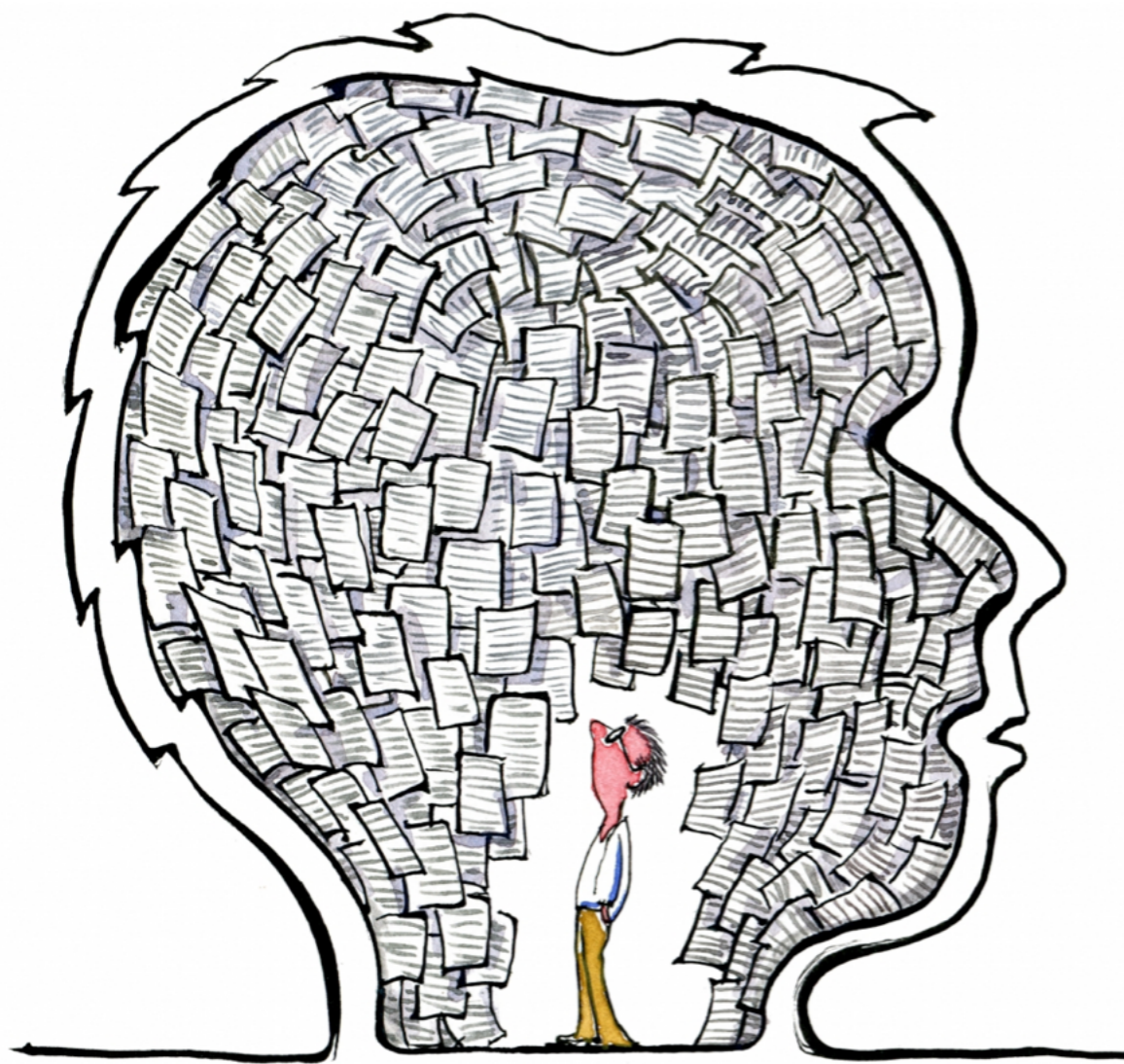


Theories of Work: Origins of the Design and Management of Work



By David Joyce

www.theoriesofwork.com

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— Chapter Three —
Management Science

Design and Management — Concepts —

- Scientific Management and “Taylorism”.
- Productivity Incentives; Payment by Results.
- Work Analysis, Work Breakdown, and Work Measurement.
- Best Practices and Benchmarking.
- Standardized Work, Standard Times, Production Standards, Work Instructions, Job Descriptions, and Work Inspection.
- Division of Responsibility; Planning vs Doing; Blue-Collar vs White-Collar jobs, and Functional Supervision.
- Process Improvement and Waste Removal.
- Time sheets, Employee Discipline and Employee Performance Records.
- Worker Efficiency, Worker Utilization and Worker “laziness”.
- Staff Suggestion Schemes.
- Management Consulting.

THE INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD

In the last two decades of the 19th century, the U.S. was shifting - uneasily - from a loosely connected world of small towns, small businesses, and agriculture to an industrialized network of cities, factories, and large companies linked by rail.²⁴⁷

Across the industrialized world owners of early enterprises had the power to run their businesses with virtually no constraints.²⁴³

They were god-like in the small worlds they had created.²⁴³

Although employees were known to be human, their personal interests and purposes were irrelevant to their employers.²⁴³

Workers were retained only as long they were ready, willing, and able to do what the owners wanted.²⁴³

When they no longer were, they were discarded and replaced, like replaceable machine parts, by others who were compliant and usable.²⁴³

In the early days of industrialization the work done by most employees required little or no skill, and unskilled labor was plentiful.²⁴³

In general, this work force had little education and, therefore, relatively low levels of aspiration.²⁴³

Many were immigrants with only a very limited knowledge of English. They aspired more for their children than for themselves.²⁴³

²⁴⁷ The Management Century, by Walter Kiechel III hbr.org/2012/11/the-management-century/

²⁴³ Springer, A Systemic View of Transformational Leadership”, Ackoff R.L. Systemic Practice and Action Research, Vol. 11, No. 1, February 1998 , pp. 23-36(14)
Publication date: 1998-02-01 1094-429X/98/0200-0023\$15.00/0 © 1998 Plenum Publishing Corporation with kind permission from Springer Science+Business Media B.V.

Government began to regulate working conditions, thereby reducing the power of the owners and protecting at least the health and safety of members of the work force.²⁴³

Unions emerged, improving the conditions of work, work itself, compensation for it, and job security.²⁴³

Because of continuing advances in mechanization, the skills required of workers continued to increase.²⁴³

Those who had the required skills were not as plentiful as those who didn't.²⁴³

It was costly to replace skilled workers; expensive training was frequently involved.²⁴³

²⁴⁴ The Man With the Plan - Frederick Winslow Taylor, father of scientific management, Brink Lindsey, from the January 1998 issue, reason.com/archives/1998/01/01/the-man-with-the-plan

As a result, they were treated more like difficult-to-replace organs than easily replaceable machine parts.²⁴³

All this made the owners less god-like.²⁴³

Factory work was done according to the craft system; jobs were "trades", and their secrets and rules of thumb were passed down, slowly and grudgingly, from master to apprentice.²⁴⁴

The owners and operators of the business really had no idea how their work should be done.²⁴⁴

They didn't know how tasks were best arranged, they didn't know how to optimize the output of the machines, and they didn't know what pace of output was sustainable.²⁴⁴

²⁴³ Springer, "A Systemic View of Transformational Leadership", Ackoff R.L. Systemic Practice and Action Research, Vol. 11, No. 1, February 1998, pp. 23-36(14) Publication date: 1998-02-01 1094-429X/98/0200-0023\$15.00/0 © 1998 Plenum Publishing Corporation with kind permission from Springer Science+Business Media B.V.

THE FOREMAN

In virtually all industries, regardless of the types of manufacturing operations taking place, the foreman was, for all intents and purposes, the manufacturer.^{245 246}

The foreman had near absolute authority over the workers.^{245 246}

He was responsible for hiring and firing personnel, training them, arbitrating grievances, promoting and demoting workers, and enforcing the manufacturer's personnel policies regarding work hours, personal appearance, and rules of conduct.^{245 246}

²⁴⁵ ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF TAYLORISM: IS IT STILL RELEVANT TODAY?
Dimitrios Nikolaou Koumparoulis, Anathalia Vlachopouloti, Academic Research International Vol. 3, No.2 September 2012
www.ugsm-monarch.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Valchopouloti-Taylorism-20123.2-55.pdf

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

The foreman set the wages using a “rule of thumb” method,^{245 246} a haphazard practice of organizing the work, which gave individual workers enormous control.²⁵⁷



²⁴⁶ Nelson, Daniel (1980) Frederick W. Taylor and the Rise of Scientific Management Madison Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin Press pp. 8-9

Image: **Foreman's Office, Work Board on the Right**, Cost Keeping and Scientific Management (1911), Author: Evans, Holden A, Publisher: New York [etc.] McGraw-Hill book company p. 211
archive.org/details/costkeepingandsooevangooog

Some more or less experienced foreman or rate-setter came along and looked at a job, and made what appeared to be a guess (often a very close guess) at the time that should be taken to perform the work.²⁴⁹

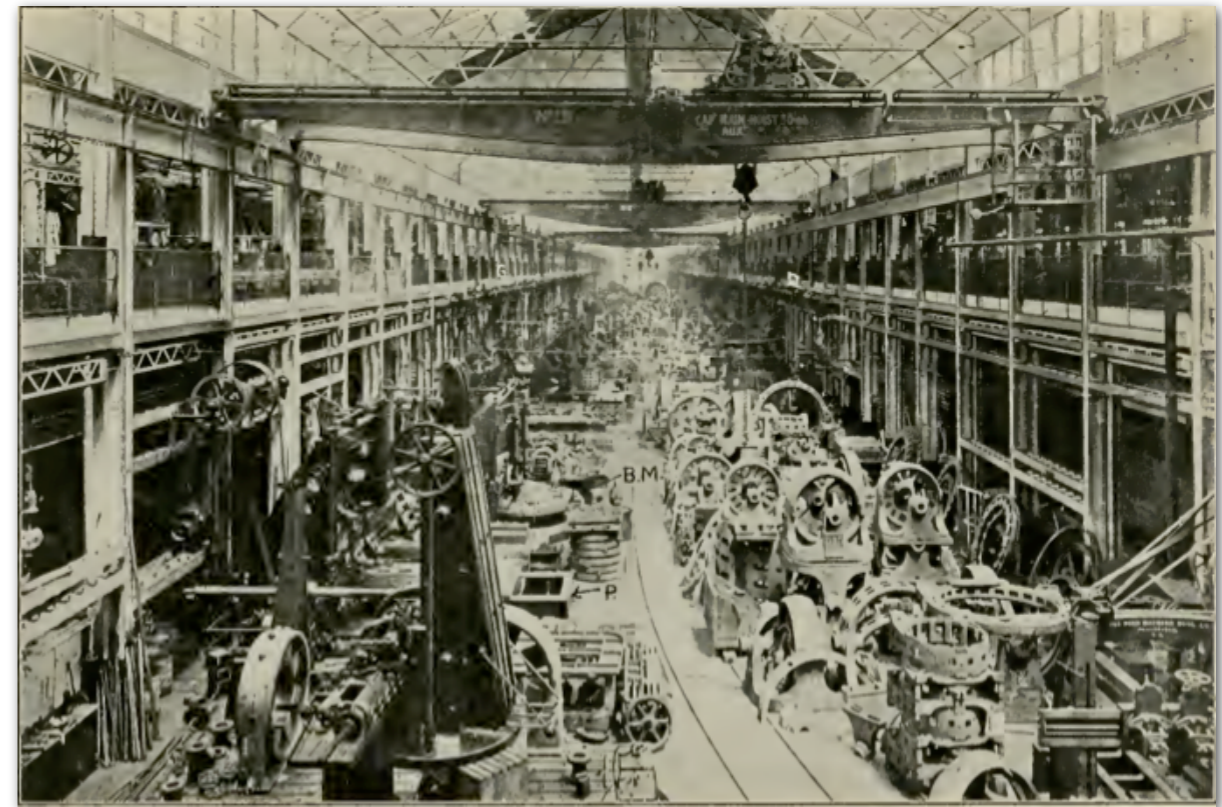
A rate was fixed accordingly.²⁴⁹

In many industries the “piece work” system was common.^{245 246}

The manufacturer, for whom the foreman worked, usually watched the payroll very closely. When piece workers were so productive that they earned more than the prevailing day wage, the manufacturer would order the piece rate cut, removing any incentive to produce more.^{245 246}

Combined with the difficult and unsafe work environments in many factories, there was a more or less permanent state of labor-management strife.^{245 246}

Strikes and violence were common.^{245 246}



²⁴⁵ ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF TAYLORISM: IS IT STILL RELEVANT TODAY?
Dimitrios Nikolaou Koumparoulis, Anathalia Vlachopouloti, Academic Research International Vol. 3, No.2 September 2012
www.ugsm-monarch.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Valchopouloti-Taylorism-20123.2-55.pdf

Image: **Interior of a Machine Shop**, The Principles of Industrial Management (1920), Author: Duncan, John C. (John Christie), b. 1881, Publisher: New York, London : D. Appleton and Company p. 154
archive.org/details/principlesofinduodunc

²⁴⁹ The Science and Practice of Management (1918), Author: Church, A. Hamilton (Alexander Hamilton), 1866-1936, Publisher: New York : The Engineering magazine co. pp. 11-12 archive.org/details/sciencepracticeooochur

²⁴⁶ Nelson, Daniel (1980) Frederick W. Taylor and the Rise of Scientific Management Madison Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin Press pp. 8-9

A SCIENTIFIC APPROACH

Some believed that a more systematic or scientific approach was required.

The initial focus of what became known as 'the scientific management movement' was on efficient use of labor and on costs and cost systems.³³²

As Alexander Church described:

“The next step on the path of development of the practical use of analysis was due to the desire of employers of labor to find some satisfactory basis for rewarding it according to results.

The old piece-work methods were largely based on the hit-or-miss plan.

The early beginnings of this movement were characterized by a desire for more exact knowledge.” ²⁴⁹

One of the first documented usages of a more scientific management approach was by Boulton and Watt.

Boulton & Watt manufactured stationary steam engines. It was initially a partnership between Matthew Boulton and James Watt.¹⁷³

The firm of Boulton and Watt owed many of its management innovations not to James Watt, Sr., the inventor, or his partner Matthew Boulton, but to their sons, who took over the enterprise.²⁶¹

¹⁷³ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boulton_and_Watt

²⁴⁹ The science and practice of management (1918), Author: Church, A. Hamilton (Alexander Hamilton), 1866-1936, Publisher: New York : The Engineering magazine co. pp. 11-12 archive.org/details/sciencepractice00ochur

³³² Public Management: Old and New, By Laurence E. Lynn, Jr. Publisher: Routledge; New edition (August 3, 2006) p.92

²⁶¹ Management and ideology: the legacy of the international scientific management movement, By Merkle, Judith A, Publisher: Univ of California Pr (December 1980) p.211

This was perhaps the first model of what was later to become a standard pattern in the development of industry, the “father” generation of inventors and entrepreneurs being succeeded by the “sons” who turned to pure management.²⁶¹

In 1794, Watt Jr. became a partner in the Soho Foundry firm of Boulton & Watt.^{250 251}

He became responsible with Matthew Robinson Boulton for its management.^{250 251}

Matthew Robinson Boulton was mainly involved in the initial planning of the Foundry, with James Watt Jr. being more concerned with daily management and organisation.^{253 252}

They instituted one of the first complete applications of scientific management.²⁵⁴

In this plant there is evidence of market research, including machine layout study involving workflow, production standards, cost accounting, employee training, employee incentives, and employee welfare programs.²⁵⁴

Although there is evidence of a scientific management approach at Boulton & Watt’s plant, there is little evidence that this approach was used elsewhere at the time.

