

Annual General Meeting and Conference

2nd/3rd April, 1976

The Annual General Meeting and Conference will be held at the Co-operative College, Stanford Hall, from tea on Friday, 2nd April to lunch on Saturday, 3rd April, 1976.

The Programme will be:-

Friday, 2nd April

4.15 p.m. Afternoon tea.

4.45 p.m. - First Conference Session:

6.15 p.m. "Workers' Participation in Co-operatives"
(based on Bulletin 26).

This will be led by:-

Lord Oram, formerly Labour/Co-operative
M.P. and Minister and particularly
interested in this topic.

6.45 p.m. Dinner.

Saturday, 3rd April

9.15 a.m. - Second Conference Session:

10.45 a.m. "A Single National Federation?"
(based on Bulletin No. 25).

This will be led by:-

Mr. George Gay, President, St. Cuthbert's
Co-operative Association; and

Mr. Sidney Stott, Regional General Manager,
Birkenhead & District Region, Co-operative
Retail Services.

- 11.15 a.m. - Annual General Meeting: including
12.45 p.m. discussion of the Annual Report of the
National Officers for 1975-76. (Agenda
and Report in Bulletin 26.)
1.00 p.m. Lunch.

Anyone wishing to join in should write quickly to the
Secretary: the fee for the Conference, including board
and accommodation, is £10 for members and £12 for others.

THE SOCIETY FOR CO-OPERATIVE STUDIES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 3rd, 1976 - 11.15 a.m.

A G E N D A

- 1 Welcome and Introduction: The Chairman.

- 2 Annual Report of the National Officers

A copy is included in Bulletin Number 26.

- 3 Future Development of the Society

This is briefly reviewed in the Report of the National Officers.

- 4 Appointment of National Officers for 1976-77

The constitution provides for the Annual General Meeting to appoint:-

- (a) Presidents
- (b) Chairman and Two Vice-Chairmen
- (c) Secretary and Treasurer.

- 5 Any Other Business.

The Society for Co-operative Studies

REPORT OF NATIONAL OFFICERS
FOR 1975-76

1. The list of Presidents for the year has been reinforced, as the Annual Conference agreed, by the addition of Lord Jacques and Mr. J.M. Wood. Mr. C.J.F. Ringrose has occupied the Chair, and Mr. M. Gibson and Mr. T.R. Edmondson have served as Vice-Chairmen. In accordance with the practice of the Society, the 1974-75 Chairman, Mr. S.P. Clarke, has been invited to attend meetings of the National Officers during the year: and in addition the officers have brought into their counsels the experience of Dr. A. Wilson, one of the main begetters of the Society.

The Officers have had three meetings and the following is their report for presentation to the Annual General Meeting 1976.

2. Membership

- (a) At 31st January 1976 the membership of the Society (with the 1975 figures in brackets) was:-

	<u>Individuals</u>				<u>Organisations</u>				<u>Total</u>	
	Co-op- erative		Other		Co-op erative		Other			
Metropolitan & Southern	10	(8)	5	(3)	11	(10)	-	(-)	26	(21)
Midland	11	(11)	5	(6)	10	(10)	1	(1)	27	(28)
North	1	(1)	-	(1)	1	(1)	1	(1)	3	(4)
North-West	13	(12)	6	(4)	9	(10)	1	(1)	29	(27)
Scottish	8	(5)	4	(7)	2	(3)	1	(1)	15	(16)
South-West	6	(7)	1	(1)	2	(2)	-	(-)	9	(10)
Yorkshire & Humerside	6	(7)	2	(1)	8	(9)	1	(1)	17	(18)
Overseas	1	(1)	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)	1	(1)
	56	(52)	23	(23)	43	(45)	5	(5)	127	(125)

- (b) In addition to the usual approaches to individuals and organisations by letter, small advertisements were placed in the "Co-operative News", "New Statesman" and "New Society" associated particularly with the publication of Bulletins 24 and 25.
- (c) The membership has been well maintained and the number of new members is quite helpful: in the "Co-operative" category 8 individuals and 1 organisation; and in the "Other" category 5 individuals and no organisations.

- (d) The recent record of total membership at the end of January in each year has been 124 (1972), 111 (1973), 113 (1974), 125 (1975) and 127 (1976).

Appended is a list of the 1976 members and their general locations which may help communication among them.

3. The "Bulletin"

It is expected that the year will accommodate three Bulletins: Numbers 24, 25 and 26. The first of these concentrated on Co-operative Retail Services Ltd., providing a descriptive note of the organisation and a report of a symposium on its significance for Co-operative development, past, present and future.

