

# TAMWORTH CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.

## ANNUAL REPORT

Year ended 20th January, 1975



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



## Officers of the Society

Chairman: Mr. F. DAY

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: APPLEBY, 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.

## General Committee's Attendances, Half Year ended 20th January, 1975.

NAME	Appointment Expires	Possible	ACTUAL		APOLOGIES			Society's Business
			General	Sub.	Ill	Holidays	Work	
*MRS. H. FOWLER	March, 1975	15	11	3	1	—	—	—
*MR. F. R. WOOD	March, 1975	12	12	—	—	—	—	—
*MRS. K. M. JOHNSON	March, 1975	13	12	1	—	—	—	—
MR. T. HILL	September, 1975	12	12	—	—	—	—	—
MR. J. KING	September, 1975	13	12	1	—	—	—	—
MR. F. A. WOOD	September, 1975	13	9	1	1	2	—	—
MR. E. COLLINS	March, 1976	12	12	—	—	—	—	—
MR. A. E. SMITH	March, 1976	12	10	—	2	—	—	—
MR. J. HINDS	March, 1976	12	12	—	—	—	—	—
MR. F. DAY	September, 1976	15	12	3	—	—	—	—
MR. C. W. DEAKIN	September, 1976	12	12	—	—	—	—	—
MR. A. HEATHCOTE, MBE, JP	September, 1976	13	12	1	—	—	—	—

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	5	—	—	—
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	3	—	—	1
MR. J. HINDS	March, 1975	6	4	—	—	—
MRS. H. FOWLER	March, 1976	6	4	—	1	—
MR. F. WOOD	March, 1976	6	5	—	—	—
MR. G. COTTERILL	March, 1976	6	6	—	—	—
Mrs. M. JOHNSON	Deceased	3	3	—	—	—

## Nominations for General Committee

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

Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
MRS. G. C. ALLEN, 290 Masefield Drive, Leyfields, Tamworth.	Mrs. D. I. Owen	Mrs. N. French.
*MRS. H. M. FOWLER, 42 Comberford Road, Tamworth	Mrs. B. L. Sutton	Mrs. F. E. Kelsher.
*MRS. K. M. JOHNSON, 3 Crutchley Avenue, Tamworth	Mrs. G. M. Cumbley	Mrs. J. M. Thompson.
*MR. F. R. WOOD, 148 Kettlebrook Road, Tamworth	Mr. A. J. Taylor	Mr. J. W. Edden.

\* Retiring Member eligible for re-election.

VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE GENERAL OFFICE 5 COLEHILL, TAMWORTH ON WEDNESDAY, 12th MARCH, 1975. BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8.00 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 July, 1975.

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.

# THE ANNUAL MEETING

will be held in the

CO-OPERATIVE ASSEMBLY HALL, COLEHILL, TAMWORTH

ON WEDNESDAY, 12th MARCH, 1975

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.
- The Report of the Committee of Management.
- Adoption of the Balance Sheet.
- Report of the Member Relations Committee and adoption of the accounts.
- Report and Statement of the Accounts of the Tamworth Society Co-operative Party.
- Recommendations of the Committee—
  - That £5.00 be donated to each of St. John Ambulance Brigade Divisions at Tamworth and Wilnecote.
  - That members of the Member Relations Committee be re-imbursed for travelling expenses incurred by attendance at Committee Meetings.
- Confirmation of Donations.
- Elections—
  - Delegate to the C.W.S. Meeting.
  - Delegate to the Co-operative Congress at Edinburgh.
  - Nomination and Election of one member to serve on the Member Relations Committee until March 1976.  
A vacancy caused by the death of Mrs. M. Johnson.
  - Scrutineer—Mr. G. Lane retires, but is eligible for re-election.
  - Nomination and election of Four Members to serve on the Member Relations Committee for two years.  
Mr. G. Clark, Mr. A. G. Glover, Mr. G. Lane and Mr. M. Sutton are the retiring members, but eligible for re-election.
- Report of the C.W.S. Meeting held at Manchester.
- Declaration of the Election to the General Committee.
- Any other business.

