

The SHEFFIELD CO-OPERATOR

No. 152.

OCTOBER, 1937.

GUARANTEED CIRCULATION, 30,000 COPIES.

MR. A. V. ALEXANDER ON GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE AT HOME AND ABROAD

An enthusiastic reception was given to the Right Hon. A. V. Alexander, M.P. (Hillsborough Division, Sheffield), on Friday, September 17th, when he addressed his constituents at the Loughkey Council School. He put the Government in the pillory, and pounded it with facts to the delight of his audience.

Mr. Alexander said: "The situation in Europe is more dangerous now than at any time since the Great War. In the last six years I have said that it was steadily deteriorating in that direction, and that the greatest tragedy of the defeat of the Labour Party in 1931 was the effect of that defeat on the foreign situation. It would be absurd to say that the situation was due to the British Government, and I do not say that, but I do say that the greatest Commonwealth the world has ever seen has a large responsibility in leading affairs in the right direction, and that its failure to do that has had this effect."

Continuing, Mr. Alexander said that at the time they were meeting there were battles taking place in Spain, and thernany and aavy of Japan were raining shot and shell, bombs and gas, not only on the belligerents but on the civilians of China. They were met when war of a major character was taking place—without any notice of war being given—which was directing a threat to the British nation in the Far East, and by the Commonwealth south of the Far East, and yet no one seemed greatly disturbed, apart from those who had been pointing out the position from the Opposition Benches of the House of Commons that sooner or later the major conflict must arise unless they upheld the League of Nations.

LABOUR'S POLICY.

He saw that Mr. W. W. Boulton, the Conservative Member for Central Sheffield, had been going about his division saying that the Labour Party had changed its tone, and agreed with the Government's armament programme and that if they had followed the Labour programme of 1931 that they would have been at war by now. He (Mr. Alexander) wanted to show how false that was, and how instead the failure of the National Government to deal properly with the international

situations had projected the position in which more armaments were said to be necessary, and yet in which more armaments gave them no security.

In 1931, when Mr. Arthur Henderson was at the Foreign Office, there was nothing which led to mistrust, but on the other hand, led to security and a substantial amount of disarmament which did not weaken this nation. Mr. Winston Churchill had admitted to him that the Naval Treaty of 1930 was a

relatively, they were stronger then. They were at peace with the world, and making preparation for a wider disarmament conference.

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY.

He went on to contend that if the Labour Party had continued in power there would have been no attacking by nations, but the National Government seemed incapable of dealing with the

should hold out the olive branch, the Chinese delegate agreed, but asked how they could trust this country, and in support quoted a speech of Sir John Simon in the House of Commons on the Manchurian situation—saying, "I am sufficient of a pacifist, whatever else may happen, my country must not get into trouble." He said if that was the support a leading Western nation would give, what hope could China have of collective support? He went away saying they must organise their nations into unity and pressure to defend themselves by arms. He (Mr. Alexander) contended there was never a more gross betrayal of the principle of the League of Nations than that given in 1932. The policy of the Labour Party was not for an aggressor nation to be punished, but to adopt preventive methods.

GERMAN REARMAMENT.

He went on to explain that seeing what happened to Japan, Italy had entered upon the attack on Abyssinia, and then Hitler saw his chance and re-entred the Rhineland. He said he was not going to reiterate it, but started to do so in six weeks. Moreover, he had appealed for a bigger navy, as a result of which Germany's naval tonnage had gone up from 100,000 to 430,000 tons. They were building cruisers and battleships. He had a word to say of Sheffield's influence on that, for they sometimes forget the kind of things said. On October 24th, 1933, Lord Riverdale said, among other things, "We shall have to let Germany arm or we shall have to arm them, for Germany unarmed is a plum for the Russians to take. One of the greatest menaces to peace in Europe to-day is the totally unarmed condition of Germany." Therefore, they had had the rearmament of Germany, and the Sheffield munition makers were busy—for the time being. He hoped they would not forget that. With that kind of propaganda they got the British Government giving Hitler the right to rearm, and now they had Mussolini, fresh with his Abyssinian victory, openly saying that he was not going to let certain things happen in Spain.

(Continued on page 2.)



Mr. Alexander, as First Lord of the Admiralty in the Labour Government of 1929-1931, conducting an official inspection.

With acknowledgment to "Reynolds News."

good treaty which accomplished much for the safety of the Commonwealth because they had a sane, efficient replacement programme.

It was nonsense to talk of the Labour disarmament programme having weakened their safety. Though having less ships and spending less money.

situation. In 1939, Secretary Simpson, of America, made it plain that the U.S.A. were willing to co-operate with Great Britain in looking after the interests of China and of other nations concerned. He had met the delegates of both China and Japan at the California Conference, and when he said that China

HILLSBOROUGH PARLIAMENTARY DIVISION

EVERYBODY INVITED

PUBLIC MEETING

RIGHT HON.

SPEAKERS:

A. V. ALEXANDER, M.P.

Counc. H. SLACK (Owlerton Ward)

Counc. F. H. SKELLAND (Walkley Ward)

Chair to be taken at 8 p.m. by Mr. A. BALLARD

IN THE
WYCLIFFE HALL (Channing St.) LANGSETT ROAD

ON

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8th.

Mr. ALEXANDER will speak at the HILLSBOROUGH CO-OPERATIVE INSTITUTE, Middlewood Road, Sunday, October 10th, at 6.45 p.m. Full Musical Programme. Admission Free.

THOSE ASSESSMENTS! RATES AGAIN

BY COUNCILLOR J. H. BINGHAM

It is expressly provided in the Rating and Valuation Act, 1925, that the Rating Authority has power to reduce or remit the payment of any general rate on account of the poverty of any person liable to pay it. But one class of the community made out such a good case that they got relief as a class. Their influence was so powerful with the Government indeed, that they obtained this concession by a clause in this same Act of Parliament. This class was the manufacturers, who were favoured by general reductions in their assessments by the derating of machinery.

RELIEFS.

