

TAMWORTH CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.

INTERIM REPORT

Half Year Ended 24th July, 1978



Registered Office:
5, Colehill, Tamworth



Officers of the Society

Chairman: Mr. F. R. WOOD,
 Secretary and Executive Officer: Mr. G. W. WAGSTAFFE, A.C.S.A.
 Assistant Secretary: MR. A. GLOVER, C.S.D.
 Auditors: APPELBY, ENGLISH AND PARTNERS,
 Lancashire House, 47 Peter Street, Manchester, M2 3WS.
 Arbitrators: 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 24th July, 1978.

NAME	Appointment Expires	Possible	ACTUAL		APOLOGIES			Society's Business
			General	Sub.	Ill	Holidays	Work	
*Mr. J. KING	September, 1978	17	16	1	—	—	—	—
*Mr. C. W. DEAKIN	September, 1978	17	15	1	—	—	—	—
*Mr. A. HEATHCOTE, MBE, JP	September, 1978	16	15	—	—	—	—	—
Mrs. H. FOWLER	March, 1979	16	14	—	—	2	—	—
Mr. F. R. WOOD	March, 1979	17	15	1	—	1	—	—
Mrs. K. M. JOHNSON	March, 1979	17	14	1	1	1	—	—
Mrs. G. C. ALLEN	September, 1979	17	16	1	—	—	—	—
Mr. G. COTTERILL	September, 1979	16	13	—	—	1	1	—
Mr. F. A. WOOD	September, 1979	17	15	1	—	1	—	—
Mrs. O. HARE	March, 1980	12	11	—	—	1	—	—
Mr. A. E. SMITH	March, 1980	16	14	—	—	2	—	—
Mr. J. HINDS	March, 1980	16	16	—	—	—	—	—

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. CLARK	March, 1979	6	6	—	—	—
Mr. J. KING	March, 1979	6	3	1	—	2
Mr. D. HODGKINSON	March, 1979	6	5	—	—	1
Mr. B. BROOKS	March, 1979	6	5	—	—	—
Mrs. O. HARE	March, 1979	4	4	—	—	—
Mrs. H. FOWLER	March, 1980	6	6	—	—	—
Mr. F. R. WOOD	March, 1980	6	3	—	1	2
Mr. G. COTTERILL	March, 1980	6	4	—	—	2
Mrs. K. JOHNSON	March, 1980	6	4	—	1	1

Nominations for General Committee

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

Election Addresses can be found on page 7

Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
Mr. B. BROOKES, 93 Tamworth Road, Two Gates, Tamworth	Mrs. F. A. Ramsdall and others	Mrs. D. M. Smith and others
Mr. G. H. CLARK, 1 Longlands Drive, Glascoate, Tamworth	Mrs. O. S. Sutton and others	Mrs. P. Hall and others
*Mr. C. W. DEAKIN, 116 Gillway Lane, Tamworth	Mrs. S. E. Allton and others	Mrs. E. M. Hunter and others
*Mr. J. KING, 37 Leedham Avenue, Bolehall, Tamworth	Mrs. N. M. Moore and others	Mrs. D. M. French and others

* Retiring Member eligible for re-election.

Voting will take place at the General Office, 5 Colehill, Tamworth on Thursday, 28th September, 1978 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, 2nd January, 1979.

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 HALF-YEARLY MEETING

will be held in the

NEW CAFETERIA, CENTRAL PREMISES, CHURCH ST., TAMWORTH

ON THURSDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER, 1978

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.
- Report of Delegates—
 - C.W.S. Meeting, Manchester.
 - Co-operative Congress, Scarborough.
- Elections—
 - Delegate to the C.W.S. Meeting.
 - Delegate to the Co-operative Congress (Eastbourne).
 - Scrutineer—Mr. T. Lea retires, but is eligible for re-election.
 - Auditors.
 - Nomination and election of one member to serve on the Member Relations Committee until March, 1979. A vacancy caused by the death of Mr. G. Lane.
- Declaration of the election to the General Committee.
- Vote of thanks to Mr. A. Heathcote, M.B.E., J.P. who retires at this meeting after 32 years service on the Board.
- 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 this interim report for the current financial year.

Membership

The number of members on the register is 30,701, a net increase of 924 on this time last year.

Capital and Reserves

The aggregate sum of member subscribed capital together with reserves now stands at £1,967,657 which is a new record figure.

Investments

Re-invested capital is also a record at £1,336,759.

Trade

The period under review is for 23 weeks since the interim stock taking was deliberately brought forward to avoid the peak holiday period. Total sales amounted to £3,260,725, an increase of £332,675 or 11.4%, raising the annual trade to £7,479,709.

This increase shows an encouraging improvement on the previous six months, particularly in the background of a very welcome fall in the cost of living index, but the pressure on margins especially in the food trade is unrelenting and the smaller branches pose great problems in economic terms. At the time of writing this report nothing has been heard of our appeal for a Superstore on the Tame Valley Estate at Two Gates, but we still maintain that it is urgently needed in this area and it would certainly assist us with this major problem of small units.