In his book “The Making of Scientific Management”, Lyndall Urwick reported:

²⁵² Williams, Robert (1995), Accounting for steam: The accounts of the Soho factory, Accounting & Finance Working Papers, 95/14, Wollongong, NSW: University of Wollongong, retrieved 2012-09-16 p. 7

²⁵³ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew_Robinson_Boulton

²⁵⁴ Encyclopedia of Management, 5th Edition, Edited by Marilyn M. Helms, D.B.A. © 2006 Thomson Gale, a part of The Thomson Corporation. pp. 651-653

²⁶¹ Management and ideology: the legacy of the international scientific management movement, By Merkle, Judith A, Publisher: Univ of California Pr (December 1980) p.211

²⁵⁰ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Watt_junior

²⁵¹ Williams, Robert (1995), Accounting for steam: The accounts of the Soho factory, Accounting & Finance Working Papers, 95/14, Wollongong, NSW: University of Wollongong, retrieved 2012-09-16 p. 5

“In its setting as part of the history of the pioneers of scientific management ... Was the management at Soho an isolated instance in a time of intense industrial change?

Did it maintain its high standards over two or three decades without exerting any influence on the affairs or minds of customers and other contacts?

*For the present there is no certain answer to these queries.”*²⁴⁸

Curious as this may be, it wasn't until the late 1800s that a scientific management approach become more widespread.

THE MANAGEMENT ENGINEER

As with Boulton and Watt, the catalyst for this spread were engineers.

Since management relied heavily on engineers for advice in the new factories, it is not surprising that associations of engineers were some of the first to examine and write about management problems.²⁵⁴

One such association, ASME, founded [in 1880] as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, is a professional association that, in its own words, “promotes the art, science, and practice of multidisciplinary engineering and allied sciences around the globe”.²⁵⁸

ASME had been founded to gather technical information, but in 1886, Henry Robinson Towne, read a paper called *The Engineer as Economist*, which has been called “the founding document of the new science of management”.²⁵⁷

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

²⁵⁴ Encyclopedia of Management, 5th Edition, Edited by Marilyn M. Helms, D.B.A. © 2006 Thomson Gale, a part of The Thomson Corporation. pp. 651-653

²⁴⁸ The Making Of Scientific Management Volume II (1949), Author: Urwick. L, Publisher: Management Publications p.38
archive.org/details/makingofscientifo32926mbp

²⁵⁸ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ASME

In this paper he recognised the need for a science of management which could flourish only through its own literature, journals and association²⁵⁹ and laid out his ideas about the management role for the engineer.²⁵⁵

Henry R. Towne was an American mechanical engineer and businessman.²⁵⁵

He was introduced to Linus Yale, Jr.²⁵⁵ the inventor of the pin tumbler lock⁴⁴⁰ ²⁵⁶ and in October 1868, the two men formed the Yale Lock Manufacturing Company.²⁵⁵

Towne was one of the first engineers to see management as a new social role for engineers and that the development of management techniques was important for the development of the engineering profession.²⁵⁵



⁴⁴⁰ [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yale_\(company\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yale_(company))

²⁵⁴ Encyclopedia of Management, 5th Edition, Edited by Marilyn M. Helms, D.B.A.
© 2006 Thomson Gale, a part of The Thomson Corporation. pp. 651-653

Image: **Henry Robinson Towne** (1844-1924), Class of 1865, portrait photograph,
Date: circa 1900, Source: University of Pennsylvania, Author: Unknown, Permission
(Reusing this file) PD-US
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Henry_Robinson_Towne.jpg

²⁵⁵ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_R._Towne

²⁵⁶ Yale: History of Yale

²⁵⁹ Dynamics of Modern Management, By Waino W Suojanen, Publisher: Holt, Rinehart and Winston; 1st Edition edition (1966) p. 101

Towne was responsible for establishing modern management methods in his company's shop.²⁵⁹

He began applying systematic management practices as early as 1870.²⁵⁴

He was elected President of the ASME in 1888, and his presidential address continued to address how to improve shop and worker efficiency.²⁵⁵

Towne encouraged the writing and publication of papers dealing with management of production.²⁶⁰

Towne also published several papers and a book, *Evolution of Industrial Management*, on the use of "gain sharing" to increase worker productivity.²⁵⁴

It is important to recognize the contributions of Henry R. Towne to the early development of scientific management.²⁶⁰

WAGES AND INCENTIVES

Frederick A. Halsey was another engineer who wrote papers presented to ASME outlining his ideas about wages.²⁵⁴

Halsey fundamentally disagreed with Towne's profit-sharing ideas.³⁵⁷

In 1891 Fredrick Halsey read an important paper before the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.³⁵⁷

He attacked the evils of profit sharing and proposed a special "premium plan" for paying workers based on time saved.²⁵⁴

²⁶⁰ Improving Competitiveness of Industry, By Harold Bierman, Jr. World Scientific Publishing Company; 1 edition (June 10, 2011) p. 119

²⁵⁵ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_R._Towne

²⁵⁹ Dynamics of Modern Management, By Waino W Suojanen, Publisher: Holt, Rinehart and Winston; 1st Edition edition (1966) p. 101

²⁵⁴ Encyclopedia of Management, 5th Edition, Edited by Marilyn M. Helms, D.B.A. © 2006 Thomson Gale, a part of The Thomson Corporation. pp. 651-653

³⁵⁷ Management Thought, By Jayanta K Nanda, Publisher Sarup & Sons, New Delhi (1 Jan 2005) pp. 79-82

Halsey proposed incentives based on past production records, including a guaranteed minimum wage and a premium for not doing work.²⁵⁴

Workers under the Halsey plan were allowed the same length of time they have been taking in the past as a standard. If they increased output, two-thirds of the gain went to the employer and one-third was given to the men.³⁵⁷

The Towne and Halsey schemes were both tried out in factories and both yielded results, in terms of higher wages and increased productivity.⁴⁴¹

However, the fear by either management or the workers that the other side was 'getting too much', was already rearing its head.⁴⁴¹

³⁵⁷ Management Thought, By Jayanta K Nanda, Publisher Sarup & Sons, New Delhi (1 Jan 2005) pp. 79-82

²⁵⁴ Encyclopedia of Management, 5th Edition, Edited by Marilyn M. Helms, D.B.A. © 2006 Thomson Gale, a part of The Thomson Corporation. pp. 651-653

FREDERICK TAYLOR

As industrialism expanded in the United States following the Civil War, the essence of the labor movement was the struggle for control of the workplace between the workers, holding fast to their craft skills, and the management.²⁵⁷

One of the most famous figures to participate in this struggle was Frederick Winslow Taylor.²⁵⁷

Frederick Taylor was one of the first people to view management as a science to be studied.³²⁷

Much of this chapter will be dedicated to discussing Taylor, such is his influence on the design and management of work today.

⁴⁴¹ Management and Organizational Behaviour, Jayantee Saha, Publisher: Excel Books (July 25, 2012) p.74

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

³²⁷ An Analytical Study On Scientific Management HRM 601, Akeem Adebisi Adeyemi Ersal Aslam Alan Cohen Sangram Singh Jolanta Soltis

The America of the late 'seventies and early 'eighties, the period when Taylor first came on the industrial scene, was gripped in a vicious circle of low wages, low production, low purchasing power and a consequent lack of prosperity.³⁶¹

Strikes and other evidences of widespread industrial unrest marked the period.³⁶¹

Born into a wealthy family in Philadelphia,²⁵⁷ in 1873, [Taylor] decided to leave school (Phillips Exeter Academy³³⁴) to become an engineer.²⁶³



Image: **Frederick Winslow Taylor 1873**, Source: Gaugler, Eduard (Hrsg.): Taylor, Frederick Winslow : The principles of scientific management ; Vademecum zu dem Klassiker der Wissenschaftlichen Betriebsführung. Düsseldorf: Verlag Wirtschaft und Finanzen, 1996. Author: Grap
commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:F._Taylor_at_1873.jpg

³⁶¹ Scientific management in American industry, by the Taylor Society, H. S. Person, editor (1929), Author: Taylor Society; Person, Harlow S. (Harlow Stafford), 1875-1955, Publisher: New York and London, Harper & Brothers, p.xviii
archive.org/details/scientificmanageootayl

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

³³⁴ Frederick W. Taylor, father of scientific management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 3-7
archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro1copl

So in the spring of 1874, he quit Exeter to work in a foundry, the Enterprise Hydraulic Works, also known as Ferrell and Jones, after the owners who made steam pumps and hydraulic machinery, using the steam-pump design developed by Henry Worthington.²⁶³

He started as an apprentice patternmaker and later a machinist.

The industrial revolution had been underway for nearly 100 years before Taylor took his first job as an engineer at Philadelphia's Midvale Steel Company.^{245 442}

In late 1877, Taylor met Wilfred Lewis and Coleman Sellers, whose father, William Sellers, was the head of a large machine tool company and who owned a controlling interest in Midvale Steel, Sellers was a mechanical genius, with 90 patents.²⁶³

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

A FAIR DAYS WORK

In late 1878, Taylor went to work at Midvale in the machine shop and Midvale became "a large laboratory"²⁶³ for Taylor.

He excelled, and it wasn't long before Taylor was promoted.

In 1879, Taylor was appointed a gang boss at Midvale Steel, admitting to the workers that:²⁵⁷

*" he was now on the side of management, and that he proposed to do whatever he could to get a fair day's work out of the lathers."*²⁵⁷

His methods were to have a profound impact.

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

²⁴⁵ ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF TAYLORISM: IS IT STILL RELEVANT TODAY? Dimitrios Nikolaou Koumparoulis, Anathalia Vlachopoulioti, Academic Research International Vol. 3, No.2 September 2012
www.ugsm-monarch.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Valchopoulioti-Taylorism-20123.2-55.pdf

⁴⁴² Nelson, Daniel (1980) Frederick W. Taylor and the Rise of Scientific Management Madison Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin Press p 29

Immediately he was plunged into difficulties of management. The output was low and, having been a worker among workers of that day, he knew it was due to systematic as well as unconscious soldiering³⁶² (today known as slacking, laziness or shirking).

As Taylor explained:

“Hardly a competent workman can be found ... who does not devote a considerable part of his time to studying just how slowly he can work and still convince his employer that he is going at a good pace.”⁴¹⁷

Frederick Taylor



To solve this problem, Taylor was inspired by Towne's ideas and directed his efforts to understand all facets of a firm and to develop scientific management.³³¹

Taylor wrote:

*“In the writer's judgment, the Towne-Halsey plan is a great invention, and, like many other great inventions, its value lies in its simplicity.”*³²⁶

However, it didn't go far enough for Taylor.

³⁶² Scientific management in American industry, by the Taylor Society, H. S. Person, editor (1929), Author: Taylor Society; Person, Harlow S. (Harlow Stafford), 1875-1955, Publisher: New York and London, Harper & Brothers, p.1
archive.org/details/scientificmanageootayl

⁴¹⁷ Shop Management, By Frederick Winslow Taylor, Publisher Harper and Brothers New York and London 1911 p. 14
archive.org/details/shopmanagementoitayl

³³¹ Administrative Thinkers edited by D. Ravindra Prasad, V. Sivalinga Prasad, P. Satyanarāyaṇa Publisher: Sterling; 2nd edition edition (March 30, 2011) p. 65.

³²⁶ Shop Management By Frederick Winslow Taylor, Introduction by Henry Towne, Publisher Harper and Brothers New York and London 1911

Image: **Frederick Winslow Taylor 1873**, Source: Gaugler, Eduard (Hrsg.): Taylor, Frederick Winslow : The principles of scientific management ; Vademecum zu dem Klassiker der Wissenschaftlichen Betriebsführung. Düsseldorf: Verlag Wirtschaft und Finanzen, 1996. Author: Grap commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:F._Taylor_at_1873.jpg

THE PRODUCTIVITY PROBLEM

He began in 1880 to keep “Book Containing Notes of Importance,” and he recorded all data about all processes, taking nothing for granted and accepting none of the past practices.²⁶³

He also began researching what others were doing to solve the “productivity problem”:

*“Almost as soon as I started with this idea at the Midvale Steel works ... I started to collect what information could be had that was written and published on what constituted a day’s work.”*²⁶³

Taylor employed research, industrial “tourism” (visiting other establishments) and early forms of benchmarking.

For fifteen years at Midvale, Taylor experimented and recorded every aspect of the work process.²⁵⁷

For example, his determination to increase productivity led him in the autumn of 1880, to a series of systematic experiments in metal-cutting.²⁵⁷

He found almost immediately that cooling the cutting tools with a water spray, permitted an increase of the cutting speed by 40%.²⁵⁷

In 1882, Taylor wanted to eliminate the rule-of-thumb and replace it with scientific knowledge, backed by meticulous data.²⁶³

The idea of ‘guessing’ about the time required to perform a job was against Taylor’s basic outlook.²⁶⁹

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

²⁶⁹ Frederick W. Taylor: The Father of Scientific Management : Myth and Reality By Charles D. Wrege and Ronald G. Greenwood, Publisher: Business One Irwin (June 1991) p.54

“Our trades are learned just as they were in the Middle Ages.”²⁶³

Frederick Taylor (Testimony, 1912)



STANDARD “SHOULD TAKE” TIMES

Taylor hypothesized that workers could be retooled like machines, their physical and mental gears recalibrated for better productivity.²⁷⁰

Taylor began to measure how work was performed, how long it took and, most importantly, began to project how long each job should take.²⁵⁷

Taylor described the method:

“it consists in recording the quickest time in which a job has been done, and fixing this as a standard.

