division of the Mining Society on the concept of a conference that would be mutually beneficial to the coal mining people and the coke makers



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giving each better understanding of one another's problems, requirements, and objectives.

Then there's the International Iron and Steel Congress which ISS will co-sponsor with ASM in 1978 in Chicago. The Congress will run concurrently with the National Open Hearth and Basic Oxygen Steel Conference and Ironmaking Conference. This will greatly expand the scope of our Society.

While all of these conferences are one time affairs, herein lies the direction that the Society appears to be taking to satisfy the requirements of its members.

It takes much effort and dedicated people. The Society must not close its doors on anyone coming forth and expressing willingness to help in these areas that cross over divisional barriers.

I&SM: While we're on the subject of conferences, do you feel that the Society will broaden its selection of geographic sites for our national conferences?

OSTROWSKI: I don't think so. I say this because of my involvement with both our Society and other professional societies. The value of the meeting is not through geographical area. You can have a good meeting if you can provide the housing and conference space. The amount of housing requires large cities, but to go to a city convenient to less than 10% of your members is hard to justify.

I think it would be great if we could go to the West Coast because we have members who are with Kaiser in California and Esco in Portland. These members want to be part of our Society, but it's difficult to justify it. Very few of our members come to conferences on their own, most attendees are there through their individual companies sponsoring them. A city like Tampa could be the first step that the Society might take toward moving out of the geographical bounds we have now. This could be very attractive to all concerned, when you consider the many minimills scattered throughout the Southeast.

Continuous casting is the life line of

many of these minimills, and that is covered primarily in the NOH Sessions.

Several years ago, the Open Hearth and Ironmaking divisions voted against going to Houston. Last year the electric Furnace Conference was quite successful in Houston because that area is really getting much more active in our industry. The number of walk-ins is important to the success of a conference. This is another attraction of holding conferences in steel centers.

Some corporate budgets are made up to provide money for conferences such as ours. If you move the conference site to a remote distant location, the same amount of money will be spent, only fewer people will go. It's the budget and time away from the job that governs how many and who will attend.

I&SM: How do you feel about the Governmental energy and Mineral Affairs Committee activity?

OSTROWSKI: The problems we are now facing in energy and materials availability are not going to go away. With time they will be more acute. Actions must be taken by the various professional societies to bring it to the attention of the right people, and to keep focusing the attention of these people on the subject.

I think the GEM programs initiated to get our local sections involved in bringing awareness to the public are a good start.

When you speak to people, you get the feeling that there is no problem when you don't have to wait in line for gasoline. Industry is being asked to conserve energy. Fine. At the same time we are faced with shortages of quality materials which in turn require more energy to meet acceptable standards making conservation difficult. But who is getting the message that we have this problem? It is here the GEM Program can provide a valuable function. It can get the attention of the public. The White House Conference last spring was a good beginning.

I&SM: How can we avoid talking to ourselves?

OSTROWSKI: By meeting with people and bringing our problems to their attention. An informed public, made aware of industry's energy problems, can then react with understanding.

I&SM: The Iron and Steel Society has set very optimistic goals for increasing membership. Do you have any comments on how to make the Society more attractive to new members?

OSTROWSKI: Yes, I do. I believe it can be done by:

- 1)** Providing members with an even more informative iron and steelmaker journal and continuing publication of technical articles of interest to all members.
- 2)** Expanding the continuing education effort and increasing publication of text and reference books, i.e., the committee now working on a textbook on direct reduction.
- 3)** Establish dialogue with organizations unrelated to us, but involved with the industry so that cooperation not competition is enhanced.
- 4)** Encourage active participation of young members on committee work, and program contributions for our conferences.
- 5)** Increase the membership to a larger working base. Seven hundred new members in 1977 is the goal of the Membership Committee and finally, make the Society an organization dedicated to expanding the understanding and utilization of the sophisticated technology now available to all of the iron and steelmaking industry.