



THE CO-OPERATIVE PARTY.

AUTUMN CAMPAIGN.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING AT THE CITY HALL.

CHALLENGING SPEECHES BY THE RT. HON. A. V. ALEXANDER AND MR. ALFRED BARNES (Chairman, National Co-operative Party).

The Co-operative Party's big autumn campaign opened under the happiest auspices on October 1st, in Sheffield's magnificent new City Hall, when Councillor J. A. Longdon, the chairman of the Sheffield Co-operative Party, presided over a gathering of 3,000 enthusiastic supporters. The hall, and its situation, provided a splendid opportunity for inaugurating a campaign.

Back to Robert Owen.

In a city with 60,000 unemployed people, and a virile co-operative movement represented by two large successful societies, it was appropriate that the message of Robert Owen, quoted with evangelical fervour by the Right Hon. A. V. Alexander, should be restated.

Resolution.

The resolution, moved by the Chairman, said:—
 "The complete failure of the National Government in home, imperial, and international affairs; the reflection of the inability of capitalist leadership to grapple with post-war economic problems, and justly-wisdoms this gathering in supporting the policy of the Co-operative Party, viz.:

"The breakdown of capitalism in industry and finance necessitates its replacement by a co-operative system of society, and as first steps towards this end finance, power, fuel, transport, and water services should be brought under public and democratic control, and rapidly expanded to assist employment."

"Financial policy should be made to serve the interests of the whole community."

"Land should become national property, and the food supplies of the nation organised on a completely co-operative basis."

"This meeting, therefore, believing that the co-operative movement has within it the capacity of giving the practical expression to these ideas, pledges itself to further this policy by endeavouring to increase the trade of the co-operative movement, and the circulation of 'Keynotes' and other co-operative publications, and in the strengthening of the Co-operative Party in membership and representation on local bodies and in Parliament."

Twelve Months of Reaction.

Mr. Alexander said he was leaving the co-operative cause in the hands of Mr. Barnes. He wanted to say something about the present Government (applause).

We have now had twelve months of the so-called "National" Government and I think I am entitled to say to my Hillsborough friends here to-night, "I told you so." Events had moved so decisively in that short space of time that the only issue—as he had told them at the election—was who should they vote for? "National" last October had really examined those events from that point of view, if not, he would draw

their attention to two Budgets: April, 1931, and April, 1932.

Since April, 1931, they had had the crisis of August of that year, in which they were told that unless they could borrow £30,000,000 from foreign sources a crash must come, and that it was imperative to obtain this money; that the rates of payment to all the unemployed should be cut.

What has happened since? The whole of the £30,000,000 had been repaid in less than twelve months, in gold or gold securities. In addition to which, the cost of funding that loan, and the extra payment required because of the fact we had gone off the Gold Standard, accounted for another £40,000,000. £70,000,000 repaid in a nation which, last August, was stated to be approaching a crisis.

How had it been done? That was the question he wished supporters of the National Government to answer. Had it been because there had been twelve months of unexampled prosperity? More work? More wages? More profits on which tax could be levied? More imports and exports? More receipts from overseas insurance? In fact, everyone present that night knew quite well that exactly the reverse was the position. Less work.

More unemployment. Reduction in wages. Less profit. Less overseas trade, and less receipts from shipping.

The Working Class Pay the Bill.

How then had the money been paid? As always, on such occasions—by the exploitation of the worker.

Look now at the two Budgets mentioned. Comparing April, 1931, to 1932 shows an increase of £62,000,000 in Customs and Excise duties, the great majority of which was paid by the working classes. £13,500,000 cut in the standard rates of Unemployment Benefit. £10,000,000 by the ruthless application of a diabolical Means Test to the unemployed. £5,500,000 increased contribution to the insurance fund from workers in work. About £10,000,000 by cuts in the rates of pay of teachers, and the rank and file of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Police Force. £9,000,000 tax upon bread to provide the wheat quota; and by the time they had paid the cost of the new plots to which they were committed at Ottawa the bill would be £130,000,000. Compared with this the Income Tax payer had contributed £27,000,000 only. £7,000,000 in Direct Taxation, and the bulk of the rest from the working classes.

Government Not Even "National."

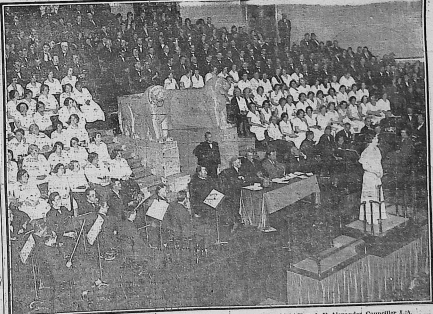
His summing-up of the situation as a result of the Ottawa Conference was that this country had been placed in the position of being the "junior partner" in the Commonwealth. The Government responsible for this ignominious position was alleged to be a "National" one.

Imperially, he asserted, this country was, as a result of National Government administration, in a much worse position than it was a year ago.

"What kind of statesmanship is that," he asked "for people who believe so profoundly in the Union Jack?" In his opinion it was nothing short of a scandal. The country was to be dictated to by the Dominions, but was not to be allowed to dictate. In effect, the Dominions were saying: "We have bound you to a bondage of food taxes, and now you must revise your trade treaties with Russia."