*If the workman succeeds in doing the job in a shorter time, he is still paid his same wages per hour for the time he works on the job, and in addition is given a premium for having worked faster, consisting of from one-quarter to one-half the difference between the wages earned and the wages originally paid when the job was done in standard time.”*³²⁶

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

²⁷⁰ Crossen, Cynthia (November 6, 2006). “Early Industry Expert Soon Realized a Staff Has Its Own Efficiency”. Wall Street Journal. online.wsj.com/article/SB116277621193713997.html

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

³²⁶ Shop Management By Frederick Winslow Taylor, Introduction by Henry Towne, Publisher Harper and Brothers New York and London 1911

Image: Frederick Winslow Taylor 1873, Source: Gaugler, Eduard (Hrsg.): Taylor, Frederick Winslow : The principles of scientific management ; Vademecum zu dem Klassiker der Wissenschaftlichen Betriebsführung. Düsseldorf: Verlag Wirtschaft und Finanzen, 1996. Author: Grap commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:F._Taylor_at_1873.jpg

He went on to explain:

*“since the rate-fixing is done from accurate knowledge, instead of more or less by guesswork, the motive for holding back on work, or ‘soldiering,’ and endeavoring to deceive the employer as to the time required to do work, is entirely removed.”*³³⁶

Taylor maintained that higher productivity led to higher employment, but the workers of the late 19th century saw the reverse: they were careful not to finish work too quickly to avoid both running out of work and working too hard.²⁵⁷

For the first time, one of Taylor’s assistants used a stopwatch to break down the work process into minute components, each of which could be altered to speed up production.²⁶³

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

Everything became a management method to increase productivity: the design of the machine, the design of the piece, the motions of the operator, etc.²⁶³



In doing so, Taylor broke down the job to create an expectation, almost mathematical, for future work.²⁶³

³³⁶ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p. 402 archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor01copl

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

Image: **Lathe Operator at Midvale Steel**, Kheel Center for Labor-Management Documentation and Archives, M.P. Catherwood Library, Cornell University. www.ilr.cornell.edu/library/kheel/resources/images/citing.jpg

SCIENTIFIC TIME-STUDY

The use of time-study in organisations had begun. It had been used before, going back to the very beginnings of the factory system²⁴⁹ but not in a formalized, or what Taylor would call scientific, way.

Opposite we can see an observation sheet used in 1910 for timing work.

Taylor's battle for increased productivity would leave no stone unturned, he also restricted workers from leaving the shop at lunchtime.²⁶³

In February, 1884, Taylor was promoted, at age 28, to almost complete control of the machine shop; calling himself "Chief Engineer," though he did not officially receive this title until 1887.²⁶³

²⁴⁹ The science and practice of management (1918), Author: Church, A. Hamilton (Alexander Hamilton), 1866-1936, Publisher: New York : The Engineering magazine co. pp. 11-12 archive.org/details/sciencepractice00ochur

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

ORDER NO. 123 5712 OBSERVATION SHEET DATE SEPT. 1910
 PIECE HAND HOLE PLATES FOR B&W BOILERS.
 OPERATION ROUGH FORGING. DIE: 5-36
 MACHINE DROP HAMMER NO. 2 WORKMAN WILSEY
 SHEET NO. 3. TIME 9.30 A.M. TO 10 A.M.

TIME	LIGHT FURNACE	WAITING FOR HEAT	FORGING THROUGH TIME	ROTUSTING DIES	MISSES WAITING	NUMBER OF FINISHES MADE	BAR OF STOCK PLACED IN FURNACE	REMARKS
9.30 To 31				|			X X	
32		| 20	| 20					
33			|			-		
34			|			-	X	
35			|			-		
36		| 35	| 25					
37		| 10	| 50			-		
38		| 15	| 35			-	X	
39			|			-		
40			| 30	| 15		-		
41			|			-		
42			|			-		
43		| 25	| 35			-		
44		| 10	| 50			-	X X	
45			|			-		
46			|			-		
47			|			-		
48		| 15	| 45			-		
49			|			-		
50		| 50	| 10			-		
51			|			-		
52			|			-		
53			|			-		
54			|			-		
55			|			-		
56			|			-		
57			| 25	| 35		-	X	
58				| 55	| 20			* DRINK OF WATER.
59			| 40					
10.00			|			-	X	
TOTAL	0-0	4-10	22-30	2-05	1-15	20	8	

Image: Observation Sheet, Cost Keeping and Scientific Management (1911), Author: Evans, Holden A, Publisher: New York [etc.] McGraw-Hill book company P. 132 archive.org/details/costkeepingandsooevangoo

His methods proved successful, from 1881-1885: Midvale grew tremendously.²⁶³

Here we can see what was called “A Shop Observation Card For Recording Stop-Watch Time Studies” used in 1909. It includes the job order, the type of work, the name of the workman who did the work, the date and time when work began and was subsequently completed, along with remarks, and total time to complete the job, in this case 10 hours. Each operation is also broken down.

The aim of these time studies was to increase productivity by reducing or removing waste.

JOB ORDER <u>4672/GA</u>		SHOP OBSERVATION CARD		DATE <u>4-7-09</u>				
CHARACTER OF WORK <u>SCUTTLES COAL 24" WOOD DECK - DECK RING - FOR.</u>								
WORKMAN <u>BETTENCOURT.</u>	RATE <u>47¢</u>	OPERATION	DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS	1	2	3	4	5
STARTED TO SET MAC. <u>9 A.M. 4-17</u>		A	<u>PLACE RING ON MACHINE TABLE</u>	<u>2.10</u>	<u>9.32</u>			
MACHINE ALL SET AT <u>9.27 A.M.</u>		B	<u>TURN OUTER EDGE OF FLANGE</u>	<u>2.48</u>	<u>12.15</u>			
BEGAN WORK <u>9.27 A.M. 4-17</u>		C	<u>" INSIDE FOR COVER</u>	<u>4.17</u>	<u>13.46</u>			
		D	<u>" & FORM BEAD</u>	<u>6.20</u>	<u>15.51</u>			
		E	<u>LAND ON FLOOR.</u>	<u>7.15</u>	<u>16.40</u>			
COMPLETED WORK <u>11 A.M. 4-18</u>		F						
REMARKS		G						
<u>SPECIAL TOOL A-4-4</u>		H						
<u>FOR FORMING BEAD.</u>		I						
<u>LOT OF 24.</u>		J						
<u>TIME = 10 HRS.</u>		K						
		L						
		M						

FIG. 24. SHOP OBSERVATION CARD FOR RECORDING STOP-WATCH TIME STUDIES.

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

In his chapter “Wasted Time Detected by Time Studies” (1911) Evans stated that:

“Wasted time is the principal reason for inefficient labor.

Very few owners or managers realize that an enormous amount of time is wasted by men in their employ.

Wasted time, while due to many causes, may be classed under four general heads: Loafing, Employment on Unsuitable Work, Lost Time due to Unnecessary Waits, and Poor Equipment.

The proper procedure is to first find the cause.

This can only be accomplished by detail observation.

The best means for doing this is by stop-watch unit time studies.” ³¹⁷

³¹⁷ Cost Keeping and Scientific Management (1911), Author: Evans, Holden A,
Publisher: New York [etc.] McGraw-Hill book company pp. 127-128
archive.org/details/costkeepingandsooevangooog

²⁷⁶ Techniques of Scientific Management www.managementstudyguide.com/techniques_scientificmanagement.htm

Taylor stipulated that a fair day’s work should be “determined through observations ... and analysis”.²⁷⁶

As he observed each movement, moreover, Taylor tried to simplify each one.²⁵⁷

His view was that:

Standard Time × Working Hours = Fair Day’s
Work ²⁷⁶

While his immediate goal was increasing productivity, he contributed to the deskilling of the work place.²⁵⁷

By calculating “scientifically” how each job should be performed, and how long it should take, Taylor increased productivity but, most importantly, transferred control of the work process over to management.²⁵⁷

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

Taylor's idea was that every part of a factory, or a whole organization, should be scientifically analyzed and redesigned to achieve the most efficient output.²⁷⁸

With this in mind Taylor also sought to apply the same principles to standardize clerical operations.

Here you can see an early Taylor Clerical Time Form from Midvale in 1885.

It included timings and rates for each piece of work, when the work started, when the work ended, the total time the work took, and if it passed inspection.

TIME-NOTE.

Machine Shop, _____ 188 _____

Order _____ TIME _____

Name _____

WORK DONE.	No.	Rate in cents.	Amt.	Time
Enter tires in records from standing orders,		0.25		
Enter tire time-notes on white sheets,		0.5		
Post tire records from time-notes,		0.3		
Enter weights of tires on white sheet and } add up weights of tires from tire mill, }		0.3		
Post wages earned by men on mills and fix bonus,		0.2		
File and put away records of finished tires,		5.0		
Assort tire records and put in final file,		10.0		
Make out standing orders I. S. F. tires,		1.5		
Make out standing orders ordinary tires,		0.5		
Enter miscellaneous time-notes on white sheet,		0.3		
Post miscellaneous time-notes in records,		0.85		
Check off white and yellow sheets from register } for men, to see if all time is correct, }		5.0		
Enter axles (standing orders) in records,		0.3		
Post records of axles from time-notes,		0.3		
Take out standing orders to boxes,		5.0		
Make out standing orders for I. S. F. tires,		1.5		
Make out standing orders for ordinary tires,		0.5		

Time out _____ Total time _____

Time in _____ Total amount earned _____

I have inspected the above work and find that it is all done as per order.

Signed, _____

²⁷⁸ Frederick W. Taylor: The Father of Scientific Management : Myth and Reality
By Charles D. Wrege and Ronald G. Greenwood, Publisher: Business One Irwin
(June 1991) p.255

Image: **Time Note for Standardized Clerical Operations**, Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p.257
archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro1copl

STANDARDIZED WORK

In a further attempt to improve productivity Taylor also created “instruction cards,” which noted each motion and each decision that workers had passed along informally to each other.²⁵⁷

These decisions were recorded for the foreman and were used both to instruct and to control new workers.²⁵⁷

Taylor had effectively standardised work.

Here you can see an example of one of Taylor’s instruction work cards.

Each detail of the operation is described along with how long each operation should take, and how long it did take. The worker who performed the work is recorded, as is his boss, and any bonus earned.

CLASS OF WORK Lathe		STANDING ORDER 460	ORDER NUMBER 16837				
MACHINE NUMBER 59	TOOL ME -117	CLASS OF METAL 14	FORGING NUMBER 22706 B. F.				
MAN'S NAME SPEED BOSS							
DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION	SHAPE OF TOOL	CUT	FEED	SPEED	TIME WORK SHOULD TAKE	TIME WORK DID TAKE	RATE
Change Machine	20 Min				(For 1st one only)		
1 Chuck for turning webs					12		
2 Turn webs	PRL	3cuts	E	4AF	1:40		
3 Change to pin centers					10		
4 Rough pin to 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ " dia	PSR		.005	5AF	2:10		
5 Rough face webs use end ^{double} tool		2cuts		4AF	1:40		
6 Fin. " " " " "		1cut	H	"	50		
7 Fin. turn pin & cut fillets			E	2AF	2:00		
8 File pin round					1:10		
9 Polish pin				2BF	40		
10 Inspect					15		
11 Remove crank					5		
12					10:52	10:50	
13 Pin is #1 finish, webs are #3 finish.							
14 (Bonus earned)							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23	24"	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ "		
Previous time	54 hours						
DESCRIPTION CARD NO.	SHEET DRAWING NO.	B.S. Co. DRAWING NO.	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	SIGNED	
4311	PCMB	26194 $\frac{1}{2}$ A	7	17	01	Buckley	
WHEN MACHINE CAN NOT BE RUN AS ORDERED, SPEED BOSS MUST AT ONCE REPORT TO MAN WHO SIGNED THIS SLIP <small>The Engineering Magazine</small>							

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

Image: Example of an Instruction Card, Work, Wages, and Profits (1919), Author: Gantt, Henry Laurence, 1861-1919, Publisher: New York, The Engineering magazine co. p. 264
archive.org/details/cu31924013870724

FUNCTIONAL MANAGEMENT

In 1883 Taylor also began to break down the job of the foreman, he advocated functional foremanship.²⁷⁶

The scheme of functional foremanship is an extension of [the] principle of specialization at the supervisory level.²⁷⁶

This technique was developed to improve the quality of work as a single supervisor may not be an expert in all the aspects of the work. Therefore workers were to be supervised by specialist foreman.²⁷⁶

Taylor had now separated planning from doing. Four of the specialist foreman would be located in the office for planning and four on the shop floor with the workmen.

At the planning level there were four supervisors.²⁷⁴

Taylor described their roles in relation to the worker who does the work:

“ The Instruction Card Clerk; describing in detail the task which he is to accomplish, as well as the means to be used in doing the work.⁴³⁴ These instructions represent the combined work of several men in the planning room, each of whom has his own specialty or function.

The Time Clerk; as to everything relating to his pay and to proper written reports and returns.

The Route Clerk; as to the order in which he does his work and as to the movement of the work from one part of the shop to another.

The Disciplinarian; in case a workman gets into any trouble with any of his various bosses the “disciplinarian” interviews him.”²⁷⁷

²⁷⁶ Techniques of Scientific Management www.managementstudyguide.com/techniques_scientificmanagement.htm

²⁷⁷ The principles of Scientific Management (1911), Author: Taylor, Frederick Winslow, Publisher: New York, London, Harper & Brothers pp. 122-125 archive.org/details/principlesofscieootaylrich

⁴³⁴ *ibid.*, p. 39

²⁷⁴ F. W. Taylor's Scientific Management Theory - kalyan-city.blogspot.com/2011/06/frederick-taylor-principles-of.html

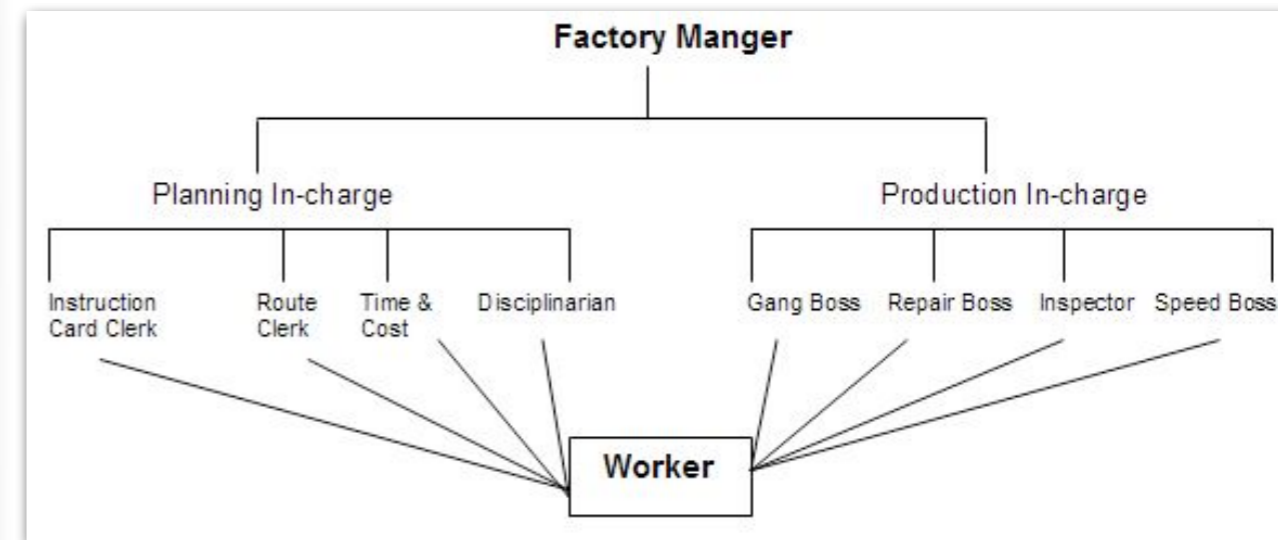
At the doing level there were also four supervisors.²⁷⁴ Again Taylor described their roles in relation to the worker:

“ The Inspector; sees to it that he understands the drawings and instructions for doing the work. He teaches him how to do work of the right quality.

