

SOCIETY NOTES

Conference and A.G.M. 1981: Stanford Hall

Here is the programme, with the theme Member Participation, in all its enticing attractiveness:

Friday, 25th September

16.15 Tea

16.45 First Session: Prof. Joe Banks, Department of Sociology, University of Leicester, will speak on his recent research into two retail co-operatives.

18.15 Close of first session

18.45 DINNER

20.00 Showing of the Co-operative Union's Education Department's film on its School Liaison work in Rochdale

BAR OPEN TO MEMBERS

Saturday, 26th September

08.30 BREAKFAST

09.00 Second Session: Dr. Mary Mellor, School of Applied Social Science, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Polytechnic, will speak about her thesis on the North Eastern Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. Nelson Smith, Member Relations Officer, NORWEST Co-operative Society Ltd., will describe how the society maintains a high level of member involvement.

10.45 COFFEE

11.15 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY  
Chairman of the Society, Mr. David Hutton, will preside.

13.00 CLOSE AND LUNCH

Bookings, please - at the residential rate of £21.00 and the non-residential rate of £12.00 to:

Mrs. R. Rhodes,  
Conference Convenor,  
Society for Co-operative Studies,  
23 Crown Hill,  
Rayleigh,  
Essex.

## Future of the Society and Bulletin

No doubt our future development will be discussed at the A.G.M. The general purpose of the Society is, of course, to achieve "a systematic link between the Co-operative Movement and the universities and colleges for the exchange of information and experience on Co-operative studies and research". The central question is extending in universities and colleges the range of interest with which we are linked and making the link more productive.

More particular to my interests, of course, is the service of the Bulletin to that purpose. Over the year within the modest pattern of the Bulletins, each of about 64 pages, (present company excepting!) we have extended the range of authors, of general Co-operative scope which goes far beyond the consumer movement and of Special Features which have covered: The Consumer Movement?; A Sectoral Co-operative Confederation?; Government and Co-operation; The Co-operative Development Agency; and Member Participation in Retail Societies. We have added the Newsletter by Rita Rhodes and the Reviews by Stephen Drodge. So - "where to, what next?". We look forward to the discussions at the A.G.M.

## The Next Bulletin

We need, of course, to proceed with Bulletin 43 before the democratic rendezvous with destiny at the September A.G.M. We plan to include a Special Feature on the buying and selling practices of consumer societies which are, of course, central to their performance and market share.