

## Editorial Note

### THE SOCIETY FOR CO-OPERATIVE STUDIES

The Society for Co-operative Studies is a systematic link between the Co-operative Movement and universities and colleges for the exchange of information, experience and views on the development of co-operative studies and research.

### THE BULLETIN

*The Bulletin* provides opportunity for reporting the progress of this exchange. *Bulletin* No. 1 dealt with the formation of the Society; *Bulletin* No. 2 continues largely with information on the regional organisations which have been or are being formed; and *Bulletin* No. 3, to be issued in the spring, will be a prelude to the Annual General Meeting.

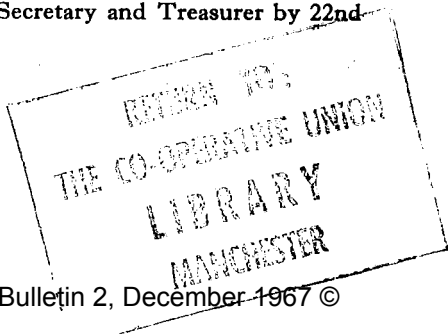
### CORRECTION

In *Bulletin* No. 1, the sentence quoted from the Co-operative Independent Commission Report in the Message from Mr. Crosland should have referred to "basic trading policies" not "basic training policies".

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE: 18TH AND 19TH APRIL  
1968

The Annual General Meeting and Conference will be held at the Stephenson Hall, University of Sheffield on Thursday and Friday, 18th and 19th April, when, in addition to the presentation of the Annual Report, it is hoped to have two speakers to introduce discussions of the future development of the Society.

More details will be announced later, but in the meantime a booking form is enclosed with every copy of this *Bulletin* and members of the Society are asked to complete and send them to the Secretary and Treasurer by 22nd December.



## Reports from the Regions

The Society is now embarked on its second stage—the development of regional activity.

Our first *Bulletin* issued in June this year, described the formation of the Society at an inaugural meeting held at Stanford Hall in April, when there was discussion on local organisation and future developments.

Following these discussions, approaches were made to find two *acting* joint conveners, one from the “academic” side and one from the “co-operative” side, to be responsible for each of the inaugural meetings to be held at regional level. Acting joint conveners have been appointed in all but one of the regions; three inaugural meetings have taken place and plans for others are proceeding or imminent.

The Sectional Education Officer of the Co-operative Union is to serve as the secretary in the appropriate region and the names and addresses of these officers are given on the inside of the back cover.

The reports from the regions are given below.

### **Midland**

#### *Acting Joint Conveners:*

DR. G. N. OSTERGAARD,  
Faculty of Commerce and Social Science,  
University of Birmingham.

MR. LLOYD A. HARRISON, C.S.D.,  
Managing Secretary,  
Nottingham Co-operative Society.

It is anticipated that the inaugural meeting will be held during November.

### **North**

#### *Acting Joint Conveners:*

MR. L. S. WILSON, M.A.,  
Durham University Business School.

MR. W. MARTIN REED, C.S.D.,  
Secretary and Chief Executive Officer,  
Newcastle Co-operative Society.

Discussions are taking place about an inaugural meeting. It is hoped that this will be in late October or early November when members of the Society will be invited to a buffet tea in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, followed by the inaugural meeting and election of officers, and thereafter an open conference will take place.

### **Yorkshire and Humberside**

#### *Acting Joint Conveners:*

MR. T. E. STEPHENSON, B.A. (DUNELM),  
Department of Adult Education and Extramural Studies,  
University of Leeds.

MR. S. P. CLARKE, C.S.D.,  
Secretary and Chief Executive Officer,  
Bradford Co-operative Society.

The inaugural meeting, attended by 44 delegates, was held on 29th June in Leeds. Mr. S. G. Clarke took the chair and outlined the origin of the proposed society, stemming back to the first Co-operative Management Studies groups started in Universities in the North-East twelve years ago. Mr. T. E. Stephenson, University of Leeds, then addressed the meeting on the aims of the Society which he said were fourfold:

- 1 An organisation wherein the academics and the practical co-operators could meet together in forums and study groups etc. to examine problems of the present, and aims and objectives for the Movement in the future.
- 2 Research—the need to examine problems of the region such as Regional Societies, their corporate policies, also long range planning etc.
- 3 To develop courses in Management and Director training for existing Directors and Managers, also for the younger people coming up who showed promise.
- 4 The need to stimulate and develop an interest amongst staff of Universities and Technical Colleges so that eventually there would be a body of academics throughout the country interested in co-operative affairs. This could lead, eventually, to departments or Institutes of co-operative studies in Universities as part of their normal programme of study.