The Gang Boss; shows him how to set up the job in his machine, and teaches him to make all of his personal motions in the quickest and best way.

The Speed Boss; sees that the machine is run at the best speed and that the proper tool is used in the particular way which will enable the machine to finish its product in the shortest possible time.

*The Repair Boss; as to the adjustment, cleanliness, and general care of his machine.”*²⁷⁷



Taylor had created the functional organization, replacing the line organization.

Taylor had applied the division of labor, to both white and blue-collar jobs, creating the modern white-collar workforce, dividing the work place into workers and directors of work.²⁶³

This division is still commonplace today.

²⁷⁴ F. W. Taylor's Scientific Management Theory - kalyan-city.blogspot.com/2011/06/frederick-taylor-principles-of.html

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

Image: **Taylor's Functional Foremanship**, Techniques of Scientific Management www.managementstudyguide.com/images/functional_foreman.jpg

²⁷⁷ The principles of scientific management (1911), Author: Taylor, Frederick Winslow, Publisher: New York, London, Harper & Brothers pp. 122-125 archive.org/details/principlesofscieootaylrich

RESOURCE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Inherent in Taylor's style of management was the setting up of planning departments of clerks who ensured that '... every labourer's work was planned out well in advance, and the workmen were moved from place to place by the clerks with elaborate diagrams'.²⁶⁵

As Taylor stated:

*“ These men of necessity spend most of their time in the planning department, because they must be close to the records and data which they continually use in their work, and because this work requires the use of a desk and freedom from interruption.”*²⁷⁷

Thus, today's resource planning and process improvement departments were born.

²⁶⁵ Frederick Winslow Taylor - Chartered Management Institute - www.mbsportal.bl.uk/taster/subjareas/busmanhist/mgmtthinkers/taylor.aspx

²⁷⁷ The principles of scientific management (1911), Author: Taylor, Frederick Winslow, Publisher: New York, London, Harper & Brothers pp. 122-125 archive.org/details/principlesofscieootaylrch

⁴⁴³ The Principles of Scientific Management (1911), Author: Taylor, Frederick Winslow, Publisher: New York, London, Harper & Brothers p.128 archive.org/details/principlesofscieootaylrch

STAFF SUGGESTION SCHEMES

Taylor proposed a form of incentive for employees to make suggestions if they felt an improvement could be made to either the method or the implement used to undertake a task.²⁶⁵

After analysis of the suggestion, and if it was introduced into the workplace²⁶⁵ Taylor stated that:

*“ The workman should be given the full credit for the improvement, and should be paid a cash premium as a reward for his ingenuity.”*⁴⁴³

Staff suggestion schemes and innovation bonuses were born.

Taylor sought to measure the human inputs and outputs in manufacturing. Workers were evaluated and rewarded in terms of the 'work units' they produced.²⁶⁶

²⁶⁶ The Puritan Gift: triumph, collapse and revival of an American dream, Kenneth Hopper and William Hopper, I. B. Tauris (April 3, 2007) pp. 74-79. By permission of Ken Hopper and Will Hopper

DIFFERENTIAL RATES

Taylor claimed the primary motivation of an employee was to earn money. Therefore, the way to get an employee to work harder was to pay by the piece.²⁶⁷

Taylor theorized that workers were inefficient because they tended to ration their workload or work less than they could to prevent the job tasks from running out, resulting in a loss of wages.²⁶⁸

By 1884, Taylor proposed a set of differential rates at Midvale that would be set “scientifically,” with higher rates per piece paid above certain production standards established by management.²⁶³

It was intended to provide individual employee productivity incentives.²⁶⁷

²⁷⁴ F. W. Taylor's Scientific Management Theory - kalyan-city.blogspot.com/2011/06/frederick-taylor-principles-of.html

²⁶⁸ Frederick Winslow Taylor: Father of Modern Management Frederick Winslow Taylor: Father of Modern Management, www.mgmtguru.com/mgt301/301_Lecture1Page8.htm

Under differential piece rate system, a standard output was first fixed. Then two wage rates were fixed as follows:²⁷⁴

*“ It consists briefly in offering two different rates for the same job; a high price per piece in case the work is finished in the shortest possible time and in perfect condition, and a low price, if it takes a longer time to do the job, or if there are any imperfections in the work.”*²⁷³

This enabled the management to fix the amount of work to be done by each worker in one hour or in one day. That is, management can fix a standard output of work for a certain period of time.²⁷⁴

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

²⁶⁷ Questions on Organizational Behavior Stephen W. Hartman, Ph.D. iris.nyit.edu/~shartman/mbao299/120_0299.htm

²⁶⁶ The Puritan Gift: triumph, collapse and revival of an American dream, Kenneth Hopper and William Hopper, I. B. Tauris (April 3, 2007) pp. 74-79. By permission of Ken Hopper and Will Hopper

²⁷³ Cost Keeping and Scientific Management, Evans, Holden A, Published By: McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, 1911 pp. 109-110 archive.org/details/costkeepingscienoovanrich

Taylor in his paper describing the differential rate, read before the Society of Mechanical Engineers²⁷³ said:

*“The following table will show the economy of paying high wages under the differential rate:”*²⁷³

COST OF PRODUCTION PER LATHE PER DAY	
ORDINARY SYSTEM OF PIECE WORK	DIFFERENTIAL RATE SYSTEM
Man's Wages .....\$2.50	Man's Wages .....\$3.50
Machine Cost 3.37	Machine Cost <u>3.37</u>
Total Cost per Day...\$5.87	Total Cost per Day...\$6.87
5 pieces produced.	10 pieces produced.
Cost per piece.....\$1.17	Cost per piece.....\$0.69

Since different rates would be paid for all work on a kind of sliding scale, depending on daily productivity, these differential rates were a dramatic change from simple piece rates, which had been introduced at Midvale and were common in machine shops.²⁶³

Halsey's plan, along with Taylor's ideas on piece rates, had a major influence in the United States and Great Britain on the design of pay schemes.²⁵⁴

Here was the genius, perverse or inspired, of Taylorism, which far exceeded the principle of differential rates: the seizing of control of the world process on behalf of management.²⁵⁷

This created a new class, and successive generations, of order-takers: do it the management way or else, destroying the last vestiges of worker control in the pre-industrial work place.²⁵⁷

“Modern” industrial practices, as we know them today, began to take definite form.²⁵⁷

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

²⁵⁴ Encyclopedia of Management, 5th Edition, Edited by Marilyn M. Helms, D.B.A. © 2006 Thomson Gale, a part of The Thomson Corporation. pp. 651-653

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

²⁷³ Cost Keeping and Scientific Management, Evans, Holden A, Published By: McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, 1911 pp. 109-110 archive.org/details/costkeepingscienoovanrich

Image: Table showing the economy of paying high wages under the differential rate, Cost Keeping and Scientific Management, Evans, Holden A, Published By: McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, 1911 p.110 archive.org/details/costkeepingscienoovanrich



Image: **Frederick Winslow Taylor 1886**, Source: Gaugler, Eduard (Hrsg.): Taylor, Frederick Winslow : The principles of scientific management ; Vademecum zu dem Klassiker der Wissenschaftlichen Betriebsführung. Düsseldorf: Verlag Wirtschaft und Finanzen, 1996. Author: Grap commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:F._Taylor_at_1886.jpg

In 1890 Taylor resigned from Midvale.²⁶³

In the twelve years he spent at Midvale, or in the years of his young manhood between the ages of twenty-two and thirty-four, he developed single-handed a system of shop management the like of which never had been known before, and despite the opposition his radically new ways were bound to arouse, put the thing into effect with such success that he brought the entire works around to it.²⁶⁴

And it is to be observed that in these years Midvale steadily increased in size and general importance.²⁶⁴

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

²⁶⁴ Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p.117 archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor01copl

THE WORLD'S FIRST MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

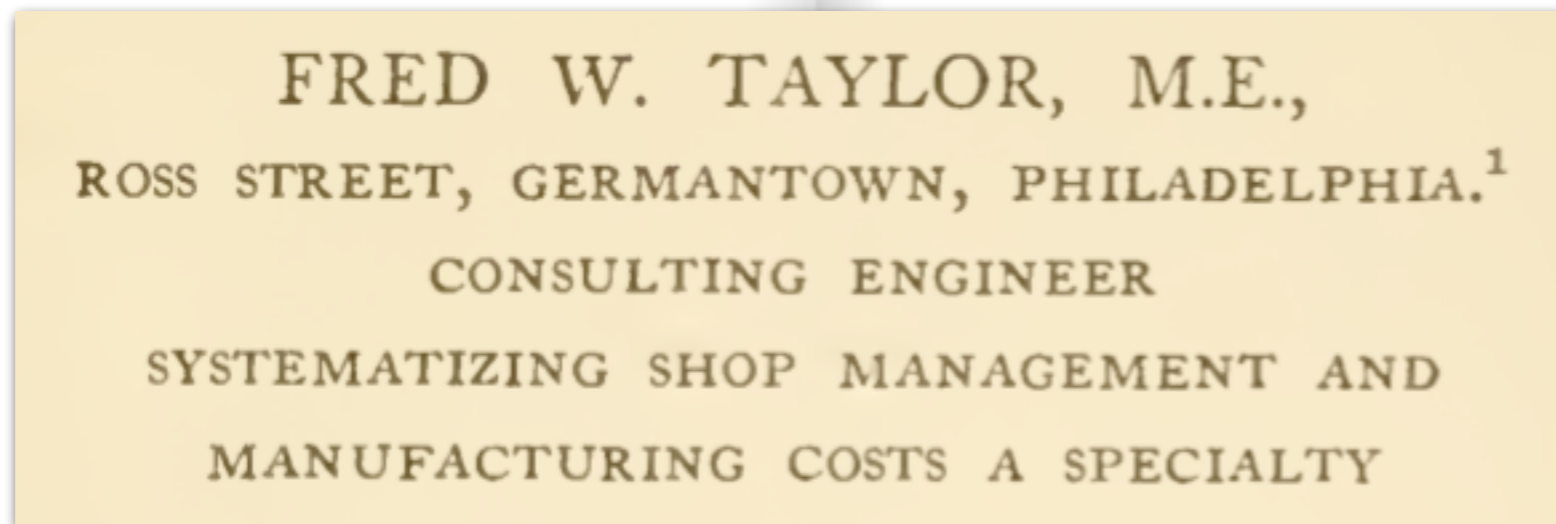
From 1893 - 1898 Taylor set himself up as Frederick Taylor, Consulting Engineer in Management, for various companies.²⁵⁷

He was the world's first management consultant.²⁶⁶

As Taylor himself would state:

*“ I believe I was the first man in this country to undertake this work as a profession. ”*⁴⁴⁶

Here we can see what he listed on his business card and letter-heads.



²⁶⁶ The Puritan Gift: triumph, collapse and revival of an American dream, Kenneth Hopper and William Hopper, I. B. Tauris (April 3, 2007) pp. 74-79.
By permission of Ken Hopper and Will Hopper

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004),
used with kind permission.

⁴⁴⁶ Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p.390
archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor01copl

Image: **Taylor Rubber Stamp**, Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers
p.391 archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor01copl

THE SCIENCE OF ADMINISTRATION

Captain Henry Metcalfe, a graduate of West Point and the Ordnance Department, went beyond technology management and focused on the science of administration.³³⁸

While Taylor was engaged in his early Midvale battles, Metcalfe had progressed enough to write *The Cost of Manufactures*, publicly broaching the need for an administrative science whose researchers would collect and classify past records to produce generic principles to apply in future cases.³³⁷

His book is considered a pioneer work in the area of management science.²⁵⁴

Metcalfe, of the United States Army Ordnance Department, was in charge of the gun-making workshops at Frankford Arsenal, a position

that involved the need to increase productivity (which was considered low in arsenals) and manage people.³³⁷

Metcalfe realised immediately on taking over as manager of Frankford Arsenal that traditional methods of organisation and control are both wasteful and ineffective.³³⁹

To remove these problems he developed a system of control in 1881 which was universally recognised as a new milestone in management literature.³³⁹

³³⁸ In Search of the Lost Grail of Middle Management: The Renaissance of Middle Managers, By Quentin R. Skrabec University Press of America (15 Dec 2003) p.4

²⁵⁴ Encyclopedia of Management, 5th Edition, Edited by Marilyn M. Helms, D.B.A. © 2006 Thomson Gale, a part of The Thomson Corporation. pp. 651-653

³³⁷ Frederick Taylor and the Public Administration Community: A Reevaluation By Hindy L. Schachter Publisher: State University of New York Press; SUNY Series in Public Administration edition (November 1989) p. 28

³³⁹ Management Principles, Practices and Techniques Second Edition By N.S. Gupta and Alka Gupta, Published by Atlantic Publishers & Distributors 1986 p. 71

TIME-SHEETS

In the book Metcalfe described the “Present System” in use at that time at an Arsenal:

“The timekeeper, generally the foreman, goes about the shop towards the close of the day and asks each workman how he has spent it; according to the workman’s recollection he enters the time reported in a book.

There are two general forms of time book; one, form A in which the time made by each man during each day is entered in gross;

and form B occupies a page for each day, and a line for each man.” ³⁴²

You can see examples of forms A and B opposite.

FORM A.
Time book for month of April, 1874.

NAMES.	DAYS OF THE MONTH.							Total days.	Wages per day.	Am'nt.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	to 31			
J. Smith.....	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	$1\frac{1}{4}$	.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	\$2 00	\$7 00
A. Jones.....	1	0	1	1	1	1	.....	5	5 00	25 00
T. Brown.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....	6	75	4 50

FORM B.
Work Report for April 2d, 1874.

NAMES.	Occupation.	Total days.
John Smith.....	$\frac{1}{4}$ hour cleaning engine, $\frac{1}{2}$ hour sawing wood, $1\frac{1}{4}$ hours filing brass for lathe bearings.....	$\frac{1}{4}$
A. Jones.....	Absent.....	0
T. Brown.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ day on shop fixtures, $\frac{1}{4}$ general jobbing, $\frac{1}{4}$ helping smith.....	1

³⁴² The Cost of Manufacturers and the Administration of Workshops by Henry Metcalfe
 Publisher: John Wiley & Sons New York (1890) pp. 59-60
archive.org/details/costofmanufacturoometc

Image(s): **Work Report**, The Cost of Manufacturers and the Administration of Workshops,
 by Henry Metcalfe, Publisher: John Wiley & Sons New York (1890) p.60
archive.org/details/costofmanufacturoometc

Metcalfé went onto explain his newer system. He proposed a separate shop order card for each job. The system required that the workman note the time he spent on each job on a separate labor card, filed by job number.³⁴¹

“Each workman is supplied with a book of fifty pages, each page containing a coupon card 2¾ x 5½ inches and a stub about 1½ inches wide, in which, to save him writing, is stamped his shop number, his name, and his wages per time unit, unless he is working by the piece.”

When the workman goes to work in the morning, he gets his book from the foreman, and when he leaves work he returns it to him, made out so as to indicate the distribution of his time during the day.

