



# The SHEFFIELD C-OPERATOR



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## THE NAVAL RACE BEGINS

### Where will it end?



By THE RIGHT HON. A. V. ALEXANDER, M.P. (Formerly First Lord of the Admiralty).

BRITAIN'S start in the armaments race has now begun. The estimates for the Fighting Services passed through Parliament provide for the following expenditure in 1936:—

Navy.....	69,930,000
Army.....	49,281,000
Air Force.....	39,000,000
	£158,211,000

This colossal sum, however, does not include the cost of the expansion programme in all three services, set out in the White Paper on Defence (Cmd. 5107).

This cost is to be the subject of Supplementary Estimates which are to be submitted to Parliament, and on which no information can be obtained from the Government, but may well amount to £20,000,000 for the year.

We must, therefore, look to expenditure of approximately £178,000,000 for the year ending March 31st, 1937, compared with approximately £104,000,000 in 1932-3.

This figure, unless there is a change of policy, must necessarily expand still further during the next three years, and the nation must apparently contemplate an annual expenditure on armaments of not less than £200,000,000 per annum.

It is certainly time that the public should begin to understand the facts, and how far this enormous burden now being placed upon them is necessary, or likely to increase the relative security of this country.

The Government professes to base its foreign policy upon the League of Nations, and collective or pooled security.

We have not been able to obtain a single word from the Government with regard to consultations with other League Powers as to what contribution they are prepared to make to collective security, or what it is considered the contribution from this country should be.

In the case of the Navy, I deny that in the programme of the Government is necessary for the operation of collective security, or that it will increase relative security.

The admissions of the Government in

their own White Paper in this regard are almost pathetic:—

It is true that an increase in the armed strength of other nations who will co-operate for collective security may increase the power of the League. But an increase of armed strength may also prove an added power in the hands of a possible aggressor." (Paragraph 10.)

... and it is true that a general raising of levels all round is no guarantee of peace." (Paragraph 19.)

Having regard to these statements, let us examine the British Naval position. I repeated in the House of Commons on March 16th, in the presence of the Prime Minister, the statement which I made during the course of the General Election campaign, that the British Fleet was the largest, the most powerful, and the most efficient fleet in the world. There was no reply from the Government to that statement.

I added that what was true of the British Fleet as a whole, was also true in respect of each of the fighting ship categories of battleships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, and submarines. Again, there was no denial from the Government benches.

During the election the Prime Minister made the statement that our capital ships were obsolescent and imperfectly armed against air attack.

The fact is, however, that the "Nelson" and "Rodney" are not matched by any ships of other nations afloat, and that in the case of the other ships in this category, they have either been modernised, or are being modernised, to an extent which almost amounts to complete rebuilding.

For example, an expenditure of £2,114,000 has just been incurred on the modernisation and refitting of the "Warspite," a ship which cost so much as £2,500,000 to build.

About £1,000,000 has been spent on each of the battleships "Malaya" and "Royal Oak," nearly as much on the "Renown," while in the current year £1,500,000 has been spent on the newly-built cruiser "Repulse," which originally cost no more than £2,829,000.

This does not look as if the Admiralty

believed that these ships were obsolescent and ready to be scrapped; and they are now, I believe, better provided with defence against air attack than any battleships in the world.

The total weight of the British Fleet in the five main fighting categories is at least 1,300,000 tons.

Compared with other naval Powers, this is easily the largest naval tonnage in the world, with the exception of the United States of America, with whom we agreed to establish a parity in 1930, because war between our two English-speaking nations is never contemplated.

The Government now propose to increase the British Cruiser Fleet from fifty to seventy ships, and commence building two new battleships (which at present costs will require at least £6,500,000 each).

They are building two flotillas of destroyers this year instead of one, largely increasing the size of the ships in one flotilla, and as far as I can estimate at present when this programme is completed, the tonnage of the British Fleet will have increased by at least 350,000 tons.

Does this expansive fleet in any way increase our relative security? Of course not!

The British Government, by one of the grossest acts of folly of any Government since the war, entered into an agreement with Hitler allowing Germany to build a new navy up to 35 per cent of the total British tonnage.

This gives Germany, on last year's figures, the right to build a fleet of 45,000 tons, as compared with 100,000 tons under the Versailles Treaty, but it also means that we increase our tonnage by 250,000 tons Germany can add another 57,000 tons to be provision, giving her a fleet of no less than 512,000 tons. At once this leads to an expanded building programme by France, and thereupon Italy will proceed to build up relatively to France.

When, then, is the improvement in relative security? None at all. We know that unless this policy of naval race is an ever-expanding vicious

circle is brought to a close, the British Admiralty will then claim once more that we are too weak, and on the basis of requiring approximation to a two-to-one standard in the Mediterranean, will demand still further expansion of the British Fleet.

Surely it is time for the nation to say that this mad folly should cease, and that we should truly follow the principle of collective security.

Xanthus first of all, that if a collective peace policy is properly followed out with firm instead of vacillating support of the Covenant of the League, it is unlikely that hostilities would ever be required.

Even, however, if support of the Covenant were ultimately to require military sanctions, what are the respective strengths of fleets likely to be involved to-day? In round figures, I would put them as follows (omitting from our calculations the United States of America):—

Tons	
British Commonwealth.....	1,200,000
(In addition to this figure, the British Fleet includes 60 ships of a most serviceable type known as sloops and minesweepers).	
Japan.....	500,000
France.....	700,000
Italy.....	500,000
Germany (at present).....	300,000
Soviet Union (at present, but expanding).....	150,000

It is not plain that if a policy of collective action against any single aggressor were resolutely pursued, the fleets of the majority would be an overwhelming strength against the aggressor, and that sanctions applied by the fleets of all the smaller League Powers would be operating in a very different set of circumstances to those which operated when so many Powers were completely neutral during the last war?

Even if two of the naval Powers concerned were acting against the

(Continued on next page.)

## NAVAL RACE BEGINS.

(Continued from page one.)

balance of League Powers, there could be no question of the overwhelming superiority of the fleets which would be against them.

In fact, if the Government would abandon its attitude of dualism and concentrate entirely upon a policy of collective security, our submission is that that policy would mean not increasing armaments, but would enable a large measure of disarmament to be carried through.

Here it is not possible to deal with all the contingencies, both real and hypothetical, which are advanced by the supporters of disarmament, but I think I have said enough to show:—

1.—That it is true we have the largest and most powerful fleet in the world now.

2.—That the programme proposed, and the abandonment of most of the limitations in naval armaments laid down in the Naval Treaties of 1921 and 1930, prove that we are at present full steam ahead in a futile naval arms race.

3.—That at the end of the race, it is there an end, relative security is not improved.

4.—That it is plain that a policy of collective security, properly pursued, would bring a greater security and immunity from devastating war.

5.—That we should, in such circumstances, not need to expand expenditure, but would be able to reduce armaments and avoid the danger of starved social services, and national financial exhaustion.

It is, in my view, therefore, fundamental that the people should unite at this time in saying to the Government, in the words of Mazzini, "Co-operate or perish."

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## "UNBUSINESSLIKE" ?