Not content with that, however, the same privileged class got very considerably larger reductions in their rates by the Local Government Act, 1929. It is true they pleaded poverty, and true that something had to be done. But all manufacturers got the relief, including some who were doing very well indeed. And they all get it now, when they are all doing well. In effect, their assessments were reduced by three-quarters, which is the same as if your present assessment of (say) £20, were reduced to £5. If that could be, your rate for this current year, instead of being twenty times 18s., or £18, would be five times 18s., or £4 10s.

Well, they had said they could not afford the rates, and they were relieved.

NO RELIEFS.

At that same time, there were thousands of shopkeepers who also could not afford, but they got no relief. There were scores of thousands of householders who could not afford, and they got no relief. There are many even now, in Sheffield, in these "prosperous" days, who cannot afford. What they should demand is not a maintenance of assessments at their present level, but an entire rearrangement of local taxation.

Taxes of all kinds should be based on ability to pay, which, by the way, was one of the four "canons of taxation" of Adam Smith. In fact, when rates were first introduced, the intention was to charge them according to ability to pay.

THE WEAK MILLIONS.

The farmer, too, has been relieved as a class from the payment of certain of their rates. The last-mentioned Act derated agricultural land and buildings, hence farmers and manufacturers, in respect of ratings, enjoy a highly privileged position. It is time that shopkeepers and householders, considered as two separate classes of the community, had their share of consideration. To do this properly, to get a reasonably just tax, a direct tax on income, but an entire rearrangement of local taxation, something sooner sought after by Parliaments, but if shopkeepers on the one hand, and householders on the other, would be as effective politically as are the manufacturers, something might quickly be done.

MUCH MORE MONEY WANTED FOR SHEFFIELD.

If it was necessary in bad times for manufacturers to pay only one-quarter of their rates, and keep on doing this in good times, why not start it with shopkeepers and householders? The brewer is not the only person who finds it hard to make ends meet! Slumps are felt as much by others as by brewers and steel manufacturers. Apply the principle all round—which will certainly leave us short of money for civic purposes, and that we must do more than make it up, for town planning for example really needs some millions of pounds in Sheffield alone. Much of Sheffield is derelict, and most of the land upon which it is built belongs to private individuals who will need to be bought out in part. Until such time as the Government is wise enough to institute a capital levy for such special purposes as this, however, the poorer ratepayers will pay through the nose, and householders will need to be criticised, and receive less justice than, say, steamship owners.

APPLY THE SAME ALL ROUND.

To make up the deficit in this way, however, so far as the annual costs of running Sheffield are concerned, is most undesirable and very nearly unworkable. We could, however, if shopkeepers and householders would see to it that a further Act is passed, which should not only give relief to all classes of hereditaments, but empower the raising of any necessary balance by a local tax upon the income of all. And now, perhaps those who have written to the papers wanting other ratepayers to join them in an organisation to resist an increase in assessments will think it over.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE TWO WEEKS' RENT CONCESSION

BY COUNCILLOR W. G. ROBINSON (MEMBER OF ESTATES COMMITTEE)

A CONTROVERSY has arisen on this question, and a mass of deliberate misrepresentation has been spread in working-class districts, carried by private enterprise, canvassing from door to door, and telling the people that the Labour Party are giving preferential treatment to Corporation tenants, and that the workers living under private landlords are paying 1s. per week in rates to subsidise Corporation tenants and give them a fortnight's rent.

The following are the facts of the case, and a reply to critics who say "the rent and a reply is not legal." Several estates are built under the Wheatley Act of 1924, and other estates are built under the Greenwood Slum Clearance Housing Act, 1930.

THE WHEATLEY ACT.

The Finance Provisions of the Wheatley Act, 1924, the giving of the new subsidy on the clear understanding—(a) that the houses when built shall be let at rents which shall approximate to the normal rent, and (b) that in order that the houses when built shall be let at rents approximating to the appropriate normal rent, the local authorities shall add to the State subsidy of £9 per house for forty years, a sum not exceeding £4 10s. per house per year.

On October 1st, 1937, the Government subsidy was reduced to £7 10s. per house per year, and the local subsidy was reduced to £3 15s. per house per year.

Dealing with the fixing of the appropriate normal rent, the best explanation that can be given is that it is the rent which is actually paid by working-class tenants for existing working-class houses. Therefore, it is obvious that the rents must be fixed as low as the housing finances will allow without any further loss.

SLUM CLEARANCE ACT, 1930.

Greenwood Slum Clearance Act, 1930.

Part III Sub-Section III. —

For the purposes of the last preceding sub-section, the expression "appropriate sum" means (a) in the case of persons displaced from houses in an agricultural area the sum of £8 10s. a year, (b) in the case of persons displaced from houses in other parishes the sum of £8 5s. per person a year.

Part III, Sub-Section (c) —

Where the authority may charge in respect of any house such rent as they may think fit, and may grant to the tenant of any house such rebates from rent, subject to such terms and conditions as they may think fit, the total amount of the rents payable in respect of the houses in any year after deducting the amount of any such rebates as aforesaid, shall be an amount ascertained by deducting from the estimated average annual expenses towards which contributions are payable by the Minister under this part of the Act "the annual equivalent calculated in the like manner, of a sum of £3 15s. per house for a period of forty years out of the rates, or as respects any particular year such greater or less sum, to be deemed to be provided out of the rates, as the local authority in the case of a greater sum may think necessary and as the Minister in the case of a less sum may approve, due regard being had in either case to the rents which persons of the class for which the houses are provided can reasonably be expected to pay."

OVERCROWDING HOUSING ACT, 1935.

Obligation to Keep Separate Housing Revenue Account. Part III, Sub-Section 43. "In the financial year beginning on the first day of April, 1935, and in each subsequent financial year, a local authority who is required to keep a Housing Revenue Account shall carry to the credit of the account amounts equal to the income of the authority for that year from rents, the Eschequer contributions, if any, payable to the authority for that year."

Part III, Sub-Section 49. "If at any time the Minister is satisfied that a local authority have either (a) failed to discharge any of the duties imposed on them by virtue of the Housing Acts, 1919 to 1931, or this Act, or (b) failed to observe any condition, subject to which they are entitled to receive an Eschequer contribution, the Minister may reduce the amount of any Eschequer contribution payable to the authority, or suspend or discontinue the payments of any such contribution as he thinks just."