The policy of the National Government had been a policy of making the working classes pay. In fact, the Government had been "rotten" in its exploitation of the working classes, as had every other Coalition Government.

Mr. Alfred Barnes, chairman of the (Continued on page 2.)



Left to right: Mr. A. Zaine, J.P. (President, Sheffield and Ecclesall Society); Right Hon. A. V. Alexander, Councillor L.A.; Lorden Ashmun, Sheffield Co-operative Society Party; Mr. A. Barnes (Chairman, National Co-operative Party); and Councillor J. Duncliffe, J.P. (President, Brightside and Carbrook Society).

IMPORTANT THINGS IN SHEFFIELD.

National Co-operative Party, congratulated the city on such a magnificent hall erected by the people and built for the people.

Co-operative Citizenship. This was the first of a series of gatherings to be held in the important cities in England, Scotland, and Wales, to bring the political message of the movement to the citizens as a whole.

Politics With An Economic Basis. It should be remembered that we were the only political party in Britain definitely connected with an industrial framework spreading throughout the country, and offering the people an immediate and practical foundation upon which they can build up a new industrial civilization.

Why Co-operative Politics? From 1928 to 1932 there had been won from private enterprise to co-operative ownership 75 per cent. of the total milk supplies of Britain.

Summarising, Mr. Barnes pointed out that we had a moral right to put our case, representing 64 millions of people as farmers, importers, millers, bakers, and finally, consumers. This was why co-operators were in politics.

Dealings with the collapse of capitalism and applying a co-operative test to the position of capitalism in the four greatest industrial countries in the world—America, Great Britain, Germany, and France.

Our machine shops and machinery. To-day there was unlimited capital to finance all undertakings in these four countries. (c) Up-to-date factories had plant that represented the best that science could produce and that science could purchase; the finest equipped factories in the world.

These four conditions obtained, and yet there were twenty millions of our fellows in the countries named who could find no place for their industrial organisation.

The Co-operative Challenge. It is that system which the co-operative movement seeks to replace which the industrial organisation that will arrange that this unlimited opportunity in the field of production and of mechanised science shall be used to find their way into the homes and lives of the people as a whole.

Dealing in detail with the proposals in "Britain Reborn," Mr. Barnes outlined the method by which the four great power services should be undertaken by the people. It was necessary to face up to this problem of unemployment with the same courage and determination as we faced up to the problems during the Great War.

We were a new party, a post-war party, and we appealed to people facing this new set of circumstances to forget their past political allegiances. The two Labour Governments had been minority governments; they had been experimental governments. In these months or years in the wilderness was the opportunity to develop a new sense of unity.

The City Hall. The City Hall Committee "gave in" the City Hall to the manager that the City streets to be available for use on Sundays for suitable functions and events.

There were two opinions about this when it came before the last Council meeting. Councillor Cunningham thought "suitable functions" and thought they ought to be more precisely defined. He proposed that they should include educational, political, and religious meetings, together with musical functions arranged for charitable purposes. He was afraid of dancing and races.

The Court House Clock. It appears that the Court House clock is an annoying thing because of its striking. All speakers agreed upon this, but had different views as to the treatment most necessary.

Imagination and foresight won the day, however. Much more thorough organisation requires doing, and Alderman Rowlinson asked that a larger but inexpensive scheme should be considered, although it could not be presented that afternoon.

Whirlwale Road. The inhabitants of this district were badly treated by Nature in May last, but expected the damage to be made good out of the rates. Heavy rains from higher lands swept themselves into the lower basins of many of the houses, but the City Engineer's report stated that no responsibility rested upon the Corporation.

Councillor Irwin Mitchell was not satisfied with the report, and apparently some difficulty in understanding; did not for a moment mean that the Council would do nothing at all; but, second, that Whirlwale-road district could not be preferentially treated. It would share in such treatment as was given to other areas of the city, flooded in an even more degree at the same time.

the discussion, mainly through the amount of repetition necessary before the Whirlwale-road proposition could be made to understand its position.

Table with 2 columns: Location and Per 100,000. Includes London, Sheffield Alone, and Sheffield as a health resort?

Wireless Interference. A lengthy report on wireless interference by tramways, traffic signs, and the Council minutes and discussion. Councillor Lloyd wanted immediate action, but it was pointed out that the very small percentage of interference caused by trams hardly justified the high cost of eliminator coils for the 450 tramcars in service.

That this is reasonable is surely proved by the fact that only a per cent. of wireless troubles due to electrical devices are caused by trams—according to the Postmaster-General. Moreover, all the tramway authorities in the country maintain that this interference is a nuisance for the Post Office to deal with.

Wash Day. The minutes of the Council (available for reading in any public library) on a good deal of information of one, which is taken "as read" by the Council at its monthly meeting. Unless any councillor objects, that is "Wash Day" as governed by the Laneside Sub-committee of the Public Assistance Committee is some wash-day! It is reported that 228,539 articles were laundered during the five weeks ending July 26th, 1932, an average of 4,570 a week.

Table with 2 columns: Period and Amounts Paid Out. Includes April 2nd to August 19th 1932 (National Government) and Corresponding Period, 1931 (Labour Government).

Excess 1932 over 1931. This is for nineteen weeks only, not for a full year. The excess will put the rates up by about 1s. 7d. in the pound, except the "saving" by cutting down other services!