Our experience in Footwear over recent years has been very disappointing, but all aspects of this industry have suffered from acute market contractions. In order to meet the new situation the C.W.S. Ltd., together with a number of retail societies formed a national company called Shoefayre. The progress of Shoefayre has impressed us considerably so much so that with effect from the beginning of August we asked them to take over our footwear operation in the main store on a concessionary basis—All members of the staff being offered continued employment on terms no less favourable than at present. We look forward to a much improved service in this department and are confident members will obtain considerable benefits from their National Buying and Marketing Techniques.

Recent improvements to Polesworth and Wood End Branches are beginning to bear fruit and building work has been started at Kingsbury to increase selling space by 25% and convert to self service.

Staff

Unfortunately there are few periods when we do not have to say goodbye to loyal and conscientious employees on the occasion of their retirement. There have been four such retirements since our last report in the persons of Mr. Sid Archer, 22 years, Funeral Furnishing, Mr. Bert Jackson, 20 years and Mr. Arthur Bywater, 50 years, Dairy and Mr. Albert Fenn, 18 years, Delivery. We extend to them our grateful thanks and every good wish for the future.

OBITUARY

Mr. REGINALD JERMY, Aged 48 years. (Store Manager).

The untimely death of our senior departmental Manager was a very sad blow to the whole Society. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

Interim Dividend

Based on our internal accounts we wish to recommend that the dividend rate should be maintained at 3%. During the current half year members are being asked to co-operate with a new method of calculating their dividend from the Dry Goods Departments. The new system will be extensively advertised and all staff properly briefed so that they may give the maximum help to customers. The success of this change will be beneficial to all concerned and we commend it for your full support.

On behalf of the Committee,

F. R. WOOD, *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.—We are 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 £1,500 the total amount which may be nominated, but this applies to nominations made on or after 8th September, 1975.

Nominations made before that date are still valid, but up to £100, £200 or £500 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 £5,000.

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 £50 maximum are issued from the Office, to be repaid at the rate of 5p per £ per week. 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, 5th, 6th and 7th OCTOBER, 1978, 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

5, Colehill, Tamworth, Staffs.
1st August, 1978

NOMINATIONS FOR 3 VACANCIES ON THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Particulars of Candidates and Election Addresses

Mr. Benjamin Brookes, (Age 66) Retired Employee,
93 Tamworth Road, Two Gates, Tamworth.

Fellow Members,

As a retired employee with over 50 years service, I offer myself for election to serve all the Members of the Society hoping to use the considerable knowledge and experience I have obtained to further the interests and progress of our Society.

Yours sincerely,
B. Brookes

Mr. Gerald Henry Clark, (Age 40) Driver/Warehouseman
1 Longlands Drive, Sheepcote Lane, Glascote, Nr. Tamworth.

Fellow Members,

I have been a member of the Tamworth Co-operative Society for 24 years, and for approximately 12 years was an employee of the Society attaining the position of Bakery Rounds Supervisor. I also have the privilege of being a member of our Member Relations Committee, and for the last 4 years have been its Chairman, which has given me further insight into the importance of the Co-operative Movement.

It is with pride that I offer myself for nomination to the Board of Management, and I assure the membership that if elected I will do my utmost to uphold the status that the Society holds in Tamworth.

Yours sincerely,
G. H. Clark

Mr. Charles William Deakin (Age 72) Retired Teacher
116 Gillway Lane, Tamworth.

Fellow Members,

As the longest serving Member of the Board, I offer myself for re-election.

As last year's Chairman, I know the next twelve months will be difficult ones in many ways for the Society, and I trust, if re-elected, the experience I have gained during my past service will be of some benefit to the Society.

Yours sincerely,
C. W. Deakin

Mr. John King, (Age 76) Retired Miner,
37 Leedham Avenue, Bolehall, Tamworth.

Fellow Members,

I again offer myself for re-election to the Board of Management of the Tamworth Co-operative Society, and in doing so, repeat what I have promised on previous elections as a candidate, that is to fulfil my obligations and duties as a Committee Member, to the utmost of my ability, and always in the best interests of the members of a movement of which I have had a life long association and conviction. If elected I promise to act responsibly to your trust and confidence, and I thank you in anticipation of your support.

Yours sincerely,
J. King

VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE GENERAL OFFICE, 5 COLEHILL, TAMWORTH, STAFFS., ON THURSDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER, 1978 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8 a.m. AND 7.30 p.m.

MEMBERS WISHING TO VOTE MUST PRODUCE THEIR PASS CARD

TAMWORTH CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.

STATISTICAL DETAILS

AT JULY 1978

Membership	30,701
Share Capital	£1,163,238
Investments	£1,336,759
Reserves	£572,542
Annual Sales	£7,479,709