Number 25 was devoted to the question of a single national Federation and has obviously been very effective in meeting a need felt in the Movement: a larger than usual initial print of 750 was quickly exhausted and a further print of 1500 is accommodating continuing demand with no prospect of any embarrassing surplus of copies at the end.

Number 26 will deal with Workers' Participation in Co-operatives and will be a very useful documentation and analysis of a very topical issue for the Co-operative Movement and the community.

There has been a marked development in the service and appreciation of the Bulletin in the year: in it the comparative independence of the Society has made possible a treatment of important and delicate topics in a way which has considerably enhanced its reputation.

4. Other National Activities

(a) Research

The National officers shared in the formulation by the Education Department of the Union of a research project now undertaken by Dr. C.B. Burns of University of Strathclyde into comparative Co-operative law in Britain, France and Hungary and particularly the conditions governing the provision of public funds for Co-operative development.

Mr. Gibson, the Vice-Chairman, also undertook for the Education Department some research into the role of women in Co-operative employment, which was published in a special supplement of the Co-operative News in November 1975.

(b) Grants for the Regions

The National Officers put on offer to each region a grant of up to £25 for expenditure on projects appropriate to the development of the Society but there has been only a limited interest.

(c) International Representation

There was a grant of £40 to Mr. D. Hopwood to assist his attendance at the International Congress of Co-operative Science at Darmstadt and a report from him is to be included in Bulletin 26.

5. Regional Developments

There has been only very limited activity on the regional level. Occasional inquiries have been received

about more local activity - from Bristol and from Colchester. In each case attention was drawn particularly to the value of a venture drawing support from the local Society and from neighbouring universities and colleges, and promoting interest or research in areas of local significance.

Note was taken, however, of the continuing vigour of the Leeds University course for Co-operative senior and middle management and the National Officers agreed to seek reports on this from both University and the management sides as a basis for encouraging similar provisions elsewhere.

6. Finance

The Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st December 1975 compared with the Account for the previous year and checked by audit is as follows:-

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>
	£	£
Cash in Hand brought forward	0.47	2.05
Cash in Bank brought forward	234.11	467.25
Subscriptions	652.00	642.00
Fees - AGM and Conference	294.85	461.50
Sales - Society Bulletin	21.60	322.94
Bank Interest	3.13	3.12
	<u>£1206.16</u>	<u>£1898.86</u>

<u>Payments</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>
	£	£
AGM and Conference	252.25	421.68
Other Meetings - Fees and Expenses	112.53	108.27
Stationery	23.98	40.46
Printing Society Bulletins	130.00	506.00
Telephone	3.64	1.71
Postage - less contra items for		
Bulletin 25	48.53	129.05
Advertisements	12.60	70.95
Typewriting	98.80	187.67
Clerical Work (Bulletin 25)	-	19.71
Presentation to Mr. D.A. Hibberd	10.00	-
Donations and Grants	43.50	40.00
Bank Commission	1.03	1.39
Cash in Hand	2.05	2.94
Cash at Bank	467.25	369.03
	<u>£1206.16</u>	<u>£1898.86</u>

- (a) Among particular items of interest, it will be noted that receipts from the sale of the Bulletin have become a substantial figure - very largely from the demand for No 25; and costs have also gone up significantly - this is shown in the expense of typewriting, in a clerical charge mainly for handling the orders for No. 25 and in printing. On the last it should be noted that the 1974 Payments included only Bulletins 20 and 21, while the 1975 figure covers more Bulletins, i.e. Nos. 22,23,24 and 25 and a very much larger total number of copies.
- (b) In general we ended 1975 with Cash at Bank about £100 below 1974, but still at a fairly comfortable level: and supported both by the prospect of about £100 still to be paid for copies of Bulletin 25 already dispatched and by a retrospect of useful service from the expenditure made.

- (c) The National Officers considered the possibility of recommending an increase in the membership subscriptions which have remained at £2 for individuals and £10 for organisations since the inauguration of the Society in 1967. On balance, however, they feel it better to let the present rates run for at least a further year.

7. Role for the Future

Nationally the service of the Bulletin and of the Annual Conference and AGM, is being well maintained and appreciated. Regionally the report must be as in previous years - of very limited initiative and achievement. One connected question is also familiar: whether more progress could be made by the local engagement of Co-operative societies with universities and colleges in their neighbourhood within the broad purposes of the SCS? This is certainly worth more trial than it has so far received. One of the conditions for any success is the existence of one or two individuals of committed interest and infectious enthusiasm. We would like to look to some venture to test out the possibilities more positively in 1976-77.

