

Our English Page

A Short Survey of some Leading Swedish Industries.

Aktiebolaget Bofors.

The Bofors Works, which had a leading position in the Swedish iron and steel industry, are situated about 19 miles N. E. of Lake Vänern in an old mining and iron-manufacturing centre.

The first hammer was erected by the firm in the year 1646. During the latter part of the sixth decade of the 19th century the rolling mill was built, but the real development of the works did not take place until about 1878, when the manufacture of war material was commenced.

The Bofors Works now comprise: Blast furnaces, Siemens Martin furnaces up to 30 tons capacity. Wire-rod and bare rolling mills. Steel foundry. Iron and metal foundry. Forging shops with hydraulic presses of different capacities. Equipment for the complete manufacture of shells. Hammer-forging and drop-stamping shops. Large engineering shops for machinery, heavy and light guns, including shells, fuses, forgings, steel and iron castings, etc. Erecting shops for guns, Diesel engines, rivet, bolt- and screw-making machinery etc. Complete treatment department for annealing and hardening all sizes and qualities of rolled, forged and cast iron and steel as well as armour plate. Complete laboratory and testing department.

The Bofors steel is a typical Swedish product with all its best qualities. The manufactures of Bofors' Steel Works are based on a high quality pig iron, blown in the firm's own blast furnaces from ores from their own mines. The high quality of the charcoal pig iron used in the manufacture is one of the principal reasons for the excellent properties of Bofors Steels.

A remarkable period in the Bofors' history began in 1894, when Dr. Alfred Nobel, known all over the world for his magnificent donation, called the Nobel Foundation, entered the Company as principal shareholder. During Nobel's régime the works underwent a rapid development which brought them into the first ranks of war material manufacturers throughout the world. Moreover, at Björkborn, in the neighbourhood of Bofors, Nobel erected a powder factory, Aktiebolaget Bofors' Nobelkrut, which also belongs to the Bofors Works.

A characteristic feature of the Bofors Works is the tradition which generation after generation has formed a strong link between the leaders and the workmen. As the profession, especially amongst the workmen, has in many in-

stances been handed over from father to son, the combined experience of past generations thus gained has undoubtedly been one of the main causes of the great success of the Bofors Works.

The Penta Works Co. Ltd.

founded in 1868, are situated in the small garrison town of Skövde in one of the most ancient and beautiful centres of culture in Sweden on the State Railway's main line route Stockholm—Göteborg (Gothenburg). 2 hours' journey from Göteborg and 4.5 from Stockholm by express train. The Company has a Branch Office and show-rooms in Stockholm, at Kungsgatan 9—11.

The Penta Works, the oldest and largest of their kind in Scandinavia and one of the more important in the world, has since 1907 been manufacturing exclusively petrol and paraffin motors with electric ignition both for marine and stationary purposes, as also inboard and outboard motors, motor dynamos, pumps and winches; besides this, the Company produces motors and cylinder castings for the Swedish motorcar factories.

Swedish motor engines, whether Diesel, semi-Diesel, hotbulb or petrol-engines, have of old been known for their high standard of manufacture and it is no exaggeration to say that the Penta motors are considered to be one of the leading makes in the world. The best proof of this is to be found in the Company's trusted position as suppliers to foreign governments — the Company's motor-engines are installed in vessels and stationary plant in over fifty countries — where the high demand for reliability and for a low fuel consumption guaranteed by the manufacturer places their Penta motors decidedly in the first rank.

Sandvikens Jernverks Aktiebolag.

(The Sandvik Steel Works Co., Ltd.)

The Sandvik Steel Works are situated north-west of Stockholm, on the Gefle—Dala Railway about 14 miles from the Baltic seaport of Gefle. The works belong entirely to the modern steel industry. If compared with most of the Swedish iron works which count their history in centuries the Sandvik Steel Works can be looked upon as quite a youth, being not more than 65 years of age. However, this youth has enjoyed quite a vigorous growth and is now the biggest quality-steel works in Sweden.

The production is confined to high-grade steel only, based on the best Swedish ores, and using exclusively charcoal as fuel in the blast fur-

naces. Manufactures which call for special mention are:

Hot Rolled and Hammered Steel such as Hollow Tube Blooms, Seamless Rolled Boiler Tubes, Bake-Oven Tubes, Chrome-Steel Tubes for Ball Bearing Races, Hollow and Solid Rock Drill Steel, Tool Steel, Magnet Steel, Constructional Steel for the Motorcar, Aircraft and Allied Trades, Bar Steel and Wire Rods, Billets and Blanks for machine parts, Gun Barrel Blanks, etc.

Cold Rolled Steel in Strips for all purposes: soft and hardening, hardened and unhardened, polished; rolled in widths up to 600 mm. (24"), and to 0.003 mm. thickness (for smaller widths); including Saw Steel, Spring Steel, Safety Blade Steel, specially treated Steel for Tircraft, etc. Cold Drawn Steel Wire, such as Piano Wire, "Paragon" Umbrella Wire, Wire for Watch, Clock and Allied Trades; so-called Silver Steel, etc.

Steel Belt Conveyors. Some Data regarding The Sandvik Steel Works:

The Share Capital and Funds of the Company are Sw. Kr. 22,500,000

Total area covered by the Works, abt. 107 acres.

Number of workmen abt 3250 Electric motors installed at the Works have a total capacity of 25,500 H.P.

Normally about 75 per cent of the Sandvik products are exported to other countries.

S K F Aktiebolaget Svenska Kullagerfabriken.

(Swedish Ball Bearing Co.)

The SKF Company, which was founded in 1907, represents the largest group of manufacturers of Ball and Roller Bearings in the World. It owns in Sweden extensive, rich iron-ore mines, large forests, blast furnaces, steel furnaces, foundries and factories.

In addition to the interests in Sweden it controls factories in America, Great Britain, France, Germany and Russia, and has over one hundred and fifty offices or controlled agencies situated throughout the world. The employees of the combined companies number about eleven thousand.

The products of the concern represents approximately 80 per cent of the world's Ball Bearing market, and the Swedish Company is the world's largest exporter of anti-friction bearings. The Swedish Company is only manufacturer of all Bearings that controls important factories in all the chief industrial countries.

The SKF Company manufactures a far larger number of standard types than any competing firm. The Works in Sweden manufacture for stock over one thousand standard types and sizes, whereas the foreign factories concentrate on the production of types that are most in demand in their respective areas.

In addition to the accuracy attained in the manufacture, the principal reason why the SKF bearings have acquired such a unique position on the world's market is the care bestowed on the raw materials. The SKF bearings are made further 30,000 HP.

from the very best Swedish steel. The steel is produced from the high class iron-ore taken from the Company's own mines and pure charcoal from its own forests.

Uddeholms Aktiebolag.

Uddeholm, from a very modest start in 1668, when its first water-driven iron forge was built, has developed into one of the largest and most comprehensive industrial undertakings in Sweden.

The Company owns about 700,000 acres of land in the province of Värmland, north of Lake Vänern, including vast forest areas which supply the raw materials for the large sawmill and woodpulp-mills at Skoghall.

The SKOGHALL plant, which was erected during the years 1914—1919 and further enlarged in 1925—1926, is the Company's centre for the utilization of the products of its extensive forests and electrically driven sawmill with its 12 frames produces about 24,000 stds. of sawn and planed woodgoods annually. The annual output of the sulphite and sulphate mills is about 28,000 tons of bleached and easy-bleaching sulphite pulp and about 37,000 tons of bleached and strong sulphate pulp.

From its mines in the neighbourhood of Filipstad the Uddeholm Co. obtains iron-ore of an excellent quality, which is used by its four large steel works, HAGFORS, MUNKFORS, NYKROPPA and STORFORS in their production of high-grade steel.

