

# TAMWORTH CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.

## INTERIM REPORT

Half Year Ended July, 1980



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



## Officers of the Society

Chairman: Mr. J. HINDS.  
 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 July, 1980.

NAME	Appointment Expires	Possible	ACTUAL		APOLOGIES			Society's Business
			General	Sub.	Ill	Holidays	Work	
*Mr. C. W. DEAKIN	September, 1980	15	11	1	3	—	—	—
*Mr. G. H. CLARK	September, 1980	15	13	1	—	—	1	—
Mrs. H. M. FOWLER	March, 1981	15	13	—	—	1	—	—
Mrs. K. M. JOHNSON	March, 1981	15	12	1	1	—	—	—
Mr. W. B. ATKINS, J.P.	March, 1981	15	13	1	—	—	—	—
Mrs. G. C. ALLEN	September, 1981	16	14	2	—	—	—	—
Mr. F. A. WOOD	September, 1981	15	11	—	—	2	—	—
Mr. A. E. SMITH	March, 1982	14	13	—	1	—	—	—
Mr. J. HINDS	March, 1982	15	13	1	1	—	—	—
Mr. F. R. WOOD	March, 1982	15	14	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
Mrs. H. M. FOWLER	March, 1982	6	5	1	—	—
Mr. F. R. WOOD	March, 1982	6	1	—	2	2
Mr. G. COTTERILL	March, 1982	6	4	1	—	1
Mrs. K. JOHNSON	March, 1982	6	2	—	1	2
Mr. G. CLARK	March, 1981	6	5	—	—	1
Mr. D. HODGKINSON	March, 1981	6	6	—	—	—
Mr. G. JOHNSON	March, 1981	6	4	—	—	2
Mr. J. D. WOOD	March, 1981	6	1	—	—	—
Mrs. G. C. ALLEN	March, 1981	6	5	—	—	1
Mr. W. B. ATKINS, J.P.	March, 1981	3	2	—	—	1

### Nominations for General Committee

The following have been nominated for the Vacancies on the General Committee:  
 Three Ordinary Vacancies and one casual Vacancy.

Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
*Mr. G. H. CLARK 1 Longland's Drive, Sheepcote Lane, Glascoate	Mrs. O. S. Sutton and others	Mrs. M. A. Broughton and others
Mrs. E. M. COOPER 39 Barbara Street, The Leys, Tamworth	Mrs. N. M. Walker and others	Mrs. M. Fitch and others
Mrs. A. M. POULTEN 62 Orchard Close, Dosthill, Tamworth	Mrs. M. Lewis and others	Mrs. A. V. Goulding and others
Mrs. A. SAXTON 11 Wandsbeck, Belgrave, Tamworth	Mrs. Y. P. Lees and others	Mrs. A. V. Carroll and others

\* Retiring Member eligible for re-election

Voting will take place at the General Office, 5 Colehill, Tamworth on Thursday, 25th September 1980 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. Members wishing to vote must produce their Pass Card

The three Candidates who receive the highest number of votes will be declared elected to fill the Ordinary Vacancies

### Nominations for General Committee (see Rule 26)

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, 6th January, 1981.

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 3 years, have no less than one paid-up Share, and whose purchases are less than £300 during the 12 months immediately prior to nomination.

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.

New candidates must be under the age of 60 years but retiring candidates are eligible for re-election until attaining the age of 70 years.

# THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING

will be held in the

CAFETERIA, CENTRAL PREMISES, CHURCH ST., TAMWORTH

ON THURSDAY, 25th SEPTEMBER, 1980

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.
- Elections—
  - Delegate to the C.W.S. Meeting.
  - Scrutineer— Mr. T. Lea retires, but is eligible for re-election.
  - Auditors.
- 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 have pleasure in presenting this interim report for the current financial period covering 23 weeks to the 28th June, 1980.

## Membership

The number of members now stands at 32,608, an increase of 709 on last year.

## Capital and Reserves

The total of our combined capital resources has again been lifted to a new record figure of £2,306,995.

## Investments

Re-invested capital of which a large proportion is available at fairly short notice amounted to £1,421,680.