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FORTY-FOUR YEARS CO-OPERATIVE SECRETARY.

GOING RETIREMENT OF MR. W. ROSE, J.P., F.C.I.S.

That members of the Sheffield and Ecclesall Co-operative Society Limited, at their recent half-yearly meeting, placed on record their warm appreciation of the valuable services rendered by their esteemed secretary, Mr. William Rose, J.P., F.C.I.S., who will retire from office on November 5th next, when he will have completed forty-four years' service.

Mr. A. Laing, J.P. (president) submitted the following recommendation of the committee—

"That in view of Mr. Rose's retirement we recommend that he be presented with a cheque for £400 in recognition of his devoted services given with unflinching courtesy during the whole of his long period of office."

Paying tribute to Mr. Rose's work for the society, Mr. Laing said that for himself and many others, the retirement would mean the severance of a long and happy association. To career, he continued, would be to tell the history of the society itself, for Mr. Rose was the first full-time secretary, appointed when the membership was only 1,000, with sales for the year £16,000, and when the weekly wages of a staff of ten totalled about 10s.

It was due in a great measure to Mr. Rose's unifying efforts that the society now occupied its position of importance and influence, both in the co-operative movement and the city of Sheffield—a society with a membership of 47,000, an annual business figure of well over £2,000,000, and with more than £500,000 in members' share capital.

To conclude, he added that "we feel we only render justice to say that the furtherance of the progress, stability, and prestige of the society has been his constant endeavour and the ultimate achievement of this threefold object is a monument to his life's work."

The recommendation was seconded by Mr. W. Buckley (management committee), Mr. W. Bucknith, F.C.A. (auditor), and others, and being put to the vote, was carried amid great applause.

A cheque for £400 was then handed to Mr. Rose, who, being called upon to reply, expressed his thanks, and in turn paid tribute to the help he had received from the president and his predecessors. He recalled the early days of the society, its achievements and steady progress, and drew telling comparisons between its

early struggles and present flourishing state. "But," he said, "I am perfectly certain that its future success lies in the same direction as in the past—in wise and prudent administration." He concluded a splendid speech by saying that



MR. W. ROSE, J.P., F.C.I.S.

the society had gone ahead on the solid foundations laid in the past, and he felt confident that it would continue to make still further progress.

Mr. Rose was for a long time a member of the Council of the Co-operative Secretaries' Association, and is a recognised authority on co-operative trading. He has written a paper on the financial policy of the movement that is regarded as a work of considerable value.

He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries, and in 1910 was appointed by the Treasury as a public auditor under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act.

A member of the Sheffield Corporation Assessment Committee, he has given useful service to the city in various directions, notably in regard to the Joint Hospitals Council, and last year was appointed a Justice of the Peace for the city.

LADIES', GIRLS', AND BOYS' FOOTWEAR.

Sperope Brand
MADE UNDER TRADE UNION CONDITIONS.
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STOCKED BY ALL CO-OPERATIVE BOOT DEPARTMENTS IN SHEFFIELD.

CO-OPERATIVE PARTY NOTES.

ATTERCLIFFE

The Attercliffe Divisional Council held a successful meeting at the Attercliffe Institute on September 17th. After a report of the "Co-operative School," the winter programme was discussed, and it was arranged that the whole of the series of lectures in "British Socialism," and the election of the monthly meetings.

At the October meeting, to be held on Monday, the 19th, Mr. E. Marshall, J.P., will speak on "Labour Policies," and Council Members (Co-operative and Labour candidate for the Tinsley Ward) will also speak.

Propaganda are well in hand for the municipal election campaigns in that area, and co-operatives are asked to rally its workers.

BRIGHTSIDE

The first of the winter meetings was held on September 26th in the Shilversgrove Co-operative Institute, where the hall was crowded. Mr. H. Wilkinson also presided, made an opening reference to the tragic and entirely unexpected death of the secretary, Mr. W. A. Walton, and to his long association with and work for the Co-operative Party. Walton had been the secretary of the Brightside Divisional Council since its inception.

Councillor C. T. Richardson was unanimously selected as Co-operative and Labour nominee for the forthcoming municipal election. Mr. Richardson, in an earnest and interesting address, provided the members with useful material, and also implied the need for a general canvasser, and to his long association with and work for the Co-operative Party. Walton had been the secretary of the Brightside Divisional Council since its inception.

Meeting of the Council will be held monthly during the winter in different parts of the division. Secretary's address: 42, Hildon-terrace, Sheffield 9.

BURNGRAVE

The Burngrave Branch's Section have increased their membership as a result of the recent campaign. Meetings are held in the Burngrave Vestry Hall on Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m. October 15th, Councillor (Lab.) Mrs. J. 12th, Mrs. E. White will give an address; 19th, the Monthly Meeting; and on the 26th the secretary (Mrs. S. Volland) will speak on "The New Age."

HILLSBOROUGH

The Hillsborough Divisional Council has secured by its canvassing campaign and the many additional members. The following social on September 26th drew a big crowd, amongst which were many of the party members. The following (Thursday, Councillor R. H. Marshall addressed a preliminary meeting on "Programme for the October 19th, Councillor W. O. Robinson, and on the 26th, the Election Workers' Meeting will be addressed by Councillor J. Gill and Mrs. E. T. Cowley.