The Uddeholm Co. at a very early date in its existence attained a prominent position in the Swedish metallurgical industry, and also in later days the Company has successfully endeavoured to keep the lead by putting to practical use in its works the latest improvements and inventions. Thus, the Uddeholm Co. was the first Swedish iron-works to introduce the Siemens Martin process and the latest invention in steel-making, the Flodin process, is at the present time being submitted to practical tests at Hagfors.

The Uddeholm Co. specializes in all kinds of high-quality steel, such as straight carbon and alloyed tool steels, alloy steels for motorcar and aeroplane parts, cold rolled and cold drawn steel pen and razorblade steel, gramophone, clock and watch springs etc., hot finished and cold drawn weldless tubes for locomotive and marine boilers, bicycle frames, aeroplanes etc.

It has already been mentioned that the Company owns very large forests, an extremely valuable asset in the days when wood and charcoal were the only combustibles used in the works. Nowadays, electricity has to a large extent supplanted the charcoal in the smelting furnaces and the water-wheels for the driving of the rolling mills. The Uddeholm Co. has on its estates several large waterfalls, from which at present about 47,000 HP. are obtained, but which within the next year or two, when the new power station at Munkfors has been completed, will produce a further 30,000 HP.

The Uddeholm Co. is thus a self-contained organization, practically independent of others for the supply of its raw materials and power, and for the transportation of its products it also has its own electrically driven railway, some 105 miles in length, as well as several motorships and cargo steamers.

S. C. T:s och Vasaordens radiokonsert.

Nästa konsert en Bellmans-afton.

S. C. T:s och Vasaordens radiokonsert ha vunnit en oänd populäritet, och det är helt enkelt förvånande att se alla de brev, som nästan omedelbart efter en radiokonsert inflyta. Från alla håll uttrycker man sin glädje över dessa utsändningar och gör sina förslag för programdirektionen att beakta. Det är minsann icke lätt att tillgodose alla önskingar, och direktionen hoppas att den i alla fall lyckats tillfredsställa flertalet. Intressena äro ju som bekant vitt skilda, och det är nästan omöjligt att kombinera alla förslagen i ett enda program.

Senaste utsändningen hade ett omfattande och omväxlande program, som av allt att döma slagit synnerligen väl ut. Efter en inledningsmarsch av herrar Nyholm och Christiansen sjöng den ypperliga kvartetten, bestående av fru Annie Rydberg, fröken Anna Hanson, herr Eric Söderberg och herr Manne Backman den kända sången "Lugn vi la' sjon." Så följde "Roslagspolska" och "Livet i Finnskogarna" utförd av Eriksons orkester, bestående av herrar Oscar Erikson, Johan Pearson, Albin Näslund och fröken Olga Pearson. Samma orkester utförde även senare "Kväsarvalsén" och "Danslåt från Skåne."

Fru Annie Rydberg sjöng på allmän begäran den tvdliggen mycket populära "Min hembygds melodi" och "Norr- länningens hemlängtan." Kvartetten utförde, förutom de ovan angivna styckena, även "Tänker du att jag förlorader är" samt "Gossen gick sig ut en morgonstund." "Poutpourri av svenska folksmelodier" och "Kronobergarnas marsch" utfördes av herrar Nyholm och Christiansen, och som avslutning på konserten sjöngs unisont "Du gamla, du fria."

Chefen för S. C. T., mr P. M. Dahl, som skulle hållit ett kortare anförande, blev tyvärr förhindrad att närvara vid utsändningen, och tidningshållning till de talrika lyssnarna frambars i hans ställe av mr. Carl E. Rydberg.

Nästa radiokonsert utsändes torsdagen den 19 mars. (Obs. dagen!) vid vanlig tid, alltså kl. 8 e. m. (Wpg-tid) och över samma station C/JGX, via Yorkton, Sask. Programdirektionen är redan i arbete med nästa program, och enligt vad man lätt oss veta, kommer nästa konsert att bli en Bellmansafton med sång och musik ur Bellmans populära Fredmans epistlar och sänzer, allt kärt och populära saker. Förmodligen kommer nästa konsert att bli den sista för säsongen.