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,

We present for your consideration and approval our report for the year ending 20th January, 1975.

## Membership

The membership of the Society is now 27,053, an increase of 880 on last year.

## Capital and Reserves

In the light of current economic and financial circumstances we have held our capital position with commendable success and can still claim one of the highest average holdings per member in the country. An increasing proportion of total capital is now collectively owned in the form of reserves with the General Reserve Fund alone standing at well over a quarter of a million pounds. Tremendous sums of money are now required to finance a business the size of ours and we are indeed fortunate not only to be independent of outside assistance but to have a reasonable surplus over our day to day needs. This can only be built up over many years by adhering to prudent financial policies which in turn generate increasing confidence from the members.

## Investments

During the year we have seen some of our liquid assets being converted to bricks and mortar as work progressed on the completion of the second floor of the Central Premises. In addition more of our money is now utilised in stock, the financing of Credit, and other capital absorbing items, but even with all these extra demands the total of re-invested capital stands at £1,027,677.

## Trade

The repetition of references to inflation get quite monotonous but if we did not qualify our sales figures by the extent of its influence we could certainly be criticised and quite rightly so. Having said that however we would need a special computer to tell us by exactly how much inflation has effected our figures since it is complicated enough to measure its effect on a single specialised business and we are a complex mixture of many. Suffice to say that without an overall increase of at least 15% volume decreases would almost certainly be indicated. Our increase in cash trade after adjusting last years figures, to 52 weeks is £695,178 or 18.1% more than twice the amount ever shown in a year before bringing the Annual Sales to £4,527,175. We believe this is a very creditable performance showing real progress, especially if one takes into account all the many difficulties which have been experienced in the last twelve months. Some departments have done exceptionally well, including the following units with increases of over 25%:- Supermarket, Glascote, Wood End, Kingsbury, Men's Wear and Furnishing.

## Developments

Work on the Central Premises extensions has been in progress for most of the year and we hope to complete the main structural work by the end of March. Some inconvenience both to customers and staff was inevitable and we are grateful for the co-operation given by the Store Manager, Mr. Jermy and all his staff through a most trying period. We now have a store worth something like one and a quarter million pounds and it stands in the books at only a fraction of its market value thus representing additional reserves of great strength. The whole appearance of the building has been greatly enhanced, particularly the view coming up Church Street from Aldergate. It is not only a credit to the Co-operative Movement, but a credit to the town of Tamworth belonging as it does to ordinary people from all walks of life and interest who make up our membership. Our policy is one of continual improvement, in the belief that only the best is good enough for the members of this Society.

Not without considerable difficulty we have at last managed to open a Travel Bureau having gained the much coveted membership of the A.B.T.A. thus adding yet another service to the many already provided for our members.

During the year we purchased a suite of House and Shop Property in Upper Gungate, the latter being re-furnished as a Pharmacy with a view to giving members living North of the town a much more convenient dispensing and pharmaceutical service.

The Grocery Warehouse has been leased to Pirelli Limited thus completing the total package envisaged when we entered into an agreement with the Birmingham Society for the procurement and supply of Groceries and provisions. A very large sum of money has been released which was previously tied up in stocks and we shall now have an income from the building as opposed to occupancy expenses.

## Staff

The high rate of turnover continues to be an expensive and frustrating problem, but whilst retail distribution is expected to provide six and seven day week services with earnings often much less than in industry we fear there will be little relief. Competition is at the moment fiercer than ever but there are signs of contraction and we envisage many changes in the retail field which will effect the labour position over the next few years.

There have been two more retirements since our last report:—

Mr. E. Leedham 13 years — Bakery Department.

Mr. G. W. Orchard 27 years — Delivery.

to both these gentlemen we extend our grateful thanks for their services and wish them a long and happy retirement.

## OBITUARY

Mrs. M. Johnson Member Relations Committee.

Mr. G. Gibson Dairy Department.