Therefore, it is obvious that there must be a separate housing "pool," and this revenue cannot be used or associated with any other Corporation accounts.

Our opponents say "this surplus, or funds available, should be used to improve the amenities on the estates," "substitution of modern baths," and so forth.

They know full well that this surplus cannot be used in that direction. They know that there is a surplus of 18s. per house net made from housing revenue, and is called a "maintenance and repairs fund," and money can be used from this pool, and is being used for providing modern baths, repairs, etc.

That reminds me that our opponents never provided a repair fund. The Labour Party are the parents of the fund.

THE LOCAL SUBSIDY

Owing to the misleading statements spread in various parts of the city, I am quoting from the General Statistics and Epitome of the city's accounts for the year ended March 31st, 1937.

"The subsidy from the rates for housing is £69,984, or 5jd. out of an average rate levied over all the city of 16s. 9jd."

To put it on a weekly basis, showing rates paid by a person living in a house 18s. 3d. per week net—rent 6s. 3d., rates 2s. 3d., water 5d. The sum paid for housing is 9d. per week (not 1s., a deliberate misrepresentation). This sum is based on an assessment of £10 per annum taxable rate. If assessed lower you pay less, if higher you pay more in proportion.

I hope this article will clarify the matter of rent rebate—about £34,400—a surplus created by those who loan the money to build houses—by accepting interest reduced from 5 to 3½ per cent.

It is quite clear that the tenants having paid their rents to the housing revenue account—they are entitled to share any surplus accrued in that account. When will private landlords emulate the Corporation and the cooperative movement by returning the surplus to the customer?

YOU WILL LIKE "MYLYTA" UNDERWEAR

Produced in a variety of charming styles, at moderate prices

Manufactured by the Makers of the "ASHFIELD" BRAND Hosiery and Underwear

The Kirby-in-Ashfield Co-operative Manufacturers Limited, Byron Street, East Kirby, Notts.



The Overcoat Season,

● PREPARE for cold weather with a warm and serviceable Coat.

OUR Ready-to-Wear Dept. offers an excellent range of styles and fittings that cannot fail to satisfy every preference.

Come and Judge The Values!

"THE ARCADE" QUALITY TAILORING

ensures satisfactory service in addition to continued good appearance.

● MADE TO MEASURE IN THE NEWEST TWEEDS 45/- to 5 Gns.

● READY-TO-WEAR 30/- to 85/-

FOR YOUTHS from 21/-
FOR BOYS .. 15/6

Dividend 1/10 in the SHEFFIELD ECCLESALL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED
ECCLESALL ROAD

If you desire Style, Quality, Comfort, WEAR SELF-HELP SHOES

Made by Co-operators for Co-operators. ASK FOR THEM AT YOUR STORES.

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

"MANCHESTER GUARDIAN" TRIBUTE

On September 1st the "Manchester Guardian" paid tribute to the co-operative movement in a leading article. "The co-operative movement has one admirable quality, that of consistency. Its international Congress, which opens in Paris this week-end, will stand unflinchingly for the same causes for which co-operators stood in the nineteenth century. One of its main tasks, indeed, will be to reaffirm and interpret, in the light of modern conditions, the Rochdale Principles—the principles laid down by the Owenite handloom weavers of Rochdale in 1844 when they stumbled on the mechanism that made the co-operative 'store' could be made to prosper. In a world given over to State interference in commerce and industry, and State regimentation of the economic life of the individual, the co-operative movement will be found still adhering to Free Trade, to the democratic principle, and to its right of function freely even in a 'planned' or 'totalitarian Socialist' economy. It stands, needless to say, also on the side of peace, disarmament, and the League system. The expression of these views will not be merely an academic exercise, for recent history conveys too many warnings of the fate of consumers' co-operation under the dictators."

Continuing, the leading article states: "It may be that the co-operative movement will have to make many compromises and suffer many limitations, but it will not be disposed of, in this country at least, without a struggle. As the Paris Congress will show, its influence most of necessity be cast on the side of economic Liberalism, without which it cannot preserve its independence or fulfil its aims."

THE PEOPLE IN THE MONEY THE DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH BANK REVIEW ON INEQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION

The current issue of the "Westminster Bank Review" contains an article on the distribution of the national income, which shows that the extent of increasing inequalities has not gone as far as some people imagine. The figures used are based on the 1924-30 average. It is, of course, true that changes of any kind, however, unlikely they may seem, in the magnitude of Professor Davies and Mr. Campton show that in 1924-30 approximately 76 per cent. of the people over twenty-five years of age possessed less than £100 capital and their average savings represented less than 3.2 per cent. of the total national capital.

Just under 1 per cent. of the adult population had more than £10,000, but these persons together owned over a half (57 per cent.) of the total capital, while the richest, the 11,000 who owned over £100,000 each, together owned about a quarter of the whole. At the other end of the scale the two lowest classes having under £1,000, together made up 93.6 per cent. of the number, but accounted for only 2.3 per cent. of the total capital. Comparison with the years 1911-13 shows that although some redistribution has occurred, the changes are very gradual. The lower value of money, in the post-war period, accounted for a decline in the number of people with less than £100 from 86.6 per cent. in 1911-13, to 76.3 per cent. in the post-war period. Those with over £100,000 numbered '05 per cent. of the latter period compared with '03 per cent. in 1911-13.

CO-OPERATORS AND SPANISH RELIEF FUND

AMONG the collections and subscriptions that have been made by the local co-operative societies, and the association of co-operators with various relief funds for Spain, the Co-operative Union reports that up to date subscriptions to the Spanish Relief Fund from co-operative sources have amounted to £3,018 8s. 10d.

We reported in a previous issue of the "Sheffield Co-operator" the assistance which has been rendered by co-operators in Sheffield in the way of food supplies in that of the Spanish Exhibition, held in Sheffield during August, and that of £155 has been divided between the International Spanish Medical Aid, the Sheffield Brigade dependants, and the Sheffield Bazaar children.

