

# TAMWORTH CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.

## INTERIM REPORT

Half Year Ended 16th July, 1973



Registered Office:  
**5, Colehill, Tamworth**



25 members - 10. + 3 Officials } 12 Board Members  
 on floor. Employers  
**THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING**

**Officers of the Society**

Chairman: Mrs. H. FOWLER  
 Secretary and Executive Officer: Mr. G. W. WAGSTAFFE, A.C.S.A.  
 Assistant Secretary: Mr. A. GLOVER, C.S.D. Cashier: Mr. R. H. WHITE, A.C.S.A.  
 Auditors: Mr. W. WOOD, F.C.A., and Mr. D. MACDONALD, F.A.C.C.A.  
 Approved Auditors, of Messrs. English and Partners, Accountants,  
 Lancashire House, 47 Peter Street, Manchester, M2 3WS.  
 Arbitrators: LORD PEDDIE, M.B.E., J.P., J. BAILEY, Esq., J.P., Sir R. SOUTHERN, C.B.E.,  
 H. TAYLOR, Esq., O.B.E., and LORD BURNTWOOD.

will be held in the

**CO-OPERATIVE ASSEMBLY HALL, COLEHILL, TAMWORTH**

**ON WEDNESDAY, 12th SEPTEMBER, 1973**

40 Members present.

Members will be admitted to the Business Meeting of the Society only upon production of their Pass Cards at the door, in conformity with Rule 25

Chair to be taken at 7.15 p.m.

**AGENDA**

- Minutes of the last Half-yearly Meeting. - Welcome. - Apologies =
- The Report of the Committee of Management. Sec. Min last meeting. Now Sec. covered: signed. Matters arising
- Report of Delegates—  
 (a) Delegate to C.W.S. Meeting Mr Baker —  
 (b) Co-operative Congress Mr Clarke —
- Elections—  
 (a) Delegate to C.W.S. Meeting Nominations invited Mr Baker retiring rep.  
 (b) Mr. T. Lea retires, but is eligible for re-election. as Scrutineer.  
 (c) Auditors. Formally move English & Partners.
- Declaration of the Election to the General Committee. Dyno Service.  
 Address for retiring member =
- To approve, or otherwise, that the Fees paid to members of the Committee of Management be increased to £2 per week. } Sec:—  
 Board member to move. Secunder from floor =
- Any other business. Card vote for or against

Adoption:  
 Move The Report ask for seconder:—  
 Questions on report:—

all Board present

**General Committee's Attendances, Half Year ended 16th July, 1973**

NAME	Appointment Expires	Possible	ACTUAL		APOLOGIES			Society's Business
			General	Sub.	Ill	Holidays	Work	
Mr. L. HARPER	September, 1973	24	15	—	—	9	—	—
Mr. F. W. MORGAN, BEM, JP	September, 1973	25	24	1	—	—	—	—
*Mr. J. KING	September, 1973	15	13	—	—	2	—	—
Mr. E. COLLINS	March, 1974	26	23	1	—	—	—	—
Mr. A. E. SMITH	March, 1974	25	22	—	2	—	—	—
Mr. J. HINDS	March, 1974	27	24	1	—	—	—	—
Mr. F. DAY	September, 1974	28	23	4	1	—	—	—
Mr. C. W. DEAKIN	September, 1974	27	22	2	—	2	—	—
Mr. A. HEATHCOTE, MBE, JP	September, 1974	28	20	3	—	1	—	2
Mrs. H. FOWLER	March, 1975	28	21	3	3	—	—	—
Mr. F. R. WOOD	March, 1975	28	22	4	—	1	—	1
Mrs. K. M. JOHNSON	March, 1975	15	14	—	—	—	—	—

Those marked \* retire, but are eligible for re-election.

