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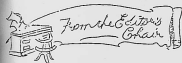
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THE SHEFFIELD CO-OPERATOR BULLETIN

Issued by the Sheffield Co-operative Party, 17 Bank Street, Sheffield, 1
Telephone 23952 A. Ballard, Secretary

July, 1942

No. 9



"CO-OPERATORS' DAY"

The International Co-operative Alliance was the only people's international organisation retained in the Great War 1914-18. Despite all the difficulties the nucleus of an organisation was continued and was of immense value in the re-opening of international relations after the war.

The Alliance is still functioning, and the Sheffield Co-operative Party - representing the two Societies - conceived the idea of re-introducing a public celebration of International Co-operation on the day usually set apart, namely the first Saturday in July.

A procession and open-air demonstration with the usual gale programme is impossible under war conditions, but the two Boards agreed that we could still have an impressive demonstration in the City Hall. The occasion will draw the attention of Sheffield citizens to the part Co-operation is playing and is to play in world affairs.

MR. J. B. PRIESTLEY will honour us with his presence at the City Hall. This great democrat, typical of Yorkshire grit, wit and expression, is rightly amongst the most popular of English writers today.

His progress from a writer of parodies and short contributions in various periodicals to the top line in novels and plays, has been one of increasing popularity, and what is more, usefulness to the democratic cause. We all remember his broadcasts which caused dismay in certain high places but met a ready response from the common people all over the Kingdom. His books and plays had already prepared his audience for his very practical philosophy before

he came to the microphone. His postscripts, probably for the first time, represented what the 'man in the street' was really thinking. Priestley showed the war as the culmination of a series of serious mistakes and a lack of popular interest in the country's welfare. To him it is now a crusade for a new and better life for the common people the world over.

With such a background and such an ideal he could not fail to capture the imagination of the public. We believe he founded the 1941 Club. He spends the whole of his time in the war effort and we are sure he will regard his visit to this City as part of that effort, demonstrating as he will that no worth-while future can be ours unless the principles of International Co-operation are substituted for the economic nationalism of the past.

SIR GEORGE RIDDLE, C.B.E., who will preside on this occasion, was born in a Durham colliery village, in 1875, and went down the pit as a trapper boy at the age of 14. His first experience of Co-operative service was with the Birtley Society. Later he took over the secretaryship of the Carlisle Society and served for some time on the Town Council. He also continued his church work and at one time or another occupied every Non-conformist pulpit in the border town.

Appointed to the C.W.S. in 1923, President of Congress 1936, he has been interested in Co-operative and Labour politics all his life. Closely associated with the Co-operative Party since its inception, he is Vice-Chairman and represents the Party on the National Authority of the Movement.

Sir George is an enthusiastic advocate of Co-operation and presents his case with evangelical fervour. His ready acceptance of our invitation to preside is indicative of his devotion to the great cause of Co-operation which to him is a veritable religion.

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CO-OPERATIVE PARTY NOTES

ATTERCLIFFE Divisional Council is now holding monthly meetings. Thursday June 18th, Mrs. Mulligan the delegate to the Conference, gave an interesting report on the proceedings. Her report showed that the losses, due to the formation of separate Associations which had hitherto been under the auspices of the Attercliffe Division, were now being made up by increased membership in the divisional boundary.

Tinsley Ward members will now meet on the last Monday in the month at 7-30 p.m. in the Guild Room, Bawtry Road. Meetings will be arranged alternately at the Darnall Labour Hall and the Attercliffe Co-operative Institute: the Labour Hall meetings take place on Monday July 20th and the Attercliffe meeting on July 17th, at 7-30 p.m.

BRIGHTSIDE Divisional Party is to hold its next meeting on Monday July 13th, 7 p.m. in the Shiregreen Co-operative Institute.

HANDSWORTH. The Film Show on June 17th drew a good audience, and about 40 people signed cards pledging adherence to the Party. A business meeting, to appoint officers and committee for the year, will be called for Thursday July 2nd, in the Handsworth Methodist Schoolroom, Hall Road. Any Co-operator interested is welcome.