The programme of meetings, socials, &c., has been fixed up for every Thursday from October to the end of April.

The Women's Section are holding larger meetings than of late, to such a degree that meetings that are not large enough for the numbers attending, and meetings are to be held later in the month. The secretary (Mrs. M. M. Wood), 23, Hillsborough-place, will be pleased to supply syllabus for the winter session to all intending members.

NEEPEND

On September 17th, Councillor J. A. Langley gave the City Council report to a crowded meeting. Next meeting on October 17th, Alderman J. Haxell will give the monthly City Council report, and on the 24th a concert has been arranged by Mrs. Lee.

The Women's Section programme for the October is as follows: 19th, Mr. R. Forster, J.P., will speak on "A Pure Milk Supply"; 26th, Councillor J. A. Langley, 17th, Councillor F. W. R. Stokes; 24th and 29th, Municipal Election Campaign.

LONGLEY AND NORWOOD

September was a very busy month for our Longley friends. The canvassing scheme for membership has resulted in a trebling of last year's success.

A visit to the Nursery Colliery on (September 27th) on the 28th the Party discussed the business of the organisation and arranged its future programme. On the 28th a social was given by the "New Day" concert party. Councillor Stokes was present, and the occasion was also used for presentation of prizes for the recent potato competition. The successful competitors were: Mr. Hogg, Mr. Hall, Mr.

Haxley, and Mrs. Wood. Arrangements are to be made for an increase in the gardening activities next year through the C.W.S. Seed Department. On the 28th a good number attended the visit to the General Post Office.

Programme for October 5th, Social Evening; 12th, City Council report by Councillor Stokes; 19th, Mr. W. Scott will speak on "Socialism."

The Institute will be opened as a committee-room for the municipal election campaign, and all supporters are asked to rally for work to give Councillor F. W. R. Stokes a handsome majority. Meetings held in the Guild-room, Scally-avenue, every Wednesday at 7.45 p.m. Women's Section meetings on Wednesday afternoons at 2.45.

SHEFFIELD AND ECCLESALL

The Sheffield and Ecclesall Section held their opening social on Monday, September 26th, when there was a large attendance of members. Kenwood Old-Time Band played for dancing, and a number of concert items were given. Mr. E. Marshall (president) took the chair. There is a big influx of new members, who will receive an invitation to the next meeting in due course.

The Women's Section, which held meetings in the Mount Tabor Methodist Church premises, Wellington-street, every Thursday afternoon, have arranged the following programme for October: 5th, Mrs. Butler on "Holidays Ahead"; 12th, Play-reading by the 3rd and 4th Girls' Federation Play-readers; 26th, Mr. J. P. Williams is the speaker; and on the 27th the "Co-operative Party Notes" will be used as a basis for open discussion. Secretary: Mrs. J. Hillan, 42, West Hill-road.

ANNOUNCING

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THIS shop will be opened by our DECORATING DEPARTMENT

for the service of our members and customers in the Park District.

It will be well stocked with all the latest designs in—WALL PAPERS and a full range of PAINTS, VARNISHES, ENAMELS, &c., all at competitive prices. Our usual guarantee and complete service will be given.

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THE ATTACK ON RAILWAYMEN'S WAGES.

THE WAR OF ATTRITION: A RAILWAYMAN'S POINT OF VIEW.

By H. MORETON
(President, Sheffield and Chesterfield District Council, National Union of Railwaymen).

LESS than two years ago, in December, 1930, the editor of this journal kindly offered us space to state the case for the railwaymen in their resistance to the attack then being made by the railway companies upon their wages and conditions of service. I am indebted to him for this opportunity again to state the railwayman's case against the latest attack.

F.B.I. Policy.

As I stated in December, 1930, these attacks upon the wages and conditions of railwaymen are the policy of the Federation of British Industries, who, together with the bankers, have decreed that the wages of all those employed in "Battered Industries" must be "substantially reduced."

The War of Attrition.

The organised railwaymen put up such a strong case in defence of their position two years ago that the decision of the Railway Wages Board fell far short of the companies' expectations, even then they reached the huge sum of £4,000,000 per annum. In addition, to this sacrifice on the part of the railway workers must be added the enormous economies which have been effected by staff reductions. A few weeks ago one of the general managers revealed that the savings were by economies in staff and the last wages reductions was close upon £10,000,000 per year.

Victims of "Economy."

The position of these victims of economy is heartrending. I have personal knowledge of men who have been reduced through several grades, and removed away from their home station.

One such case is sufficient to enlighten the public as to the hardship and suffering these unfortunate men and their families are enduring through reduced wages and the added expense of paying lodgings owing to being removed to stations too far away from their homes to travel to and from work.

MARRIED MEN, TWO CHILDREN, TWENTY-TWO YEARS' SERVICE.
1928, Goods Guard, 65s. per week.
1929, Class Three Shunter, 55s. per week.

1931, Class Four Shunter, 40s. per week.

1932, Porter, 40s. per week, and lodgings to pay owing to being transferred away from his home station.

The companies' representatives have very considerably offered the trade unions not to reduce these men below 38s. per week!

This is a Christian country, and the wind is tempered to the shorn lamb!

The Fall in Traffic Receipts.