**Member Relations Committee's Attendances**

NAME	Appointment Expires	Possible	Actual	APOLOGIES		
				Ill	Holidays	Not Possible
Mr. G. LANE	March, 1975	6	6	—	—	—
Mr. M. SUTTON	March, 1975	6	6	—	—	—
Mr. A. G. GLOVER	March, 1975	6	6	—	—	—
Mr. G. CLARK	March, 1975	6	6	—	—	—
Mr. A. HEATHCOTE, M.B.E., J.P.	March, 1975	6	4	—	1	—
Mr. J. HINDS	March, 1975	6	3	—	—	—
Mrs. H. FOWLER	March, 1974	6	6	—	—	—
Mr. F. WOOD	March, 1974	6	6	—	—	—
Mrs. G. PARRATT	March, 1974	6	4	—	—	—
Mr. G. COTTERILL	March, 1974	6	3	—	—	—

**Nominations for General Committee**

The following have been nominated for Three Vacancies on the General Committee:

Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
15. Mr. P. FOWLER, 42 Comberford Road, Tamworth.	Mrs. G. A. Joyce	Mr. J. Ikin
35. Mr. T. HILL, 23 High Street, Polesworth, Tamworth.	Mrs. B. J. Burnell	Mrs. A. Grice
36. *Mr. J. KING, 37 Leedham Avenue, Bolehall, Tamworth.	Mr. G. Riley and another	Mr. G. S. Summers and another
25. Mr. F. A. WOOD, 19 Sherbrooke Avenue, Wilnecote, Tamworth.	Mrs. S. E. Gray and another	Mrs. E. M. Morris and another

\* Retiring Member eligible for re-election.

Voting will take place at the General Office, 5, Colehill, Tamworth on Wednesday, 12th September, 1973, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. Members wishing to vote must produce their Pass Card.

**Nominations for General Committee**

Nomination Papers for Candidates for the General Committee may be obtained at the Office. All nominations, together with the names of the Proposer and Seconder, with Share Numbers and Addresses of such Members, shall be received by the Secretary not later than 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 1st January, 1974.

NOTE.—Any member nominating a candidate without his knowledge or consent is liable to a fine.

No person is eligible to be nominated until he has been a Member of the Society 12 months and shall have no less than one paid-up Share.

No person shall nominate more than one candidate.

No member of the Committee, or Member who is himself a candidate or an employee, shall be allowed to nominate any Member for this Committee.

If any Member has a complaint relative to the working of the Society, it is requested that such complaint be put in writing addressed to the Secretary, as provided by Rule 34. Otherwise it may not be possible to deal with the matter satisfactorily at this Meeting.

# Committee's Report

FELLOW MEMBERS,

In presenting this interim report for your consideration we ask you to bear in mind that retail distribution is going through the most violent period of change any of us can remember, with value added tax merely heading the list of new features. Never was the phrase more appropriate—'Survival of the Fittest', for we are surely engaged in a grim struggle.

It therefore gives us considerable heart and encouragement to be able to say that not only is the Tamworth Society doing reasonably well, but the whole Co-operative Movement shows signs of again making real progress.

## Membership

A steady increase has been maintained throughout the half-year, bringing the total to 25,716.

## Capital and Reserves

The total of members capital plus reserves now stands at £1,426,761 an increase of £12,151 over last year. Shares continue to show an improvement and the magical figure of one million pounds is once more in sight.

## Investments

We are very pleased to report that the Employees Superannuation Fund is now virtually independent as regards investment and should be well placed to conform to the very stringent standards which will apply to all occupational pension schemes from 1975 onwards. The massive transfer of funds has been achieved with the minimal effect on the Society's own re-invested capital position and, in fact, investments still exceed share capital by over £63,000.

## Trade

Both in the background of value added tax and continued inflation it is proving most difficult to make meaningful comparisons with past performance. In our view trade figures will not be comparable until a full twelve months has elapsed since the commencement of VAT. Even then adjustments will be needed to compensate for the change over period and the reaction which it had on the shopping public. Excluding VAT and comparing with twelve months ago when our sales included purchase tax, we show an overall increase of £118,165 in the six months. After allowing for the closure of three units, namely Wilnecote Branch, The Economy Unit and Mobile Butchery Van, we believe this is quite satisfactory. Gross sales at £1,791,544 show the highest increase for any July half-year and averaged £68,905 per week being 9.21% above the corresponding figures for last year.