The Society for Co-operative StudiesReport of National Officers: 1975-6

APPENDIX: LIST OF MEMBERS

Metropolitan and Southern RegionIndividuals

Mr. J. A. Abbott,
London.

Mr. G. Conchie,
Milton Keynes.

Mr. W. Gatherer,
London.

Mr. D. Hutton,
London.

Mr. R. J. Mitchell,
Wembley.

Mr. C. J. F. Ringrose,
London.

Mr. D. Smyth,
Ashford.

Mr. G. L. Watkins,
Farnborough.

Mr. A. S. Balfour,
Enfield.

Mr. J. Gallacher,
London.

Dr. J. W. Gilbert,
London.

Lord Jacques,
Portsmouth.

Mr. D. C. Mumford,
Canterbury.

Mr. J. F. H. Roper,
London.

Mr. H. Toch,
Hatfield.

Organisations

Mr. W. E. Cooper,
Brighton Co-op. Society Ltd.

Mr. J. R. Bentley,
Co-operative Planning Ltd.,
London.

Mr. J. Macey,
Colchester and East Essex
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. R. C. Harris,
Invicta Co-operative Society
Ltd., Dartford.

Metropolitan and Southern Region (continued)

Mr. F. Brumby,
Ipswich Co-operative
Society Ltd.

Mr. R. J. Hanks,
Norwich Co-operative
Society Ltd.

Mr. W. A. Edwards,
Portsea Island Mutual
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. R. E. Ashdown,
St. Albans Co-operative
Society Ltd., Welwyn Garden City.

Mr. W. Griffin,
Milton Keynes Co-operative
Society Ltd.

Mr. S. J. Wallace,
Oxford and Swindon
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. J. H. Walker,
Royal Arsenal Co-operative
Society Ltd., London.

Midland RegionIndividuals

Mr. H. Bailey,
Wellingborough.

Mr. L. E. Burch,
Stanford Hall.

Mr. A. J. Corfield,
Birmingham.

Mr. T. Fynn,
Birmingham.

Mrs. M. W. Horne,
Loughborough.

Mr. J. Leonard,
Skegness.

Mr. D. C. Mordaunt,
Birmingham.

Mr. E. E. Stephens,
Solihull.

Professor J. A. Banks,
Leicester.

Mr. P. J. Bushell,
Birmingham.

Mr. L. C. Fox,
Stanford Hall.

Mr. M. A. Gibson,
Leicester.

Mr. D. A. Knibbs,
Kettering.

Dr. L. G. Mee,
Nottingham.

Mr. W. Shearer,
Stanford Hall.

Mr. W. P. Watkins,
Shipston-on-Stour.

Midland Region (continued)Organisations

Miss M. Large,
Birmingham Co-op. Society
Ltd. Education Committee.

Mr. G. T. Irwin,
Coventry and District
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. L. A. Harrison,
Greater Nottingham
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. A. L. Cook,
Greater Peterborough Reg-
ional Co-op. Society Ltd.

Mr. R. T. Lowe,
Leicestershire Co-operative
Society Ltd.

Mr. R. Percival,
Mansfield and Worksop Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. R. L. Marshall,
Co-operative Union Ltd.,
Stanford Hall.

Mr. F. E. Barfoot,
Derby and Burton
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. K. M. Pike,
Greater Nottingham Co-op.
Society Ltd. Member
Relations Committee.

Mr. G. Wilkinson,
Kettering Industrial
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Professor J. Sizer,
Loughborough University
of Technology, Dept. of
Management Studies.

Northern RegionIndividual

Mr. T. G. Clark, Carlisle.

Organisations

Mr. K. G. E. Harris,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Polytechnic Library.

Mr. W. Wilson,
North Eastern Co-operative
Society Ltd., Gateshead.

North-West RegionIndividuals

Mr. F. Abbotts,
Manchester.

Mr. R. Bluer,
Manchester.

Mr. R. Garratt,
Manchester.

Mrs. L. Howe,
Manchester.

Mr. K. Hulse,
Manchester.

Mr. A. P. Martin,
Manchester.

Mr. P. Rosenfeld,
Manchester.

Mr. D. L. Wilkinson,
Manchester.

Mr. R. M. Wilson,
Liverpool.