Both these co-operators were tragically killed in road accidents. We extend our deepest sympathy to their families and friends and pay our tribute to their memory.

## Dividend

So long as we feel that the majority of members still prefer a cash dividend and that it is administratively and economically possible to continue our traditional method of returning the profit to those who help to create it, then dividend days will continue to be a feature of this Society. The total amount available to members for the year is as follows:—

	£
Share Interest ..	24,462
Dividend .. ..	214,898
	<hr/>
	239,360

An interim dividend was declared in July of £86,967 leaving £127,931 to be distributed at the rate of 4½p in the £.

May we thank everyone who has contributed their energy, skills and loyalty towards this result which undoubtedly shows continued progress.

On behalf of the Committee.

F. DAY, *Chairman*

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

I.—TRADING

	£	£
Stock-in-Trade to begin .. .. .	318673	
Net Purchases .. .. .	3233140	
	3551813	
<i>Less</i> Stock-in-Trade to end .. .. .	441090	
Net Trading Stock Disposed of Productive and Service Expenses .. .. .	3110723	
	149361	3260084
Distributive Expenses .. .. .	940964	
Net Surplus to Surplus Appropriation Account ..	193375	1134339
	£4394423	

II.—INTEREST AND INVESTMENTS

	£	£
Share Interest .. .. .	24800	
Interest Charges as per Capital and Reserves Account .. .. .	18057	
Bank Interest and Commission .. .. .	3497	46354
Net Surplus to Surplus Appropriation Account		80615
	£126969	

ACCOUNT

	£	£
Total Turnover .. .. .	4527175	
Less Value Added Tax .. .. .	151063	
	4376112	
Transfers—		
Expenses Account .. .. .	3823	
Surplus Appropriation Account .. .. .	341	
	4164	
Dividend on Purchases .. .. .		12030
Trade Commission .. .. .		2117
		£4394423

REVENUE ACCOUNT

	£	£
Interest Received per Investments Account .. ..		110311
Bank Interest .. .. .		258
Interest on Trade .. .. .		15400
Rent .. .. .		1000
		£126969

### III.—SURPLUS

	£	£
Shares Interest .. .. .		24462
Interim Dividend .. .. .		86967
Employees' Superannuation Fund (Special) .. .. .		4433
Charitable Donations .. .. .		1408
National Taxation .. .. .		63877
Employees' Social and Dance .. .. .		496
Employees' Retirement Presentations .. .. .		258
Pensions .. .. .		168
Checks Bought .. .. .		34
Architects Fees .. .. .		100
General Reserve Fund .. .. .		10000
Members' Dividend (Proposed) .. .. .	127931	
Grant for Member Relations Committee (Proposed) .. .. .	1352	
Balance carried forward as per Balance Sheet.. .. .	650	
		129933
		£322136

#### LIST OF DONATIONS

	£
Senior Members Discount .. .. .	373
Midland Co-op. Convalescent Fund .. .. .	65
Mayor's Old Folks Christmas Appeal .. .. .	15
St. John Ambulance Brigade, Wilnecote .. .. .	2
St. John Ambulance Brigade, Tamworth .. .. .	2
Necessitous Members, &c. .. .. .	268
Co-operative Party .. .. .	231
Tamworth Carnival .. .. .	10
Tamworth Swimming Gala .. .. .	30
Employees Long Service Association.. .. .	412
	£1408

### APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT

	£	£
Balance brought forward from last period .. .. .		550
Add Adjustment of Dividend of Previous Period .. .. .		10962
		11512
Add Adjustment to Share Interest of Previous Period .. .. .		280
		11792
Surplus from Trading Account .. .. .	193375	
Surplus from Investments Revenue Account .. .. .	80615	
Share Interest as Charged to Interest Account. .. .. .	24800	
		298790
Adjustment of V.A.T. .. .. .		11554
		£322136

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

##### 1. Net Sales

Includes Cash Sales, Goods sold on credit and Rentals paid.