### "PROGRESSIVES" SPECIOUS SPEECHES.

#### EDUCATION COMMITTEE'S DECISION.

The opposition of the "Progressive" Party at the Sheffield Education Committee to the proposal that the school children and the training college students should be fed by bread which the Corporation itself baked in its own communally-owned bakehouse at Firvale showed more clearly than any other debate of recent times the vital difference between the viewpoint of the Labour Party and that of the so-called "Progressives."

Councillor Holmes, who moved that the proposal be not approved, commented on the "unbusinesslike" arrangement. Miss Maxfield also thought the proposal "thoroughly unsound." Councillor Lloyd considered that people would be thrown out of work in consequence of the innovation (as if the Corporation would do the work without adequate labour!), whilst Alderman Jackson talked of "The Babes in Jackson" in describing the representatives of the education committee who had attended the conference when the arrangements were made. Alderman Irwin Mitchell wanted to know whether the people who baked the bread were practical bakers, and whether they would enjoy their own hours and wages (knowing full well that all Corporation employees are guaranteed these conditions, whilst trade union organisers and others spend all the bulk of their time trying to make the private trades pay trade union rates of wages).

#### PRODUCING FOR USE.

To have a debate on an education bill, fallacious reasoning on the part of the "Progressives." They could not understand for the life of them any proposal that did not give some private profit to an individual contractor or firm. They could not understand the idea embodied in the proposal that production should be for use and not for profit, and, therefore, were insisting upon a fixed contract price irrespective of the cost of materials and distribution. In fact, Alderman Bancroft, in replying, showed that contractors had in the past quoted 4d. per loaf less than a previous contract in order to get the work, and then had gradually crept up in price.

These good people interested in private business, thought that private enterprise alone is worth while and that cooperative is "businesslike." If it does not give profit to some private persons rather than a community. Running through all these speeches was a note of amazement that anyone should make a proposal that had for its object a real economy to the people as a whole, and, in effect, every one of the "Progressive" speakers said so, without knowing that it was an entire contradiction of their professed policy as public representatives.

#### INCONSISTENCIES.

They cannot see that a community which provides hospital treatment, education, transport, and recreational facilities for itself should not hesitate in providing bread for its own students and school children.

The arrangement, as a matter of fact, is the most economical that any community could adopt. If these good people want to save the rates, as they say they do, why pay from £180 to £260 a year more of the community's money to benefit a private contractor when they can do the job themselves?

#### COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS SMASHES "PROGRESSIVES" CASE.

Councillor Williams effectively demolished the "Progressive" case in a carefully-reasoned speech, in which he said he had listened with interest and amazement at the speeches of the mover and seconder of the amendment, and wondered who the founder of the bakery as we know it now at Firvale House—the late Alderman Neal—would have thought of the remarks of the previous speakers. It was the theme of

the late chairman of the Sheffield board that the whole of the bread required for the various institutions should be produced by our own bakers, and with that end in view the bakery was remodelled, modern machinery put in, and a model bakery established under the charge of a fully-qualified baker.

#### QUALITY.

The bakery is fully able to undertake the supply of bread required by the education committee, and even then will not be working to its full capacity.

There can be no argument in regard to the quality, said Councillor Williams; the bread is supplied to the inmates and patients of the whole of the hospitals and institutions of the Council, except Waite Court, and no complaint has yet been received. It is supplied to the children in our Homes, and if it is good enough for them, for whom we demand the best, it is surely good enough for the children of the schools.

The day cannot be far distant when the demand will be that all food, not only bread, shall be wrapped by machine and not touched by human hand.

#### DELIVERY.

A good deal has been said as regards the City Architect's Department having anything to do with the delivery. May I remind the committee, said Councillor Williams, as one of those who took a fair

share in the handing over of the Council's functions to the Council, that the Council in their wisdom, or otherwise, decided that the Public Assistance Committee should no longer control motor vehicles; and in accordance with that decision the motor fleet was handed over, the ambulances to the central ambulance garage, the cars to the tramways department, and the commercial vehicles to the City Architect, including the bread van used solely for that purpose, and all that is meant in so far as this particular van is concerned is that it will be used more than heretofore.

#### CONTROL.

It has been stated as a reason for turning down the recommendation of the committee that we have no control over the bakery. Are we not members of a Corporation, asked Councillor Williams, who own this establishment and control its policy? If we don't, they are failed to carry out our duty—and may I ask what control we have over the bakeries of private enterprise? If our opponents are sincere in their belief, then they will, at the next Council meeting, table a resolution to close down the bakery.

Thanks to Labour's policy of real economy, the amendment was defeated and the proposal of the committee carried by a good majority.

#### CONDITIONS IN OFFICES.

The Offices Regulation Bill which has the support of the Labour Party once again failed to reach a second reading in the House of Commons on March 23th. Mr. Creech Jones, introducing the Bill, pointed out that there is no systematic inspection of offices to-day and that appalling conditions exist in many cases. It has been admitted by the Home Office that inspection by local medical officers of health is limited to cases to which their attention has been drawn when nuisances have arisen. While refusing to accept the Bill, Mr. G. Lloyd, for the Government, admitted that the present condition under the Public Health Acts was not satisfactory and promised improvements under the new draft Bill for the Control of Public Health Acts. The Labour Party insists, however, on the need for special protection for the 1,300,000 clerical workers of the country who are without safeguards for their health and working conditions.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION OF THE YOUNG.

In pursuance of its new policy of making up for lost time, the Board of Education has issued a further circular on local authorities on the subject of physical education.

The circular states that only 744 out of the 376 Local Education Authorities in England and Wales have adopted their way to appoint organisers for physical training, and that there are still schools, and even whole districts, where the teaching is dull and inefficient. In this connection the duty of the local organisers is emphasised, and the board urges that the appointment of sufficient number of qualified men and women organisers should be regarded as an indispensable part of the programme for physical education made by local authorities. It is stated that the board will welcome proposals for the provision of gymnasia in senior schools, and in the matter of playing fields the needs of their areas, "with a view to supplementing provision wherever practicable."

The admonishing tone of these comments hardly suggests what is in fact the case, that the board throughout the last few years has been consistently advancing its policy in every department of education.

While welcoming this belated programme of educational development, Labour holds that facilities for physical exercise are useless unless accompanied by the provision of free meals for all necessitous school-children and the widespread provision of open air schools.

## THE POLITICAL YEAR.

"As a consequence of the Government's fiscal policy, consumers, according to Mr. A. V. Alexander, are receiving £30,000,000 more in taxation than was the case in 1928. The tariffs, quotas, and marketing schemes have not increased the amount of agricultural employment. The number of agricultural workers in June 1930 fell from 672,000, a decline of 150,000."

This statement is made in a pamphlet published by the Co-operative Party entitled, "The National Government's Fourth Year." Written by a prominent monthly journalist, the pamphlet reviews the political year, 1930, through the eyes of the consumer. Part of the work of the Co-operative Party in defending the consumer is surveyed. This pamphlet can be obtained through local parties, guilds, and societies, or from the Co-operative Union, Holyoake House, Hanson-street, Manchester, 4, at 2d. net, 10d. post free.

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# CO-OPERATIVE PARTY NOTES.

## ATTERCLIFFE.

Four Sunday evening meetings for March, referred to in our last report, have now been held, and based upon the results attending them the committee will be able to consider the arrangements of a series of similar meetings for next winter. In every case the speakers delivered excellent addresses, and it was somewhat unfortunate that there were not a greater number of members and friends to listen to them.