Miss N. R. Wylie, Manchester.

Mr. S. H. Ainsworth,
Manchester.

Mr. I. Brierley,
Manchester.

Mr. W. G. Gibson,
Manchester.

Mr. A. A. P. Hughes,
Clitheroe.

Mr. P. A. Legg,
Manchester.

Mr. L. W. Preston,
Stockport.

Sir Robert Southern,
Manchester.

Dr. A. Wilson,
Manchester.

Mr. J. M. Worthington,
Ashton-under-Lyne.

Organisations

Mr. S. Stott,
Birkenhead & District
Region, CRS Ltd.

Mr. A. Rhodes,
Co-op. Retail Services Ltd.,
Manchester.

Mr. J. H. Perrow,
Bolton & Wigan Regional
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. D'A. T. N. Payne,
Co-op. Wholesale Society Ltd.,
Manchester.

North-West Region (continued)

Mr. D. McKelvie,
Lancastria Co-operative
Society Ltd., Lancaster.

Mr. W. H. Farrow,
North Midland Co-operative
Society Ltd.,
 Stoke-on-Trent.

Mr. C. F. Pratt,
Oldham Industrial
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. W. G. Smith,
Liverpool Region, Co-op.
Retail Services Ltd.

Mr. R. G. Aspray,
Norwest Co-operative
Society Ltd.,
 Stockport.

Lord Allen,
Union of Shop, Distributive
and Allied Workers,
 Manchester.

OverseasIndividual

Mr. E. B. Loveridge, Indonesia.

Scottish RegionIndividuals

Mr. W. D. Beck,
 Dumfries.

Dr. T. F. Carbery,
 Glasgow.

Mr. A. Emslie,
 Dunfermline.

Mrs. M. W. McCallum,
 Glasgow.

Miss E. Quinn,
 Bellshill.

Mrs. R. M. Rhodes,
 Glasgow.

Mr. F. D. Boggis,
 Angus.

Mr. J. S. Chalmers,
 Glasgow.

Mr. C. A. MacArthur,
 Edinburgh.

Mr. A. Peattie,
 Dumfries.

Mr. B. D. Rhodes,
 Glasgow.

Miss J. D. Wilkie,
 Glasgow.

Scottish Region (continued)Organisations

Mr. R. H. Young,
Central and East Fife
Co-op. Society Ltd.,
 Kirkcaldy.

Mr. G. Robertson,
St. Cuthbert's Co-operative
Association Ltd.
 Edinburgh.

Professor K. J. W. Alexander,
University of Strathclyde, Department of Economics,
 Glasgow.

South-Western RegionIndividuals

Mr. D. J. Baverstock,
 Caerphilly.

Mr. S. C. Booth,
 Swansea.

Mr. E. V. Clemmett,
 St. Austell.

Mr. T. Lazarus,
 Exmouth.

Mr. N. L. Stevens,
 Bristol.

Mr. W. T. Welch,
 Wimborne.

Mrs. J. M. Wheeler, Swansea.

Organisations

Mr. H. S. Cox,
Gloucester and Severnside
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. R. Briscoe,
Plymouth and South Devon
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Yorkshire and Humberside RegionIndividuals

Mr. E. A. Bentley,
 Leeds.

Mr. W. Bond,
 Brighouse.

Yorkshire and Humberside Region (continued)

Mr. S. P. Clarke,
Bradford.

Mr. C. R. Duthie,
Heckmondwike.

Mr. H. Evans,
Sheffield.

Mr. G. V. J. Pratt,
Leeds.

Mr. T. E. Stephenson,
Leeds.

Mr. J. H. Wright,
Leeds.

Organisations

Mr. C. Burkill,
Barnsley British Region,
Co-op. Retail Services Ltd.,
Education Department.

Mr. J. W. Deane,
Brightside & Carbrook
(Sheffield) Co-operative
Society Ltd.

Mr. C. D. Thompson,
Chesterfield and District
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. E. W. Taylor,
Harrogate and District
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. F. Jepson,
Huddersfield Education
Committee, Yorkshire
Region, CRS Ltd.

Mr. J. R. Brown,
Hull & East Riding
Co-operative Society Ltd.

Mr. E. A. Bentley,
Leeds Industrial Co-op.
Society Ltd.

Mr. T. E. Stephenson,
University of Leeds,
Dept. of Management Studies

Mr. R. Woods,
West Yorkshire Co-operative Society Ltd.,
Bradford.