## Trade

Consumer spending has been severely and deliberately curtailed by Government policies which have operated throughout the period under review. The doubling of V.A.T. had an immediate depressing effect on trade which still persists. Unemployment and short-time working is at the highest level in this area for longer than people care to remember and coupled with this we have experienced the highest influx of new competition ever seen in this town.

Even so, we are still able to record increased sales in spite of some closures and further curtailment of delivery services. Annual turnover compared with the year ended July, 1979 shows an overall increase of £556,004. Whilst in this latter period increased sales have been very hard to come by, there is considerable satisfaction in the fact that since the opening of the new superstore at Tame Valley the total co-operative trade in this area has virtually doubled, and our members have a greater variety of choice than at any time in our history. Unfortunately, there are many people who are grossly misinformed about the reasons why this Society was not given a proper opportunity to be significantly represented in the new Ankerside Development, but the Government Ministers' Inspector recognised the situation and the enormous contribution which this Society had made to this area in past years. The Society had far more at stake than any other retailer in this town and to have resigned ourselves to a major decline in total trade penetration by just sitting back would have been inviting complete disaster. The other retail planning permissions on Tame Valley have been granted in completely different circumstances, but had they been refused at local level, in no way could any of the organisations now represented there, have put the kind of case before the Crown as we did.

Ankerside and the Tame Valley Development are now a reality and the Co-operative Movement is at least represented in one, which does provide the opportunity of maintaining a meaningful presence in this area and is all we ever asked for.

## Developments

Our two most recent developments to be completed are the new Carpet Section which has been converted out of the old Assembly Hall and the extension of Amington Branch which is now quite an attractive self-service unit complete with Wines and Spirits.

With the co-operation of the Staff and the Trade Union the main departmental store is now open on Wednesday mornings, and we trust this extension of shopping hours will be supported by the members.

## Regionalisation

Reports have recently appeared in the local press about the possibility of this Society merging with Birmingham. Talks about regionalisation and even a national Co-operative Society have been going on for many years and we have been represented at numerous conferences at both local and national level.

Retail Societies are already linked with one another to a very considerable degree and a significant development of this is the creation of regional distribution centres. Special trading relations with Birmingham have existed successfully since 1973 when we closed our Grocery Warehousing operation and the joint venture in the New Superstore is another example of co-operation between us. Your Board will only recommend merger if we consider that the long term interests of both the members and the employees would be better served, and the important aspects of local control can be preserved. The decision ultimately rests with the members and it can only be made at a special meeting and would need a two thirds majority.

## Staff

Job protection and long term security of employment for the maximum number of staff are amongst the top priorities of our policy and in all our negotiations with the Trade Union when trying to face up to ever changing circumstances we emphasise this fact. It is, however, impossible to meet the aspirations for higher pay and better conditions without a corresponding increase in productivity and profitability, since without such criteria, jobs eventually disappear. We, therefore, wish to gratefully acknowledge the degree of co-operation which already exists in these matters, urging even greater understanding and flexibility in the future. We extend our thanks to all Managers and Staff for their work and loyalty over a difficult trading period.

## OBITUARY

Mr. EDWIN COLLINS, Aged 88 years.  
Retired Board Member.

Mr. H. SIGLEY, Aged 65 years.  
Retired Bricklayer—Works Dept.

## Interim Dividend

We recommend that the rate of interim dividend should be 2½% on ordinary purchases and 5% on those ranking for double dividend. May we please remind members that purchases made at the Superstore are not subject to dividend and that till receipts from that Store must not be included in your claim.

On behalf of the Committee,

J. HINDS, *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 Central Premises, College Lane, Tamworth.

**MEMBERS' ATTENTION** is directed to Rule 20, 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 £10 may be deposited, but not more than £250 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.

**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 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.

**HALF-YEARLY DIVIDEND WILL BE PAID IN THE CENTRAL PREMISES, CHURCH STREET, TAMWORTH, ON THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, 2nd, 3rd and 4th OCTOBER, 1980, 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.**



# TRAVEL BUREAU

## COLLEGE LANE ENTRANCE

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## AIR TRAVEL

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## CALL IN AND SEE US

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TAMWORTH CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.

## STATISTICAL DETAILS

AT JULY 1980

Membership	32,608
Share Capital	£1,148,193
Investments	£1,421,680
Reserves	£908,415
Annual Sales	£8,951,159