The last monthly meeting was held in the Attercliffe Institute on March 27th, when Mr. T. Neville presented the platform. Speaking upon the present political situation, he dealt with the various matters now engaging the attention of politicians, from a somewhat different angle, which was not the least of general interest to the audience. There was general agreement with the principle of the speaker's ideal of an international government, and the members listened very carefully to his description of how such an authority might operate to the good of the world.

In the last circular to members an appeal was made for a speedy enrolment of those who have not yet submitted their names. It is hoped that there will be an early response to this in order that they may be at full strength for the carrying out of their future programme. The next monthly meeting (April 24th) will be featured by a report of the Vamouth conference to be given by Mr. Shimmell, who is attending the series of meetings as the division's nominee.

## BRIGHTSIDE.

The Brightside Divisional Council meeting, held on March 24th, in the Shiregreen Institute, was well attended,

and nineteen new members were enrolled. Councillor Holland gave an interesting address on Sheffield's Electricity Supply Department. Questions and discussion showed the keen interest that co-operators are taking in this well-managed trading department. Reports from the Trades and Labour Council and the South Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Federation meetings, as well as the North-Eastern Sectional conference at Rotherham, were given. The evening concluded with an enjoyable social.

## BURNGRAVE.

The Burngrave Women's Section meetings have continued during March. Amongst the speakers were Councillor (Mrs.) Cumming, who gives a regular report on City Council work, and Mrs. Walker (Brightside) and Carbrook education committee, who spoke on "Fear and Insecurity." One evening was devoted entirely to the business of the section, and another to the usual monthly social. Programmes for April as follows: 2nd, Mrs. Womersley; 8th, Councillor (Mrs.) Cumming; 16th, the meeting will be cancelled; on the 22nd, Councillor (Mrs.) Birch will be the speaker; and on the 29th, the monthly social will be held. Meetings are held in the Burngrave Vestry Hall, Wednesdays, at 7-30 p.m. The secretary (Mrs. Velland) makes a special appeal to all women co-operators in the area to join the section.

## HILLSBOROUGH.

The attendance at the Hillsborough divisional meetings reveals a definite revival of interest in political matters. On March 5th the City Council report was given by Councillor Slack; 12th, Mr. T. E. Drabble was the speaker; 19th, Mr. George Clarke; and on the 26th, an enjoyable social was held. Programme for April: 2nd, City Council report; 9th, Councillor Harold Wilkinson will speak; 16th, Mr. A. E. Butcher. On the 23rd, the delegate's report from the annual national conference at Vamouth will be dealt with, and on the 30th, Mr. G. W. Evans (secretary, Sheffield and Ecclesall education committee) will be the speaker. The Women's Section meetings have also maintained a good attendance. On

March and, Councillor J. W. Holland gave an interesting address; 9th, Mr. Haylock (manager, Hillsborough drapery department) interested the members on a topic dear to the heart of every housewife. On the 16th, the monthly social drew a very large attendance, when the members contributed musical and other items to a very happy afternoon. Mrs. Alexander was present, and congratulated the women on their programme. The 23rd, in the absence of the speaker, Mrs. R. M. Wood, the secretary, read a paper on "Democracy and the Press," concluding with an appeal for support for the new "Wynned" now a co-operative-owned newspaper, equal in every respect to the 30th March newspapers issued. On the 30th Mrs. M. Owen was the speaker. Programme for April: 6th, social; 13th, Easter Monday, no meeting; 20th, Mrs. P. M. Sweeting will speak on "The Rope-walker"; and on the 27th, Mrs. J. Vickers will take for her subject "Current Topics." Meetings held Monday afternoons at 2-45 in the Hillsborough Co-operative Institute, Middlewood-road.

## NEEPSEND.

The ward secretary reports good meetings during March. On March 4th was devoted to the business of the organisation and arrangements for the party trip to Buxton in August. On the 11th, Councillor F. W. R. Stokes addressed a crowded meeting on Public Assistance Committee matters. A lesson discussion took place on the new proposals that were being considered by the Council for the administration of relief. April 1st a business meeting will be held, and on the 8th the monthly City Council report will be given by Alderman J. A. Longden.

The events of the month in the Women's Section have been the bulk competition, and tea. Mr. J. H. Allen was the judge, Councillors Stokes and Mrs. Speight were present, and a good attendance gave Mrs. Alexander a hearty welcome. The happy gathering was later addressed by Mrs. Alexander, when she paid a tribute to the loyalty of the Neepsend women, and conveyed the thanks and appreciation of Mr. Alexander for the work they had always done and were continuing in that area. Programme for April: 6th, a supper at 7-30 p.m., admission 6d.; 13th, no

meeting; 20th, Councillor Stokes will conduct a party, at the Harris-road Cottage Home; and on the 27th, Mrs. E. M. Sweeting will speak on "The Co-operative Movement."

## NORWOOD AND SOUTHEY.

Better attendance has been reported at the meetings than has been recorded for some time past. A most successful business meeting was held, with suggestions for increasing the activities during the year were discussed. On the 27th, a "Block" City Council meeting was held, and conducted very ably by Mr. Alexander, Councillor R. Fisher, and the office of Lord Mayor. Every proposal for additional social services was enthusiastically attacked by Mr. A. E. Butcher, who acted as leader of the "Depressive Party," with the old plea of economy.

A potato-growing competition has been decided upon on the same lines as two years ago; entry fee is 6d. A canvass of the whole estate is to be made during April with a view to increasing the membership of the section. Meetings will be held every Thursday at 7-45 p.m., in the Co-operative Institute, Southwell-avenue.

The Women's Section meetings, which are held in the same Institute on Wednesday afternoons, will be continued during April. Speakers: 1st, Mrs. Kinbar; 8th, Councillor E. Fisher; 22nd, business meeting; and the 29th, a social.

## SHEFFIELD AND ECCLESALL.

The Sheffield and Ecclesall divisional meeting was held on March 20th, when the time was given over to reports from various conferences. On the 31st a successful night drive took place. The next meeting has been arranged for Monday, April 6th, when Mr. Darville (president, Sheffield Trades and Labour Council) will be the speaker. Meetings held in the Napier-street Co-operative Institute.

The Women's Section secretary reports good meetings during the month. On March 5th, Mr. A. Ballard gave an address on "Co-operation and the Municipality." Questions and a good discussion followed. March 12th, after the business, a short night drive, for which prizes were given by the members. On the 19th, the speaker spoke to all the women to take an active interest in the political side of the movement, and to be co-operators in their politics as well as in their shopping. Friday, Mrs. Christie said we want, above all, security from war: the present Government was providing work for some of the unemployed, but it was for the making of war weapons, and was summing the country to a huge expenditure, out of which big profits would be made. Security from poverty and want was another important need. Four million people were living at a starvation level in these days of plenty.

The Co-operative Party was formed for the purpose of giving security to women folk, who formed the larger part of the membership of the great co-operative movement. Representation in Parliament was an essential medium through which this security could be obtained. The speaker made a strong appeal to all the women to take an active interest in the political side of the movement, and to be co-operators in their politics as well as in their shopping. Friday, Mrs. Christie said we want, above all, security from war: the present Government was providing work for some of the unemployed, but it was for the making of war weapons, and was summing the country to a huge expenditure, out of which big profits would be made. Security from poverty and want was another important need. Four million people were living at a starvation level in these days of plenty.