The questions and discussion which followed included research and the participation of the lay-members in the Society.

Mr. J. H. Harrison, the Co-operative Union Sectional Education Officer, outlined the proposed programme of courses in association with the four universities in the North-East—Leeds, Bradford, Hull and Sheffield—and pointed out that over 600 places had been filled in the North-East in the past twelve years.

It was agreed that a small executive committee be formed of the conveners and their deputies for a period of one year.

A weekend conference held jointly with the National Co-operative Education Association was arranged for November, when Mr. Lloyd Harrison and Mr. J. Roper, the co-authors of the recent Fabian pamphlet, will have for their subject "Towards Regional Societies".

#### **North-West**

##### *Acting Joint Conveners:*

MR. J. F. H. ROPER, M.A.,  
Faculty of Economic and Social Studies,  
University of Manchester.

MR. F. BRUCKSHAW,  
Editor,

*Co-operative News.*

Possibly because of a rather lengthy interval between the issue of advance notices and the actual date of the meeting, plus the incidence of an important C.W.S. meeting earlier in the day, there was a rather disappointing attendance at the inaugural meeting of the North-Western branch of the society held in Manchester University on 26th October. Twenty-one were present including individual members and representatives of societies and other organisations.

Mr. F. Bruckshaw, one of the two conveners, presided and the discussion was opened by Dr. Alex Wilson, national chairman, who outlined the aims of the society, and its development so far. He pointed out that the North-West was at the top of the league table in terms of membership, having 26 out of a national total of 115. Mr. John Roper, joint convener, suggested a number of lines of activity for the society, with meetings not only in Manchester but in other parts of the section.

In general discussion the view was expressed that Friday was the best meeting night; that meetings should be more in the nature of seminars than conferences; and that early topics for study and discussion might be regional society organisation and problems of capital. Short papers on these topics might be distributed in advance of the meetings so that the whole time could be taken up by study and discussion. It was agreed that the two conveners should be asked to continue in office.

## **Scotland**

### *Acting Joint Conveners:*

DR. T. F. CARBERY, M.Sc.(Econ.), D.P.A.,  
Senior Lecturer,  
Department of Commerce,  
University of Strathclyde.

MR. G. R. GAY, J.P.,  
President,  
St. Cuthbert's Co-operative Association.

The first meeting of the conveners, Dr. T. F. Carbery and Mr. G. R. Gay, was held on 29th August in the University of Strathclyde with Mr. H. A. Macfadyen (secretary) in attendance. The membership was reviewed and agreement was reached upon a limited field of activity, discussions to be continued at the next meeting in November.

## **South**

### *Acting Joint Conveners:*

MR. PETER SHEA, B.Sc.  
Senior Lecturer in Educational Psychology  
Hockerill College of Education

MR. D. MCNAB, J.P., A.A.C.C.A.,  
General Manager,  
London Co-operative Society.

A fairly early meeting is proposed.

### **South-West**

Explorations are proceeding regarding the appointment of the acting joint conveners.

### **West**

*Acting Joint Conveners:*

MR. W. E. JENKINS,  
Extra-Mural Department,  
University of Swansea.

MR. M. E. MORGAN,  
Group General Manager,  
Swansea C.R.S.

The inaugural meeting was held in Cardiff on Monday, 11th September, attended by nine delegates. It was addressed by Dr. Alex Wilson, chairman of the Society for Co-operative Studies, who spoke of the hopes and aspirations of the Society, stressing the important part that could be played at regional level. Discussion followed on the lines of developments that were possible in the Western section and among the subjects raised were the retail/wholesale relationship, industrial training, stability of capital, social and economic structure of the Movement and the optimum size of store units.

It was agreed that a report of the inaugural meeting be circulated, a further appeal made towards increasing the membership and that a working body should be formed by invitation before the next meeting was held. Mr. Morgan will continue as a convener, and the other appointed was Mr. C. P. Jones, Managing Secretary, Tredegar Co-operative Society.