The proposal of the four big railway companies to secure "a substantial reduction in labour costs" is based upon the fall in traffic receipts, which, they say, have fallen by just over £10,000,000 in the first thirty-seven weeks of this year, which, by the way, is an unanswerable testimonial to the great benefits Protection and a National Government have brought upon this dear old country.

Well, assuming that the companies' statement is correct. Have not we got the statement of one of their chief general managers to the effect that economies and wages reductions have saved

£10,000,000 a year? Can one wonder that the rank-and-file railway worker is asking "What about that?"

Watered "Stock."

In 1930 the four big railway companies paid no less than £39,634,000 to the shareholders. A large part of this dividend was paid to people who have never lent money to the railways, or who lent money which was thrown away years ago in building the railways at artificially inflated prices and now represents no real assets whatsoever.

The total capital of the railways together with an estimate of the "water" in it is given here—

Year.	Capital (Millions).	"Water" (Millions).	Per Cent.
1913	1,273	379	29.7
1923	2,152	230	10.7
1929	2,209	229	10.3

The water consisted of two forms. First, the money wasted in building the railways at prices much above the real costs of construction, and secondly, the issue of bonus shares, or the exchange of shares of low value for shares of a higher value through adding "Renewals" to "Capital."

It is estimated that no less than £70,000,000 was spent on land purchase in excess of the true value of the land.

Money spent on "Preliminary Expenses, which includes lawyers' fees, Parliamentary costs, &c., exceeded the necessary expenditure on these items by no less than £60,000,000.

Finally, the railways spent large sums in buying up canals and in building unnecessary competitive lines costing about £50,000,000, which represent no real asset to-day.

All these items added together come to about £180,000,000, which earns no return, but on which interest has to be paid.

The Sheffield railwayman asks: "If Vickers Ltd. had to write off their dead capital, why don't the railways do it too?"

Equality of Sacrifice.

This was the slogan during the supposed crisis of a year ago: "Equality of Sacrifice to Save the Country."

What about equality of sacrifice to save the railways? It is estimated that there

are now 100,000 less men employed by the L.M.S. and L. and N.E. Groups than were employed ten years ago. Every working railwayman knows that there are at least four times as many officials than at the time of the grouping. In addition to this, many of these officials have only recently been granted large increases in salary for "exerting great best efforts to assist us in our task of improving the position of the company by doing all that you can to further the wishes of your district officials."—*Vide* headquarters' letter to local official.

In other words, increases of salary have been given to many local officials for recommending economies and staff reductions in many cases their local officials have been so given because of their bribes that their recommendations, when carried into effect have reduced the staff to such a point that the work could not be done, and the staff have had to be replaced. In many other cases efficient working cannot be carried on, and much valuable traffic has been lost to the road transport.

"Thirty-eight Bob a Week."

"The cost of living has come down to 40 per cent. above pre-war, whilst railway wages remain above 100 per cent. above pre-war." So say the railway companies' economists, and their inspired Press articles.

The lower-paid railwayman's wife is very sceptical about this. She still finds rates are facts and so are taxes, not to mention the rest of a council house and the fares to and fro.

But "we are mindful of your position," says the railway companies' spokesman, "we will not reduce your wages below 38 bob a week." Well, let me remind Mrs. Thirty-Eight Bob a Week what the wage of the railway companies' spokesman is—

Chief general manager, £18,000 per annum, or £350 per week; or if this gentleman should work eight hours a day for six days, £7 12s. per hour! Think of that all you railway wage-earners, and be thankful that of their great mercy and consideration these humane gentlemen will not reduce your wages below 38s. a week.

Not this time; nor at any time if you will only write and say No! You have the power to resist and to win back all you have lost if you have the courage to fight and the confidence to resist.

THINGS THAT CONCERN US ALL.

Are YOU Using your Capital?

When a man has capital invested in something, he likes to see it used in a profitable way.

Every Co-operator has capital—in a large or small degree—invested in his Co-operative Society, and a fair proportion of this money is re-invested in the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

The C.W.S. uses the capital to manufacture food, clothing, furnishings, and so on for co-operative members and their families.

YOU (if you are a co-operator) are financially interested in the activities of the C.W.S. through the money which your local Society has re-invested in the national Wholesale Society.

Employ Your Capital By Buying C.W.S. Productions



The C.W.S. supplies the needs of life to Co-operative Societies for their members.

BRIGHTSIDE AND CARBROOK CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE and CHORAL SOCIETY

GRAND CONCERT

LABOUR HALL, BALFOUR ROAD, DARNALL,

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13th, 7-30 p.m.

Including Concert Version of "MADITHA" (PICTURE)

Principal: Miss Ethel Barber, Soprano; Miss Marie Wilkison, Contralto; Mr. Clifford Kennell, Tenor; Mr. W. A. Harper, Bass, and Mr. F. Florence.

Accompanist: Mr. E. Hillier. Conductor: Mr. A. E. Eaton.

ADMISSION BY PROGRAMME, 7d. (Including Tax). Programmes may be obtained from the Choir members.

The breakfast food you need is one That's guaranteed to nourish So start the day with Shredded Wheat And end it with a flourish



BRITONS MAKE IT—IT MAKES BRITONS

THE SHEFFIELD CO-OPERATOR.

THE "SPENDTHRIFTS!"

COUNCILLOR W. G. ROBINSON REPLIES TO THE SO-CALLED "PROGRESSIVES."