HILLSBOROUGH Co-operative Party held its monthly 'Forum' on June 15th when Mr. W.M. Watkins, B.Sc. (Deputy-Director of Education for Sheffield) spoke on "The Future of Education" - a very interesting address followed by an interesting discussion.

THE WOMEN'S SECTION has continued its weekly meetings on Tuesday afternoons in the Co-operative Institute (Guild Room). Programmes for next few weeks: June 29th Mr. S. Gill (Manager, B. & C. Coal Dept); July 6th Councillor Sterland; July 13th Social, after which the section will be closed until September 7th. Cookery Demonstrations are arranged for September 14th, 21st, and 28th.

MANOR Ward Association which meets each month in the Standhouse School, Windy House Lane, has had fairly good attendance at its inaugural meeting in March. Next meeting: July 6th, 7-30 p.m. Members and friends in the area are welcome. It is hoped at this meeting to fix up a programme of speakers on various subjects in addition to reports from City Councillors.

NEEPSSEND. A Ward meeting was held at Southey recently when Comrade J.S. Norris addressed the members.

SOUTHEY & NORWOOD section is meeting during the Summer on the 4th Thursdays in the month, at 7-30 p.m. The Cricket Week June 13th-20th, organised for the Forces Fund, raised a net total of £20. THE WOMEN'S SECTION meets on alternate Wednesdays during the Summer.

SHEFFIELD & ECCLESALL Party is meeting on the first Monday in the month during the Summer. Mr. Evison, the Secretary, addressed the June meeting on "Regional Control." Next meeting: July 6th, 7-30 p.m. in the Ecclesall Labour Party Room, 2a Napiers Road. THE WOMEN'S SECTION held their annual outing on June 18th, a very enjoyable time. Programme for next few weeks: June 27th J. Williams; July 2nd Whist Drive (gifts for Forces); 9th a Social Meeting; July 16th a Garden Party will be held at 34 Kingfield. There will be no further meetings during the Summer but a Social will be held on September 3rd.



The Autumn and Winter session of Co-operative Party activities will be inaugurated by an OLD-TIME DANCE at the Cutlers Hall, on Friday
ORDER YOUR TICKET NOW.

September 18th. Tickets 2/- each.

POST-WAR HOUSING. The Sheffield Co-operative Party have circularised all Co-operative women's organisations with a view to ascertaining their ideas for the house which will best meet their requirements in the way of labour-saving, accommodation, and design. Too often have men presumed to know more about the necessary amenities of the home than the housewife herself. The Party is endeavouring to obtain a number of agreed proposals which can be put before the responsible authorities as from the women themselves.

POST-WAR EDUCATION. At a well-attended meeting held recently of the Central Political Council, Councillor A. Ballard outlined the new programme of Education Reconstruction proposed by a joint sub committee of the Local Authority and later unanimously accepted by the full Education Committee. A good discussion followed and a resolution of whole-hearted support was carried. It was also agreed that each of the constituent bodies of the Council should make the report the subject of at least one session in their programme.

AID FOR RUSSIA. Up to date Sheffield has contributed £5,118 1/4 /5d towards the National Council of Labour effort.

BRIGHTSIDE & CARBROOK SOCIETY has had another successful quarter for the period ending April 25th, when the sales amounted to £555,098 - an increase of £57,901 over the corresponding period, equalling 11.64%. This is very gratifying, say the Directors, considering the lessened shopping facilities and restricted production of all but essential commodities. The membership now stands at 80,019. The Society has purchased premises at the corner of Sycamore Street and Flat Street (near the General Post Office), the greater portion of the building to be used as administrative offices to enable members to transact their business with the Society in the centre of the City until the new City Stores is built.

SHEFFIELD & ECCLESALL SOCIETY sales for the 12 weeks ended June 13th amounted to £406,578 - an increase of £7,858 over the corresponding 12 weeks of last year. Membership is now 62,311; 795 new members having been admitted since the half year ended in March. Members are invited to join the Trading Club, either at their own grocery branch or at the General Office. The Club offers members a means of obtaining their needs at any time throughout the year in the Dry Goods, Optical and Decorating Departments. Coupons of value £1. are obtainable after payment of three weekly instalments of one shilling. Shares are 20/- each.