He fills that portion of the card showing the employment by writing under ‘Charge to’.

In the ‘time unit’ space he puts down the number of quarter days, hours, half hours, etc., he has worked on the job.

SERVICE CARD, Frankford Arsenal.		APR 2 1885	
No.	Name.	Price per unit.	
235,	Lannigan,	0,25.	
Charge to—	Nature of service in detail.	No. of units.	
S-O. 784	<i>General work on job.</i>	Pieces.	Time.
C. <i>W.</i>			8
O.		AMOUNT.	
N. 991.		Doll's.	Cents.
N. B. Make but one entry on each card.			

Absentees for a whole day are so marked on a leaf taken out of their own books.

A man working on piece work, who has completed a suitable batch of pieces, makes out a ticket to correspond, and gives it with the pieces made to the foreman or inspector. ... ³⁴³

³⁴³ The Cost of Manufacturers and the Administration of Workshops by Henry Metcalfe
Publisher: John Wiley & Sons New York (1890) pp. 152-155
archive.org/details/costofmanufacturoometc

³⁴¹ Handbook of Cost Management, By Roman L. Weil, Michael W. Mahe
Publisher: Wiley; 2 edition (May 30, 2005) p. 736

Image: Service Card, The Cost of Manufacturers and the Administration of Workshops by Henry Metcalfe, Publisher: John Wiley & Sons New York (1890) p. 157
archive.org/details/costofmanufacturoometc

If the work receives the inspector's approval, he punches the service card and forwards it with the other cards.

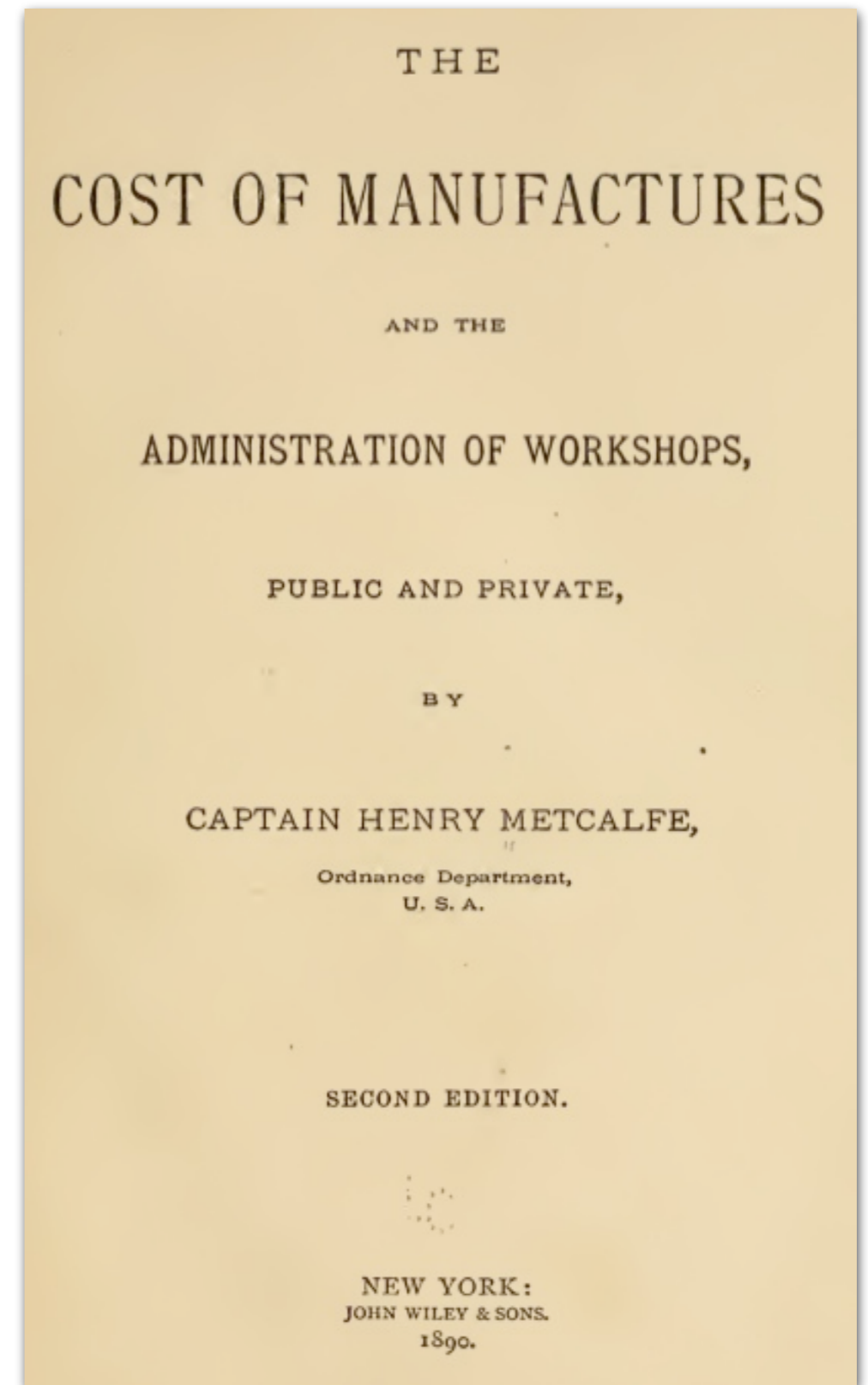
The cards go to the Cost Clerk and the time is then entered in the time book.

The cards corresponding to each order number are then placed in a pigeon hole bearing the number of the order.

Each pigeon hole shows at a glance what labor has been done on the job it represents, when, and by whom. Every empty pigeon hole testifies to a job so far untouched, and so on.

When the order ticket comes back 'completed', the cards corresponding to it are taken out.”³⁴³

Thus what today we would recognise as time-sheets were created, and put to use as a method to measure utilisation.



³⁴³ The Cost of Manufacturers and the Administration of Workshops by Henry Metcalfe
Publisher: John Wiley & Sons New York (1890) pp. 152-155
archive.org/details/costofmanufacturoometc

Image: **The Cost of Manufacturers and the Administration of Workshops**, by Henry,
Metcalf Publisher: John Wiley & Sons New York (1890) Title Page
archive.org/details/costofmanufacturoometc

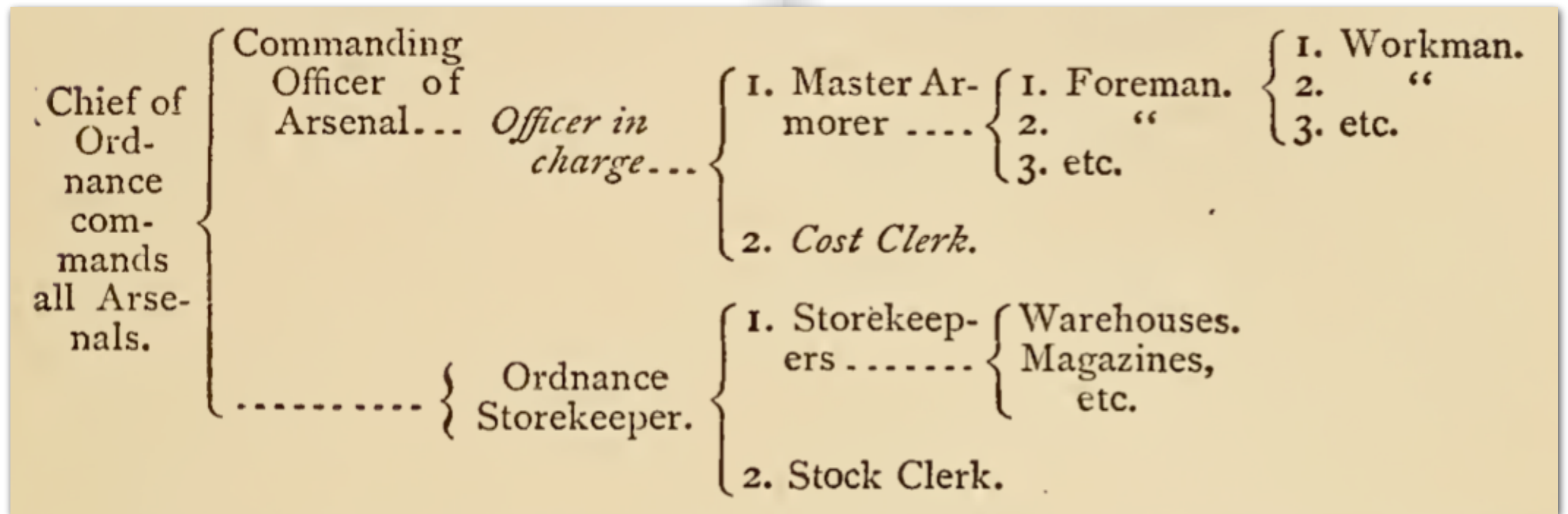
ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

While Metcalfe is famous for the development of the “time card” and work orders, he was a pioneer in defining the administrative role of middle management.³³⁸

In chapter two we discussed the roots of the organisation chart.

In 1894 Metcalfe created his version of the org chart when describing the organisation of the Arsenal.

We can see something more recognisable to how an organisation is depicted today.



³³⁸ In Search of the Lost Grail of Middle Management: The Renaissance of Middle Managers, By Quentin R. Skrabec University Press of America (15 Dec 2003) p.4

Taylor recognised the work of Metcalfe whilst he was himself at Midvale.

He wrote:

“The card system of shop returns invented and introduced as a complete system by Captain Henry Metcalfe, U. S. A., in the government shops of the Frankford Arsenal represents another such distinct advance in the art of management.

*The writer appreciates the difficulty of this undertaking as he was at the same time engaged in the slow evolution of a similar system in the Midvale Steel Works, which, however, was the result of a gradual development instead of a complete, well thought out invention as was that of Captain Metcalfe.”*³⁴⁰

³⁴⁰ Shop Management, By Frederick Winslow Taylor, Publisher Harper and Brothers
New York and London 1911 p. 202
archive.org/details/shopmanagementoitayl

⁴⁴⁵ Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank
Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p.4
archive.org/details/frederickwtaylorozcopl

BETHLEHEM STEEL

Returning our story back to Taylor, after leaving Midvale, Taylor worked at various companies as a management consultant. Whilst successful as a consultant, his next full time role came at Bethlehem Steel.

In 1887 the company obtained from Secretary Whitney contracts both for forgings for heavy cannon and for armor plate.⁴⁴⁵

It was realized, however, that something needed to be done to brace up the works management.⁴⁴⁵

When the works management problem at Bethlehem became more pressing, eyes there were turned to Midvale. Not that they wished to copy their rival's methods. But Midvale appeared to have an exceptionally good works management.⁴⁴⁵

Taylor was approached as his work at Midvale had become well known.

The negotiations with Taylor lasted off and on from November, 1897, throughout the following winter. To him the prospect of going to Bethlehem was more than pleasing. Here again he saw opening for him the door of a great opportunity.⁴⁴⁵

The Bethlehem Company at this time had a nominal capital of \$5,000,000, while its value was placed at \$15,000,000 or more. Between five and six thousand men were then employed.⁴⁴⁵

The American steel industry was reeling from a price-fixing scandal for armour plating, and desperately needed to find some way of cutting costs.²⁷⁵

⁴⁴⁴ Steel worker housing in South Bethlehem, PA, circa 1935. explorepahistory.com/displayimage.php?imgId=1-2-Coo

⁴⁴⁵ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p.4 archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl

Bethlehem's hopes rested on Taylor.²⁷⁵

Philadelphia was then one of the biggest industrial centres on the planet, the second biggest city in the USA, with a population of nearly 850,000 and export figures more than five per cent of the exports of the whole nation. In the six years before Taylor started work, 3,000 miles of rail had been laid across America.²⁷⁵

In the early 1900s South Bethlehem became a crowded and noisy boomtown. Biographer Catherine Drinker Bowen, who lived in Bethlehem as a child, wrote that the borough was

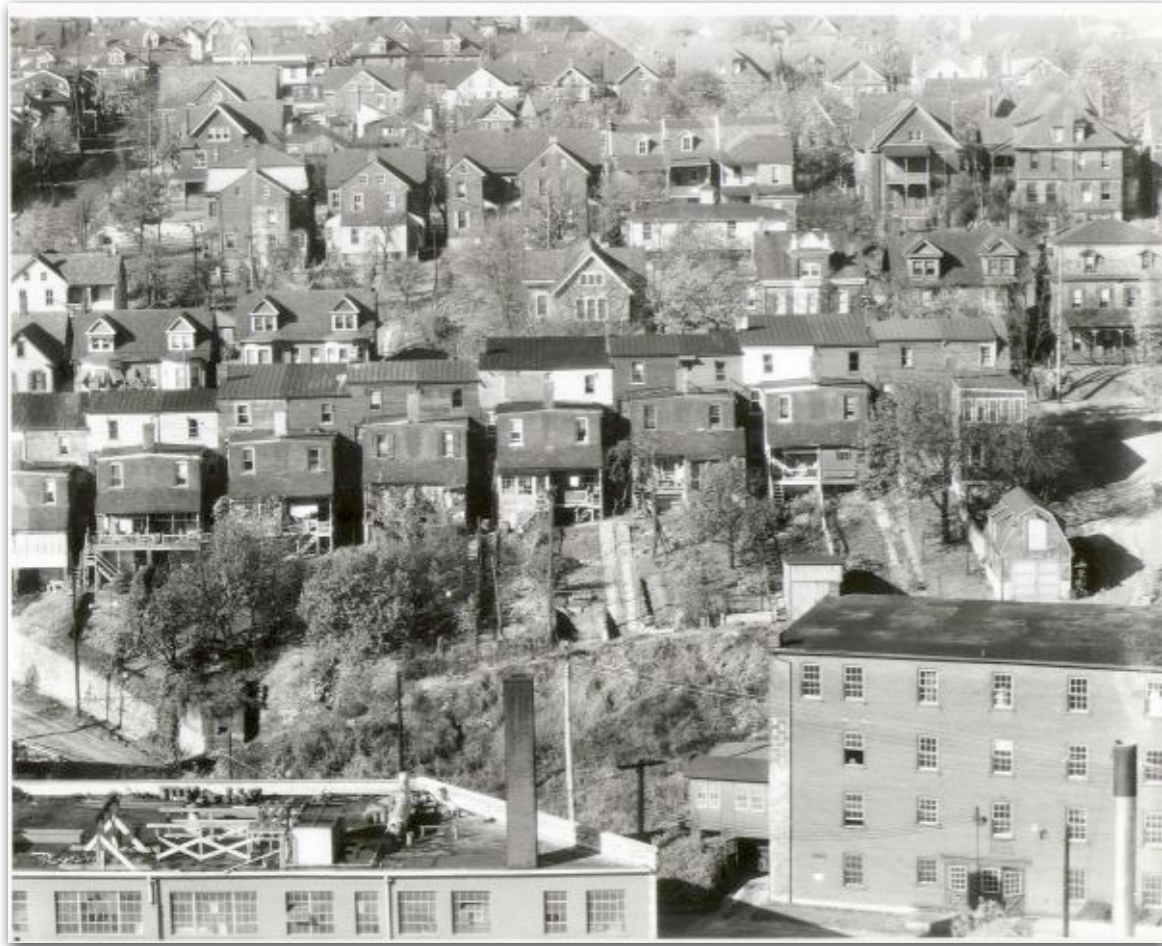
“like another place and another planet, a Wild West of its own.” ⁴⁴⁴

²⁷⁵ BBC History Magazine www.historyextra.com and Frederick Winslow Taylor The man who made us all work like this..., David Boyle, BBC History Magazine, June 2003 david-boyle.co.uk/history/frederickwinslowtaylor.html

⁴⁴⁵ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p.4 archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl

In Bethlehem there was also a mixture of races from all over the earth.⁴⁴⁵

The steel works, which, as the World War came to stimulate their business, offered employment to more than 25,000 persons.⁴⁴⁵



⁴⁴⁵ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p.4 archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl

Image: **Steel Worker Housing in South Bethlehem, PA**, circa 1935. explorepahistory.com/displayimage.php?imgId=1-2-Coo

Taylor was hired by Bethlehem Steel in the spring, 1898, and given control over Machine Shop No. 2, producing enormous cannon for the Spanish-American War.²⁵⁷

Bethlehem at the time boasted the largest machine shop in the world and a 90ft steam hammer - also the world's largest.²⁷⁵

He would work under, Robert P. Linderman, the company's chief executive.⁴⁴⁵

Taylor, was indomitably resolved on getting the Bethlehem Company to accept his methods complete, and ... when it finally was settled that he should begin his work in May, 1898, he prepared himself for the struggle of his career.⁴⁴⁷

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

²⁷⁵ BBC History Magazine www.historyextra.com and Frederick Winslow Taylor The man who made us all work like this..., David Boyle, BBC History Magazine, June 2003 david-boyle.co.uk/history/frederickwinslowtaylor.html

⁴⁴⁷ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 14-16 archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl

On May 27, 1898, the day he formally began his work, he addressed to Linderman his “Recommendation No. 1. Subject: Desirability of establishing standards throughout the works.”⁴⁴⁷

In his recommendation he stated:

“ Any attempt toward the adoption of standards of this kind will meet with great opposition, the chief ground of which is based on the supposition that uniform conditions of this sort discourage originality and individual improvement among the men.