##### 2. Trading Stocks

Stocks are valued at Cost or Retail less an appropriate discount to reduce to cost.

##### 3. Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on Fixed Assets and Television Sets on rental. This charge is calculated to write off the assets over their expected useful life annually by the straight line method as follows:—

Freehold Land and Buildings	Not less than 2½% per annum
Fixtures, Fittings and Machinery	Not less than 10% per annum
Transport	Not less than 20% per annum

Television Sets are depreciated over the estimated life of the assets by the straight line method.

##### 4. Tax Equalisation

Provision is made for the tax deferred by reason of capital allowances for tax purposes exceeding the corresponding depreciation charges in the accounts.

##### 5. Investment Income

Interest on investments is that which has been received or credited to the account.

##### 6. Debtors

Club Accounts, Hire Purchase and Credit Sales Accounts and other Accounts are included at gross values less suitable provisions for Bad and Doubtful Debts and any liability under the Supply of Goods (Implied Terms) Act, 1973.

##### 7. Superannuation Fund

The Employees Superannuation Fund is not invested in the Society.

##### 8. Capital Expenditure

- (a) Future Capital Expenditure authorised by the Committee and contracted £75,000.
- (b) Capital Expenditure authorised by the Committee but not yet contracted, Nil.

IV.—BALANCE SHEET

	£	£
SHARE CAPITAL .. .. .		977548
RESERVES AND OTHER FUNDS—		
General Reserve Fund .. .. .	264000	
Member Relations Committee .. .. .	381	
Television Rental Scheme Repair Fund .. .. .	29000	
		293381
LOANS—		
Small Savings Bank .. .. .	13354	
Loans .. .. .	157002	
Sales Club .. .. .	5433	
		175789
OTHER LIABILITIES—		
Creditors for Goods .. .. .	174418	
Creditors for Expenses .. .. .	102000	
Agencies .. .. .	9108	
Corporation Tax (includes Deferred Liability of £10,000)	91549	
Value Added Tax .. .. .	1094	
Television Rental Advance Payments .. .. .	12995	
Gift Tokens .. .. .	1471	
		392635
BALANCE FOR DISPOSAL—		
Proposed Dividend .. .. .	127931	
Proposed Allocations—		
Member Relations Committee .. .. .	1352	
Balance carried forward .. .. .	650	
		129933
		<u>£1969286</u>

AUDITORS'

To the Members of Tamworth Co-operative Society Limited.

In our opinion the foregoing Balance Sheet and Accounts give a true and fair view of for the year ended on that date and comply with the requirements of the Industrial and

47 Peter Street, Manchester, M2 3WS  
13th February, 1975.

as at 20th January, 1975

	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
PROPERTY—		
Land and Buildings .. .. .	325000	
Not used in Trades:- Land and Buildings .. .. .	50000	
		375000
INVESTMENTS—		
Shares .. .. .	101675	
* Loans .. .. .	926002	
* Includes Government Securities at £190468—Market Value £111423		
		1027677
CURRENT ASSETS		
STOCK—		
Trading Stock .. .. .	381865	
Expenses Stock .. .. .	100	
Television Rentals Stock .. .. .	59225	
		441190
SUNDRY DEBTORS—		
20-Weeks' Club Accounts .. .. .	25745	
Hire-purchase Accounts .. .. .	32737	
Other Accounts owing to the Society .. .. .	19777	
		78259
OTHER ASSETS—		
Expenses Paid in Advance .. .. .	950	
Cash in hand .. .. .	28515	
Bank Balance .. .. .	17695	
		47160
		<u>£1969286</u>

Signed on behalf of the Committee of Management,

F. DAY  
A. HEATHCOTE  
G. W. WAGSTAFFE, *Secretary and Executive Officer.*

REPORT

the state of the affairs of the Society as at 20th January, 1975, the Income and Expenditure Provident Societies Acts 1965 to 1968.