The committee responsible for the Spanish exhibition is carrying on as a Spanish Relief Committee, and has arranged a jumble sale, to be held on November 13th in the Lansdowne area. The committee will be pleased to receive goods at the Sheffield and Ecclesall Co-operative Institute, Napier-street. Any goods will also be collected to other donors who will send a postcard from the following: Miss I. Evison, 4, Falklands-road, Sheffield, 11, or Mrs. Birkhead, 25, High Stairs-road, Sheffield, 11.

LOYAL SERVICE AT SHEFFIELD PRESIDENT'S RETIREMENT



Mr. Wm. Buckley

AFTER SERVING thirty-one years on the directorate of the Sheffield and Ecclesall Society, Mr. William Buckley (president) has due to retire under the age limit rule this month.

A life-long trade unionist, Mr. Buckley joined the Ecclesall Society over forty years ago, and became a member of its education committee in 1901. Within four months he was appointed committee secretary, which position he relinquished on being elected to the management committee of the society in 1906. He has been chairman and secretary of each of the board's sub-committees. In turn, and succeeded the late Councillor A. Laing as president three years ago.

At the quarterly meeting recently, the last over which Mr. Buckley presided, Mr. A. Ballard said they were losing a colleague and friend, and a director for whom they had the highest regard. Mr. S. Willoughby said they looked upon Mr. Buckley as one of the great men of the society.

Mr. Buckley, in reply, recalled that when he joined the board the society had been in existence just over thirty years, during which time the sales were just about as much as the present annual turnover of £1,500,000. The membership, which now totals close upon 55,000, was then less than 10,000.

— "Co-operative News," report.

A TORY PROTEST AGAINST DEAR MILK MUDDLE MAKING A MOCKERY OF "KEEP FIT" CAMPAIGN

"It is no use having a 'Keep Fit' Campaign and installing gymnastic equipment for children unless you make sure they have enough to eat and drink first. Many people who do not want to do so, on Public Assistance Committees, fail to realise the awful evil of excessive milk prices."

This was the statement made to the "Manchester Guardian" on September 24th by Councillor James Watts, J.P., a member of the Manchester University Constitutional Association. This body has tabled a resolution for the Tory Party annual conference, drawing the Government's attention to the effect of milk prices on hospitals and other charitable institutions.

Councillor Watts said the scale of public assistance in Manchester allows 3s. a week for a child. He added that the milk is 4d. a pint in summer and 3 1/2d. in winter, it follows that this consumption is too expensive for poor people to buy. Their only method of obtaining it through the free milk service in schools, and through the children's food centres.

In 1929 the milk price was 2 1/2d. In the winter, at the Manchester rates expended, through the Health Committee, had been increased by about £6,000 a year as the result of the increase in milk prices. Against this there was a subsidy of about £9,000 a year given by the Government for the provision of free milk in schools, so the total increase in its rates was £4,000 a year. But its hospitals have to bear the additional cost.

What applies to Manchester applies all over the country, as "The Times" recent survey of the effect of rising food prices admitted. These facts prove the need for the application of Labour policy for ensuring a plentiful supply of good food for all by the efficient organisation of production and distribution.

The increase in food prices is big enough, but the increases in the prices of clothing and general household commodities have been even greater. The result of an investigation conducted by the "News Chronicle" and published in that paper on September 22nd, showed the following increases: A winter overcoat costs 10s. 10d. more than a year ago. A pair of woollen trousers 2d. more than a year ago. Blankets that were 40s. a pair a year ago now cost 42s. Cheaper knits, costing 14s. a pair last year, have increased to 21s. 6d. The most startling increases are in hardware goods. The quality which cost 3s. 6d. last year is now 6s. 0d. A garden spade, which cost 3s. 6d., is now 4s. 6d. A set of enamel saucepans, originally 25s., now 29s. 6d.

Catalogues printed at the end of last year, now have slips attached giving increases of wholesale prices during the year. One such slip, quoted by the "News Chronicle," refers to increases of 5 per cent. in wool mattresses, 10 per cent. on steel mattresses, and 15 per cent. on iron bedsteads. The 100,000 people with low fixed incomes, are being refused to take effective steps to deal with the ever-rising cost of living.

"LET 'THE ARCADE' MAKE AND FIT YOUR LOOSE COVERS

A perfect fit and finish assured by expert workers. Patterns with estimates without obligation.

NOW IS THE TIME TO HAVE YOUR OLD DOWN QUILT RECOVERED

Pattern Books of the newest designs and colours await your inspection.

"THE ARCADE" DRAPERY DEPARTMENT ECCLESALL ROAD

COSY WINDOWS FOR WINTRY DAYS

Days are drawing in... the new Curtain Fabric displays are very attractive at very moderate prices.

We invite you to inspect them on the lower Ground Floor.

WE SPECIALISE IN CURTAIN AND PELMET MAKING at very reasonable charges. Your inquiries welcomed!

Sheffield and Ecclesall CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

DIVIDEND 1.10 IN THE 5

SHREDDED WHEAT

Leads Britain's Health Parade

THE FOOD FOR GENERAL FITNESS

CO-OPERATIVE PARTY NOTES

ATTERCLIFFE.

The Attercliffe Divisional Co-operative Party has arranged meetings as follows: Monday, October 25th, in the Co-operative Institute, Attercliffe Common, speaker: Councillor W. G. Robinson, Wednesday, October 27th, in the Tinsley Co-operative Guild Room. Speaker: Councillor T. Bates, on Thursday, October 28th, in the Garthrod Institute, to be addressed by Councillor J. Ayre. All meetings will commence at 7.30 p.m.

BRIGHTSIDE.

The Brightside Divisional Party held a successful meeting on September 21st, when Councillor A. E. Hobson (Secretary, Trades and Labour Council) was the speaker. A keen and interesting discussion followed.

The next meeting will be held in the Shiregreen Co-operative Institute, Beil-house Road, Saturday, October 30th, at 7.30 p.m., when Councillor J. W. York (Brightside Ward) and W. E. York (Brightside Ward) will be the speakers. The meeting will be followed by a social, admission 3s. Secretary: Mrs. F. Ward, 58, Sidney-avenue.

BURNGREENE.