## Developments

Commencing in October we shall be drawing our Grocery and Provision supplies from the Birmingham Society which will enable us to put the Grocery Warehouse to more productive use. It will also release a considerable amount of capital at present tied up in stocks, and improve our competitive position.

The demand for more room in the Central Premises has resulted in us bringing forward our plans for further extensions and we hope to start work on the completion of the new block in January, 1974, which will add another 18,000 sq. ft. of selling space.

## Staff

The general expansion of industry which has taken place in recent months is something we all welcome, but this inevitably brings greater problems in staff recruitment and retention for the distributive and service industries. We have been acutely aware of these pressures and the only long term solution is greater efficiency and higher sales per employee, thus enabling better wages and conditions.

We are therefore extremely grateful for the loyalty and support of our employees in all grades, particularly those of long service of which there are over forty with 20 or more years employment with the Society.

## OBITUARY

Mr. W. Chapman (Works Dept.) Retired.

Mr. E. Hill (Works Dept.)

Mr. T. Evans (Grocery Dept.) Retired.

We remember with affection and gratitude the services rendered by these persons named above and extend our deepest sympathy to their bereaved relatives and friends.

## Interim Dividend

We recommend that the dividend be again 4% with 8% on all purchases qualifying for double dividend.

Thanks are extended to everyone who has contributed towards another successful half-year which shows every sign of being maintained.

On behalf of the Committee,

HAZEL M. FOWLER, *Chairman.*

G. W. WAGSTAFFE, *Secretary and Executive Officer.*

## Notices of Interest to Every Member

**CHRISTMAS SAVING STAMP CLUB**—Stamps may be purchased at any time in Departments or the Office. The amount saved can be spent in any Department of the Society. Interest is added at the rate of 5 per cent in addition to full dividend. Further particulars given on application.

**CO-OPERATIVE TRAVEL SERVICE**.—Excellent holidays can be arranged through this Service, including your foreign currency requirements. Inquire at the Registered Office.

**MEMBERS' ATTENTION** is directed to Rule XX, whereby they may nominate the party to whom the money standing to their credit may be paid at their decease. If Members would attend to this rule the money could be transferred at their death free of expense and those entitled to receive the money saved a considerable amount of trouble.

A new law has raised to £500 the total amount which may be nominated, but this applies to nominations made on or after 4th September, 1965.

Nominations made before that date are still valid, but up to £100 or £200 only. Members wishing to take advantage of the increased amount now allowed, must make a new nomination.

Full information may be obtained from the Office.

**SHARES**.—Maximum holding may now be increased to £1,000.

**SMALL SAVINGS BANK**.—Deposits are received at any time during office hours. Sums from 1p to £2 may be deposited, but not more than £50 can be on deposit at one time.

**LOANS**.—Deposits received at any time during office hours.

**MEMBERS CHANGING THEIR ADDRESS** should inform the Registered Office immediately.

**TWENTY WEEKS' CLUB**.—We have in operation a Twenty Weeks' Club, for goods from the Furnishing, Drapery, Stationery, Outfitting, Boots, Coal, or Chemistry Departments. Vouchers of £1 minimum and £30 maximum are issued from the Office, to be repaid at the rate of 5p per £ per week. Also a Thirty Eight Weeks' Club. Ask for details.

**CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE**.—We are in a position to effect Insurances of all kinds—Life, Fire, Burglary, Motor, Live Stock, and Accident. The risk is covered by the Joint Insurance Department of the C.W.S. and S.C.W.S., and Co-operators should realise the necessity of some Insurance and apply at once to the Office for all information relating to the various branches of our Insurance business.

**WITHDRAWALS** of Share Capital and Dividend can only be paid to the actual owner of the Shares, unless the person sent is provided with written authority and a Notice of Withdrawal Form duly signed by the owner of the Shares. The Share Pass Book or Pass Card must be produced whenever a contribution to or a withdrawal from Shares is made. Children should not be sent to the Office either to receive or to pay money.

**SHARE, LOAN, and SMALL SAVINGS BOOKS** should be sent in regularly to be made up and audited, and the importance of this cannot be too strongly impressed upon Members. When left, the Pass Card should have the amount standing in the Share Book entered thereon and initialled.

**HALF-YEARLY DIVIDEND WILL BE PAID IN THE NEW CENTRAL PREMISES, CHURCH STREET, TAMWORTH, ON THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY, 4th, 5th AND 6th OCTOBER, BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 9 a.m. TO NOON, AND 1.30 TO 5 p.m. ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY AND 9.0 a.m. TO NOON AND 1.30 TO 4.0 p.m. ON SATURDAY. MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO BRING THEIR PASS CARDS FOR PRODUCTION AT THE TIME OF PAYMENT.**

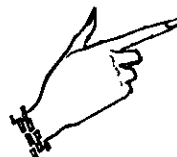
**CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE SENT TO WITHDRAW DIVIDEND.**

**TAMWORTH** Co-operative Society Limited



Join the

# CO-OPERATIVE CHRISTMAS SAVINGS STAMP CLUB



**5% INTEREST & FULL DIVIDEND**

START BUYING STAMPS NOW FOR CHRISTMAS

Plus

FULL DIVIDEND  
WHEN GOODS ARE PURCHASED



SAVINGS STAMPS  
MAY BE OBTAINED  
FROM THE OFFICE,  
SHOPS AND ROUNDS

Now

LET US HELP YOU NEXT CHRISTMAS

**CO-OPERATIVE  
SHOPPING  
SAVES £ £ £ £'s**



**TAMWORTH CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED**  
**MEMBER RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

★ ★ ★

**GRAND CONCERT**

by the Renowned

**C.W.S. (MANCHESTER) BAND**

(by kind permission of Directors of the C.W.S. Ltd.)

★ ★ ★

**MERCIAN SCHOOL HALL**  
**ASHBY ROAD, TAMWORTH**

**SATURDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER, 1973**

**at 7.30 p.m.**

**ADMISSION BY PROGRAMME — 50p**

Obtainable from:

**GENERAL OFFICE, COLEHILL**  
**CO-OP SHOPS AND BRANCHES**  
**TAMWORTH PARISH CHURCH**  
**TAMWORTH NURSERY FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN**

★ ★ ★

All proceeds to be equally divided between:  
**TAMWORTH PARISH CHURCH RESTORATION FUND**  
**and**  
**TAMWORTH NURSERY FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN**  
**BUILDING FUND**

Mr Chairman

Ladies & Gentlemen -

On behalf of The Board of Management - I extend to you our warmest greetings & best wishes.

This is my first visit to your annual dinner.

I am honoured and delighted to have the privilege of continuing this tradition of cordial relationship which has long existed between The management and The Tamworth Branch of the U.S.D.A.W.

=

Never was there a greater  
need for a true spirit of  
cooperation & understanding  
between us - than now.

I feel sure that the goodwill  
which has been built up -  
here in Larnworth - over the  
years - will stand us in  
good stead in the difficult  
times ahead.

Regardless of what the  
future holds - tonight  
we can all relax together  
and enjoy ourselves.

My husband & I - Thank  
you - most sincerely, for <sup>your</sup> ~~the~~  
kind invitation so do  
Mr & Mrs Wagstaff & Mrs Mrs Glover.

3

Please accept our  
warmest Thanks —  
coupled with our  
sincere wish that you  
& your families will  
be able to enjoy a  
Very Happy Christmas  
and industrial peace  
in The New Year.