*If this system of standards, however, is properly applied it produces quite the opposite effect, since each workman then understands that if he succeeds in making any improvement that such improvement may be adopted as the work’s standard.”*⁴⁴⁷

The method of setting and documenting a standard, understanding and working to that standard, and then seeking improvement to create a new standard had been born.

Today this is in use as recommended “best practice”, and has been adopted by many efficiency consultants and practitioners.

Taylor went on to ask Linderman:

“ 1st. To determine whether you wish to adopt a series of standards for the small details throughout your works.

2nd. If you decide in the affirmative, to convince your leading assistants in the works of the desirability of standards.

*3rd. To determine upon the best method of establishing these standards and enforcing their adoption and maintenance throughout the works.”*⁴⁴⁷

⁴⁴⁷ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 14-16
archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor02copl

Linderman agreed to Taylor's requests.

TAYLORISM

Calling Bethlehem Steel "a case study in inefficiency," Taylor began to transform the work place in every area, installing "scientific management," or "Taylorism," as it was now known, over the objections of both workers and managers.²⁵⁷



A GROUP OF BETHLEHEM STEEL COMPANY EXECUTIVES
Taylor stands behind the third man seated, from the reader's left. About 1900

Image: **Bethlehem Steel Company Executives with Taylor**, Frederick W. Taylor, father of scientific management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p.84
archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl

Another protégé arrived at Bethlehem when Carl Barth was hired to develop mathematical formulas for calculating the job rates. By devising a special slide rule, management was able to accurately predict the amount of time needed for each process, eliminating the rule-of-thumb which had dominated the shop.²⁵⁷

Up to the spring of 1899 all of the materials in the yard of the Bethlehem Steel Company had been handled by gangs of men working by the day, and under the foremanship of men who had themselves formerly worked at similar work as laborers.³⁶⁸

The Bethlehem Steel management wanted to increase workers' output.³⁶⁵

³⁶⁵ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Noll

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

³⁶⁸ Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p.37
archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl



Focusing on worker's output, Taylor conducted a study at Bethlehem Steel regarding the loading of pig iron onto railroad cars.³⁶⁵

At the start of the study, workers were loading an average of 12.5 tons of pig per laborer per day, and received a wage of \$1.15 per day, regardless of individual output.³⁶⁵

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

Image: **Men Sitting on Stack of Pig Iron**, Jones & Laughlin South Side Works, Pittsburgh, PA, 1885. Creator: Frederick T. Gretton
Frederick T. Gretton Photographs, 1857-1953, MSP 328, Library and Archives Division, Senator John Heinz History Center, By kind permission
images.library.pitt.edu/cgi-bin/i/image/image-idx?q1=Men%20sitting%20on%20stack%20of%20pig%20iron;view=entry;cc=hpichswp;entryid=x-msp328.bo01.f14.i01

In addition to Taylor, two of Taylor's employees worked at the Bethlehem Steel plant, experimenting with loading strategies and searching out exemplary workers to serve as models for the assertion that "a good day's wages could be made at the existing rates by a good man".^{365 366}

SCHMIDT PIG-IRON EXPERIMENTS

Enter "Schmidt," the pig-iron handler at Bethlehem.³⁶⁷

Taylor began the famous shoveling experiments with an obscure 28-year old laborer named Henry Noll,²⁶³ later disguised by Taylor as "a man named Schmidt."²⁵⁷

³⁶⁶ Charles D. Wrege and Amadeo G. Perroni, "Taylor's Pig Tale: A Historical Analysis of Frederick W. Taylor's Pig-Iron experiments" in: *Academy of Management Journal*, 17 (March 1974), 6-27

³⁶⁷ *The Theory and Practice of Scientific Management* (1917), Author: Thompson, Clarence Bertrand, 1882-1969, Publisher: Boston, New York [etc.] Houghton Mifflin company p. 81 archive.org/details/theorypracticeofiothom

³⁶⁵ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Noll

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004),

Taylor described “Schmidt”:

“ He was a little Pennsylvania Dutchman who had been observed to trot back home for a mile or so after his work in the evening, about as fresh as when he came trotting down to work in the morning.

This man we will call Schmidt.

The task before us, then, narrowed itself down to getting Schmidt to handle 47 tons of pig iron per day and making him glad to do it.

If Schmidt had been permitted to attack the pile of forty-seven tons of pig iron without any guidance, he probably would have tired himself out before noon.

This was the science of his work. How could he possibly have discovered this science for himself?” ³⁶⁹

Watch video vimeo.com/75161632



In this film you can see the results of Taylor’s famous Pig Iron Carrying Experiment, with pay per day before and after scientific study.

Men would pick up a piece of pig iron, walk up a plank, and then drop that pig iron into a train car, closely studied by Taylor’s men.

Video: Production Company: Presented by James S. Perkins in collaboration with Dr. Lillian M. Gilbreth & Dr. Ralph M. Barnes. This movie is part of the collection: Prelinger Archives. archive.org/details/OriginalFilm_2

³⁶⁹ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 43-49 archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor02copl

Taylor also analysed the affect physical exertion had a on a worker, and found that a worker required a fixed amount of time to rest per amount of work completed. With this knowledge the most efficient use of properly spaced rest periods could be devised thus resulting in increased output.

Beginning as an evaluation of a labor gang loading pig iron on freight cars, the later experiments on shovel sizes and design showed that "Taylorism" could apply to even the most unskilled job.²⁵⁷

Gradually the suspicions of the other men were overcome. The spectacle of Schmidt, plainly not over-worked, and yet getting \$1.85 day after day while they were getting only \$1.15, was too much for them.³⁶⁹

It proved, however, that only about one man in eight in that gang of seventy-five was physically capable of handling forty-seven tons a day.³⁶⁹

To make up his special force of pig-iron handlers, he had to get some men from outside the works.³⁶⁹

Taylor's results were impressive.

By 1901, the workforce at Bethlehem was handling three times as much material as before and their wages were 60 per cent higher.²⁷⁵

He reduced the number of shovellers in their two-mile goods yard from 500 to ¹⁴⁰.²⁷⁵

Under his methods, the cost of handling pig iron was just about cut in half. And he was under the impression that what he had done was a good thing for everybody.³⁶⁹

³⁶⁹ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 43-49 archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl

²⁷⁵ BBC History Magazine www.historyextra.com and Frederick Winslow Taylor The man who made us all work like this..., David Boyle, BBC History Magazine, June 2003 david-boyle.co.uk/history/frederickwinslowtaylor.html

Later on in 1911 a report was circulated by opponents of Scientific Management that Schmidt had naturally succumbed to the task laid upon him by Fred Taylor - that Schmidt, in fact, was quite dead.³⁷⁰

Through the inspector of the Ordnance Department stationed at the Bethlehem works, Schmidt was found in that town, and in January, 1914, A. B. Wadleigh was commissioned by Taylor to employ a physician and report on Schmidt.³⁷⁰

The physician, Dr. C.L. Johnstonbaugh, of Bethlehem, certified³⁷⁰ Noll to be “in good physical condition”.³⁷⁰

Taylor continued with his experimentation at Bethlehem until he left the company in 1901.

Soon after leaving, Charles Schwab, as president of US Steel, bought Bethlehem.²⁶³

DOCUMENTING SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT

In November 1901 Taylor “retired” to become a consultant.²⁶³ He also turned his attention to documenting his methods and providing case studies of their use.

In June 23, 1903, Taylor presented Shop Management at the annual meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) in Saratoga, NY.²⁶³

It was the first comprehensive summary of “Taylorism”.²⁶³

The presentation was filled with technical exhibits and diagrams.²⁵⁷

³⁷⁰ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p.55 archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor02copl

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and *The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide* (2004), used with kind permission.

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

Taylor would report:

*“To ensure the best results, the organization of productive labor must be directed and controlled by persons having not only good executive ability, and possessing the practical familiarity of a mechanic or engineer, with the goods produced and the processes employed, but having also, and equally, a practical knowledge of how to observe, record, analyze, and compare essential facts in relation to wages, supplies, expense accounts, and all else that enters into or affects the economy of production and the cost of the product.”*³²⁶

“Shop Management” is seen as an extremely influential.

Which is why a cultural historian like Martha Banta could describe Taylor’s 1903 lecture as “one of the key documents shaping ... modern industrialisation”.²⁷⁵

In 1906 Taylor was elected president of ASME, and begin to import “efficiency” into the organizational practices.²⁶³

The ASME had membership of 542 very influential men²⁶³ of the time.

THE PIVOTAL MOMENT

Although his ideas were beginning to spread, Taylor came to national prominence thanks to the future Supreme Court justice Louis Brandeis, who realised ‘scientific management’ could win his case against the railroad companies for raising fares.²⁷⁵

It is worthwhile exploring this pivotal moment, and how, as a result, “scientific management” became popularised.

³²⁶ Shop Management By Frederick Winslow Taylor, Introduction by Henry Towne, Publisher Harper and Brothers New York and London 1911
archive.org/details/shopmanagementtoitayl

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

²⁷⁵ BBC History Magazine www.historyextra.com and Frederick Winslow Taylor The man who made us all work like this..., David Boyle, BBC History Magazine, June 2003 david-boyle.co.uk/history/frederickwinslowtaylor.html

Early in the summer of 1910, the railroads of the north-eastern section of the United States filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission new freight tariffs calling for a general advance in rates, and in September, October, and November the Commission held hearings to determine their reasonableness.³³⁴

It was the first case of its kind.³³⁴

From the beginning the contest provided good “copy” for the newspapers, and it waxed in intensity.³³⁴

It was argued that through more efficient management the railroads could save more money than they demanded in increased rates.³³⁴

Brandeis argued against rate increases by citing the probable effects of the application of ‘scientific management’.³³³

One of the witnesses, Harrington Emerson, an engineer, testified that in this way the railroads could save a million dollars a day.³³⁴

Other witnesses, managers of plants, swore that through Scientific Management they had reduced their costs, while increasing their men’s wages 25 to 100 per cent.³³⁴

Scientific Management! In common with the public in general, reporters and editors of the non-technical press never had heard of it before, and it seemed a phrase to conjure with.³³⁴

And a saving of a million dollars a day! That was truly sensational.³³⁴

³³⁴ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 3-8 archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor01copl

³³³ *Management Principles for Health Professionals*, By Joan Gratto Liebler, Charles R. McConnell Publisher: Jones & Bartlett Learning; 6 edition (May 18, 2011) p. 58

All through the testimony about Scientific Management, one man was referred to as its originator and principal exponent.³³⁴

Though Brandeis had visited him several times to get information, this man had done nothing, directly or indirectly, to prompt the introduction of the Scientific Management idea at those rate hearings, and he himself did not appear, but again and again his name came up.³³⁴

And it was in that way that Frederick W. Taylor, to some extent, at least, became known to the generality.³³⁴

The effect of the insertion of the scientific management argument into the rate hearings contest was felt almost instantaneously by the whole country.³³⁴

Only a few days after the introduction of the evidence, the early December reviews of current events gave great space to the dramatic testimony of some of the witnesses.³³⁴

Through January, February, March and every month of 1911, the periodical press, popular as well as technical, was filled with explanation after explanation as to what scientific management is, why it is good, or why it is worthless.³³⁴

By the fall of 1911, Dartmouth College had arranged for a conference to spread information as to the merits of scientific management.³³⁴

“SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT”

But how did “Scientific Management” get its name?

³³⁴ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 3-8
archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor01copl

In October, 1910, Brandeis had a conference with [Henry] Gantt and several other engineers including Frank B. Gilbreth and Robert T. Kent, and at this conference, held in Gantt's New York apartments, the question came up as to what the system they all had in mind should be called.³²⁹

“Efficiency,” “Functional Management,” and “Taylor System” were some of the names formally considered and rejected.³²⁹

Then was suggested the phrase Taylor for several years had been using casually, and all present agreed that Brandeis could not do better, in speaking of the system at the rate hearings, than to call it Scientific Management.³²⁹

Following the popularity given to this phrase at the rate hearings, Taylor himself made bold to use it formally.³²⁹

A name had been found, and people were keen to talk about their experiences of its application, and on the subject of management in general.