The Burngreave Women's Section reports well-attended meetings during September. Programme for October: 6th, Councillor (Mrs.) E. Birch will be the speaker; 13th, Mr. Fisher; 20th, Mrs. Watson will speak. Meetings held in the Burngreave Vestry Hall, Wednesday, at 7.30 p.m. Secretary: Mrs. R. Veldan, 139, Scott-road.

HILLSBOROUGH.

The Hillsborough Divisional Party opened the session with a dance on September 9th. The Right Hon. A. V. Alexander, M.P., addressed a well-attended meeting of members on the situation. Mr. Alexander was received with loud applause, and kept his audience keenly interested for more than an hour, after which an interesting discussion followed. On the 23rd, the Women's Section gave an enjoyable concert; 30th, Alderman T. H. Watkins, J.P., spoke on "Current Events." Programme for October: 7th, dance in the local Institute (tickets 6d. each); 14th, adoption of Workers' Meeting for the municipal elections; 21st and 28th, municipal election campaign.

The Women's Section social on September 6th drew a large attendance. Councillor Stephens's address on "What is Money?" proved of great interest to the womenfolk; 20th, Alderman Watkins spoke on "Unjust Taxation" as applied to mutual trading; 27th, Mrs. Davy spoke on the work and aims of the Workers' Educational Trade Union Committee.

Programme for October: 4th, a social, play-reading, and dance; 11th, Mr. W. Berry will give an illustrated address on "Shopping Through the Ages"; 18th, Councillor H. Slack will speak on "My First Three Years in the Council"; 25th, municipal election campaign.

WISEWOOD.

The Wisewood Section spent an en-

joyable evening on September 15th at the opening social, which took the form of a supper followed by variety entertainment; 22nd, owing to Councillor Slack's illness, the meeting was devoted to the business of the organization; 29th, Councillor J. Bailey, of the form of a supper followed by variety entertainment; 22nd, owing to Councillor Slack's illness, the meeting was devoted to the business of the organization; 29th, Councillor J. Bailey, addressed a joint meeting with the Hillsborough Section.

Councillor J. Bailey dealt with the distinctive contribution that the co-operative Party had made to the progress of democracy. Our relations with other democratic organisations were compared with the relationship of the Trade Unions Congress to the Labour Party and the work of the L.P. in the past. We had to see that the consumer's case was put, and it would be no weakness but added strength in the House of Commons and on Local Government bodies to have the business enterprise of co-operators who were used to administration and large-scale business operations along with the Labour Party. The tendency was for the economic system to be built up on a monopoly basis. The co-operative case was that in the rapidly-changing system in which we lived democracy should not be robbed of the fruits of its enterprise, the benefits of invention and labour, the benefits of industrial control by the handing over of public services to commissioners and big shareholders. He itemised the many points of contact between present-day legislation and co-operative co-operators who were used to administration and large-scale business operations along with the Labour Party. The tendency was for the economic system to be built up on a monopoly basis. The co-operative case was that in the rapidly-changing system in which we lived democracy should not be robbed of the fruits of its enterprise, the benefits of invention and labour, the benefits of industrial control by the handing over of public services to commissioners and big shareholders. He itemised the many points of contact between present-day legislation and co-operative co-operators who were used to administration and large-scale business operations along with the Labour Party.

Programme for October: 6th, social, an also-reading, admission 3d.; 13th, Councillor R. Fisher will speak on the Poor-Law system; 20th, Mr. E. Fisher (district secretary, W.E.A.) will be the speaker; 27th, municipal election campaign.

Meetings held Wednesday, 7.30 p.m., in the Co-operative Institute, Wisewood-road. Persons residing in the Wisewood, Wadley, Main Bridge, and Woodland View districts are cordially invited to these meetings. Secretary: Mr. Wm. Stephenson.

WEEPSEND.

Neepsund Women's Section meetings held Monday, 2.30 p.m., in the Co-operative Institute, Manners-street. Programme for October: 4th, the members are to have useful hints on dressmaking; 11th, Councillor R. Fisher will give the City Council report; 18th, Mrs. Vickers will speak on "Cremation"; 25th, municipal election campaign.

SOUTHY AND NORWOOD.

The Southy and Norwood district secretary reports successful meeting on September 9th, when Councillor Fisher, deputising for Councillor (Mrs.) Speight, gave the City Council report, dealing particularly with the two weeks' rest allowance and the work of the Town Planning Committee. On the 23rd, Right Hon. A. V. Alexander, M.P., addressed a meeting in the Longley Council School (reported on the front page). September 30th, Mr. E. G. McBee, M.P., and Councillor J. Bailey (national organizer, Co-operative Party) also addressed a public meeting in the

Longley Council School. Councillor Bailey stressed the need for the workers to build up a strong viable organization, both locally and nationally, in the interest of peace and prosperity. Mr. McBee dealt with the Labour Party's programme, stressing the need for the immediate amendment of the old pensions scheme.

The whole of the tickets for the Mock Cutlers' Feast have been disposed of. The weekly meetings in the Co-operative Institute, Southey-avenue, are to be renewed on Thursdays. The party will be pleased to welcome old and new residents from Southy, Norwood, and Shirecliffe estates.

Secretary: Mr. G. A. Holder, 84, Seateley Hall-road. Women's Section meetings held Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., in the Co-operative Institute, Southey-avenue. Secretary: Mrs. H. Allen, 167, Everingham-road.

SHEFFIELD AND ECCLESALL.

The Sheffield and Ecclesall Section have now renewed their weekly meetings at the Napier-street Co-operative Institute, on Mondays, at 7.30 p.m. Programme for October: 4th, business meeting; 11th, City Council report by Councillor J. Cobley; 18th, Mr. Bravley (manager, Sheffield and Ecclesall drapery department), on "Why a Co-operative Party?"; 25th, monthly visit drive.

A visit drive is also to be held on Thursday, October 24th, 7.30 p.m., in the Napier-street Institute, in aid of the Basque Children Fund. Admission 2s. Good prizes will be given. The Women's Section, which meets on Thursdays, at 7.30 p.m., in the Institute (Room 2), resumed on September 9th, with a business meeting and reports; 16th, a visit drive was held. On the 23rd a special visit was paid by Councillor J. Bailey (national organizer), who spoke on the Co-operative Party policy as outlined in "Civic Ideals." Tracing the history of Local Government from 1288, and showing that in the early days it was in the interests of the manufacturers, Councillor Bailey stated it was the desire of Co-operative and Labour representatives now not only to balance services, but to see that the trading services are controlled by, and in the interests of, the people as a whole.