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At the afternoon meeting presentations were made by Mrs. Burton and Mrs. Bowser, on behalf of the members to the secretary (Mrs. J. Billam), as a tribute to the splendid work she had done for the section during the nine years of her secretaryship. It will be remembered that Mrs. Billam was the founder of the section. In receiving the gift of a handbag and travelling case, Mrs. Billam stated that only the pressure had to give up her secretaryship, which, whilst it had brought her much work, added very considerably to her happiness.

April meetings: 2nd, Mrs. Whitehead will be the speaker, and conference resolutions will be discussed; no meetings on the 9th and 16th; 23rd, a social will be held; and on the 30th Mrs. Billam will address the members.

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# DISILLUSIONMENT!

## NOT INTERESTED IN POLITICS?

BY W. H. S. MARSDEN.

It is the boast of many that they have little or no interest in politics, but in what respects can this be true in face of the facts? Their vanity is seen in the expression of idle ignorance; for at other times, when their pockets are touched by the local rates, or the raising of prices due to the operation of taxes, quotas, &c., their languishment is changed to lamentable complaint. The personal effect of politics to some degree is illustrated by the following:—

The total yield per year of the Customs and Excise is approximately £299,000,000, of which £24,000,000 is raised from food. Stated in an alternative manner, the taxation per person equals 44 s. 11d. per year; analysed in round figures, the consumer pays 16s. 7d. on tea, etc., £2 3s. 9d. on alcoholic beverages, and 11 10s. on tobacco.

Generally speaking, the largest consumers of these goods are those possessed of little material wealth; they are least able to pay are called on to make the greatest contribution relative to their incomes, but they do it ignorantly; the imposition is accepted as inevitable, and outward expression is evidenced by grumbling and protests of dissatisfaction. The record of the present Government is a long one of class legislation favouring landowners, industrialists, and commercial magnates, and seeing the present House of Commons is composed of the main of them, there is no cause to seek further why the present measures, having social effect, meet with vigorous opposition from the Co-operative and Labour Parties' representatives.

Unquestionably, the National Government's betrayal of the electorate by changing its foreign and peace policy in spite of the nation's opinion as expressed in the Peace Ballot is disturbing. One contrasts the tranquillity of the world since the late Mr. Arthur Henderson was engineering peace with the armaments racket of to-day, and reflects that the Tories of Westminster are perpetrating policy which is aimed at retaining inferiority of force of arms in similar fashion to Victorian and Edwardian days. Conservatism is unable to adapt itself to changing conditions; it is planning a plethora of prosperity by preparing for the next big conflict; moreover, it is planning that the expenditure shall be carried over to the next decade, saddling it with debt on which a small section of the present generation is to make enormous profits.

Turning to the recent section of legislation imposed by the last two National Governments, one sees Fascist measures covered by the democratic cloak: Marketing boards, quotas, tariffs, subsidies, &c., all house attempts to stabilize the profit-making system. The income tax forced on co-operative societies is an imposition; it was the slash of the Tory whip of chastisement, as is the application of the transitional benefit in the Unemployed Insurance Scheme, where over 15,000,000 was saved out of the poorest of the poor.

Most interest is stimulated by matters appertaining to local government. There was a day when local administration was in the hands of traders and professional people; but the range and efficiency of services has been improved since working people were elected to manage these affairs. Let the uninterested inquire, what do I get in return for the rates paid? Then reflect on such matters as street cleaning and lighting improvements, electricity, bus and tram services; libraries and parks, elementary and secondary schools, school medical service, hospitals, public assistance, &c. Contrast these with those of father's day, the services seem colossal, yet the amount of rates paid per person per service is infinitesimal, and the mind dwells on the thought, what can be done by large associations of people contributing small sums to a highly-organized central plan. Turn where he will, the booster of disinterestedness is acting "ostrich-like," refusing to face the facts.

# GOVERNMENT'S BELATED MOVE.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FOR LAND WORKERS.

The Unemployment Insurance (Agriculture) Bill has been given its third reading and by next November about 750,000 agricultural workers will be qualified for unemployment benefit, and those brought nearer to a state of equality with industrial workers. This reform was long overdue, and while the Labour Party has endeavoured at every stage of the Bill to secure better terms for land workers, the third reading was allowed to go through unchallenged.

### LABOUR AMENDMENT.

Labour's case for improved scales of pay was, as the "Manchester Guardian" admits, strong "in equity and terms of human need," and one valuable concession was secured. As originally drafted, the Bill provided that the allowance for the first child should be 3s., and 2s. 6d. for each other child. A Labour amendment to raise the allowance to 3s. for each child was accepted. But the retention of the 30s. maximum benefit for an unemployed worker and his family means that if a man has more than three dependent children he receives nothing for the additional children.

The Labour Party sought to remove the 30s. maximum and to increase the scales of pay. That there is room for improvement is obvious. The rates of benefit are to be: Men of twenty-one years, 14s.; women of twenty-one, 12s. 6d.; young men between eighteen and twenty-one, 10s. 6d.; young women between eighteen and twenty-one, 8s.; girls between seventeen and eighteen, 5s.; boys under seventeen, 4s.; girls under

seventeen, 3s. 6d. The scales of dependent allowances are to be: Adults, 7s.; children, 3s.; with the maximum of 10s. a week per family.

It is true that the scales of contributions are lower than those of insured workers in the general scheme, but that is because the rates of wages paid to land workers are so scandalously low that they cannot afford to pay more. Nobody can defend as adequate a sum of 21s. a week for a man and wife, or 30s. a week for a family of five or more. As Mr. Tom Williams said in welcoming the belated measure as a move in the right direction, the meanness of the Treasury towards this class of worker is to be deplored.

The Minister of Labour said that to raise the payment to adult dependents from 7s. to 9s. and abolish the 30s. maximum would cost £30,000,000 a year, and that it was "quite impossible" to do this. Such a plea came ill from a Government which is proposing to provide £308,000,000 for increased armaments during the next few years.

But despite the shortcomings of the Bill, it is to be welcomed as the first step leading towards the independence of the agricultural workers. The Union catering for agricultural workers deserve congratulations on the success of this long agitation for this measure of justice for these workers. We hope that in the future the benefits will be improved so as to bring them more in line with those of the general scheme and make them adequate for the needs of the workers concerned.

# FANCY DRESS AT HILLSBOROUGH.

## VISIT OF MRS. ALEXANDER.

The Hillsborough Co-operative Party's fancy dress dance, held on St. Patrick's Day, was an outstanding success, and the committee regret that they had to refuse admission to quite a number of people owing to the limits of a number of arrangements were in the hands of the Socials Committee.

There was a splendid range of fancy dresses, and the judges (Mrs. Alexander and Mrs. Oxley) had a difficult task in choosing the winners; so difficult, in fact, that Mrs. Alexander extended the list. C.W.S. productions were depicted fully portrayed by quite a good number of comical outfits, matted coats, soap and powders, paint and tea, were included in the representation.

During the presentation of the prizes, Mrs. Alexander, who was accorded a hearty reception, commended the competitors on their splendid effort, and used the opportunity to thank the women of the party they played in the general organization, and to wish one of the finest Women's Sections in the country, and both Mr. Alexander and herself felt quite confident that what they had such an active band of loyal supporters Hillsborough would continue to be represented by a Co-operative candidate. She only wished that throughout the country co-operatives were equally alive to their political responsibilities.

She often wished that she lived near to them, and could join with them in their social events as well as in the work at election times. She would like to thank every one of them personally and individually, and the night to her had been a perfectly happy one, and so which she would carry in her memory for years to come.

Afterwards, the president of the Women's Section (Mrs. E. Selmes) presented Mrs. Alexander with a glass and said on behalf of the members, who, said Mrs. Selmes, wished that Mrs. Alexander could always be amongst them. They realised she had other heavy responsibilities, and was so deeply playing a useful part in assisting Mrs. Alexander in behalf of the country in a fine national work for the community.

The event concluded with the hearty singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

# ARMAMENTS "PROSPERITY" WILL LEAD TO WAR.

## LEAGUE ADVISER'S GRAVE WARNING.

SPEAKING at a conference of the League of Nations Union on February 18th, Dr. Lewis L. Lorwin (Economic Adviser, International Labour Office) said:—

"There can be no question that the more prosperity becomes dependent upon armaments the greater will be the temptation to increase armaments, the greater the difficulty of stopping them with the inevitable result that armaments, once made, will eventually be used for their destructive purpose."

"If this continues, it is only a matter of a few years before the whole edifice will collapse, and the annual prosperity will be turned into the death grin of war."

The Labour Party has consistently uttered this warning. Throughout the past four years it has steadily warned the firm dangers that a world of armaments inevitably result from the failure of Governments to produce effective armaments through the World Disarmament Conference. It has repeatedly urged the people to recognize the growing danger of the new race in armaments, and that the leading nations are already engaged in preparing to engage.

It is an incontrovertible fact that prosperity, though founded on peace will surely become the parent of disaster.

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**CORLEY** For sale as a corset and shorter figure. From 10s. to 15s. 6d. The new silk-lined classic cut. Lightly boned, very strong, and compression fit. Value 22 to 25. Price per pair 11/11

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## THE DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH.

5% of the Population Own 80% of National Capital.

A survey of "The Distribution of National Capital," prepared by Professor G. W. Daniels and Mr. H. Campion, and presented to the Manchester Statistical Society on March 17th, indicates that there has been very little reduction in the inequality of capital distribution since the war and that there is no evidence that that inequality will grow less marked in the future. The figures provided refute the claim constantly made in certain quarters that wealth is becoming much more widely diffused even within the capitalist system.

The inquiry was concerned with personal capital only and the estimates were based mainly on the figures of estate duties published by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue.

Of persons twenty-five years of age and over dying in 1934, the proportion leaving more than £100 at death was about twenty-nine out of 100, compared with twenty-six out of 100 in 1924, and eighteen out of 100 in the years immediately before the war. Thus, it is true that national personal capital has increased. But at the other end of the scale.

Estates of over £100,000 have reached in 1924-30 a total value of £3,266,000,000 as compared with £1,738,000,000 in 1911-13.

In 1911-13, 89 per cent. to 94 per cent. of the total amount of capital of England and Wales was owned by persons with more than £100. In 1924-30, 94 per cent. to 96½ per cent. was owned by such persons.

So little change has taken place in the distribution of capital that whilst twenty-five owned 70 per cent. of the total capital, in 1924-30, 1 per cent. of the such persons still owned as much as 60 per cent. of the total capital.

In 1911-13, 85 to 90 per cent. of the total personal wealth was owned by 5 per cent. of the persons over twenty-five, and in 1924-30, 80 per cent. of the total capital was owned by 5 per cent. of such persons.

The investigators conclude that although the scale of wealth has grown since the war and inequality of capital distribution has been slightly reduced, there has been no marked change in the distribution of capital in individual hands in England and Wales during the last twenty-five years.

## SUPPORT THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

An Appeal to Organised Labour.

The League of Nations Union, which has done so much to promulgate and promote the cause of peace, is now faced with a grave financial crisis. It has, for many years, suffered under the disability of insufficient funds to carry out the very important tasks which constantly confront it.

Its activities, always definitely progressive, have met from time to time with disapproval, and as a consequence it has suffered a diminution in contributions from wealthy subscribers. Its efforts in promoting the peace ballot and, at the outset, bearing the burden of its organisation affected it in two ways: Directly, by the withdrawal of support of those people who did not favour the ballot, and indirectly, by the necessity for raising money to carry out the most valuable work of the National Declaration Committee, some of which might in the ordinary course have come into the coffers of the union.

A further cause of decreased revenue has been a lack of appreciation of the long-view policy of the League, and the enforcement of League powers. In the days when loans were being made to Austria, approval of this policy by business and financial houses was indicated by the financial support which they gave to the union. The present policy of the League of Nations in the enforcement of sanctions does not appeal to the business community, because its immediate effect has undoubtedly resulted in the closing of certain avenues of investment. It is difficult to persuade such interests that the ultimate effect of the policy of sanctions, if it is successful, will be to give an increased security to commerce and finance, and in the end result in increased and permanent prosperity.

Whilst these things are happening, the union is being financially affected in a very serious way.

### THE WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE.

Members of trade unions may not fully appreciate the direct value of the work of the League of Nations Union in connection with, not only the establishment of international peace, but also with the improvement of industrial conditions throughout the world. The International Labour Office—commonly known as the I.L.O.—is an integral part of the League of Nations. Its security and its development are bound up with the success, power, and permanence of the League itself. If the

League of Nations is weakened, either in the number of States who are members or by the non-enforcement of the powers which it possesses, the I.L.O. is affected to a proportionate extent.

It has been admitted that the I.L.O. is not only a forum for the expression of views on all problems of industrial relationship, but that it is also an effective medium through which agreement on industrial legislation can be secured. Space does not permit a detailed account of the permanent services it has rendered to organised Labour movements throughout the world. It may be said, however, that as a result of its efforts, industrial conditions in a number of trades have been vastly improved.

The future of world peace and economic security may seem dark and gloomy, but even the most pessimistic must agree that no effort should be spared to ensure that public opinion is educated and made vocal. The League of Nations Union is an educational organisation for the carrying out of this work. It is the most potent force in upholding the principles of the League of Nations and the I.L.O. The organised trade union and Labour movement should come to its aid.

### LABOUR PARTY SALE OF WORK.

The Aftercliffe Divisional Women's Section are holding their annual sale of work in the Labour Hall, Darvall, on Good Friday, April 14th, to be opened at 3 p.m. by Mrs. C. H. Wilson.

The women have been preparing for this event during the year, and there will be stalls for drapery, confectionery, flowers, a bran tub, and a point stall of pickles, jam, and a host of useful commodities of all kinds.

There will be a tea and concert at a cost of 9d. each; admission to concert only, 3d. The concert will commence at seven o'clock, and will be given by the children, trained by Mrs. Dent and Miss M. Procter.

Judging by past experience every visitor is assured of an enjoyable time, and the committee are anxious for old friends to renew their acquaintance with the organisation at this time. We trust also that those who have not attended the sale of work before will attend on this occasion to make the affair a greater success than ever before.