We are told by the "Progressive" Party that we are excessive spend-thrifts...

Our chief concern is to make the best of the economic circumstances that confront us...

Public Assistance.

We are told by a minority that we should not administer the Means Test. This question has been seriously considered...

The following figures on Means Test cases prove conclusively that there has been humane decision on each case.

In December, 1931, there was a total of 27,047 Means Test cases. The number that got full rate of benefit, was

13,616. Less than full rate, 10,431. The number where there was no need was 7,270. These figures speak for themselves.

The figures of total expenditure of P.A.C. per week are increasing as follows. October, 1931, £7,000 per week. April, 1932, £10,000 per week. September, £11,000 per week.

The relief scales are the highest in the country, and we make up the unemployment benefit by 2s. 0d. per week to bring it on a par with the relief scales...

From October, 1931, to March, 1932, the Tory National Government took the Sheffield ratepayers an extra sum of £114,000 for Public Assistance.

Therein lies the reason for the deficit of £77,000. We don't apologise for it!

"Progressive" Party Finances.

In reply to our critics, re spendthrifts! Let us examine what the finances were. In November, 1926, Labour and the Co-operative Group had redeemed £2,000,000 of 6 per cent. stock...

The Labour and Co-operative Group has also established a Purchase of Land Fund for housing. In four years £70,000 has been put into this fund...

When the Labour and Co-operative Group took charge in 1923, 1924, and 1925 Acts require the setting apart of a Repair Fund. The "Progressives" did not create this fund...

Another matter about which you seldom hear is that we are including in the current rate about £60,000 towards the repayment of money borrowed by the "Progressives"...

Owing to the huge unemployment figures in the city and the daily increasing number of destitute people, the Labour and Co-operative Group had to budget for £790,000 for the Public Assistance Committee...

In spite of this and other additional responsibilities, we are able by economies in other services, to maintain the rate at last year's figure in Sheffield 17s., 6d.

Manchester, with less proportionate difficulty, has increased the rate by 1s. in the pound.

Proposed Tangible Assets.

Money has been spent, but wisely, on necessary work of public utility. It has also found useful employment and produced tangible assets.

supply. The new markets are the latest in sanitary arrangements and ensure cleanliness. The blind have been removed from poverty and distress.

There has been several hospital extensions to provide more accommodation. New conveniences have been built throughout the city...

The unemployed can have a bath for one penny. Public wash-houses have been built, and are highly appreciated.

Ten new schools have been built, providing 7,500 places for children. Improved lighting in the city, over 2,000 extra courts and alleys over 2,000 extra courts were built...

Nursing schools have been built, and are highly appreciated. Bents Green open-air school for children.

Electricity reduced from 8d. to 4d. per unit. (Rateable value 2s. 6d. per quarter and 3d. per unit.)

Also built the Ridgeway Manor Estate, built the Greenhill Estate by direct Estate and Greenhill Estate by direct Estate and the Wyburn Estate.

Space forbids further details. To sum up, it is a remarkable achievement of Labour and Co-operative work since November, 1926.

With regard to excessive spending, we have spent money economically and produced enormous new and valuable assets for the citizens of Sheffield.

Economics for the Consumer.

wildering equipment to aid him in the service he performs, as has the teacher, the restaurateur, and so on.

Ruskin gave it as his opinion that "There is no wealth but Life" which must have a large range of goods and services for its maintenance and expansion.

But what about the goods we get from abroad? These, of course, affect the "National Income," and are to be considered next month under the heading of "Foreign Trade."

BEST FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY.

The New Beaver Interlock INTEGRITY BRAND UNDERWEAR.

Its Perfect Fit ensures comfort in all positions—its Reliable Material ensures longer wear.

THIS CO-OPERATIVE MAKE ONLY FROM YOUR STORES.

Made by the Wigston (Co-operative) Hosiery Limited, Paddock Street, Wigston.

KNITTING FOR WINTER WEAR

Wool advertisement for Sheffield Ecclesall. Includes prices for Marl Knitting Wool, Self-Coloured Wool, Printed Wool, and Rug Wool. Also mentions 'The Co-operative Sheffield Ecclesall' and 'Every ounce is fully guaranteed'.

BRIGHTSIDE & CARBROOK CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.

DISTRICT CONCERTS

Brightside and Carbrook Choral Society

Programme includes the Concert version of "MARTHA"

- Concerts will be given in the following halls: Saturday, Oct. 15th, SOUTHLEY GREEN COUNCIL SCHOOL; Monday 17th, NEW WESLEYAN HALL, GRENOSIDE; Tuesday 18th, GATTY MEMORIAL HALL, ECCLESFIELD; Wednesday 19th, HILLSBOROUGH CO-OPERATIVE INSTITUTE; Thursday 27th, PRINCE EDWARD COUNCIL SCHOOL, MANOR ESTATE; Saturday 29th, ASSEMBLY HALL, WINCOBANK.

ADMISSION BY PROGRAMME, 3d.

Programmes may be obtained from Choir members, Guild Secretaries, or any of the Brightside and Carbrook Co-operative Society Branches.

MONEY AND PRICES.

["Money and Prices." By Augustus Baker. Published by J. M. Dent and Sons Limited, 6s. net.]