September 30th, Mrs. W. Darvill spoke on her visit to Russia. Programme for October: 7th, Mrs. J. Billam on "Citizenship"; 14th, Mrs. Rawson on "The Woodcraft Folk International Camp"; 21st, Councillor R. Fisher on "The Council Plan"; 28th, municipal election campaign.

LABOUR CANDIDATE FOR WOODSEATS

MRS. OWEN AGAIN CHOSEN

Mrs. MILDRED OWEN, who has been selected as the Labour candidate for the Woodseats Ward, should have no difficulty in securing the support of co-operators in that area. She has been a member of the Sheffield and Ecclesall Society for twenty-five years, and was for some time a members' representative on the Sheffield Co-operative Party. She was a member of the old Sheffield Board of Guardians. For sixteen years she has served on the Board of Referees,

and is now associated with the Unemployment Assistance Board. The fact of her service on the Executive of the Trades and Labour Council and as president of the local Labour Party, member of the Women's Advisory Council, and the Women's Labour League (founded by the late Mrs. Margaret MacDonald), is indicative of the confidence that has been placed in Mrs. Owen by her colleagues in the past.

Mrs. Owen is at present a member of the Libraries and Art Galleries Committee. In short, she has had a long experience in the people's movements and in public service generally. Her conscientious adherence to the various democratic movements should bespeak for her the hearty support of the majority of the people in the Woodseats Ward.

(Continued from page 2.)

PENSIONS.

If they could take out of the industry those who were over sixty years of age and provide for them without them having to go on to the public funds they could then absorb younger men into the industry, and one of the country's problems would be solved. This was not an impossibility. It was a practical thing which could be worked out to benefit the whole community.

CHANGE THE GOVERNMENT.

What he was anxious about was whether the position was not too late, or whether it could be done before they were plunged into another war. If they could get a change of Government the whole situation could be changed, and changed for the better. If put into power the Labour Party would do again as they did between 1929 and 1931 with regard to foreign affairs. They would negotiate treaties, but openly, so that the whole world would know what was being done. If they told the world what they were doing, that would remove distrust and make for peace once more.

The chair at the meeting was taken by Councillor R. Fisher.

FOOTWEAR

FOR GENTS AND BOYS.

Holyoake Brand

IS THE MOST RELIABLE

TRADE UNION STAMP NO. 6

Can be purchased from any Co-operative Boot Department in Sheffield.

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY THE KETTERING CO-OPERATIVE BOOT SOCIETY

HAYLOCK WORKS, KETTERING.

PLAN FOR CHRISTMAS HAPPINESS

through our 3 1/2d. CLUB BEGINNING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1st.

REMEMBER—Two 3 1/2d. shares will bring you 30/- extra for Christmas, 1938.

3d. INTEREST ON EACH FULLY PAID SHARE

REPAYMENTS IN CASH AND COUPONS EXCHANGEABLE IN ALL DEPARTMENTS FOR THE HALF-PENCE

"The Arcade"—ECCLESALL ROAD AND BRANCHES

Both Members and Non-members may participate—each Share costs 3 1/2d., and any number may be taken AT ANY TIME

PAYMENTS AT ANY BRANCH



THE STORY OF THE I.C.A.

The story of the International Co-operative Alliance is told in a pamphlet just published by the Co-operative Union under the title of "World Co-operation." This interesting account of an important co-operative organisation is written by Mr. E. A. Palmer, who is vice-president of the Co-operative Alliance as well as Co-operative Union general secretary. The writer describes the purpose of the Alliance as being—

- (a) The ascertaining and propagation of co-operative principles and methods.
- (b) The promotion of co-operation in all countries.
- (c) The maintenance of friendly relations between the members of the Alliance.
- (d) The safeguarding of the interests of the co-operative movement and co-operatives in general.
- (e) The provision of information, and the encouragement of studies concerning co-operation.
- (f) The promotion of trading relations between the co-operative organisations of the various countries.

In conclusion, Mr. Palmer states—
 "The future to which the Alliance looks, and to which, I am sure, its British supporters look, is to an ever more extension of trading relations with co-operative movements overseas, more and more encouraged by a bigger, better-equipped, more substantially financed, more loyally supported International Co-operative Alliance. That way only, lies any hope of securing that intimate International Co-operative Commonwealth, which to many folk the only substantial and permanent guarantee of universal peace and unity—the chief co-operative phrase." Without consideration of colour, class, or creed."

"WHAT TO HEAR, READ, AND JOIN IN SHEFFIELD"

A GUIDE FOR LEISURE HOURS

The Sheffield Joint Committee for Adult Education has just issued the seventeenth edition of its annual handbook. The handbook contains a list of lectures arranged by the joint committee for the coming season, to be held in the City Hall, Junior Technical School, and the Central Library Lecture Hall. Particulars of the various museums, art galleries; the various musical, literary, and general educational associations in the city, are also given. An interesting chapter on how to use the Sheffield City Library will be invaluable to many people who have not hitherto frequented this "poor man's university." Twenty outstanding books of 1916-17 are given, and are available in the libraries.

The handbook is issued free upon application at the Education Office, Leopold-street, or at any of the library centres.

THE HILLSBOROUGH FELLOWSHIP

The seventeenth session of the Fellowship will commence at 10-30 a.m. on Sunday, October 20th, when Ald. T. H. Wadkins, J.P., will give the opening address, Mr. A. Bagshaw (tenor), and the address, Mr. J. E. Stuppleson, L.R.A.M., will render musical items.

A new venture for this session is a series of lectures based on R. R. Marrett's book "Man in the Making." These lectures begin on October 17th, and will be given every alternate Sunday till the close of the season. Meetings held in the Hillsborough Co-operative Institute, Middlewood-road, Sundays, at 11 a.m. Conducted by Conductor J. H. Bingham, J.P. Readers of the "Sheffield Co-operator," men or women, are cordially invited. Admission is free.

