

SOCIETY NOTES

This Bulletin celebrates two birthdays - with "an auspicious and drooping eye". The first is the ninetieth birthday of Will Watkins and the second, the occasion of less certain rejoicing, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Report of the Co-operative Independent Commission. In the next issue we hope to deal particularly with workers' Co-operatives.

The Reports below of the A.G.M. and Conference provide the necessary 'Society Notes' but we should underline - for later and more detailed attention - at least one item.

"Co-operation between Co-operatives"

Following an initiative by the Society's syndicate on "Co-operation between Co-operatives", the Co-operative Development Agency organised on 21 September in London a "Co-operative Forum". The organisations represented there by leading lay and/or professional officials were the Co-operative Union, the Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives, the Fisheries Organisation Society, the Industrial Common Ownership Movement, the Industrial Common Ownership Fund, the National Federation of Housing Co-operatives, the National Federation of Housing Associations, regional groupings of local Co-op. development agencies/associations as well as the Plunkett Foundation and the Society.

One of the Forum's main items of business was consideration of a paper prepared by Plunkett chairman and Society member, John Morley. Following discussion of the paper, participants agreed to recommend to their organisations that

they participate in a further meeting to consider further the principles and the mechanics of such an organisation. At the time of writing, the CDA are proposing to hold this follow-up meeting on 25 January.

A.G.M. and Conference 1984

Please note that the National Officers have settled on 15/16th September for next year's A.G.M. and Conference - and that the days are Saturday/Sunday.

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R.L.M.