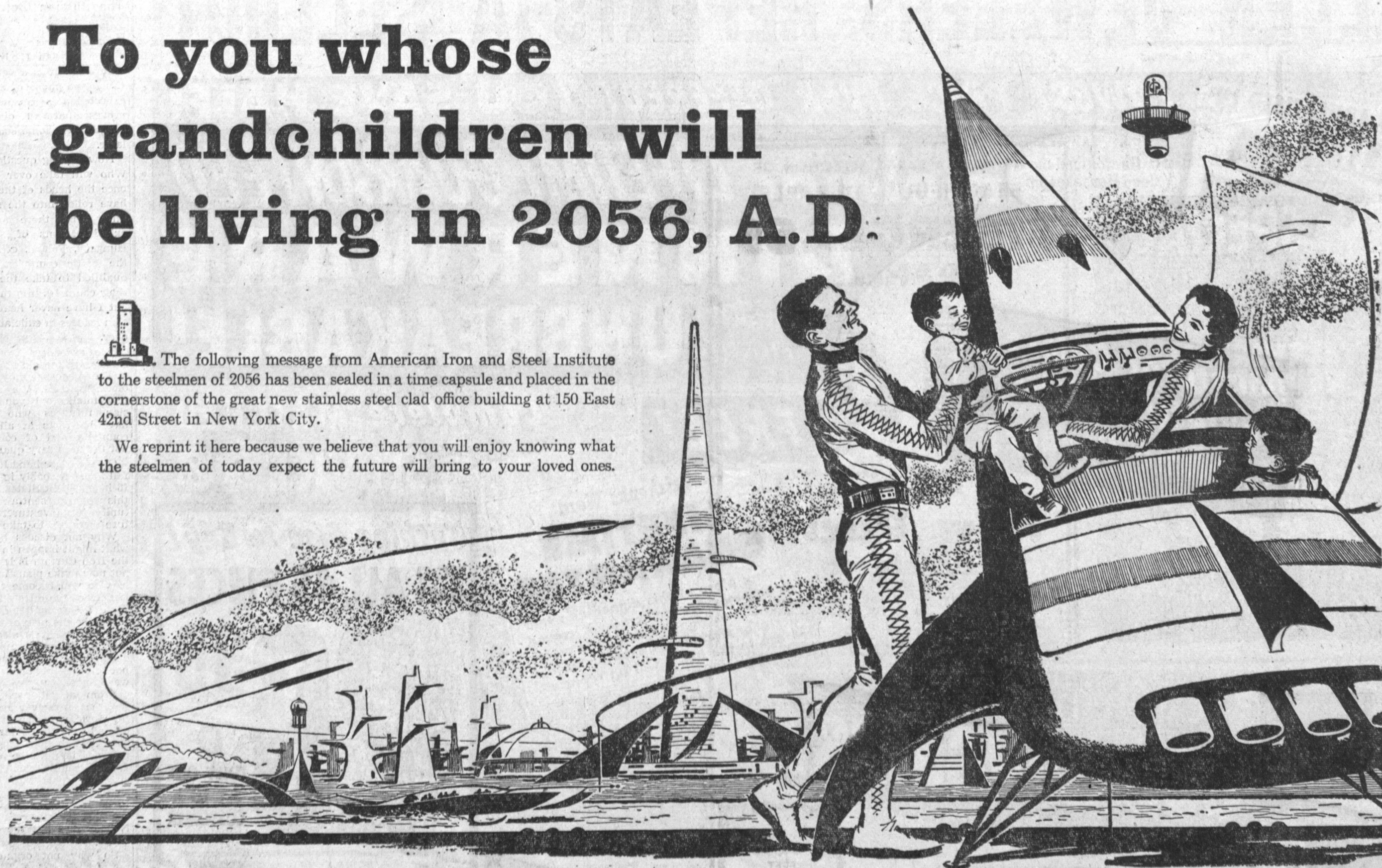


To you whose grandchildren will be living in 2056, A.D.



The following message from American Iron and Steel Institute to the steelmen of 2056 has been sealed in a time capsule and placed in the cornerstone of the great new stainless steel clad office building at 150 East 42nd Street in New York City.

We reprint it here because we believe that you will enjoy knowing what the steelmen of today expect the future will bring to your loved ones.



Greetings to Steelmen of 2056

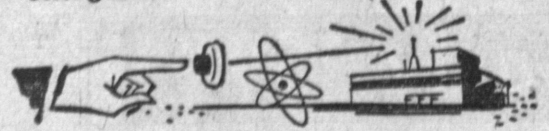
We of the American iron and steel industry of 1956 are happy to have this historic occasion to convey our greetings to you.

It is fitting that the vehicle carrying our message should be a magnificent new stainless steel clad structure—in this year 1956 the largest steel clad office building in the world.

It is also a timely coincidence that the dedication of this building takes place as we are commemorating the 100th anniversary of the patenting of the Bessemer and Kelly steelmaking processes in the United States. With these processes, the mass production of steel became possible, and the Age of Steel began.