APPLEBY, ENGLISH and PARTNERS,  
*Accountants.*

### A.—EXPENSES

	£	£
Salaries and Wages .. .. .	697261	
National Insurance .. .. .	31014	
Graduated Pension Contributions .. .. .	21177	
Superannuation Contributions .. .. .	11822	
		761274
Protective Clothing .. .. .	1900	
Staff Training .. .. .	3810	
		5710
Rents .. .. .	1280	
Rates .. .. .	46688	
Insurance .. .. .	4896	
General Repairs and Renewals .. .. .	27050	
Cleaning .. .. .	19631	
Gas and Electricity .. .. .	19515	
Water .. .. .	1337	
Fuel .. .. .	16963	
		137360
Transport .. .. .	45497	
Audit .. .. .	920	
Committee Fees .. .. .	1259	
Travelling and Delegations .. .. .	1406	
Printing, Stationery, Advertising and Display .. .. .	18322	
Telephone .. .. .	3251	
Postage .. .. .	1407	
Licences .. .. .	96	
Trade Subscriptions .. .. .	1439	
Sundry .. .. .	1681	
Legal and Professional .. .. .	1134	
Computer Charges .. .. .	1171	
Credit Service .. .. .	1629	
Warehousing Service .. .. .	16888	
		96100
Interest .. .. .	15400	
Depreciation .. .. .	92527	
		107927
		£1108371

### B.—CAPITAL AND

	Balances to Begin	Allocations of Previous Period	Contributions
	£	£	£
Share Capital .. .. .	955137	138728	287697
General Reserve Fund .. .. .	241000	—	1244
Television Rental Repair Fund .. .. .	25000	—	9224
Small Savings .. .. .	14194	—	15650
Loans .. .. .	178252	—	94553
Sales Club .. .. .	4862	—	42214
Member Relations Committee .. .. .	328	1309	10
	1418773	140037	450592

### ACCOUNT

	£	£
Expense Credits—		
Commission .. .. .	13570	
Insurance Agency .. .. .	145	
20-Weeks' Club Fees .. .. .	1408	
Training Board Grants .. .. .	2923	
		18046
Net Expenses to Trading Account—		
Productive and Service—		
Personnel Expenses .. .. .	102172	
Other Expenses .. .. .	47189	
		149361
Distributive—		
Personnel Expenses .. .. .	527036	
Other Expenses .. .. .	413928	
		940964
		£1108371

### RESERVES ACCOUNT

Interest per Interest and Investments Revenue Account	Allocations per Surplus Appropriation Account	Totals	Withdrawals	Appropriations per Surplus Appropriation Account	Balances per Balance Sheet
£	£	£	£	£	£
—	—	1381562	404014	—	977548
11756	10000	264000	—	—	264000
—	—	34224	5224	—	29000
285	—	30129	16775	—	13354
4177	—	276982	119980	—	157002
1839	—	48915	43482	—	5433
—	—	1647	1266	—	381
18057	10000	2037459	590741	—	1446718

**C.—LAND, BUILDINGS**

	EXPENDED		Sales	Less Fully Written Off
	Brought Forward	This Period		
	£	£	£	£
Used in Trade—				
Land and Buildings	284434	181042	4500	23733
Fixtures and Fittings	—	7037	1750	5287
Transport	—	20698	—	20698
Not used in Trade—				
Land and Buildings	50000	—	—	—
	334434	208777	6250	49718