LETTER FROM COUN. F. H. SKELLAND

The Editor, "Sheffield Co-operator,"
 DEAR SIR,—I shall be pleased if I may be permitted to draw the attention of the Walkley electors to the forthcoming November elections. I am again offering myself for service, and the purpose of these few lines is to ask that all trade unionists and co-operatives should render assistance in the fight.

I think I complain that during the past three years considerable civic progress has been made, and if I am again



Councilor F. H. SKELLAND.

returned, I shall continue to do my utmost for the electors of Walkley in supporting the Labour programme and policy as in the past.
 It has been a great pleasure to me, as a trade union official, to note the greatly increased trade union membership in the ward. Hundreds of members of my own organisation, engaged in many trades and industries, have benefited considerably by wages increases during the past three years; and I would remind tradespeople that this is bound to have had some beneficial effect upon them also.

To all our members, their wives, relatives, and friends, I appeal to you to rally and support my candidature in every way possible. If the hundreds of promises made to me during my term of office are kept, then I have no hesitation in saying that I shall be returned again as a member for Walkley by a greatly increased majority.—Yours sincerely,
 F. H. SKELLAND.

CORRECT

The fishmonger was engaging a boy and was anxious to ascertain his proficiency in arithmetic. "What would twenty pounds of salmon be at three-pence a pound?" he asked. "Bud," promptly replied the lad.

JUSTICE AND MERCY

Four men, having assumed the role of censors of what other people could read, appeared before the Surrey Quarter Sessions the other day. To the grave charge that they had broken into the house of a Civil Servant, and stolen a quantity of books, papers, cutlery, and clothing, they presented the legendary defence that they were inspired by a "good motive." Being "patients" they believed that the victim of their theft harboured "dangerous thoughts," and should be exposed. Their enthusiasm expressed even the removal of clothes and cutlery!

In pursuit of this defence, learned counsel for the accused submitted the complaint to a cross-examination of the "Have you stopped beating your wife?" type. He sought to establish that the complainant was a Communist by the sort of questioning that would unmask the Carpenter of Nazareth, Charles Dickens, and even the Archbishop of Canterbury as self-confessed enemies of the State.

The chairman of Surrey Quarter Sessions permitted the irrelevance to continue. He directed the jury that, in law, there was no evidence as to knocking and that they might find the accused not guilty of stealing the allegedly subversive documents which they boasted of taking away, but guilty of stealing attaché cases and clothing. When the jury returned a verdict of not guilty of house-breaking, but guilty of theft, this chairman bound the accused over in the sum of 20s. He of tempered justice with a very large dose of mercy and struck a damaging blow at civil liberty and order.

It rests now with the Home Secretary to repair the damage—by removing the chairman of Surrey Quarter Sessions from the Bench.

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 Walsgrave

TWO-THIRDS OF YOUR LIFE ON YOUR FEET

Seeing that almost two-thirds of our lives are spent on our feet, can we wonder that foot troubles develop through strain and fatigue?

No matter what your foot trouble is—Corns, Callouses, Bunions, Hard Skin, etc., etc., it can be remedied quickly and painlessly by our

LADY CHIROPODIST

SHEFFIELD AND ECCLES ALL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

She is in attendance each day in the FOOTWEAR DEPT. "THE ARCADE" (GROUND FLOOR) and her advice is quite free.

WHY NOT GIVE HER A CALL — TO-DAY?

The charges, you will find, are most reasonable.

• A specially appointed Cabinet, modern, equipped and furnished, ensures the most hygienic treatment and the utmost privacy.

BEHIND THE LABEL!

When you make a purchase, do you understand the significance of the manufacturer's label?

Resources provided by nearly one thousand retail Co-operative Societies, with six million members, are behind every article bearing the C.W.S. label, thus ensuring the production of reliable goods under ideal conditions in up-to-date factories.

These productions can only be obtained from Co-operative Societies. There is a society in your district to supply you with goods of C.W.S. manufacture. You will receive excellent service, better value for money, and dividends.

Take advantage of Co-operative organisation, and ALWAYS ASK FOR — C.W.S. PRODUCTIONS



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



WOMEN'S NOTES

BY THE WOMAN WITH THE BASKET

"EACH FOR ALL AND ALL FOR EACH"

I RECK that most, don't you? It is not only the maxim of the whole co-operative movement, but it is yours and mine. It speaks so much of hope and trust and mutual endeavour. That is one reason why I have chosen it as an introduction to this article. The other is that I want this column to be shared by you—I want your opinions on all these questions which affect co-operative women. I should like you to tell me your problems in your work or in your home so that as a true co-operator I may give you as much help as possible.

RIISING COST OF LIVING.
There are so many problems which we women have to meet in both domestic and national affairs. The rising cost of living is one which touches us most of all since women have to make "both ends meet," and that is not an easy matter, and it gets harder week by week. Have a look at your shopping list and what do you find? You will see that bread has gone up—the four pound loaf costs 9½d.—in July last year it

cost 8d. The difference in price if you take it in penny may not be much, but calculate it over a period of weeks, and you will find that it amounts to a considerable extra sum. The price of milk has risen 10 per cent. over the cost in 1933, while English beef has gone up a penny a pound since last year. Mutton has advanced 14d., cheese 14d., streaky bacon is now 1s. 1½d. a pound compared with 10s. in 1933, and the retail price of butter and margarine are steadily rising. All of you who cater for families know how those pennies can mount up into shillings and then into pounds. We may well ask ourselves: "When is this going to end?"

We have at least one remedy in our own hands. We can shop and support our own co-operative stores. There you will find that you will receive the best possible value for your money in whatever department you spend your money. And your "divi," comes in useful, doesn't it? Extra clothes, extra boots—! all those other extras which you might

have to do without if you hadn't that "divi" coming to you. So let us co-operate and do the best with our money. **MUTUAL HELP AS A POLITICAL PRINCIPLE.**

There was a time when only men had the vote, now we women have equal representation and, therefore, equal responsibility in guiding our own destinies and the destinies of our country. Never before in our lives has it been more necessary to see that the principles of co-operation are firmly applied. If there could be more mutual help, more trust, and more co-operation among nations, then the world would not be so disordered as it is to-day. Wars and ramours of wars would disappear, and we could live our lives in peace and security. Can we do that at the present time? War is an ugly thing—it breaks up our homes, sends our men—and in modern warfare, women and children—to their deaths.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION.

That is why the International Co-operative Congress, which opened in Paris in September, is of vital importance to women. We can look to this great gathering in which so many women took part as an important contribution to the peace of the world. By it is every woman's duty to take an interest in politics—and the first duty to the children, to save them from the threat of war.

great responsibility, and our representation on this international body will lend support to our belief that only by co-operation among the nations will the peace of the world and the happiness and security of men and women be saved.

WOMEN'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Often I think that women have not quite realised either their powers or responsibilities. If we liked we could change a government or defeat a policy by our vote alone, but very rarely do we use our power. There are still some women who think it a major virtue to have politics alone. How many women leave it to their husbands to decide how they should vote? The vote was given us to use, and if we want to use it properly we must think about politics. It's so easy leaving it to our husbands. They will only think that we can't think.

Before the war women were supposed to cultivate a pose of resignation, but such a pose in these times is a menace, to my least. Every woman has a duty to her home, but that is no reason why she shouldn't take notice of events outside her home. It is, I think, just a question of finding time. No one will make me subscribe to the view that women haven't the brains to understand politics. The trouble is that some women won't use their brains, they "can't be bothered." But I believe that it is every woman's duty to take an interest in politics—and the first duty to the children, to save them from the threat of war.

SHEFFIELD CORPORATION L.M.S. & L.N.E. RAILWAYS JOINT OMNIBUS COMMITTEE

Rail and Road Enquiry Office
L.M.S. STATION
Dial 21969

Enquiry Office
MOORHEAD
Dial 25342

AUTUMN TRANSPORT PROGRAMME

ASHOPTON

Situate in the beautiful Derwent Valley

Route 49. Buses from Leopold Street
Fares: Single, 1/- Return, 1/8

BAKEWELL

One of the most picturesque towns in Derbyshire

Route 37, via Owlbar. Route 40, via Calver
Fares: Single, 1/5 Return, 2/8

BUSES TO FOX HOUSE

Routes 40, 72, 84
FARE FROM MOORHEAD
6d. EACH WAY

WALKING TOUR TICKETS

COMBINED ROAD & RAIL TICKETS

CIRCULAR TOUR TICKETS

Full details of these facilities, together with all information regarding Tram and Bus services are given in the time table, which is obtainable at all depots, and issued free.

BASLOW

Within easy walking distance of Chatsworth Park

ROUTE 37
Buses from L.M.S. Station and Moorhead
Fares: Single, 1/- Return, 1/10 From Moorhead

BUXTON

The Peak District Spa Celebrated Thermal Springs

ROUTE 84
Buses from L.M.S. and L.N.E. Station and Moorhead
Fares: Single, 2/6 Return, 4/6 From Moorhead

CASTLETON

The Peakland village with historic castle and great caverns

ROUTE 71
Buses from L.M.S. Station and Moorhead
Fares: Single, 1/5 Return, 2/8 From Moorhead

GRINDLEFORD

Sunny Lanes and Woodland Shade

Route 40. Buses from L.M.S. Station & Moorhead
Single fare from Moorhead, 8d.

HATHERSAGE

Set amidst beautiful moorland surroundings

Route 72. Buses from L.M.S. Station & Moorhead
Single fare from Moorhead, 10d.

HUDDERSFIELD

Via First Park, Chapelstoun, High Green, Worsley, and Kirkburton

ROUTE 48
Buses from Exchange Street
Fares: Single, 2/7 Return, 4/4

LEEDS

Via Ecclefield, Hayland Common, Barnsley, and Wakefield

ROUTES 85, 86, and 87
Buses from Exchange Street
Fares: Single, 3/6 Return, 5/6

MANCHESTER

Via Middleton, Stackbridge, Floss, Woodhead, and Stalybridge

ROUTE 41
From L.M.S. Station and Exchange Street
Fares: Single, 3/8 Return, 5/10

RIVELIN DAMS

Often called the Switzerland of England

Route 54. Buses from Leopold Street
Fare, 5d. Single

RINGINGLOW

For the Baroque and Houndkirk Moorlands

Route 27. Buses from City (Flat Street)
Fare, 4d. Single

Division Street, Sheffield,
October, 1937

H. WATSON,
Secretary

OUTER CIRCLE MOTOR BUS SERVICE

A COMPREHENSIVE TOUR OF SHEFFIELD'S SUBURBS

MALIN BRIDGE

Through Rivelin Valley to Crosspool and Sandycroft, Ecclesall Road, and Carterknowle Road to Graves Park, passing Gleadless, Elm Tree and Darnall, also Shiregreen and Southey and back to

MALIN BRIDGE

Fares
Adults 1/3 Children 9d.

Take a bus to

FULWOOD

for a short evening Walk

BUSES FROM LEOPOLD STREET

FARE 2d.

The "B & C" TRADING Club

enables you to purchase what you wish ... safely and easily!



★ ★ ★ CREDIT TERMS AT CASH PRICES

... that's what you get the "B. & C." Trading Club way! This Club enables you to buy just what you wish ... everything, in fact, except Foodstuffs and Tobacco. This is the scheme, it's quite easy to join ...

- ★ IF YOU WISH TO BUY GOODS TO THE VALUE OF £1 YOU APPLY FOR A £1 CLUB COUPON. ON THE INITIAL PAYMENT OF 1/- (POUNDAGE) YOU RECEIVE A COUPON WHICH ENABLES YOU TO PURCHASE GOODS TO THE VALUE OF £1 IMMEDIATELY!

Shares may be taken to the value of £5, if desired. Larger amounts by arrangement. Repayments are made over a period of 20 weeks.

JOIN THE CLUB TO-DAY!

Your Grocery Branch will give you fuller particulars, or a postcard to the Trading Club Dept., City Stores, Exchange St.

DIVIDEND
1/9 in the £

BRIGHTSIDE & CARBROOK
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.

DIVIDEND
1/9 in the £

CITY STORES, EXCHANGE STREET AND BRANCHES