The United States has held world leadership in steel production since 1889, and is producing some 40 per cent of the world's total output. Altogether, this country's production in this first century has reached a grand total of 3 billion tons of steel. The industry's production capacity has expanded to a current annual figure of 128 million tons, and all indicators of long-range national and world requirements lead us to plan for continuing expansion in the years ahead.

Coming: A Century of still greater achievement



As we write this, steel is one of the best of all industries in which to work. The men and women in the steel plants enjoy average hourly earnings 25 per cent higher than the average for all manufacturing workers. Steelworkers have liberal pensions, insurance, paid holidays and paid vacations. Their opportunities for advancement are expanding constantly.

The past century has indeed been one of tremendous progress. But we have no illusions as to its relative place in history. The years that will transpire from this day until the time you read this message in 2056 will unfold, without question, as a century of still greater achievement in the application of steel to the service of mankind.

Today, when we look back just 50 years to predictions that were made for scientific, economic and social progress in America, we

see that even the most imaginative ones failed to comprehend the magnitude of the progress that actually would take place; and we therefore anticipate that we, too, may prove to be conservative in whatever we foresee as to the kind of steel industry, the kind of America or the kind of world you will know in 2056.

We do believe strongly that you will be living in a still free and strong America, in a world in which the nations have become neighbors in the truest and finest sense of the word.

On the Way: New Steels for your miracle age



We know that in 1956 mankind already has embarked upon the jet age, the rocket age and the atomic age. We are already creating and producing special steels for these swiftly developing fields. We have not the slightest doubt that miraculous products and applications in these fields that are now on the fringes of our comprehension will be commonplace in less than 100 years.

The steel mills of future decades will come to use revolutionary new machines and systems that will achieve productivity far greater than our present levels. Moving beyond "automation" into "atomation," they will utilize sources of power, chemicals, electronic controls and varieties of materials that we are just beginning to investigate. And these vast facilities will continue the industry's diversification—we anticipate that their output will include plastics, titanium, chemical derivatives, and highly specialized steels that will constitute some 50 per cent of the total production.

Iron ore to finished products in one operation



We expect that the industry of 2056 will have moved all the way to a continuous operation instead of a batch-type process. Steel made by direct reduction of iron ore, using atomic energy. Iron ore will move in

at one end of the plant and finished steel products will emerge at the other, with improved and simplified continuous processes such as soaking, conditioning, hot rolling, annealing, pickling and shearing. Extruding will largely have replaced rolling to produce the finished products. Order entry, production planning, mill scheduling, cost control, and production and shipment records all will be handled by an interlocking computer system.

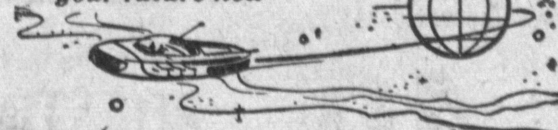
What this will mean in your life in 2056



We can visualize our American cities as you will know them, with their great new structures of stainless steel above and below ground—far more magnificent and beautiful than the finest cities of our time. We foresee America's millions of families living in homes having year-round control of temperature; purified, germ-free air and push-button equipment that requires very little space at the same time it automatically takes care of virtually all household chores, making routine use of electronics, solar energy and atomic power. We look to these things because our laboratories already are working toward special steels that can be highly important in accelerating development in these fields.

We assume that the world will be a much smaller place to you than it is to us, even in what we like to call our air age. Your aircraft will carry you to the furthest side of the world in half an afternoon, flying at 5,000 to 10,000 miles an hour. You will have achieved human space travel, about which men of our time have dreamed and which now we can see coming closer to reality with each succeeding year. (Next year, the United States will launch what we expect will be the first man-made satellite—a steel ball some 20 inches in diameter, packed with communications instruments, that will circle the earth at 18,000 miles an hour.)

We are building toward your future now



We in the steel industry have more than ordinary reason to envision what lies ahead in global and space transportation because we are now developing steels to meet the once overpowering problem of 10,000-mile-an-hour air travel and the much faster space travel—steels that will resist the thermal barrier where air friction creates incredible heat, steels that will provide the tremendous tensile strength needed to keep craft from exploding in the near-vacuum of outer space.

In all, looking into the future with its vast increases in world population, broad upsurge in standards of living, constant widening of the uses of metals, and immense strides in manufacturing productivity, we believe it is entirely possible that the steel industry you know will have achieved a capacity of half a billion tons a year.

In 2056, as in 1956, human values above all else



Your accomplishments in technology notwithstanding, we feel certain that you will still be putting human values above all else. The most important part of every company still will be its people, and management's recognition of this fact will be reflected in progress in human relations just as dramatic as your progress in scientific invention.

And finally, we are sure that the word "frontier" will still be active in your vocabulary. As the iron and steel industry of 1956 looks ahead today, so you will be looking to new and greater horizons for the industry and the America of your day.

We salute you.

B. F. Wilson
PRESIDENT

AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL INSTITUTE

150 East Forty-Second Street, New York 17, N. Y.

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