**D.—INVESTMENTS**

	Balance as last Report	Interest and Bonus
	£	£
Shares—		
Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd...	100000	7000
Equity Shoes Ltd.	50	—
N.P.S. (Shoes) Ltd.	105	6
Co-operative Press Ltd.	510	15
Ideal Clothiers Ltd.	10	—
Co-operative Cleaners Ltd.	50	3
Sunray Textiles Ltd.	500	43
Leicester Carriage Builders Ltd.	250	19
Kaycee Clothing Ltd.	200	—
	101675	7086
	Balance as last Report	Interest
	£	£
Loans—		
Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd...	2336	220
Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd...	240000	23329
Co-operative Press Ltd.	138	3
Sunray Textiles Ltd.	2768	232
Borough of Tamworth	160000	13950
Borough of Hackney	50000	4875
Borough of Havering	50000	3750
Borough of Havant	80000	7400
Short Term Investments	80000	7869
Borough of Rhondda	50000	5873
Treasury Stock	190468	17980
5½ per cent Conversion Stock (15th June, 1974)	12000	315
N.P.S. (Shoes) Ltd.	343	19
Equity Shoes Ltd.	497	17
Lichfield R.D.C.	75000	2882
Leicester Carriage Builders Ltd.	750	26
Ideal Clothiers Ltd.	1277	64
Nuneaton Co-operative Society Ltd.	10000	2320
Bolton Corporation	—	12101
	1005577	103225

**AND FIXTURES ACCOUNT**

Net Original Cost	DEPRECIATION				Nominal Value as per Balance Sheet
	Brought Forward	Less Fully Written Off	This Period	Totals	
£	£	£	£	£	£
437243	69434	23733	66542	112243	325000
—	—	5287	5287	—	—
—	—	20698	20698	—	—
50000	—	—	—	—	50000
487243	69434	49718	92527	112243	375000

**ACCOUNT**

Added	Dividend	Total	Withdrawn	Transferred to Loan Account	Balance at 20th January, 1975
£	£	£	£	£	£
—	12003	119003	—	19003	100000
—	1	51	—	1	50
—	—	111	—	6	105
—	—	525	—	15	510
—	26	36	—	26	10
—	—	53	3	—	50
—	—	543	43	—	500
—	—	269	19	—	250
—	—	200	—	—	200
—	12030	120791	65	19051	101675
Added	Transfers	Total	Withdrawn	Surplus Appro. Account	Balance at 20th January, 1975
£	£	£	£	£	£
—	19003	21559	19339	—	2220
150000	—	413329	263329	—	150000
—	15	156	—	—	156
—	—	3000	162	—	2838
—	—	173950	13950	—	160000
—	—	54875	4875	—	50000
—	—	53750	3750	—	50000
—	—	87400	7400	—	80000
255000	—	342869	267869	—	75000
—	—	55873	5873	—	50000
—	—	208448	17980	—	190468
—	—	12315	12315	—	—
—	6	368	—	—	368
—	1	515	—	—	515
—	—	77882	77882	—	—
—	—	776	26	—	750
—	26	1367	—	—	1367
—	—	12320	—	—	12320
100000	—	112101	12101	—	100000
505000	19051	1632853	706851	—	926002



**MEMBER RELATIONS**  
**Statement of Accounts for Year**

	INCOME	£
Balance in Society Hands to begin .. .. .		328
Grant from Society .. .. .		1309
Rent for use of rooms—		
Society .. .. .	24	
Ballet, Pathfinders and Guild .. .. .	127	
	151	151

Audited and found correct,  
APPLEBY, ENGLISH and PARTNERS,  
*Accountants.*

13th February, 1975.

£1788

**COMMITTEE**  
**as at 20th January, 1975**

	EXPENDITURE	£
Rent .. .. .		260
Rates, Lighting and Heating .. .. .		240
Salary .. .. .		150
Pathfinder Groups .. .. .		197
Co-operative Ballet .. .. .		129
Woodcraft Folk .. .. .		132
Women's Guild .. .. .		85
Affiliations and Subscriptions .. .. .		45
Delegations .. .. .		86
Sundry .. .. .		83
Balance in Society Hands .. .. .		381

£1788

**MEMBER RELATIONS**

Every month during the year the Member Relations Committee has met to consider and deliberate on the working of the Co-operative Movement, and on ways to increase the interest of you, the Co-operative Member, in the principles and practice of your own Movement. This is not an easy project, twelve months ago in the 1973 Report, you were asked for your ideas and suggestions for increasing Member participation in the affairs of your own Society, although nothing was received during 1974, your Committee is hopeful that the Secretary will be hearing from you soon.