### Seventh Annual Trip.

MARGATE  
CANTERBURY  
FOLKESTONE  
HASTINGS  
EASTBOURNE  
and BRIGHTON

SATURDAY, JUNE 20th, 1936

Sheffield Co-operative  
Party,  
17, Bank Street

Phone: 2382

Secretary: MR. A. BALLARD

Motor-Coach Drive along the  
Famous "Conqueror's Coast."



BRIGHTON FRONT.

#### PROGRAMME.

Leave Sheffield Midland Station 12 o'clock Friday midnight, Hestley 12-5. BREAKFAST ON TRAIN. Arrive MARGATE 1.30 a.m. Short stay at this popular resort. Leave by motor coach for visit to the ancient and historic city of CANTERBURY, with its magnificent Cathedral, Chapel and the French coast. Commence motor coach drive via DYMBOURGH, NEW ROMNEY, and RYE to HASTINGS, of William the Conqueror fame. LUNCH ON AT ST. LAWRENCE'S BATHING POND CAFE. Afterwards proceeding along "The Conqueror's Coast," via NEXHILL, PEVENSEY, to EASTBOURNE. Short stay at the great headland BEAUCHY HEAD 375 ft.). Continuing the coast drive over the South Downs via STAPFORD, NEWHAVEN, HOTTINGDEAN to BRIGHTON. Afternoon in Brighton ("The Hippodrome of the South") at St. James's Aquarium Restaurant. Reverse motor coach drive via HORSEAAM to WORTHING. From thence via WASHINGTON, HORSEAAM, LEATHERHEAD, and MITCHEAM, to LONDON. Leave St. Pancras Station 1.30 p.m. SUPPER ON TRAIN. Arrive Hestley 3.25 a.m. and Sheffield 3.30 a.m. (Sunday).

COST FOR THE WHOLE EXCURSION (INCLUDING FOUR MEALS AS ABOVE), 37s.

Booking fees must be paid in order to enable us to guarantee accommodation. Intending visitors should forward deposit of 7s. 6d. not later than Saturday, April 25th; final payment to be made not later than Saturday, June 6th. Bookings are limited to those subscribing to the Co-operative Party and the Voluntary Membership Scheme. Non-members travelling under the Co-operative Party will be forwarded a return deposit should include 6s. for membership of the local Co-operative Party, when Membership Cards will be forwarded in return.

#### APPLICATION FORM.

EXCURSION TO BRIGHTON, MARGATE, CANTERBURY, FOLKESTONE, &c., SATURDAY, JUNE 20th, 1936.

To Mr. A. BALLARD, (Secretary, Sheffield Co-operative Party), 17, Bank Street, Sheffield, 1.  
I desire to book for the above excursion on Saturday, June 20th, 1936, for which I enclose booking fees of ..... and membership fees of .....  
Name ..... Address .....

\*File No.....

## £2 extra for Whitsuntide

Suppose you had £2 extra this Whitsuntide, to buy new clothes, or what you please. Suppose—but let's think about next Whitsuntide! If you

### JOIN OUR 4½d. CLUB now

you can have £2, £4, or even £8 extra to spend next May. It is as easy as putting money in the Bank! You deposit a small sum each week, according to the number of 4½d. shares you take up, and a year hence we pay it all back to you, plus 4d. per share interest.

There's your extra money for Whitsuntide!

### New Club commences APRIL 20th.

★ 50 WEEKLY DEPOSITS of 4½d. 9d., 1/6., or any multiple of 4½d., REPAID IN CASH, and COUPONS for the halfpence.

Members or Non-Members may take up any number of shares at any time. CARDS AT ALL STORES.

The Great SHEFFIELD ECCLESALL CO-OPERATIVE STORE

Registered Office - THE ARCADE, ECCLESALL ROAD

**ACTIVE WORKER PASSES.**

**SUDDEN DEATH OF HARRY PASHLEY.**

We regret to report the passing of an active worker in the Co-operative and Labour cause in the person of Harry Pashley, who was injured at the Cyclops works on March 23rd and died as a result on March 27th.

President of the Central Labour Party for many years, and a keen supporter of the Co-operative Party at Southley for the past eight years, Mr. Pashley was also a member of the Central Executive of this organisation.

Prior to the incident a service was held in the Southey Methodist Chapel, when Rev. A. Broadford spoke of the work and character of Mr. Pashley, having known him in connection with the Community Council. He was a man with deep Socialist convictions who worked unselfishly for the good of the community. Some people are called to do their social work in the Church, some in the national movement, some in the Socialist movement. Our friend had chosen the latter, and taken upon himself heavy responsibilities to assist the cause in which he believed. The suddenness of his passing had been a great shock to all of them, and it was that his loss was some of the price we had to pay for modern industrial development. Mr. Broadford hoped that the memory of Mr. Pashley's fine work would be a comfort to the widow and family in their sad bereavement.

Many floral tributes were sent from friends and organisations. Amongst those attending the funeral were Councillors Holland, Stokes, and Fisher; Mrs. McGhee (wife of the Member of Parliament for Tiverton); and representatives from the Co-operative Guilds, the local Co-operative Party, and the Central Executive.

**MINERS' FAMILIES DEPRIVED OF WAGE INCREASES.**

**LATEST MEANS TEST SCANDAL.**

In the House of Commons on February 20th, Mr. Charles Brown (Labour M.P. for Mansfield) drew attention to the latest scandal in connection with the administration of the household means test. He asked the Minister of Labour whether he was aware that

The Unemployment Assistance Board in the Mansfield area are reducing determinations to unemployed miners who have sons working in the pits who have received the increase in wages under the recent settlement between the Miners' Federation and the colliowers.

And whether this was being done with the Minister's approval. The Minister replied that under the Unemployment Assistance Acts and the regulations the allowances may be affected where the household income is increased.

Mr. Brown asked if the Minister did not think it unfair to ask the public to pay more for their coal, and yet the poverty in miners' homes not be alleviated. The Minister replied that "it is all a question of the determination of need."

Asked by Mr. Tom Smith (Labour) whether any new instructions had been sent to area offices of the U.A.B. with regard to the matter, the Minister replied that the only instructions he knew about was that where arrears of wages are paid in a lump sum, the Board propose to ignore it.

Mr. Tom Williams (Labour) pressed the Minister to give an answer to this question:—

"Does the Minister think it fair that the Treasury should derive benefit from the miners' campaign for an improved standard of life?"

The Minister refused to reply.

**PRESS POWER.**

"REYNOLDS NEWS," the last word in newspaper production, is your own newspaper production. Through the enterprise Sunday journal. Through the Co-operative societies there has been established a Press free from control of millionaires and vested interests, owned by the people through their own co-operative societies.

"Reynolds" stands to voice their rights without let or hindrance.

The latest news, brightly presented; special articles by leading correspondents; sport, fashion, film and theatre gossip items which will make you look forward to Sunday and "Reynolds." To all co-operators I say, here is an opportunity for adding strength to the co-operative movement. Grasp the opportunity, created by the new co-operative effort in the field of newspaper production as you have for the movement in the field of food distribution.

**MISSING.**

How on one occasion twenty-three £1 notes were discovered in a pillowcase sent to the Birmingham Society's Co-operative Laundry was a story told recently by the manager (Mr. W. H. Cartlorn) at the opening of an extension. When the money was returned to the customer, she remarked: "I am thankful you found them and brought them back before my old man discovered they were missing." Jewellery, rings, and money are often found in laundry parcels. Since work was started in the original building in August, 1931, there have been two extensions and four additional installations of plant and machinery. The latest extension has taken up all the available building land on the 5½ acre site, and the laundry now employs 824 workers.

**DIET AND MALNUTRITION**

**THE EFFECT OF INCOME ON HEALTH.**

A REPORT signed by Sir John Orr has now been issued by the Committee of the League of Nations on "Food, Health, and Income: A Survey of Adequacy of Diet in Relation to Income." An examination made by the investigators into the composition of the diets of different income groups shows that the degree of adequacy fee health increases as income rises. It was found that the average diet of the poorest group (income per head up to 10s. per week with an estimated average expenditure on food of 4s.) comprising 4,500,000 people, was deficient in every constituent examined. The second group (10s. to 15s. per head per week) comprising 9,000,000 people was deficient in all minerals and vitamins considered. The third group comprising another 9,000,000 people (15s. to 20s. per head per week) was deficient in several of the important minerals and vitamins. Complete adequacy is almost reached in Group 4 (20s. to 30s. per head per week), but not exceeded until Group 6 (over 45s.) when the standard is exceeded for all constituents.

The result indicates that an adequate diet is only obtained by half the population.

**You can't do without it!**

Once you have seen it, you must get it regularly.

**Why?**

Because it is the cheapest, the best illustrated, the most informing, the most entertaining collection of stories, articles, and poems published.

**What?**

"THE MILLGATE," which costs sixpence, and bears to the magazine at a shilling. Order it at your co-operative stores, bookseller, or railway bookstall.

**"OUR CIRCLE"**

MONTHLY - ONE PENNY

A Clean and Popular Magazine for Young Folk. Full of Stories, Pictures, & Competitions

Published by the Co-operative Press, Ltd., 27, Long St. Leeds, West Yorkshire.

**Proved by Merit**

to be worthy of the name.

**"THE IDEAL"**

Ladies' Tailor-made Costumes, Gentlemen's High-class Bespoke Tailoring, Boys' Suits, Hats and Caps.

CAN BE OBTAINED AT YOUR STORES.

The Ideal Clothiers Limited Works Wellington Works

**You need not ask...**

half a suggestion

to us that you are in search of Foot Comfort is all that is needed for one of our Assistants to gladly lead you to it.

We have now a Lady Chiropodist, fully qualified, who can put you on the way to Foot Happiness and give you complete and lasting comfort.

In the well-equipped and private cubicle in the Foot Department the Chiropodist will explain the reasons and indicate the remedy for your Foot Troubles. The treatment is entirely painless, and the relief amazing—far outweighing the modest charges.

★ Why suffer needlessly? Ask NOW! see why our Lady Chiropodist costs you nothing!! ★

An entirely New Service for your Benefit

The Sheffield Ecclesall Co-operative Society Ltd. ECCLESALL ROAD

MEET THE COLD WEATHER WITH A SMILE

by being clad in

**INTEGRITY**

BRAND

**HOSIERY AND UNDERWEAR**

NOTED FOR COSY WARMTH AND LONG WEAR

ONLY FROM YOUR STORES

Made by the Wigston Co-operative Hosiery Limited - Wigston

**There's no Food like Wheat**



and no Wheat Food like **SHREDDED WHEAT**

## PLAN FOR HOLIDAY.

## AN EASY REFERENCE GUIDE.

PLANNING the holiday is apt to be a tall or a pleasure, and the publishers of those annual "Guides," which brighten our bookshelves just when winter has become a weariness to the flesh, deserve some measure of gratitude. Among these minor magicians must be numbered those responsible for the "Whetsheaf Holiday Guide," a co-operative contribution to the literature of First Aid for Holiday-makers.

Easy reference has been made the basis of this most handy book, whose comprehensiveness is in inverse ratio to its bulk. It fits the pocket—in the metaphorical as well as literal sense, being but a copy—yet contrives to describe succinctly the attractions of all the resorts worth mentioning in the British Isles (as well as a few abroad), and to give some 5,500 addresses at which the holiday-maker is catered for.

That is not to mention the special sections on the sewer flows of holiday; Camping, cruising, guest-housing (what is the verb?), and the rest.

The 1931 edition incorporates several improvements and additions, and runs to 544 pages. Notable new aids to easy reference are the alphabetical page headings; the separation of the Scottish and Irish resorts into alphabetically-arranged sections to themselves; and the addition of a list of the principal air services to holiday centres. An innovation that will be widely welcomed is a

(Continued at foot of next column.)

If you desire  
Style, Quality, Comfort,  
WEAR

**SELF-HELP SHOES**

Made by Co-operators for Co-operators.

ASK FOR THEM AT YOUR STORE.

Made by Leicester Self-Help Co-operative Shoe Manufacturers Ltd., Darford Road, Leicester.

## POVERTY INCREASES.

## THE LATEST POOR-LAW RETURNS.

THE Poor-Law returns for England and Wales for the fourth quarter of 1930 show that there are 1,178,634 persons in receipt of outdoor relief, and the numbers are still increasing.

The numbers in receipt of outdoor relief showed an increase in December of 55,201, or 5.0 per cent, as compared with the numbers in September, whilst the average number of persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, with their dependants, in receipt of relief increased by 33,108.

Between December, 1930, and December, 1929, the total numbers in receipt of outdoor relief in England and Wales have increased by 290,572.

## UNEMPLOYMENT AND HEALTH INSURANCE.

Severe criticism of the National Health Insurance Act is made in the annual report of the Operative Cotton Spinners' Amalgamation issued on March 18th. While admitting that some of the harsh penalties of the 1912 Act were remedied in the 1925 Act, the report states: "We cannot be satisfied until every genuinely unemployed person is entitled to all the benefits of health and persons insurance. The ten years' qualification now necessary for a continuance of insurance operates unjustly against insured persons under twenty-six years of age who lose their employment. Many of them are young married men and the loss of health insurance, the pensions benefit is very serious. The cost of maintaining their rights during periods of unemployment would be very small."

(Continued from previous column.)  
note on bathing facilities, which may decide quite a number of holiday venues this year.

The "Whetsheaf Holiday Guide" may be had from railway bookstalls and all co-operative societies at 3d.; or post free for 5d. from Holiday Guide Office, P.O. Box 53, Manchester, 4.

## LABOUR VICTORIES AT DUMBARTON AND LLANELLY.

## GOVERNMENT'S REARMAMENT POLICY REJECTED.

THE first by-election fought under normal conditions since the General Election has resulted in a victory for the Labour candidate and a reduction in the Conservative vote of 5,573. At the General Election, Dumbartonshire was won by the Conservative candidate by a majority of 4,000—a majority which was largely due to the Government's professed conversion to the principles of collective security.

Shocked and disillusioned by the scandal of the Hoare-Laval Pact, and by the huge programme of rearmament, the electors have reversed their verdict, and Mr. Thomas Casells, the Labour candidate, has been returned with a majority of 984 votes. The Government must now digest the fact that even in a constituency which is a centre of the shipbuilding industry and where numbers of men have been unemployed since the end of the war, the electorate is resolutely opposed to rearmament unrelated to collective security.