THE TAYLOR SOCIETY

In 1911 there was a meeting of ASME members who found it increasingly difficult to get any papers on the subject of management through the Meetings Committee.³³⁰

Under the leadership of Frank Gilbreth and Robert T. Kent, these insurgent engineers held their first meetings ... and out of their deliberations came the organization at first called the Society to Promote the Science of Management, and after Taylor's death, the Taylor Society.³³⁰

³²⁹ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers
archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl p. 372

³³⁰ *ibid.* pp. 382-383

OPPOSITION AND RESISTANCE

As unionism grew after the turn of the century, so did organized opposition to “Taylorism.”²⁵⁷

Labor leaders and others denounced “Taylorism” as oppressive and antidemocratic.²⁴⁴

Taylor maintained that the benefits of higher productivity achieved by means of greater efficiency would be shared with the workforce.²⁶⁶

However, workers were not deceived and soon recognized that although they had been promised more, they were being paid less.²⁶⁶

²⁶⁶ The Puritan Gift: triumph, collapse and revival of an American dream, Kenneth Hopper and William Hopper, I. B. Tauris (April 3, 2007) pp. 74-79. By permission of Ken Hopper and Will Hopper

²⁴⁴ The Man With the Plan - Frederick Winslow Taylor, father of scientific management, Brink Lindsey, from the January 1998 issue, reason.com/archives/1998/01/01/the-man-with-the-plan

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

⁴⁵⁰ Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 340-344 archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl

On April 26, 1911, James O’Connell, president of the “International Association of Machinists, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor,” sent to the various lodges of that association a circular:⁴⁵⁰

“The present effort on the part of Mr. Taylor is to have his system installed in the Government arsenals and navy yards.

He has been so successful that the War Department has decided to give the system a trial.

*This would give his methods a tremendous advertisement, and only be a short time until all private manufacturers throughout the country would adopt his system... this proposed staggering blow at labor must be met by determined resistance.”*⁴⁵⁰

This resistance was soon to manifest itself.

The proposed introduction of “scientific management” at the Watertown, MA, Arsenal,²⁵⁷ in August, 1911²⁶³ starting with a time-study, caused individual opposition, shop-wide work stoppages, petitions, discharges, extensive meetings and national publicity all over the topic of “Taylorism.”²⁵⁷

It was the first strike that had occurred under Scientific Management.⁴⁵⁰

As a result, the House of Representatives authorized a “Special Committee to Investigate the Taylor and Other Systems of Shop Management”.²⁵⁷

The committee began its work on October 4, 1911, and did not finish it until February 12, 1912. It visited the Water-town Arsenal, and held hearings in Boston, New York, and Washington.⁴⁴⁸

At the one of the hearings, James O’Connell stated:

“ Mr. Taylor’s plan is this: He will come to your establishment and say to you: “I want to look over your factory.” After looking over it, he will say that he finds that you have a great amount of waste in every line of industry in your factory.

*Then he will say: “Now, I will put into effect a system that will be the means of saving you a great deal of money, ...”*⁴²³

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

⁴²³ Investigation of Taylor System of Shop Management: Hearings Before the Committee on Labor of the House of Representatives, Author: United States Congress. House . Committee on Labor , Samuel Gompers, Publisher: U. S. Gov. Prnt. Off. Year: 1911 p.35
archive.org/details/investigationtaoogompgooog

⁴⁴⁸ Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 346-349
archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

⁴⁵⁰ Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 340-344
archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro1copl

I will put a man here, an expert in this line of business, who will successfully put this scheme into operation for you.”

The men at the Rock Island Arsenal, of the United States Government, 1,500 of them, when it became generally known that the Taylor system would be put into effect, these men, regardless of their trade or calling, whether mechanics or laborers, this army of men arose as one man and said: “No; no Taylor system for us. We will not accept the Taylor system.”

*We state to you that this system is wrong, because we want our heads left on us.”*⁴²³

MORAL IMPLICATIONS

Living as a consultant of sorts, Taylor had not been directly confronted with the moral implications of scientific management and

⁴²³ Investigation of Taylor System of Shop Management: Hearings Before the Committee on Labor of the House of Representatives, Author: United States Congress. House . Committee on Labor , Samuel Gompers, Publisher: U. S. Gov. Prnt. Off. Year: 1911 p.35
archive.org/details/investigationtaoogompgooog

over the years had forced his system through unorganized work places.²⁵⁷

At most of the hearings, especially the early ones, Taylor was present as a sort of lay counsel for his cause.⁴⁴⁸

Taylor’s own testimony was given at the Capitol in Washington towards the close of the hearings, in January, 1912. He was on the stand more than twelve hours scattered over a period of four days.⁴⁴⁸

From the Congressional hearing, the edited transcript provides the fullest expression of Taylor’s views.²⁵⁷

⁴⁴⁸ Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 346-349
archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl

²⁵⁷ FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR, Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, and The St. James Encyclopedia of Labor History Worldwide (2004), used with kind permission.

It was Taylor's most heroic attempt to elucidate the philosophy of Scientific Management in a popular way.⁴⁴⁹

From his testimony:

“There are many elements of scientific management ... that are utterly impossible to go into at a hearing of this kind; but I want ... to make clear what may be called the essence of it, so that when I use the words “scientific management,” you men who are listening may have a clear, definite idea of what is in my mind. ...

I want to clear the deck, sweep away a good deal of rubbish first by pointing out what scientific management is not. ...

Scientific management is not any efficiency device ... nor is it any bunch or group of efficiency devices.

It is not a new system of figuring costs; it is not a new scheme of paying men; it is not holding a stop watch on a man and writing things down about him; it is not time study; it is not motion study nor an analysis of the movements of men; it is not the printing and ruling and unloading of a ton or two of blanks on a set of men and saying, “Here's your system; go to it.”

It is not divided foremanship or functional foremanship; it is not any of the devices which the average man calls to mind when scientific management is spoken of. ... I am not sneering at cost-keeping systems, at time study, at functional foremanship, nor at any new and improved scheme of paying men, nor at any efficiency devices, if they are really devices that make for efficiency. ...⁴⁴⁹

⁴⁴⁹ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 9-10 archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor01copl

I believe in them; but what I am emphasizing is that these devices in whole or in part are not scientific management; they are useful adjuncts to scientific management, so are they also useful adjuncts of other systems of management.

Now, in its essence, scientific management involves a complete mental revolution on the part of the workingman engaged in any particular establishment or industry - a complete mental revolution on the part of these men as to their duties toward their work, toward their fellow men, and toward their employers.

And it involves the equally complete mental revolution on the part of those on the management's side - the foreman, the superintendent, the owner of the business, the board of directors - a complete mental revolution on their part as to their duties toward their fellow workers in the management, toward their workmen, and toward all of their daily problems.

And without this complete mental revolution on both sides scientific management does not exist.

That is the essence of scientific management, this great mental revolution.

Scientific management cannot be said to exist ... in any establishment until after this change has taken place in the mental attitude of both the management and the men, both as to their duty to cooperate in producing the largest possible surplus and as to the necessity for substituting exact scientific knowledge for opinions or the old rule of thumb or individual knowledge.

*These are the two absolutely essential elements of scientific management.”*⁴⁴⁹

⁴⁴⁹ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.1, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 9-10 archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor01copl

At the close of his testimony he was deliberately baited by his labor-leader opponents.⁴⁴⁸

Two of them went at him at the same time with insults and sneers. In so far as the plan was to make him lose his temper, to destroy his self-control, it was a success,⁴⁴⁸ he lost his temper so uncontrollably that the record was scrubbed.²⁷⁵

The committee made a report to the house. Dated March 9, 1912, it was unanimous.⁴⁴⁸

“The committee ... failed to find any ground in the representations made by the opponents of the system upon which to base condemnation or serious criticism of the methods.” ⁴⁴⁸

²⁶⁵ Frederick Winslow Taylor - Chartered Management Institute - www.mbsportal.bl.uk/taster/subjareas/busmanhist/mgmtthinkers/taylor.aspx

⁴⁴⁸ Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers pp. 346-349 archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl

²⁷⁵ BBC History Magazine www.historyextra.com and Frederick Winslow Taylor The man who made us all work like this..., David Boyle, BBC History Magazine, June 2003 david-boyle.co.uk/history/frederickwinslowtaylor.html

THE PRINCIPLES OF SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT

In 1911, Taylor introduced his The Principles of Scientific Management paper to the American mechanical engineering society, eight years after his Shop Management paper.²⁸¹

These ideas were an accumulation of his life's work.²⁶⁵

The Principles of Scientific Management, was published in three issues of The American Magazine, beginning in March, 1911; and then, along with Shop Management (but separately), was brought out in book form by Harper & Brothers.³³⁰

From the outset the book proved extremely popular.

²⁸¹ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frederick_Winslow_Taylor

³³⁰ Frederick W. Taylor, Father of Scientific Management (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl pp. 382-383

Writing in April, 1911, to Colonel E. D. Meier, then the president of the A.S.M.E., Taylor said:

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“ I am in daily receipt of letters from members of the A.S.M.E. to whom I mailed copies of the special edition of the book, asking me where they can get additional copies.

These requests run all the way from a single copy to as many as fifty copies, for distribution among their friends and employees, etc. ” 330

He listed three goals for the work: 328

“ First. To point out, through a series of simple illustrations, the great loss which the whole country is suffering through inefficiency in almost all of our daily acts. ... ” 277

³³⁰ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers archive.org/details/frederickwtayloro2copl pp. 382-383

³²⁸ [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Principles_of_Scientific_Management_\(monograph\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Principles_of_Scientific_Management_(monograph))

²⁷⁷ *The principles of Scientific Management* (1911), Author: Taylor, Frederick Winslow, Publisher: New York, London, Harper & Brothers pp. 122-125 archive.org/details/principlesofscieootaylrich



Image: *The Principles of Scientific Management* (1911), Author: Taylor, Frederick Winslow, Publisher: New York, London, Harper & Brothers Front Cover archive.org/details/principlesofscieootaylrich

Second. To try to convince the reader that the remedy for this inefficiency lies in systematic management, rather than in searching for some unusual or extraordinary man.

Third. To prove that the best management is a true science, resting upon clearly defined laws, rules, and principles, as a foundation.

And further to show that the fundamental principles of scientific management are applicable to all kinds of human activities, from our simplest individual acts to the work of our great corporations, which call for the most elaborate cooperation.

*And, briefly, through a series of illustrations, to convince the reader that whenever these principles are correctly applied, results must follow which are truly astounding.”*²⁷⁷

Taylor developed five principles of scientific management:²⁸²

- “ 1. Each part of an individual’s work is analysed ‘scientifically’, and the most efficient method for undertaking the job is devised; the ‘one best way’ of working. Measuring the maximum amount a ‘first-class’ worker could do in a day; workers are then expected to do this much work every day.²⁶⁵
2. The most suitable person to undertake the job is chosen, again ‘scientifically’. The individual is taught to do the job in the exact way devised. Everyone, according to Taylor, had the ability to be ‘first-class’ at some job. It was management’s role to find out which job suited each employee and train them until they were first-class. ...²⁶⁵

²⁷⁷ The Principles of Scientific Management (1911), Author: Taylor, Frederick Winslow, Publisher: New York, London, Harper & Brothers pp. 122-125
archive.org/details/principlesofscieootaylrich

²⁸² Frederick Winslow Taylor - Chartered Management Institute -
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²⁸² “QUALITY: QUO VADIS?”, The Swiss Deming Institute (December 2006):
Ernst C. Glauser, p. 10 Used with kind permission.
www.deming.ch/downloads/E_quo_vadis.pdf

3. *Provide financial incentives for following the methods.*²⁸²
4. *Managers must cooperate with workers to ensure the job is done in the scientific way.*²⁶⁵
5. *There is a clear 'division' of work and responsibility between management and workers. Managers concern themselves with the planning and supervision of the work, and workers carry it out.*²⁶⁵

Taylor warned about attempting to implement parts of scientific management without accepting the whole philosophy, stating that too fast of a change was often met with trouble, strikes, and failure.³²⁸

²⁸² "QUALITY: QUO VADIS?", The Swiss Deming Institute (December 2006): Ernst C. Glauser, p. 10 Used with kind permission. www.deming.ch/downloads/E_quo_vadis.pdf

²⁶⁵ Frederick Winslow Taylor - Chartered Management Institute - www.mbsportal.bl.uk/taster/subjareas/busmanhist/mgmtthinkers/taylor.aspx

⁴⁵² The Principles of Scientific Management (1911), Author: Taylor, Frederick Winslow, Publisher: New York, London, Harper & Brothers p.83 archive.org/details/principlesofscieootaylrich

Ensuring this didn't happen was laid squarely on the shoulders of management:

“It is only through enforced standardization of methods ... and enforced cooperation, that faster work can be assured. The duty of enforcing the adoption of standards and enforcing this cooperation rests with management alone.”⁴⁵²

Frederick Taylor



³²⁸ [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Principles_of_Scientific_Management_\(monograph\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Principles_of_Scientific_Management_(monograph))

Image: **Frederick Taylor**, [Wikipedia en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Frederick_Winslow_Taylor_crop.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Frederick_Winslow_Taylor_crop.jpg) PD-OLD

File:Frederick_Winslow_Taylor_crop.jpg PD-OLD

SPREADING THE WORD

Beyond the Principles of Scientific Management, he devoted most of the remainder of the work to providing case studies to support his case.³²⁸

Following publication of the book, Taylor embarked on a series of lectures.

Prior to 1911 he had done little public speaking apart from the lectures he gave at Harvard.⁴⁵¹

During 1911, the fifty-fifth year of his age, his schedule of lectures was a heavy one.⁴⁵¹

This excerpt from a letter addressed by him in 1909 to the Boston Merchants' Association, expresses the attitude he continued to take generally:⁴⁵¹

*“ To convince even the most interested man that the new type of management must of necessity be overwhelmingly better than the old, takes me not less than two hours.”*⁴⁵¹

Taylor would state in his standard lecture:²⁷⁵

“ Every day, year in and year out, each man should ask himself over and over again, two questions ... First, ‘What is the name of the man I am now working for?’ And having answered this definitely then ‘What does this man want me to do, right now?’

*Not, ‘What ought I to do in the interests of the company I am working for?’ Not, ‘What are the duties of the position I am filling?’ Not, ‘What did I agree to do when I came here?’ Not, ‘What should I do for my own best interest?’ but plainly and simply, ‘What does this man want me to do?’ ”*²⁷⁵

⁴⁵¹ Frederick W. Taylor, *Father of Scientific Management* (1923), Author: Copley, Frank Barkley, Volume: v.2, Publisher: New York, London, Harper and Brothers p. 391 archive.org/details/frederickwtaylor02cop1

³²⁸ [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Principles_of_Scientific_Management_\(monograph\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Principles_of_Scientific_Management_(monograph))

²⁷⁵ BBC History Magazine www.historyextra.com and Frederick Winslow Taylor The man who made us all work like this..., David Boyle, BBC History Magazine, June 2003 david-boyle.co.uk/history/frederickwinslowtaylor.html

He would sum this up by stating:

**“ We do not ask the initiative of our men.
We do not want any initiative.**

**All we want of them is to obey the orders
we give them, do what we say, and do it
quick.** ²⁹³ ”

Frederick Taylor



²⁹³ An A-Z of business quotations, Labour, Aug 31st 2012, 13:12 by B.R.

www.economist.com/blogs/schumpeter/2012/08/z-business-quotations-3

Image: **Frederick Taylor**, [Wikipedia en.wikipedia.org/wiki/](http://Wikipedia.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/)

File:Frederick_Winslow_Taylor_crop.jpg PD-OLD

— **Summary** —
Management Science

Taylor died in 1915 but his legacy lives on.

Taylorism has led to a cascade in management thinking, and has become the archetypal model for Western corporations in the 20th²⁷⁹ and 21st centuries.

Scientific Management gave life to concepts like efficiency, productivity and standardization.²⁸⁴

Taylor prescribed the way to do things better was that each part of an individual's work is analysed 'scientifically', and the most efficient method for undertaking the job is devised; the 'one best way' of working.²⁶⁵

This would involve the breakdown of work tasks into constituent elements; the timing of each element based on repeated stopwatch

studies; the fixing of piece rate compensation based on those studies; standardization of work tasks on detailed instruction cards; and generally, the systematic consolidation of the shop floor's brain work in a "planning department."²⁴⁴

Today, this "best practice" is widely in use. We have workforce planning departments, and process improvement departments, that are separate from where work occurs just as Taylor advocated; with a reliance on data and reports to inform them on how work is progressing.

Taylor described that "elaborate diagrams";²⁶⁵ should be used by such functions. Today these are called spreadsheets, slide packs, and flow charts.

²⁸⁴ Gary Hamel: Management Revolution, Posted by Doug Goldstein
pksimplex.blogspot.com/2009/10/gary-hamel-management-revolution.html

²⁴⁴ The Man With the Plan - Frederick Winslow Taylor, father of scientific management, Brink Lindsey, from the January 1998 issue, reason.com/archives/1998/01/01/the-man-with-the-plan

²⁶⁵ Frederick Winslow Taylor - Chartered Management Institute -
www.mbsportal.bl.uk/taster/subjareas/busmanhist/mgmtthinkers/taylor.aspx

²⁷⁹ www.systemsthinking.co.uk Copyright © Vanguard Consulting Limited

Convention is that activity equals cost and that standardising work will improve efficiency. However writing standard work instructions are guaranteed to make performance worse, yet we still do it.²⁷⁹

I would argue that many of methods used in Scientific Management bear a remarkable similarity to methods employed by consultants today, obsessed with eliminating waste and delays, and improving efficiency.

The method of setting and documenting a standard, understanding and working to that standard, and then seeking improvement to create a new standard was born under Taylor. This method is still in use today as a recommended “best practice” and has been adopted by many efficiency consultants and practitioners.

Gary Hamel goes further:

“If you read Frederick Winslow Taylor there are three fundamental things he taught: ⁴⁵⁵ ⁴⁵⁶

1. Find the best practice wherever it exists. Today we call it benchmarking.
2. Decompose the task into its constituent elements. We call it business process re-design.
3. Get rid of things that don't add value. Work out what we call it now.” ⁴⁵⁵ ⁴⁵⁶

Taylor's aim was to seek ways to do it cheaper and faster. He was the earliest advocate of “work smarter, not harder”,²⁸⁰ a mantra still very much espoused in today's organisations.

²⁶⁵ Frederick Winslow Taylor - Chartered Management Institute - www.mbsportal.bl.uk/taster/subjareas/busmanhist/mgmtthinkers/taylor.aspx

²⁷⁹ www.systemsthinking.co.uk Copyright © Vanguard Consulting Limited

⁴⁵⁵ Frederick Winslow Taylor (1856-1915) www.eldritchpress.org/fwt/taylor.html

⁴⁵⁶ Toronto Globe and Mail, (1995) January 26, pp. B26

²⁸⁰ Henry L. Gantt and Frederick Taylor: The Pioneers of Scientific Management, Peter B. Darmody, PSP, 2007 AACE International Transactions, p.1

If you remember back to chapter two, we discussed how in Babbage's *Economy of Machinery* it was described what is now called the Babbage principle. It pointed out commercial advantages available with more careful division of labour.²⁰²

What Babbage remarked is that skilled workers typically spend parts of their time performing tasks that are below their skill level. If the labour process can be divided among several workers, labour costs may be cut by assigning only high-skill tasks to high-cost workers, restricting other tasks to lower-paid workers.^{202 204}

The Babbage principle is an inherent assumption in Frederick Winslow Taylor's scientific management.^{202 271}

²⁰⁴ Giddens, Anthony; Held, David (1982). *Classes, Power and Conflict: Classical and Contemporary Debates*. University of California Press. p. 155. ISBN 978-0-520-04627-6. Retrieved 18 April 2013.

²⁶³ Taylor Timeline. Author: Bill Barry, Community College of Baltimore County, used with kind permission.

We have discussed how Taylor applied the division of labor, to both white and blue-collar jobs, creating the modern white-collar workforce, dividing the work place into workers and directors of work.²⁶³

His functional foremanship is an extension of principle of specialization at the supervisory level.²⁷⁶ As a result, references to "white collar" appear as early as 1911.⁴⁵⁴

Taylor's industrial models separated 'working' from 'doing'; he believed that it was the role of management to determine the 'one best way' to perform the work²⁸ and managers were tasked with the responsibility of motivating their employees.²⁷⁹

²⁷¹ Yeheskel Hasenfeld; Andrew Delano Abbott (1 April 1992). *Human Services as Complex Organizations*. SAGE Publications. p. 211. ISBN 978-0-8039-4065-9. Retrieved 18 April 2013.

²⁰² en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Babbage

⁴⁵⁴ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White-collar_worker

²⁷⁹ www.systemsthinking.co.uk Copyright © Vanguard Consulting Limited

²⁷⁶ Techniques of Scientific Management www.managementstudyguide.com/techniques_scientificmanagement.htm

This is what is taught, and practiced, as good management today.

Scientific Management proponents wanted to expose lazy workers and improve the utilization of the workforce. This led to the invention of production standards, time sheets, worker inspection, employee performance records and employee discipline. These methods are commonly in use today.

Taylor sought to drive out craft production; we can see this thinking still in use by those who manage knowledge workers today.

Employees are becoming commoditized assets. For example, you will hear managers talking about “resources” when they mean people, it has become the norm to simplify and standardize work which can then be

outsourced to lower cost organisations or lower cost economies⁵⁰⁰ to reduce costs.

Scientific management bases human motivation wholly on extrinsic rewards and discards the idea of intrinsic²⁷² motivation.

It is common for organisations today to set output targets and reward employees if they reach them, or apply pressure if they are falling short; management by fear.

The idea of productivity incentives; payment by results, is commonplace today as a method for motivation and increased productivity.

Taylor would look upon their use with pride.

²⁷² en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Motivation

⁵⁰⁰ Rethinking Lean Service, John Seddon, The Systems Thinking Review, 7th Aug 2009
www.thesystemsthinkingreview.co.uk/index.php?pg=18&backto=1&utwkstoryid=186

Surely we have moved on? Do we not value input from our employees and ask for them to suggest improvements rather than impose methods upon them?

As we discussed, Taylor created staff suggestion schemes; with financial rewards for each suggestion that was implemented, both of these methods are used today.

Taylor was the world's first management consultant.²⁶⁶

Today, there are thousands of management consultancies, and hundreds of thousands of management consultants.

Governments and organizations spend billions on management consultants, yet, many of them will promulgate the same scientific management methods we have discussed in this chapter.

Rather than being vilified, as many people often do (for example there is a piece on YouTube entitled "Frederick Taylor-the biggest bastard ever"⁴⁵³), Taylorism unquestionably supplied the methods which were largely responsible for growth of American Industry; also for the ability to mobilise and employ the raw untrained labour which flooded into the US in the late 19th and early 20th century.²⁷⁹

Taylor wanted to exploit the work potential of a large uneducated and untrained workforce. This led at the very beginning of the industrial age to enormous productivity increases, higher salaries and shorter working hours, all in all to a higher standard of living.²⁸²

²⁷⁹ www.systemsthinking.co.uk Copyright © Vanguard Consulting Limited

⁴⁵³ Frederick Taylor- the biggest bastard ever, www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wa4_ihxT9rI

²⁶⁶ The Puritan Gift: triumph, collapse and revival of an American dream, Kenneth Hopper and William Hopper, I. B. Tauris (April 3, 2007) pp. 74-79. By permission of Ken Hopper and Will Hopper

²⁸² "QUALITY: QUO VADIS?", The Swiss Deming Institute (December 2006): Ernst C. Glauser, p. 10 Used with kind permission. www.deming.ch/downloads/E_quo_vadis.pdf

A balanced look at his life and times reveals not a villain but a tragic hero.²⁴⁴

His innovations ushered in enormous productivity gains, which brought unprecedented affluence to the United States and the nations that followed its lead; at the same time, though, Taylor's system employed methods that misunderstood, and thereby grievously undermined, the full promise of the new mass production economy.²⁴⁴

It is fair to say that Frederick Taylor's career exemplified the Industrial Revolution he helped to lead: a mixture of beneficent achievements and malign shortcomings.²⁴⁴

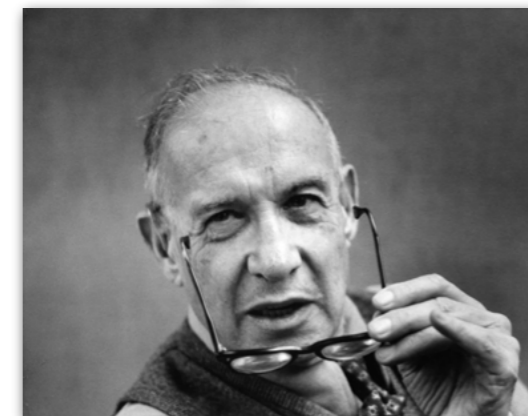
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²⁴⁴ The Man With the Plan - Frederick Winslow Taylor, father of scientific management, Brink Lindsey, from the January 1998 issue, reason.com/archives/1998/01/01/the-man-with-the-plan

I will leave the final thoughts on Taylor's influence on today's theory of work; how we design and manage work, to management guru Peter Drucker.

“Taylor was the first man in recorded history who deemed work deserving of systematic observation and study. His approach to work is still the basic foundation used today. Not much has been added even though he has been dead for years.”²⁸¹

Peter Drucker



Taylor's work was also described by Drucker as "the most powerful as well as the most lasting contribution America has made to Western thought since the Federalist Papers."²⁷⁵

Drucker ranked him with Freud and Darwin as a maker of the modern world²⁸⁶ - more even than Marx.²⁷⁵

As we will learn in the next chapter, he spawned a mental revolution that still has a grip today.

²⁷⁵ BBC History Magazine www.historyextra.com and Frederick Winslow Taylor The man who made us all work like this..., David Boyle, BBC History Magazine, June 2003 david-boyle.co.uk/history/frederickwinslowtaylor.html

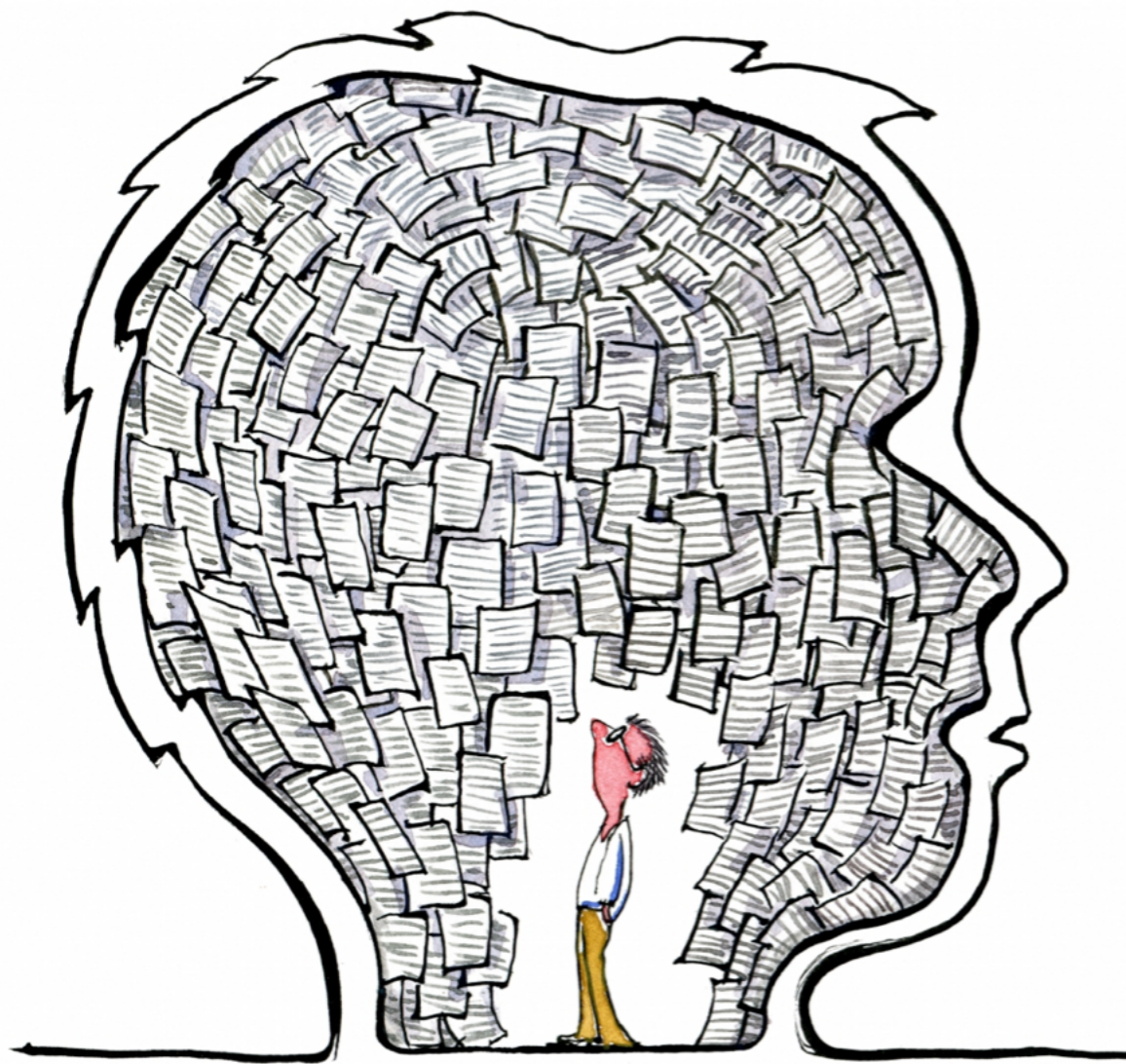
²⁸⁶ THE ONE BEST WAY: Frederick Winslow Taylor and the Enigma of Efficiency, Robert Kanigel www.robertkanigel.com/_i_b_the_one_best_way__b__frederick_winslow_taylor_and_the_enigma_of_efficienc_57916.htm

Design and Management — Concepts —

- Scientific Management and “Taylorism”.
- Productivity Incentives; Payment by Results.
- Work Analysis, Work Breakdown, and Work Measurement.
- Best Practices and Benchmarking.
- Standardized Work, Standard Times, Production Standards, Work Instructions, Job Descriptions, and Work Inspection.
- Division of Responsibility; Planning vs Doing; Blue-Collar vs White-Collar jobs, and Functional Supervision.
- Process Improvement and Waste Removal.
- Time sheets, Employee Discipline and Employee Performance Records.
- Worker Efficiency, Worker Utilization and Worker “laziness”.
- Staff Suggestion Schemes.
- Management Consulting.

In our next chapter we will discuss how Scientific Management spread around the world, across the whole of society, resulting in Taylor's "Mental Revolution" taking hold.

Chapter Three: Management Science



By David Joyce

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