25 YEARS POLITICAL SERVICE. After 25 years as Secretary of the Co-operative Party, Mr. S.F. Perry, J.P., has just retired. Starting work when he was only ten years old as a cotton half-timer, Mr. Perry, throughout his career, has taken an active interest in the democratic movements, serving as President of Birkenhead and Stockport Societies. When the Co-operative Party was founded, Mr. Perry was appointed its Secretary and he has seen it grow until today it includes 517 Co-operative Societies and has nine members in the House of Commons. In the Labour Governments Mr. Perry was private secretary to two Ministers, the President of the Board of Trade and the Minister of Health. Mr. Perry is prospective Co-operative Candidate for Bilston. His son, Fred Perry, is the world-famous tennis player.

Mr. Jack Bailey has been appointed the new Secretary of the Co-operative Party as successor to Mr. Perry. Mr. Bailey has served the Party as a national organiser since 1936. He has been a member of Bradford City Council and was at one time deputy-chairman of the Bradford Education Committee. He qualified in Economics and Political Science at the Central Labour College, London, and at Ruskin College, Oxford.



ON THE HOME FRONT

REGISTRATIONS AND THE CO-OP.

You must re-register at once for rationed foods. Your registration has been made with your Co-operative Society a great deal of work has to be done to arrange the allocation of supplies through the Ministry of Food. The working of the scheme depends on YOU re-registering promptly.

The articles for which you must re-register with your Co-operative Society are: SUGAR, PRESERVES, BACON AND HAM, CHEESE, MEAT, BUTTER, MARGARINE, COOKING FATS, EGGS.

Your new food Ration Books are being posted to you and will be use in the week beginning July 27th. Complete the details as instructed and take them to your Co-operative Grocery and Butchery branches. Re-registration for Milk is not required.

Right from the time food rationing started two-and-a-half years ago, Co-operative Societies throughout the country have been responsible for supplying one-quarter of the nation's essential food a great tribute to the confidence which 9,000,000 Co-operators place in their own Societies.

All traders are in exactly the same position regarding supplies but Co-operative Societies offer the enormous advantage of dividing all purchases: Co-operators know, too, that they are building their own great democratic trading system which reaps great savings for

CHEESE and DRIED EGGS Processed cheese has now become part of the cheese ration but an increase from 3 to 4 ounces in the amount of ration has been introduced. Dried eggs have now been made available by the Ministry of Food. Although the dried eggs are not rationed, until the release is effectively working, only one packet can be supplied for each Ration Book. The price per packet of 12 dried eggs is 1s.9d. Supplies will only be available to people who are registered with Co-operative Societies for eggs.

SALAD and FRUIT The maximum retail price for cucumber is 10d. per lb.: the maximum prices vary between 1s.8d. and 1s.10d. The maximum retail price for 1941 carrots is 2d per lb. Maximum prices have been fixed for strawberries and gooseberries. Much fruit, however, is being diverted to the jam factories.

BOOT REPAIRS. Action has been taken to prevent unwarranted increases in boot repair prices. Under a Maximum Prices Order charges will, in effect not amount to more than 4d. in the shilling over pre-war charges.

PRICE CONTROL

Mr. Raymond Evershed, K.C., recently described the work of the Central Price Regulation Committee, of which he is chairman. Since November 1939, this committee has been doing its utmost to control prices of articles, other than food, which are required in everyday life. The committee has been consistently extending price control. Mr. Evershed has exposed the practice of traders selling goods at a profit and over again without the goods actually changing hands. The committee insisted, was introducing a new standard in trading.

Co-operative Societies have always been advocates of the policy of fair dealing. Naturally they are represented on the Central Committee and also on the seventeen local committees to which the complaints of consumers should be submitted where they feel they are being unfairly charged. The committee's latest Order fixes the prices of furniture at those charged on May 1st, 1942.

CO-OPERATION INTERNATIONAL

The Twentieth Co-operative Day will be celebrated in Britain and other free countries on July 4th.

In peace-time this occasion was a great gala day throughout the co-operative world. Millions of people attended demonstrations. Great processions flocked through the streets of European cities - Warsaw, Vienna, and Hamburg. The rainbow flag of International Co-operation was unfurled in the mountain valleys of Switzerland and Norway. British co-operators gathered on the village green and in city parks.

The rise of Nazism has spelt disaster to Co-operation in occupied Europe. Liberty is the very life of Co-operation and it is for liberty the British peoples and their Allies strive. On Co-operative Day this year there will be silent celebrations in a large part of the war-stricken world, but people will look to the time when a co-operative order of society will banish exploitation and injustice, and peace will reign.

MARTYRED MOVEMENTS. Norway's Co-operative Movement joins the long list of martyred Movements in Germany, France, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Austria.

Nazi invasion has meant an attack on co-operative societies and co-operators in Norway. Mr. R. Arnesen, the secretary of the Norwegian Co-operative Union, and Mr. A. Jaul, the president, have been sent to concentration camps. Nazi Commissioners have replaced them. Thousands of co-operators all over Europe because they cherished freedom and their free institutions are in prisons. Some of them have been shot.

Broadcasting greetings to the Swedish Co-operative Congress last month, Mr. R.A. Palmer, Co-operative Union General Secretary, expressed admiration of the courage and steadfastness of Scandinavian co-operators in their defence of Freedom, Democracy and Co-operation.

VIENNA AND WASHINGTON. Everybody knows about the famous Congress of Vienna. When the Napoleonic wars ended, a Europe much disturbed, as it is today, had to be replanned. Delegates from the different States went to gay Vienna. Besides remaking Europe, Congress found time to enjoy itself. No wonder! A great menace to Europe had been swept away. People had been freed. High hopes were set that the Congress of Vienna would bring permanent peace to Europe.

Then, there is the United States Congress, which welds together a great mass of American citizens numbering 131 million, coming from almost every part of the world. This great national assembly which meets in Washington offers them hopes of order and justice.

CO-OPERATION IN INDIA. Co-operation is rapidly developing among India's 400,000,000 people. His Excellency the Governor of Bengal in a recent message to Indians celebrating Co-operative Day, said: "I think it is all to the good that, in spite of the pre-occupations caused by the war, the Co-operative Movement should, by means of this celebration, reaffirm its faith. I am fully aware that the Movement has not so far been able to achieve more than a fraction of what its sponsors hoped. But I am convinced now that, as much as before, it is the correct approach to many of the economic problems facing this country!"

BLACK AND WHITE. Rudolph Dunbar is the name. He is a negro and represents 200 negro papers in London. Recently he made history by conducting the London Philharmonic Orchestra in the Albert Hall for he is, a musician too.

Thus civilisation rolls on. Black, white and yellow people contribute to the same culture and civilisation. Coloured peoples the world over enjoy the benefits of the Co-operative Movement. African natives have their own co-operative societies. In parts of the United States the negro population has formed its co-operative societies. In other parts negroes are members of co-operative societies along with other races.

Co-operation for all, irrespective of colour, race, class or creed. That is the basic principle of our Movement.

International Co-operators Day

JULY 4th.

Sheffield Co-operative Societies' celebration

in the

C I T Y H A L L

SATURDAY, 4th JULY, 7-0 p.m.

Speaker:

J. B. PRIESTLEY

Artists:

MARGARET BAVES (SOPRANO)
ESSIE ACLAND (AUSTRALIAN CONTRALTO)
REGINALD MORPHEW (AUSTRALIAN BARITONE)
WILL KING (ENTERTAINER AND COMPÈRE)
DORIS ROBSON, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M. (at the Piano)

Chairman:

SIR GEO. RIDDLE C.B.E. (C.W.S. Director)

Doors open 6-30 p.m.

Selections on the organ by
Councillor S.H. Marshall

Admission by ticket only 6d. and 1/-
obtainable from: Mr. A. Ballard,
17, Bank St, Sheffield, 1.

Total Proceeds to the 'Aid for
Russia' Fund and the St. John
Ambulance (Sheffield).