In the domestic sphere, the voters were unquestionably influenced by the Government's incompetent handling of the problem of the distressed areas. In the Dumbartonshire division public assistance charges have doubled during the last five years, whilst in Scotland as a whole the number of persons and their dependants in receipt of outdoor relief increased by 741,445 between November, 1927, and November, 1930. The Government has failed to put forward one constructive plan for the reduction of unemployment, and has finally refused to concern itself with the location of industry.

The result of the by-election is a great encouragement to the whole Labour Movement. It shows that even in areas where rearmament would mean a transitory prosperity the policy of armed disarmament embodied in the Defence White Paper is decisively rejected. It is a clear indication that the National Government, elected only four months ago, is already losing the confidence and support of the people.

## TRIUMPH IN LLANELLY.

After the Labour triumph in Dumbarton comes a second great and

(Continued at foot of next column.)

## PASSING OF

## MR. G. H. GREEN.

## DEATH OF PROMINENT SHEFFIELD AND ECCLESALL MEMBER.

We regret to report the death of Mr. G. H. Green at the age of fifty-seven, a prominent worker in the Sheffield and Ecclesall Section of the Co-operative Party, and for many years a member of the Central Executive of the Sheffield

Mr. Green, who died on March 28th, was a convinced adherent to the Co-operative political cause, and acted as secretary of the Sheffield and Ecclesall Section for many years. He was a member of the Men's Guild, and always took a prominent part in all progressive developments in co-operation. His belief that the movement would not only solve our political difficulties, but was calculated to be the primary organisation in the economic advance of the workers, was never shaken.

Tributes were paid to his memory by his fellow-guidesmen, who acted as bearers at the funeral at Abbey-lane Cemetery on March 29th, when representatives from several sections of the movement also attended, and when floral tributes were paid by his many friends and colleagues. He is survived by his widow, who has always been an active worker in the co-operative cause, and to whom we extend heartfelt sympathy.

(Continued from previous column.)

heartening result in Llanelly. Mr. James Griffiths, the South Wales Constituency president, has more than a two-to-one majority.

Labour in Llanelly has not equalled this before, nor does any previous election show as great a majority as 25,221.

Support for the Government is crumbling away. This is the kind of vote which shows how unusual was the result of the General Election, forced on the country just when, and just because, the Government had for a moment captured confidence in its foreign policy. The Hoare-Laval plan, the anarchic arm race, and the Government's refusal to co-operate in strengthening the League have shattered a rashly-given trust.

The country is turning to Labour as its one genuine hope.

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FITS YOUR POCKET

IN SIZE AND PRICE.

It is a handy size book, and costs only threepence. 5,500 holiday addresses. Maps. Tide Tables. Air Services.

THE  
WHEATSHEAF  
HOLIDAY  
GUIDE

packed with valuable holiday information. Up-to-date descriptions of 300 British Resorts. Articles on Guest House Holidays. Tours abroad, Cruises and Holiday Sailings.

Obtainable from Railway Bookstalls and Co-operative Societies, or post free 5d. from Whetsheaf Holiday Guide, Section Y, 1, Balloon Street, Manchester, 4.

The only general holiday guide sold at

**THREEPENCE**

Are you a Member of any  
Rambling Club?

IF NOT, WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO JOIN US.

The advantages of a rambling club are:—

- (1) The club assists in preserving Rights of Way and a proper respect for the countryside.
- (2) It tabulates the by-paths, beauty spots, places for catering, natural water supplies for "al fresco" meals.
- (3) It secures special permission to traverse prohibited areas.
- (4) It places at the service of every member experience and knowledge of the countryside gathered over a period of years.
- (5) Fellowship with lovers of the countryside.

The Sheffield Co-operative Rambling Club was established in 1910, and is affiliated to the Sheffield Ramblers' Federation. The club provides picnic stoves and cutlery, and supplies tea at the low cost of 1d. per member.

## WALK AND KEEP FIT.

"The Sheffield Co-operative Ramblers' 1931 Syllabus" is now on sale for 1s. The syllabus contains a weekly programme of rambles for the whole year round, in addition to rambling at Bank Holidays, &c., and is illustrated by photographs of beauty spots to be visited. Purchase of syllabus includes membership of the club.

Why not spend Easter Holidays hiking in our glorious countryside? Syllabus can be obtained from: Mr. Sheppard, 2nd, House-lane; Mr. Sillitto, 105, Bellhouse-road; Mr. A. Wood, 13, Hillsborough-place; Mr. Oxlade, 54, Kendal-road; Mr. S. Dickinson, 90, Walkley Bank-road; Mr. Hall, 19, Leasdale-road; Mr. Taylor, 23, Stuffed-croissant; Mr. Wells, 29, Beal-street; Mr. Burley, 34, Stanswood-avenue; Miss Lindop, 227, Whitehouse-lane; Miss Hampton, 83, Bodee-street; or the Co-operative Party Office, 17, Bank-street.

# B FASHION FESTIVAL

## at the CITY STORES

A GREAT EASTER SHOWING OF C.W.S. GOODS

Here is an event of immediate interest where fashion and savings join hands. Spring is here and Easter very near—whatever your requirements in Dress and accessories you are sure of finding them at the CITY STORES.

Choose now, while selection is at its best, and be stylishly right through the many summer months.

### Dress Ensembles in every new style



● **SPRING SUIT** in a new crisp cloth of beautiful texture. Perfect tailoring and finish. Wrap-over skirt. Colors: Navy and Nigger. **39/11**



● A Youthful **COAT** tailored in a soft new flannel. Note the attractive collar and sleeves faced with silk to tone. In all new shades. Fully lined. **29/11**



● C.W.S. "Belmont" Model **FRACK** in soft Silk Crepe. The skirt and bodice are attractively draped and the smart neckline is finished with velvet flowers of a contrasting shade. In several new colours. **19/11**



● Gaily-flowered Georgette makes this **Summer FRACK** over a silk underlay. Bertha Collar with diamond clip. Slightly shirred bodice and tie belt. All shades. **32/11**



● Useful top-opening Bag, in hard-wearing Morocco—Lined. Moore with mirror and inner division. **7/6**



● C.W.S. Manufacturer—Two-toned design Pyjamas in "Cottons". Lockmit. Eton style, short sleeves. **11/9**



● **New things for the Kiddies**—C.W.S. and thoroughly reliable. Dainty little **FRACK** in heavy Art. Silk Crepe—perfectly smoothed, with white Collar and piping. In all new shades. **9/11** 24 in. . . . .



● **Special B.I.F. Purchase.** C.W.S. "Belmont" Lockmit Dressing Gown in extra heavy quality—distinctly applied flower motif, bound a contrasting shade. In lovely pastel shades of Mauve and Grey. **14/11**



● A specially smart style in fine **Pedaline Straw**, attractively trimmed. Peterham ribbon and glass ornament. 6 1/2 fitting. **12/11**



● This charming Hat has a crown of quilted silk with smartly folded brim of soft straw. Soicited beanie ornaments and spotted eye-veil. 7 1/2 fitting. **14/11**



● **New In Neckwear** Sateen **CRAVAT** smartly braided military style, in bright colours. **3/11**

★ **THE DIVIDEND** is an asset worthy of your consideration. Dividend and Bonus **1/9** in the £ **FOR LAST HALF-YEAR**

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CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.