This title page announces this to be a short explanation of the monetary system, and some proposals to restore and maintain prosperity by the regulation of prices and the right use of credit.

This book strikes us as being the best of all works on finance and the present crisis, and it can be confidently and enthusiastically recommended to that very large number of people in our movement who want advice as to what is best to read on this subject.

Its care, its thoroughness, and its very clear explanations make it specially suitable for those who want a good grasp of essentials, and can get no help save what a book can give. The short introductory chapter is a masterpiece of Socratic dialogue, and is comparable to Bellamy's "Parable of the Water Tank." Says this particular Socrates: "I cannot see how a people can be poor in money and rich in everything else!" Put your thinking-caps on, read a chapter a day, or a week, and be sure you understand it. The result will be an equipment for citizenship that is at present unfortunately all too rare.

FOOTWEAR FOR GENTS AND BOYS.

Holyoake Brand

IS THE MOST RELIABLE.

TRADE UNION STAMP No. 2

can be purchased from any Co-operative Foot Department in Sheffield.

Manufactured only by the

KETTERING CO-OPERATIVE BOOT SOCIETY,

HAYLOCK WORKS, KETTERING.

A Voting Qualification.

Ashybud with an hour a day to spare, under thirty years old, who will not take as much trouble as this to vote intelligently, does not deserve a vote!

It is not possible here to outline the argument—even if it were desirable, but at least we may say that it proposes to control both purchasing power and prices. "Because money constitutes a demand upon a community's store of wealth, none but the State can claim the right to issue it." There is a remark that everybody would doubtless agree with. But "because bank credit is also a demand upon the community's wealth, its issue by private parties would never have been tolerated had its nature been clearly recognized."

"This is the case for a 'nationalized' banking system in a nutshell. Because bank credit is a 'key' on the market, if for no other reason, it should be brought under public control."

Diagrams.

A book of this kind is improved by diagrams, where such are convenient, and the author has made good use of them. In addition, the fresh way of setting out the case is very helpful to general readers who may, likely enough, have been rather repelled by the usual text-book.

Each chapter is excellent, and co-operators will find their own views on the money question amplified, cleared, and co-ordinated in the volume. A chapter on "The Problem of Thrift," for example, first works out the financial implications of thrift, and concludes with the remark that "the problem with which society is faced is clearly not a problem of production but one of distribution, and no amount of thrift will solve it."

The Douglas Scheme.

A final chapter on the defects of the Douglas theory is the best criticism we have ever seen. It is brief, clear, and exactly touches the spot—Major Douglas was notoriously difficult to understand.

We should like to give a special recommendation to all our readers—especially the younger ones—that the subject of this book is the most important of the day, and that no work surpasses this particular one for the general reader who means to get to the bottom of the matter.

Congratulations to the author on a fine piece of work!

PEPPERGRAINS.

The Government is cutting Education for Economy's sake; but why bother with a cut?

"Think what could be saved if Education were stopped completely! We should save the salaries of Directors, Office Staffs and Inspectors, and Teachers.

We must get out of this mess somehow. Why not also disband the street sweepers and the ash-bin emptiers, the health inspectors—in fact, why not shut the Town Hall down completely?

Loud applause from the Progressives!

But they shrink from their own logic. A lethal chamber for all the unemployed (including their dependents, of course) would make Britain safe for those who have "a stake in the country." No more doles; no more public assistance!

The budget would balance; the rates would go down. Everybody would be employed once again!

And unemployment would be for ever stopped by keeping the lethal chamber open for cases as they arose.

Is there any truth in the rumour that George Robey has been offered a Cabinet appointment?

So Cotton is easier again? The usual reason—lower wages.

The railwaymen are the next on the list to share the lot of the "Star" lads—lower pay.

Perhaps, with the "worsening agreements," a few directors might be spared as well as people who really do the work.

The snag is that, in practice, they appoint each other, and like birds of a feather, stick together.

They also, like other boards of directors, fix their own salaries. This is not often true of a worker with regard to his wages.

They also decide whether they are doing their own jobs efficiently, and never "sack" any of their number.

Ten more years of railway directors, and there will be no railways.

SHEFFIELD REPERTORY COMPANY.

The repertory autumn season opened on Tuesday, September 20th, with "The Green Goddess," the finest of melodramas by the famous dramatic critic, William Archer.

Plays to follow this include "To See Ourselves," E. M. Delfino's delightful comedy, Shakespeare's "Othello," Aldous Huxley's "The World of Light," and an unusual crime play, "The Crime at Blossoms," by Mordaunt Shalpr.

[Continued in next column.]

KIRKBY-IN-ASHFIELD MANUFACTURERS LTD

CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCTIVE SOCIETY
5/1000 STREET, EAST KIRBY, NOTTINGHAM

MAKERS OF ALL KINDS OF PLAIN, RIPPED, AND FANCY HOSIERY, LAIN DIEST AND GENTLEMEN'S UNDERWEAR

Every Co-operative should give these goods a trial. Send to give satisfaction. Make orders the best quantities and supplied at Year Class Sizes.

ASK FOR ASHFIELD BRAND HOSIERY AND UNDERWEAR.

INTEREST RATE REDUCTION.

DECISION AT SHEFFIELD AND ECCLESALL SOCIETY'S MEETING.

