



John L. Young
President, 1953
Association of Iron and Steel Engineers

JOHN L. YOUNG, a native of Evansville, Ind., graduated from the University of Indiana, in 1921. Mr. Young began his career with Timken Roller Bearing Co. in Canton, Ohio, where he held various positions in the alloy tube and steel departments; he later transferred to the metallurgical department. In 1930, Mr. Young went to Pittsburgh for Timken as a development engineer and later was district manager. In 1934, he returned to Canton and became assistant general manager of Timken's industrial division. Mr. Young joined United Engineering and Foundry Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1936. In 1941, he was loaned as project manager to design and construct the Defense Plant Corp.'s aluminum rolling mills at

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Trentwood, Wash. He was next vice president in charge of industrial research and development for United Engineering and Foundry Co. He then moved to National Tube Co. in 1945 as vice president in charge of engineering. On January 1, 1951, he became vice president—chief engineer of the United States Steel Co. in Pittsburgh. In January 1952, he was made vice president—engineering which position he now holds.

The President's Message

For the past twelve years, American industry has been booming along in an unprecedented sellers' market. Statisticians and economists now tell us that during the first half of 1953 our overall production will continue to boom, but during the third and fourth quarters there will be a slackening of pace. But before we allow harbingers of gloom to get us down, before we think ourselves into a recession, let's take a good look at the situation.

Our steel industry has been running at a rate of well over 100 percent of capacity, which is not a healthy condition because costs go up disproportionately when production exceeds a balanced rate. Such operations wear out equipment faster and entail the use of marginal, high-cost facilities, thus reducing the profit margin. Greatest efficiency and lowest costs can be obtained when plants

are operated at rated capacity or slightly below that level. So let's think right and plan right. Optimism is stimulating, and we of the Association of Iron and Steel Engineers can aid materially in the overall thinking of our industry.

The return of a normal and healthy state of competitive selling that accompanies a buyer's market will put emphasis on operating economies. It will be essential that every department and every step in the production process be scrutinized closely to eliminate waste and improve efficiency.

Effective solutions to the problems that will arise will require all the knowledge and ingenuity of every engineer and supervisor in the industry. The Association of Iron and Steel Engineers will continue to be of as much help as is possible in meeting these problems, and with the active cooperation of its members, it can increase its service to the iron and steel industry.

John L. Young
President, AISE