Our Pathfinder Groups have had some disturbance, but have now settled down with two new Leaders, whose names are given at the end of this Report. The Junior Group is at full strength, but there is room for a few more girls of 11 to 15 years in the Senior Group. Girls wishing to join should contact the Leader or any group member.

Co-operative Ballet under the devoted tuition of Miss McCracken continues to thrive, and by now hundreds of girls, while not all becoming ballerinas, have been taught to dance and appreciate Ballet, and some have become highly skilled in the art.

The Woodcraft Folk at Kingsbury had a good year with increased membership and activities, but then at the end of the year had to face the tragic loss of one of their Leaders, Mrs. Margaret Johnson. It is not possible to write in a few lines of the loss that the Movement has suffered by the accidental death of Margaret Johnson. She was one of the new young Co-operators, devoting practically the whole of her leisure time to the Woodcraft Folk Fellowship, which she and her husband started in Kingsbury. She regularly attended Society meetings, and was also a valued member of the Member Relations Committee. Perhaps the best memorial that can be offered is that whoever takes her place on the Committee should strive to be as good and sincere a Co-operator as she was.

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

The highlight of the Co-operative Women's Guild in the past year was when Tamworth Guild was host to the South Midland Co-operative Women's Guilds Rally held in the town on 24th October, 1974. Over 400 Guild members commenced their Rally with a Service in the Parish Church in the morning, and then after lunch held a mass meeting in the Assembly Rooms.

For information of membership of various activities, please contact the following:-

Co-operative Women's Guild—Mrs. H. Fowler, 42, Comberford Road, Tamworth.

Mrs. Chapman, 33, Neville Street, Glascote, Tamworth.

Mrs. Jones, 'Delrose' Dunns Lane, Dordon, B78 1RR.

Pathfinders—Senior—Miss C. Mason, Flat 2, Langlands, Ashby Road, Tamworth.

Junior—Mrs. N. Mitchell, 9, Catcholme House, Bolebridge Street, Tamworth.

Co-operative Ballet—Miss C. McCracken, 1, Pegasus Walk, Coton Green, Tamworth.

Kingsbury Woodcraft Folk—Mr. G. Johnson, 16, South View, Kingsbury.

Groups meet (except Woodcraft) in the Co-operative Education Centre, 34, Victoria Road, Tamworth, as follows:—

Women's Guild—Thursday afternoon, 3 p.m.

Pathfinders—Senior—Monday evenings at 6 p.m.

Junior—Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m.

Co-operative Ballet—Friday evening at 5 p.m. and Saturday mornings.

For all Member Relations Committee matters contact the Secretary, Mr. M. Sutton, 82, Summerfield Road, Tamworth. Telephone Tamworth 65987

## 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.**—We are now members of the A.B.T.A. and can arrange holidays in any part of the world, including your foreign currency requirements. The Travel Bureau is in the new Central Premises, College Lane, Tamworth.

**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 £5 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, Holiday, Fire, Burglary, Motor, Live Stock, and Accident. 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, 3rd, 4th AND 5th APRIL, 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.**

## YEARLY SALES

	1975	1974 (53 weeks)	1973	1972	1971
	£	£	£	£	£
Total Sales .. ..	4527175	3905690	3477780	3196753	3032218
Weekly Sales .. ..	87061	73692	66880	61476	58312

## TRADE PURCHASES

### Total Purchases:

	Per cent		Per cent
From the C.W.S. .. ..	29	From Local Traders .. ..	2
Private Trade .. ..	30	From other Co-operative Sources .. ..	39

### Departmental Purchases from the C.W.S. Ltd. and Co-operative Sources:-

	Per cent		Per cent
Grocery .. ..	93	Drapery .. ..	52
Bakery .. ..	72	Men's Wear .. ..	58
Butchery .. ..	20	Furnishing .. ..	62
Works .. ..	—	Footwear .. ..	23
Funeral .. ..	21	Pharmacy .. ..	23
Coal .. ..	91	Dairy .. ..	98



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