ONLY one member voted against a recommendation made at the half-yearly meeting of the Sheffield and Ecclesall Co-operative Society, that the rate of interest on members' share capital should be reduced from 4 per cent to 3 1/2 per cent.

The President (Mr. A. Laing, J.P.) said that no one who had taken the slightest interest in the world of finance at the present time would be surprised at the recommendation. Their interest on share capital had varied with the fluctuations of the financial market, and they had come down to 4 1/2 per cent from 5 per cent.

The committee now felt that the time had arrived when they should recommend that 3 1/2 per cent was a sufficient interest on members' share capital.

Of the total of £57,770 over £300,000 was invested in stocks and shares, which had recently suffered or were likely to suffer reductions in rates of interest, and it was therefore imperative that the interest on the money they had re-invested for members should be brought into line with the interest they were receiving.

"Gilt-Edged."

Mr. Laing added that they felt a rate of 3 1/2 per cent would be good interest on what could certainly be described as gilt-edged securities, and on securities which had definite advantages. Alderman Fred Marshall seconded the recommendation, and said he thought it would be recognized that the proposal was a wise one. To go on paying a high rate of interest when money could be obtained cheaply was simply to make the society an interest-paying concern rather than a consumers' institution. (Applause.)

The committee's recommendation being therefore adopted, the reduction in the interest rate will take effect on October 31st, at the beginning of the next quarter.

[Continued from previous column.]

Each play will run for a fortnight, there being no performances on Mondays. In response to numerous requests, the performance on Fridays will begin at eight o'clock.

Neil Porter produces all the plays, and the company now includes five professional artists—Marjorie Clayton, Alfred Beer, Robert Raven, Richard Donner, and Bernard Miles.

The HILLSBOROUGH FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY MORNINGS at 11,

in the

CO-OPERATIVE INSTITUTE,

21 Middlewood Road, it

Commencing Oct. 9th, 1934

Oct. 9.—See Special Poster (meeting at 10.30 this morning only).
11 16.—"E. Democracy, Breaking Down."
11 23.—"The Value of Personal Experience."
11 30.—"The Conditions of Co-operation."

An outside is Football on Saturday afternoon!

Weekday or Sunday Dress—Collection

ALL MEN & WOMEN WELCOME!

SHEFFIELD AND ECCLESALL CO-OPERATIVE CHORAL SOCIETY

(Under the auspices of the Educational Department.)

Secretary: H. Hill, 25, Darnley Hill, Chesterbrook.

Rehearsals each Monday at 7.45 in the Arch, Darnley Road. Hearty Welcome to All.

Overcoat



WE ARE NOW DISPLAYING ALL THAT IS NEWEST AND SMARTEST FOR WINTER 1932-1933. EVERY COAT IS WELL CUT, AND MADE IN THE LATEST BELTED OR HALF-BELTED STYLES, AND READY FOR IMMEDIATE WEAR

MEN'S 27/6 to 85/- YOUTH'S 21/- to 45/-
BOYS' 12/6 to 30/- KIDDIES 9/6 to 25/-

SPECIAL VALUE IN OVERCOATS 39/6

Made to Measure from 16 to 26 inches and Blue Melton

THE SHEFFIELD ECCLESALL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED
CEMETERY ROAD.

You will find here just the coat as you want, and the value is as always—TITL BEST.



A MESSAGE of INTEREST TO ALL B&C MEMBERS -

THE NEW "12 WEEKS" CLUB BEGINS - OCTOBER 22nd.

WHAT YOUR 1/- PER WEEK WILL PURCHASE

- □ □
- Drapery**
- Millinery**
- Clothing**
- Boots and Shoes**
- Furnishing**
- Hardware**
- Jewellery**
- Wireless**
- Coal**
- Optical Needs**
- Drugs**
- Painting and Decorating**

See how you benefit!

This "Twelve Weeks" Club enables members to purchase Clothing, Footwear, Household Requisites, &c., for the small payment of **One Shilling per week.**

THE CONDITIONS ARE SIMPLE:

SHARES are 12/- each, and any number may be taken up.

REPAYMENTS are made at the rate of 1/- per week per share.

COUPONS are issued at the Branch at which you make your contributions. The first issue being on the third week, after which coupons are issued weekly,

which means—after three weekly payments of 1/- (3/- in all), those who are successful in the first issue can **immediately** purchase goods from any department other than Grocery or Butchery to the full value of 12/-. The balance of 9/- to be paid in weekly amounts of 1/-.

FULL DIVIDEND IS GIVEN ON EVERY COUPON SPENT.

LAST HALF-YEAR - 1/8 IN THE £.

YOUR DAILY ROUND SHOULD INCLUDE A SQUARE MEAL AT YE OLDE CASTLE RESTAURANT

CITY STORES
 The Business Man's Rendezvous. :: Convenient To Everywhere.
 A PLEASANT ATMOSPHERE — GOOD FOOD COOKED JUST RIGHT
 A VARIED MENU — QUICK SERVICE — AND PRICES WHICH PLEASE
 FULL DIVIDEND ALLOWED. :: TAKE LIFT—SECOND FLOOR.

Don't Forget the Date!
OCTOBER 22nd

You may join at THE CITY STORES (Registered Office) Exchange Street . . . or at your nearest branch.

BRIGHTSIDE B&C CARBROOK
 CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED