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# **SOURCES FOR CO-OPERATIVE HISTORY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM**

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## **Sources For Co-operative History in the United Kingdom**

*This guide is to help reserchers to find material relating to the co-operative movement across UK archives and museums. It is not an exhaustive survey of resources for co-operative history but an overview of key collections held at institutions that are members of SSLH ARC. Because most co-operative societies have close links with their local communities, it is possible to find records of some co-operative societies in local authority archives. Researchers should also check [The National Archives Discovery](#) catalogue for locating archives held at other repositories.*

## ● **ACCLAIM - ASSOCIATION OF CO-OPERATIVE AND LABOUR ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS**

### **National Co-operative Archive**

**Holyoake House on Hanover Street, Manchester, M60 0AS**

**Telephone: +44 (0)1706 524920**

**Email: [archive@heritagetrust.coop](mailto:archive@heritagetrust.coop)**

**Website: [www.co-operativeheritage.coop/](http://www.co-operativeheritage.coop/)**

The co-operative movement's proud claim to look after its members from the cradle to the grave is reflected in the materials held by the Archive. The Co-op Archive was established after the bringing together of collections formerly held by the Co-operative Union and the Co-operative College. This has enabled the development of a resource allowing researchers to consult material from the early nineteenth century to the present day in a single Archive – from Robert Owen through the Christian Socialists and the formation of national and international organisations to modern successful co-operative businesses of the twenty first century. There are many links with Labour Movements especially with Trade Union material and the Co-op Party Collection. Information about the collections can be found on the [Search The Archives](#) and [subject guides](#) pages on the website.

### **Books & Journals**

Historical and current books on various aspects of the co-operative movement. Links to printed material (such as society histories and periodicals) is currently being updated and links will be added to the website when complete.

### **British Co-operative Societies – Facts & Figures**

An extensive collection of published histories and journals of individual consumer and productive societies. Statistical information dating from the 1870s. Registrar's Reports, Co-operative Union Directories, Co-operative Congress Proceedings, and Co-operative Statistics.

### **Records of Co-operative Societies and Organisations**

Minute books, reports and original documents of societies which now form part of the Midlands Co-operative Society and the Northern, South

Midlands and South East Regions of the Co-operative Group dating from the mid 19th century.

Minute books and other documents relating to the Co-operative Press, the National Co-operative Fuel Managers Association and the Southern Co-operative Convalescent Association.

Minute books, publications and reports relating to co-operative auxiliaries such as the Co-operative Women's Guild, Co-operative Men's Guilds, National Guild of Co-operators, co-operative youth movements.

The Co-operative Party collection including reports, journals and pamphlets.

### **International Co-operative Movement**

Books, pamphlets and journals relating to the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA), including a complete set of ICA Congress Reports.

### **Historical Journals**

The Collection includes runs of journals from the early 19th century, including *King's Co-operator*, *New Moral World*, *Pitman's Co-operator*, *Co-operative News* and *Scottish Co-operative News*.

### **Film, Oral History & Photographic Collection**

Collections include the National Co-operative Film Archive, the National Oral History Archive, the Co-operative Press Photographic Collection and other photographs.

### **Correspondence Collections**

Robert Owen social reformer, philanthropist and co-operator. Books and pamphlets by and about Owen and his work. More than 3,000 original letters and documents.

George Jacob Holyoake co-operative leader, secularist and social reformer. Books and pamphlets by and about Holyoake and his work. More than 3,500 original letters and documents.

Edward Owen Greening pioneer of co-operative co-partnership societies and a founder of the International Co-operative Alliance. Books and

pamphlets by and about Greening and his work. Approximately 11,000 original letters and documents.

**T W Mercer** co-operative journalist. Collection of papers.

## ● **LABOUR HISTORY ARCHIVE AND STUDY CENTRE (LHASC)**

**People's History Museum**

**Left Bank**

**Spinningfields**

**Manchester, M3 3ER**

**Telephone +44 (0)161 838 9190**

**Email [archive@phm.org.uk](mailto:archive@phm.org.uk)**

**Website <https://phm.org.uk/collection/labour-history-archive-study-centre/>**

The Museum is open every day (except Tuesday) 10.00-17.00, and the LHASC Wednesday to Friday, 10.00– 4.00 (closed for lunch 12.30-1.30) For archive appointments or queries, please email

The People's History Museum holds a significant collection of approximately 2000 artefacts representing the Co-operative Group, the world's largest consumer co-operative representing a wide range of products, packaging, advertising and administrative ephemera serve to illustrate the many facets of 'co-op' activities, together with several reference books. Enquiries about and research requests regarding 'co-op' collections are welcomed and a selection of artefacts and images may be accessed via the museum's website [phm.org.uk](http://phm.org.uk) by using the *Search Our Collections* option and entering the term *co-operative* in the search box.

These collections demonstrate how the 'co-op' offered 'cradle to grave' opportunities for many working people; highlights include commemorative tins from 'co-op' factories, shoes and clothing, sets of crockery, dividend tokens, advertising signs, tins and packets of food and household goods, an early 'wind-up' record player, playing cards, toys and jig-saws.

## **Archival Material**

The Labour Party Archive includes numerous files on the co-operative movement with references to the Co-operative Printing Society Ltd, the Co-operative Union Ltd, the Co-operative Properties Ltd, the Amalgamated Society of Co-operative Employees and the Co-operative Union Southern Section, 1900-1907. There are files in the War Emergency Workers National Committee files and in the General Secretary's Papers.

The JS Middleton papers include files on the Woodcraft Folk and Socialist Sunday Schools (1926-38, LP/JSM/SU) and the Labour Party General Secretary's papers also include a file on the Woodcraft Folk. The Archive of the Communist Party of Great Britain holds material on the Co-operative Movement including a file on the Woodcraft Folk (1948-1950, LP/GS/WOOD).

The Archive of the Communist Party of Great Britain holds material on the Co-operative Movement including a file on the Woodcraft Folk and the British Federation of Young Co-operators, 1952-58 and notes by Bill Alexander and documents on co-operatives 1962, CP/CENT/PC/06/10.

The Labour History Archive and Study Centre (LHASC) also holds the minutes of the National Council of Labour 1921-56. Members of this council included representatives from the co-operative movement.

## **Published Material**

The Labour History Archive and Study Centre holds 337 pamphlets on the Co-operative Movement, classified under Co-operatives, 334. These are divided up under 334.1 Owenism; 334.2 Co-operative Movement, 334.21 Co-operative Party, 334.21 Co-operative Societies, 334.23 Workers' Co-operatives; 334.3 Common Ownership; 334.4 Co-Partnership.

LHASC also holds annual reports of the Co-operative Wholesale Society 1884-1918 and the Co-operative Union 1906-76, as well as the annual editions of the People's Year Book 1919-50.

## ● THE WORKING CLASS MOVEMENT LIBRARY

**Working Class Movement Library**  
**Jubilee House**  
**51, The Crescent Salford M5 4WX**  
**Telephone +44(0) 161 736 3601**  
**Email: [enquiries@wcml.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wcml.org.uk)**  
**Web: <http://www.wcml.org.uk>**

The Working Class Movement Library is a national collection of the history of British and Irish radical and labour movements from the late 18th century up to the present day. It includes books, pamphlets, leaflets, banners, pottery, prints, photographs, personal papers, posters, videos, trade union records and much else that documents and illuminates the story of working class struggles for social justice, democracy and equality. The Library is open to everyone to visit by appointment between 10am and 4pm Tuesday to Friday, and the catalogue is available online at [www.wcml.org.uk/catalogue](http://www.wcml.org.uk/catalogue) - although not all material has yet been catalogued, this is often a useful first port of call.

The Working Class Movement Library holds a large collection of co-operative movement material including books, congress reports and journals, much of which was collected by founders Ruth and Eddie Frow.

The pamphlet and archive collections have boxes dedicated to the Co-operative Union, both the Co-operative Women's and Men's Guilds, a variety of Co-operative Societies and the Co-operative Party plus a collection of co-operative movement periodicals.

The library also holds the collection of Bill Whittaker, a Communist Party activist from Burnley, which contains material relating to the co-operative movement and local co-operative societies.

The collection also contains a large amount of ephemera, such as badges, posters, plates, mugs, other ceramic items, handkerchiefs and framed items.

Some images of which can be viewed online using the library catalogue at <https://wcml.org.uk/the-collection/catalogue/search-the-catalogue>

## ● JOHN RYLANDS RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND LIBRARY

**150 Deansgate Manchester M3 3EH**

**Tel : +44(0) 161 275 3764**

**Web:** <https://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/rylands/>

**Email:** [uml.special-collections@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:uml.special-collections@manchester.ac.uk)

The John Rylands Library was founded in 1889 by Enriqueta Rylands in memory of her husband John Rylands. The library became part of The University of Manchester in 1972 and currently holds the Special Collections of The University of Manchester Library. You can search our digital repository and access online versions of key items in our Library collections via Library Digitised Collections: <https://luna.manchester.ac.uk/luna/servlet/allCollections>

The John Rylands Library has strengths in the history of the labour movement. Key highlights include extensive collections on the Peterloo Massacre and its aftermath, The Manchester Guardian archive, especially the CP Scott editorial correspondence and the Women's Suffrage movement archives. The library also holds an important collection of the first Labour Prime Minister, Ramsay MacDonald (1866-1937) along with the papers of other politicians and political activists including Mabel Tylecote (1896-1987), active in local politics and adult education, David Arnold Wilson (1897-1981), a Yorkshire railway clerk and trade unionist and John Turner Walton Newbold (1888-1943), socialist and historian. The Library holds a small amount of material relating to Margaret Collins (1907-1999) whose 1937 diaries document a visit to the Soviet Union. Collins educated herself through the Woman's Cooperative Guild and won a Mary MacArthur scholarship to Ruskin College Oxford.

The John Rylands Library also holds general books and pamphlets ranging from the unstamped press, Chartism, the suffrage movement, the co-operative movement, printed material on Robert Owen and Holyoake and some co-operative periodicals such as 'Wheatsheaf'.

The Ahmed Iqbal Ullah RACE Centre holds unique collections related to diaspora communities in Manchester and to race relations in the UK from the 20th century onwards. This includes the papers from the [Abasindi Co-operative](#) – an organisation based in Moss Side, established by and to benefit the black women in the community.

[John Rylands Research Institute and Library \(The University of Manchester Library\)](#)



## ● BISHOPSGATE LIBRARY

**230 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4QH.**

**Tel : +44(0) 207 392 9270**

**Web : <http://www.bishopsgate.org.uk/library>**

**Link for OPAC : <http://www.bishopsgate.org.uk/LibraryCatalogue.aspx>**

**Email : [library@bishopsgate.org.uk](mailto:library@bishopsgate.org.uk)**

The **London Co-operative Society** was established in 1920 through the merger of the Stratford and Edmonton Co-operative Societies; other co-operative societies based in the Greater London area later joined them. The Society was amalgamated with the Co-operative Retail Society in 1981. The archive donated to the Bishopsgate Institute in the late 1970s, consists of the minute books, reports and papers of the London Co-operative Society and its founding bodies, as well as the societies and branches from the Greater London area that merged with them. It includes pamphlets, journals and monographs relating to all aspects of Co-operation in Great Britain from c.1830–1980s and the histories of various regional co-operative societies, plus reports and speeches from the annual Co-operative Congress from 1869 to 1990, publications produced for the education of Society members, rule books and a great variety of advertising leaflets. It includes correspondence, ledgers relating to deliveries, share ledgers, pamphlets, photographs and a large number of volumes relating to the history of the co-operative movement. The collection includes material relating to the following organisations:

- Co-operative Party
- Co-operative Retail Services Ltd.
- Co-operative Union
- Co-operative Wholesale Society
- Co-operative Youth Movement
- International Co-operative Alliance
- London Co-operative Society
- Women's Co-operative Guild
- Woodcraft Folk

A long run of Co-operative News is held as well as Co-operative Home Magazine and Annual Reports from over 40 co-operative societies.

Read more on the [London Co-operative Society archives](#)

## ● NORTH EAST WALES ARCHIVES (NEWA)

In 2020, Flintshire Record Office and Denbighshire Archives Service became the joint service NEWA which represent a new joint service for the counties of and Flintshire and Denbighshire. Some records are held at Ruthin and others at Hawarden, as noted below.

### ● Ruthin Branch:

**The Old Gaol, 46 Clwyd Street, Ruthin, LL15 1HP**

**Tel: +44(0) 1824 708250**

**Email <https://www.newa.wales/about-us/contact-us/>**

**Web: <https://www.newa.wales/>**

The Ruthin branch holds a wealth of material on the co-operative movement in North East Wales. In 1890 and 1891 a series of public meetings were held in Flint, Mold and Wrexham and these provided a catalyst for the development of the 'Co-op' in North East Wales which between 1888 and the 1930s spread throughout the industrial areas of Wrexham, Mold and Deeside with the opening of many branches and shops. The records indicate a close connection between the 'Co-op' and local industries in the Wrexham coalfield area.

It also holds material illustrating the pioneering work of Thomas Charles (1839-1912) of Brymbo, at various dates, secretary and chair of Brymbo Industrial Temperance Co-operative Society (from the 1870s); later, first chair (in 1888) of the Cheshire and North Wales District Co-operative Association and Board member of the Central Co-operative Union in Manchester.

For more information on sources for co-operative history in North East Wales see DC Castledine's article on co-operative societies in North East Wales in *Hanes Bro Clwyd/Clwyd Historian*, No. 33 (Autumn 1994), pp 18-30, and his note on the earliest co-operative societies in Flintshire [Greenfield, 1866 and Bagillt, 1868] in *Hanes Bro Clwyd/Clwyd Historian* No. 37 (Autumn 1996), p 22.

The author of these articles searched sources at the Co-operative Union Library in Manchester and obtained official lists of North Wales co-operatives (with covering dates) from the member relations officers of the Co-operative Retail Services at Swansea and Llandudno Junction. He also

obtained information from people, who had worked for the 'Co-op' locally for many years. He also made copies of items held elsewhere and these copies are available in the Denbighshire Record Office, Ruthin: references NTD 1229, NTD 1243, NTD 1244, NTD 1275, NTD 1276.

### **Brymbo Co-operative Society**

Brymbo Works magazine [with report on Brymbo Co-operative Society], 1921 (DD/DM/415/12); Article on Brymbo Industrial Co-operative Society from the Wheatsheaf 1912 (DD/G/1139).

### **Cefn and District Co-operative Society**

Minutes of meetings, 1903-48; minutes of sub-committee meetings, 1941-8; minutes of education committee minutes, 1919-44 (35 volumes) (DD/DM/83/1-35). Photographs of members of the education committee, 1929, 1935 (2 items) (PPD/16/55-56). Poster from Jarvis' shop, Rhosllanerchrugog about the 'Divi Delusion', 1914 [comparing his prices with those of the local Co-op] (DD/DM/227/2). Photograph of official opening of Cynghorfan Co-op, Rhosllanerchrugog, c. 1930 (PPD/92/62).

### **Colwyn Bay and District Co-operative Society**

Building control plans, Colwyn Bay Urban District Council. Plan of proposed co-operative buildings in Bay View Road, Colwyn Bay, 1898 (UDD/A/5/30/86). Plan of proposed new bakehouse, warehouse and extension of store, Sea View Road, Colwyn Bay, 1928 (UDD/A/5/30/986).

### **Wrexham and District Co-operative Society**

Wrexham Co-operative Society Ltd 1890-1911 [Coming of age history], 1911 (booklet) (DD/G/1138). Photographs of staff outside Summerhill Co-op and official opening of Summerhill Co-op, Gwersyllt, c.1930 (PPD/35/26-27). Rules, 1890; reports and balance sheets, 1890-6; pass book, 1890-2 (DD/G/1120).

### **● Hawarden Branch:**

**The Old Rectory, Rectory Lane, Hawarden CH5 3NR**

**Tel: +44 (0)1244 532364**

**Email <https://www.newa.wales/about-us/contact-us/>**

**Web: <https://www.newa.wales/>**

The Hawarden branch holds minutes of numerous local co-operative societies along with some photographs of local co-ops and plans of co-op buildings in Flintshire.

Ewloe Place Co-operative Society: D/DM/431/1-4: minutes, 1914-18, 1929-47.  
Flint and Oakenholt Co-operative Society: D/DM/431/5-11: minutes, 1919-49.  
Maelor and District Co-operative Society: D/DM/431/12-14: minutes, 1916-39.  
Mynydd Isa Co-operative Society: D/DM/431/15-17: minutes, 1926-48.  
Queensferry and District Co-operative Society: D/DM/431/18-30: minutes, 1902-47.  
North Wales Co-operative Association: D/DM/431/31: minutes, 1928-45.

## **Photographs**

Photo of Leeswood Industrial Co-operative committee members, Dec 1959 (FROH ref 33/). Photo of staff outside old Co-op stores, Fawnog Road, Sychdyn, c. 1912

(FROH ref 63/10). Photo of staff outside Co-op stores, Northop Road, Sychdyn, 1905 (FROH ref 63/11). Photo of staff inside Co-op stores, Northop Road, Sychdyn, 1923 (FROH ref 63/12). Photo of staff outside Buckley Co-op stores, c. 1905 (FROH ref 11/).

Photos (4) of old Co-op building, Buckley, 1967 (FROH ref 11/144-145).

Photo of exterior of Northop Hall Co-op, 1905 (FROH ref 45/76). Photo of Northop Hall children by Co-op stores, 1905 (FROH ref 45/76 B). Photo of staff outside Queensferry Co-op stores, 1920s (FROH ref 51/137). Photo of exterior of Overton Co-op, c. 1960 (FROH ref 46/60).

## ● HULL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

### **Hull History Centre**

**Worship Street, Hull, HU2 8BG.**

**Tel : +44 (0)1482 317500**

**Web : <http://hullhistorycentre.org.uk/>**

**Link for OPAC : <http://www.hullhistorycentre.org.uk/catalogue>**

**Email : [Hullhistorycentre@hullcc.gov.uk](mailto:Hullhistorycentre@hullcc.gov.uk)**

### **Major collections**

#### **Co-operative Productive Federation [DCF]**

The Federation was formed in 1882 to join together some fifteen local producer-owned co-operative societies, with the aim of helping them to find capital and markets for their goods. These members were involved mainly in the clothing, footwear and printing trades, operating on a co-partnership and profit-sharing basis. The Federation was overtaken by the establishment in 1971 of the Industrial Common Ownership Movement as the central organisation of a new generation of workers' co-operatives. The records held cover the period between 1896 and 1968. For the CPF itself, they comprise general minute books, to 1961, minutes of the propaganda committee (1915-1919), the footwear commodity committee (1943-1962) and the Stanton Memorial Scholarship committee (1918-1948), volumes of press cuttings (1938-1968), a visitors' book (1947-1952), a cash book (1895-1899) and a ledger (1918-1920). There are also minute books for the following related bodies: the Co-operative Co-partnership propaganda committee (1918-1960), the management committee and advisory sub-committee of Co-operative Productive Federation Footwear Ltd (1946-1954), and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Centre of the Labour Association for the Promotion of Co-operative Production based on Labour Co-partnership (1897-1899).

#### **Co-operative Women's Guild [DCW]**

Following the inclusion of the first women's page in *Co-operative News* in early 1883, the Women's League for the Spread of Co-operation was formed. The League promoted the principles of co-operation and campaigned to improve the political, social and legal conditions of women. It worked particularly in the field of women's health, and tried to balance

both domestic and wider feminist concerns. In 1885 the organisation changed its name to the Women's Co-operative Guild and under the influence of its secretary, Margaret Llewellyn Davies, membership grew rapidly from 51 branches and 1700 members in 1889 to a peak of 1500 branches and 72,000 members in 1933. In 1963 it was re-named the Co-operative Women's Guild. Its success led to the formation of the International Co-operative Women's Guild.

The archives held by the Library are substantial and cover 1886 to 1971. There are minutes of the Central Committee (1888-1970), Annual Congress (1956-61), Southern Section (1903-09), South Eastern Section (1919-50), meetings of Sectional Secretaries (1938-66) and Joint Sub-Committee of the Men's and Women's Co-operative Guilds (1913-16). Other material includes annual reports (1893-1970, with gaps), handbooks, resolutions and amendments for Annual Congress (1894-1971, with gaps), and Guild rules. Notes for speakers are available on topics as diverse as social security, town planning, housing, health, peace, human rights, divorce, and aspects of the co-operative movement, covering mainly the 1940s and 1950s. Photographs in the collection include Annual Congresses, National Presidents, Central Committee members, staff, delegations, demonstrations and knitting contests. Published material by and about the Guild includes *The Women's Co-operative Guild, 1883-1904* by Margaret Llewellyn Davies and the typescript of Mrs Ganley's history covering 1925 to 1957. There is a range of pamphlets, reports and articles, and files on subjects such as plays and pageants, the Scottish Co-operative Women's Guild, food and clothing parcels to Germany and Austria (1946-48) and policy statements. Pamphlets can also be found outside the main archive at DX/148/1 and DDX/16/383.

An attendance and contributions book for 1941-68 and the Committee minute book for 1948-51 for Hull Central Branch of the Guild are also held at DP/161/56-57.

### **Hull and East Riding Co-operative Society [DHC]**

This collection comprises the records of the principal co-operative society in the region from its establishment in 1890 until its transfer into Co-operative Retail Services in 1981. The collection includes Management Committee minute books for various periods between 1890 and 1966, and thereafter minute books of the Board of Directors to 1979, members' meetings minute books, rules, handbooks, registers of officers, sub-

committee minute books (finance, drapery, grocery, bakery, coal, stables, farm, etc), quarterly, half-yearly and annual reports and statements of accounts, purchase account books, and employee welfare records. There are also minutes of the Beverley and District Co-operative Society Ltd. and of its Education Department, the Market Weighton and District Co-operative Society, Hull Cooperative Chemists Ltd and the Skyline Restaurant and Catering Company. The earliest records are balance sheets of the Hull Co-operative Provident Co Ltd, for 1858-1867. There is a set of several hundred photographs of subjects such as cakes, exhibitions, groups of staff, individual portraits, premises, shop windows, vehicles, war damage (Second World War) and workshops, mainly from the 1930s and 1940s. Miscellaneous items include some early 20<sup>th</sup> century anti-co-operative posters issued by William Cussons of Hull, a 3 page history of the Co-operative Society in Bridlington, and a letter and two postcards from George Jacob Holyoake.

### **Hull Printers [DHP]**

This firm was established on co-operative and co-partnership principles in 1897 by a group determined to give workers good conditions and fair rewards. This involved worker participation in ownership and management. Its most successful period was in the 1950s, when over 80 people were employed. Beset by problems including lack of capital, rapid technological change and, ironically, serious labour difficulties, the firm went into liquidation in 1975. The records cover the 1897-1975 period. There are minute books of the Board of Management (containing reports and balance sheets), accounts (including nominal, sales and purchase ledgers, cash books and day books), contracts, files (relating to agreements, contracts, wages, staff etc.), share registers and registers of members, and miscellaneous items, including some examples of the firm's work, and anniversary histories of the firm issued in 1922 and 1937.

### **International Co-operative Women's Guild [DCX]**

The success of the Co-operative Women's Guild in Britain prompted the establishment of similar bodies in many other countries, followed by the ICWG itself in 1922, composed of representatives from each of the national guilds. Its first President was Emmy Freundlich, an Austrian Member of Parliament. The ICWG later became the Women's Committee of the International Co-operative Alliance. The majority of its archives are held in Vienna. This small collection includes minutes of the Central and

Executive Committees (1932-62, with gaps), files on annual conferences, including the first held in Basle in 1921, reports (1921-59), circular letters and information bulletins. Printed material mainly dates from the 1920s to the 1940s and includes examples by Margaret Llewellyn Davies, A Honora Enfield and Emmy Freundlich. There are also significant files on the imprisonment of Emmy Freundlich in Vienna in 1934 and the campaign for her release, and on the ICWG's work for peace and disarmament in collaboration with the League of Nations. The archives are in English, French and German.

### **Miscellaneous items**

**DEV/I/34** File of booklets, circulars and correspondence received as tutor for the Education Department of Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society, 1945-53.

**DEV/I/39** File of handbooks, lecture notes, correspondence, circulars and lecture programmes relating to work as tutor for the Education Department of London Co-operative Society, 1946-54.

*[From: the papers of Rev. Canon Stanley Evans (1912-1965), Christian Socialist]*

**DBP/I0/4** Memorandum on co-operative societies and political action, Liberal Co-operative Committee, 1918.

*[From: the papers of Ben Parkin MP (1906-1969), Labour MP]*

**DCL/79/2** File of correspondence with Guildford Co-operative Society about arranging meetings and publishing articles on civil liberties, 1940-45.

*[From: the archives of Liberty (National Council for Civil Liberties)]*

**DBN/24/4** Co-operative Party General Election manifesto, 1929.

*[From: the papers of Reginald Bridgeman (1884-1968), anti-imperialist]*

**DAR/II/II** Pioneer Song Book, 1944, with related correspondence.

**DAR2/II/43** Report and proposals on links with the co-operative movement, Marx Memorial Library, 1942.

**DAR2/II/79 & I33-I35** Programmes and syllabuses for courses on co-operation and the co-operative movement, Marx Memorial Library, 1930s.

**DAR2/II/I5I** Draft text book on co-operation and the co-operative movement, by Esther Henrotte, for the Marx Memorial Library, c1936.

*[From: the papers of Robin Page Arnot (1890-1986), Communist and historian]*

**DX/205/I** Miscellaneous items about the co-operative movement, 1830s, comprising 2 issues of co-operative newspapers, 3 handbills issued by the Society for the Promotion of Common Sense and a lecture by Robert Owen on the new religion.

*[From: donation by Dr David Neave]*



**DHL/5** Notes for lectures by J Henry Lloyd, including on co-operative movement, 1919-55.

**DHL/15** Papers relating to co-operative movement, including reports and balance sheets of St.Albans Co-operative Society, 1939-57, and agenda for quarterly meetings of Co-operative Wholesale Society, 1942-46.

*[From: the papers of J Henry Lloyd (1883-?1966), trade unionist]*

## ● LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS ARCHIVES

**British Library of Political and Economic Science**  
**10 Portugal Street, London, WC2A 2HD.**

**Tel: +44(0)20 7955 7229**

**Web: <http://www2.lse.ac.uk/library/home.aspx>**

**Email: [document@lse.ac.uk](mailto:document@lse.ac.uk)**

The Archives Division has material relating to co-operative history scattered throughout its holdings and researchers are advised to use the Archives Catalogue to track down all available resources (see [www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/](http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/)). The following are details of the more significant holdings relating to co-operative history.

### **COLL MISC 0268 Women's Co-operative Guild 1890-1938**

11 volumes covering activities connected with the Guild, and in particular the work of the Coronation Street branch, Sunderland, correspondence, material relating to the "Sheffield Enquiry" into co-operation among the poor; the work of the Bristol Co-operative Society and the role of Margaret Llewelyn Davies, General Secretary, and Lilian Harris, Assistant Secretary.

### **COLL MISC 0657 Women's Co-operative Guild annual reports, 1892-1956**

### **Youth Movement Archive/Woodcraft Folk 1910-1985**

The Woodcraft Folk broke away from its parent body, the Kibbo Kift to found an independent organisation in 1925. The original leading members came from South London co-operative groups who withdrew from the Kibbo Kift Kindred in 1924. Although they continued with the same

principles of woodcraft training, they were strongly committed to the democratic principle within the movement and had an international outlook. They were closely associated with the co-operative movement and a member of the International Falcon Movement and the Socialist Educational International. The Woodcraft Folk continues to work with young people throughout the UK.

The papers of the Woodcraft Folk, 1910-1985, include yearbooks and annual reports, 1928-1973; administrative material, 1930-1972, notably agenda and minutes of National Delegate Conferences, the National Folk Council and its various committees, membership details, and financial papers such as account books, paysheets and correspondence; general correspondence, 1929-1972, on subjects including the Public Order Act, Folk organisation during World War Two, conscientious objection, and the organisation of campsites; material concerning teaching undertaken by the Folk, 1938-1956, notably papers concerning National Training Camps, tests and badges; correspondence and papers concerning the National Folkhouse, 1938-1958; publications and propaganda, [1926-1965], also including song sheets, play scripts, draft articles and newspaper cuttings; correspondence and papers concerning relations with other organisations, 1929-1972, notably the Co-operative Union; material relating to international activities, 1931-1975, including correspondence with international youth groups, participation in international children's camps and European conferences; papers relating to local Woodcraft Folk groups, 1924-1973; papers of individual Folk, [1925-1975]; photographs of Folk activities, 1938-1971; printed materials and periodicals, 1910-1973.

A selection of documents from the archive can be found on the Woodcraft Folk Heritage Site at [www.woodcraftheritage.org.uk](http://www.woodcraftheritage.org.uk)

### **Oram; Albert Edward (1913-1999); Baron Oram; Politician: 1960-1990**

Albert Edward Oram, 1913-1999, was educated at Brighton Grammar School and the University of London (London School of Economics and Institute of Education). He became a teacher, but left the profession to become a research officer for the Co-operative Party, 1946-1955. He was a Labour and Co-operative Party MP for East Ham South from 1955 to 1974, Parliamentary Secretary, 1964-1969, and a Government Whip, 1976-1978. He was greatly interested in aiding development throughout the world and was a member of the Commonwealth Development Corp, 1975-1976, co-ordinator

of the development programmes of the Co-operative Alliance, 1971-1973 and Chairman of the Co-operative Development Agency 1978-1981. Papers relating to the co-operative movement, UK affairs, overseas aid and development, foreign affairs, and Oram's speeches and articles.

### **Coll Misc 0359 Webb Co-operative Societies 1884-1943**

Description: Co-operative Society rule books collected by Beatrice Webb for research purposes.

### **Crosland/14 Co-operative Independent Commission 1956-1958**

The Co-operative Independent Commission was set up in 1955, by the Edinburgh Co-operative Congress. Hugh Gaitskell was chairman and Tony Crosland, secretary. The Commission was charged with investigating the future of co-operative societies in the light of changes in the UK retail industry. The Commissioner held 35 meetings over 3 years and also made a number of visits. The final report made 51 recommendations. However few changes were made to co-operative societies system until the mid 1960s.

Contents include reports on visits (VIS/CARC/1-22) and Commissioners papers (COM/CARC/1-22), cuttings and press comments.

## **● MARX MEMORIAL LIBRARY & WORKERS' SCHOOL**

### **Marx Memorial Library**

**37a Clerkenwell Green, London EC1R 0DU**

**Tel: 020 7253 1485**

**Web: [www.marx-memorial-library.org.uk](http://www.marx-memorial-library.org.uk)**

**Email: [m.jump@marx-memorial-library.org.uk](mailto:m.jump@marx-memorial-library.org.uk)**

The Marx Memorial Library & Workers' School was founded in 1933 in response to the rise of fascism in Europe. Its aim today remains the advance of education, knowledge and understanding of all aspects of Marxism and the history of socialism and working-class struggle. At the heart of the British labour movement for over 80 years, the Library is home to a unique collection of published and archival sources on related subjects, including the Spanish Civil War, trade unionism and peace and solidarity campaigns. The Library's education programme – online and on-site – covers subjects ranging from political and economic theory to socialist art.

MML is open Tuesday-Thursday 11am-5pm for visits by appointment only. Please email [info@marx-memorial-library.org.uk](mailto:info@marx-memorial-library.org.uk) for further information. Our catalogue can be found here: <https://www.marx-memoriallibrary.org.uk/collections>

MML includes library and archive material relating to co-operatives going back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, from the UK and around the world.

### **Pamphlet Collection**

Our collection of pamphlet includes 18 boxes on co-operatives at the shelfmark YE04.

### **Klugman Collection**

The historic Klugman Collection of 19<sup>th</sup> century books contains a number of works on co-operatives, particularly at the shelfmark 334. Some highlights include [Public Discussion between John Brindley and Robert Owen](#) and a [Report from the First International Co-operative Congress, 1895](#)

**Other publications** in our collections include histories such as [A Century of London Co-operation](#), and books published by co-operatives such as [Popular Remedies for Social Ills](#) (Circle Co-operative Printers' Society) and [The Pioneer Song Book](#) (Watford Co-operative Society). Our collections also include material on co-operatives around the world, including [Czechoslovakia](#), [Mongolia](#), [Poland](#), [USSR](#) and [GDR](#).

**Archive collections** related to co-operatives include:

[Claire and Len Weiss collection](#)

CLW Documenting involvement in the London Co-operative Society since the 1960s

[Strike Graphics](#) PC/NIDA/9

Included in our Printworkers' Collection, organisational papers and designs from Strike Graphics, a workers co-operative formed during the Wapping Dispute by sacked workers.

[Charlie Job collection](#)

CJ Collection on work in the co-operative movement, particularly Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society

[Spanish Civil War Collection](#) SC/EPH/2/1/10

Material from solidarity actions during the Spanish Civil War by the Co-operative Society, including leaflets and milk tokens to raise funds for aid.

[Archibald Gorrie collection](#) AG

A collection on socialist organising in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, including leaflets for the Brotherhood Co-operative Trust on Clerkenwell Road, connected to the socialist Brotherhood Church.

Peter Kentfield collection ACC/2012/025

A collection including a typescript history of the Stephen and Matilda Tenants Co-operative in East London.

Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society ACC/ND/044A 1939 report produced by the society.

[Co-operative Aid Association](#) MSS/78

19<sup>th</sup> century events listing for the Association at Toynbee Hall.

## ● MODERN RECORDS CENTRE, UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

### **Modern Records Centre**

**University of Warwick, Gibbet Hill Road, Coventry, CV4 7AL**

**Tel: +44 (0)24 7652 4219**

**Email: [archives@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:archives@warwick.ac.uk)**

**Web: <https://warwick.ac.uk/services/library/mrc/>**

The Centre holds a variety of sources relating to the co-operative movement which are to be found in the archives of the Trades Union Congress (TUC) and other trades union archives at the Centre. Among these archives are the following (reference number in brackets). Archives marked \* require prior permission. See the Centre's *Summary Guide* for details:

Co-operative Bank: National Union of Bank Employees' correspondence files, circa 1960s (MSS.56/3/329).

Co-operative Bank Managers' Union: TUC correspondence file, 1923-1930 (MSS.292/91/78).

Co-operative congresses: incomplete set of reports, 1869-1924 (MSS.310/5/11); TUC correspondence files, 1926-1962 (MSS.292/766.9/2-3), 1971-1979 (MSS.292D/769.1/1).

Co-operative Independent Commission [set up to enquire into the problems of co-operative production and marketing]: TUC file, 1956-1960 (MSS.292/766.9/1).

Co-operative Insurance Society: Guild of Insurance Officials correspondence files, 1948-1970 (MSS.78/GOIO/3/1/16-45)\*.

The Co-operative Magazine: 1828-9 (MSS.310/5/10).

Co-operative Party: some publications, 1930s-1960s, including *Britain Reborn* No.3, 1931 (MSS.127/NU/5/5/4/5) and *Housing Co-ops and Local Authorities*, 1961 (MSS.11/3/27/435-6); reports and correspondence, 1970s (MSS.292D/760/1); report of delegation to Germany, 1955 (MSS.36/G11).

Co-operative Printing Society: TUC correspondence file, 1928-1969 (MSS.292.783.2/1).

Co-operative societies: TUC files on disputes with unions, 1919-34 (MSS.292/764.9/1-6).

Co-operative Union: publications, 1872-1917 (MSS.310/5/8-9).

Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd (CWS): correspondence files in the National Union of Bank Employees' archive, 1951-62 (MSS.56/3/276, 286) and 1958-67 (MSS.56/3/150-1, 153-4, 174); TUC files on trade union membership of CWS employees and purchases from fair firms, 1919-60 (MSS.292/763.3/1-4, MSS.292/763.31/1-12), conciliation machinery, 1919-1938 (MSS.292/764.1/1- MSS.292/764.9/2). Correspondence on transfer of shares from the Co-operative Insurance Society, 1913 (MSS.162/3/1). Files also include correspondence in the National Union of Scientific Workers archive\* regarding scientific staff, 1923-25 (MSS.79/ASW/1/1/7, MSS.79 / ASW/3/23/49-56).

## ● NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

**National Library of Scotland**

**George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1EW.**

**Tel: +44(0)131 623 3876**

**Web: <http://www.nls.uk>**

**Link for OPAC: <http://www.nls.uk/catalogues/manuscripts>**

**Email: [manuscripts@nls.uk](mailto:manuscripts@nls.uk)**

The National Library of Scotland holds the records of some local branches of the Co-operative Society within its collections of Scottish labour history archives, including:

Border Co-operative Society; Brechin United Co-operative Society; Innerleithen and Walkerburn Co-operative Societies; Kingskettle Co-operative Society; Kingskettle Co-operative Society; Lennoxtown Co-operative Society; North Angus Co-operative Society; and the Scottish Midland Co-operative Society (Scotmid), Edinburgh Branch.

In addition, the NLS holds the original charter, record book and other manuscripts relating to the Fenwick Weavers' Society (1761-1873), considered to be one of the earliest workers' co-operatives in the world for which records exist.

The NLS also holds the personal papers of Sir William Maxwell (1846-1897), President of the International Co-operative Alliance.

More detailed information on these collections can be found in the National Library of Scotland's online archives and manuscripts catalogue, ArchivesSpace at [manuscripts.nls.uk](http://manuscripts.nls.uk)."

More important sources for co-operatives in Scotland including the archive of the Scottish Wholesale Co-operative Society and the Scottish Women's Co-operative Guild are held at [Glasgow City Archives](http://Glasgow City Archives).

The NLS Moving Image Archive in Glasgow holds a variety of original film footage relating to the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society and co-operatives, including promotional films, advertisements, documentaries, and news reports.

Clips, full-length films, and more information about these collections can be found in the NLS Moving Image Archive catalogue at [movingimage.nls.uk](http://movingimage.nls.uk)

● **TUC LIBRARY COLLECTIONS,  
LONDON METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY**

**Special Collections London Metropolitan University,  
Holloway Road Learning Centre, 236-250 Holloway Road,  
London N7 6PP**

**Tel: +44(0)20 7320 3511**

**Web: <http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/tuc>**

**Link for OPAC: <http://catalogue.londonmet.ac.uk/>**

**Email: [tuclib@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:tuclib@londonmet.ac.uk)**

The TUC Library Collections, established in 1922, transferred to the University of North London, now London Metropolitan University, in September 1996. The core areas of the collection are reference and historical works on the trade union movement, union publications from the UK and overseas, documents relating to working conditions and industrial relations in various industries, and material collected from the various campaigns and policy areas in which the TUC has been involved since its foundation in 1868. A major strength of the Library are the large holdings of pamphlets, periodicals and other ephemera dating from the 1900s onwards, although some earlier pamphlets date back to the 19th century.

The collection on the co-operative movement comprises 8 metres of books, periodicals and pamphlets, dating (with a few exceptions) from 1900 onwards. The collection includes publications from institutions such as the Co-operative Union, Party, Wholesale Society; other co-operative groupings such as the Women's Co-operative Guild; and runs of key serials including *The Co-operative Congress reports*, *Co-operators Yearbook*, *The Link*, *The Producer*, *Tradition*. The collection is particularly strong on links between the co-operative and trade union movement, for example the United Advisory Council of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, and material about co-operative employees with publications from the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees, National Association of Co-operative Officials and USDAW (and its predecessors). There is also a small international section, including documents from the International Co-operative Alliance from 1895. Further details of the Collections can be found at [www.londonmet.ac.uk/libraries/tuc](http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/libraries/tuc) or [www.unionhistory.info](http://www.unionhistory.info)



## ● HERITAGE QUAY – UNIVERSITY OF HUDDERSFIELD

**Heritage Quay, Queensgate, Huddersfield, HD1 3DH**

**Tel: +44(0)1484 473168**

**Web: <http://heritagequay.org/politics/>**

**Link for OPAC: <http://heritagequay.org/archives/>**

**Email: [heritagequay@hud.ac.uk](mailto:heritagequay@hud.ac.uk)**

Heritage Quay is the special collections, archives, and records management service at the University of Huddersfield.

Political collections include the **G.H.Wood Collection** which comprises of around 50,000 pamphlets, spanning roughly 1870-1930. It was the personal library of George Henry Wood, a statistician and socialist who spent much of his career striving to improve the living and working conditions of the lower classes. Wood loaned the collection to the Huddersfield Technical College in 1925 and 20 years later, upon his death, it was gifted to form a part of what would later become the University library. is an important source for industrial history and includes material on the co-operative movement.

**The Garth Pratt Co-operative Society library** is a library concerning cooperativism, cooperative studies and the Fabian Society, including Co-operative Union Annual Congress Reports.

**The Barry Sheerman Archive** contains papers of the Labour Co-op party MP. Please see the website for further details and access to material.

### **Newspaper archives**

The archive holds an extensive collection of newspapers and periodicals including *The Lancashire and Yorkshire Co-operator* and *Useful Classes Advocate* 1831-1832.

The following newspapers include material about the local co-operative societies:

*Blackburn Labour Journal*, 1898-1909, MF HM28; *Bradford Labour Echo*, 1895-1899, MF HM31; *Bradford Pioneer*, 1913-1935, MF HM32-39; *Charter London*, 1839-1840, MF MM 188-191; *Chartist Circular*, 1839-1842, MF MM

139; *Clarion*, Manchester 1891-1893, MF HM43-44; *Clarion*, London 1894-1915, MF HM45-66; *Colne Valley Guardian*, 1896-1976, BV; *Free Labour Press*, extracts, 1899-1907, MF MM 142-143; *Guardian*, Manchester 1865-1879, MF HM362-418; *Huddersfield Citizen*, 1935-1951, MF MM 460; *ILP News*, London, 1897-1903, MF HM42; *Keighley Labour Journal*, 1894-1902, MF HM29030; *Labour Elector*, 1888-1894, MF MM 259; *Labour Gazette*, extracts, 1894, 1896, MF MM 141; *Labour Leader*, London 1894-1908, MF HM191-207; *Labour Pioneer*, Dewsbury 1919-1922, MF HM40; *Labour Prophet*, Manchester 1892-1898, MF HM41; *Leeds Intelligencer*, 1754-1866, MF HM741-803; *Leeds Mercury*, 1738-1849, MF HM631-673; *Leeds Mercury* 1850-1883, MF HM208-315; *Manchester Guardian*, 1865-1879, MF HM362-418; *Northern Star*, 1838-1852, MF MM 109-138; *Poor Man's Guardian*, 1847, MF MM 140; *Social Democrat*, 1897-1911, MF MM 262-265; *Socialist Record*, 1912-1916 MF MM 261; *Voice of the West Riding*, 1833-1834, MF HM491; *Weekly Mercury*, 1720-1731, MF HM615-616; *The Worker* (Huddersfield), 1905-1922, MF MM 266-278; *Workers Weekly Record*, 1908-1934, MF HM181-189; *Working Man*, 1866, MF MM 258; *Yorkshire Factory Times* Huddersfield 1889-1908, MF HM162-180; *Yorkshire Factory Times*, Dewsbury 1908-1924, MF HM181-189 and *Workers Weekly Record*.

## ● SENATE HOUSE LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

**Senate House Library, Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HU**

**Tel: +44(0)20 7862 8500**

**Web: <https://london.ac.uk/senate-house-library>**

**Link for OPAC : <http://catalogue.ulrls.lon.ac.uk/search~S1>**

**Email : [shl.enquiries@london.ac.uk](mailto:shl.enquiries@london.ac.uk)**

Material relating to the history of co-operative ideas and the co-operative movement is included in the following collections:

### **Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature**

This collection of around 70,000 items published from the 16<sup>th</sup> through to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century includes holdings of 19<sup>th</sup> century material relevant to co-operative history. Early editions of works by Robert Owen, theoretical works by other authors and publications of various branches of the movement are held. For example there are publications produced by the first two meetings of the Co-operative Congress in 1831, in Manchester and Birmingham and early journals such as *The Co-operator* published in

Brighton from 1828-30 and *The Co-operative Magazine and Monthly Herald*, 1826-30, published in London. The collection also includes archive material.

### **Family Welfare Association Library**

This collection complements the Goldsmiths' Library, and has material relevant to co-operative history, but generally from the later 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Some archival material is included.

### **John Burns Collection**

A number of publications relevant to co-operative history are to be found in this collection. The pamphlets are mostly catalogued, and work is in progress on books and journals as of December 2004.

### **Ron Heisler Collection**

This is a newly donated collection with around 18,000 books, 3,000 periodical and newspaper titles and 19,000 pamphlets. Cataloguing is to begin in 2005, and early surveys indicate that this collection, which comprises material published by or relating to labour and radical political movements and political expression in art, drama and literature, includes some holdings relevant to co-operative history.

The Library's holdings may be searched on the catalogue: <http://193.63.81.240/search~b1o1clilr1> and on COPAC.

Manuscript material may be found at:

[http://www.aim25.ac.uk/cgi-bin/frames/browse1?inst\\_id=14](http://www.aim25.ac.uk/cgi-bin/frames/browse1?inst_id=14)

Some material is uncatalogued, and some may only be found on the digitised card catalogue, accessible from the Main Catalogue search page given above.

## ● SOUTH WALES MINERS' LIBRARY AT SWANSEA UNIVERSITY

### **South Wales Miners' Library**

**Y Storfa in Oxford Street, Swansea**

**Telephone: +44 (0) 1792 606400**

**Web: <https://www.swansea.ac.uk/library/south-wales-miners-library/>**

**Email: [library@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:library@swansea.ac.uk)**

Swansea University holds the South Wales Coalfield Collection, which includes a wide range of printed and archival material on the history of the South Wales Coalfield. Much of the Collection relates to the National Union of Mineworkers (South Wales Area) and its predecessor, the South Wales Miners' Federation (SWMF) and its branches or lodges. It also includes records of institutions within the Coalfield and these include co-operative societies.

The SWCC is held at two different locations manuscript archives and photographs are held at Archives, Library and Information Services, Swansea University, while audio and video, banners, posters and printed material are held at the South Wales Miners Library.

The following records are held in the Archives:

Aberdare and District Co-operative Society Ltd; Abergavenny Co-operative Society; Abersychan Co-operative Society; Afan Valley Modern Co-operative Society; Alltwen and Pontardawe Co-operative Society; Ammanford Co-operative Society; Blaenavon Co-operative Society; Briton Ferry and Neath Co-operative Society; Caerau and Maesteg Co-operative Society; Cardiff Co-operative Retail Society; Co-operative Union, Western Section; Ebbw Vale Co-operative Retail Society; Garndiffaith Co-operative Society; Lower Cwmtwrch Co-operative; Mid-Rhondda Co-operative Society; Nantymoel Industrial Co-operative; Pembroke Dock Co-operative Society; Penarth Co-operative Society; Penygraig Co-operative Society; Pontycymmer Industrial Co-operative; Skewen and District Co-operative Society; Swansea Co-operative Retail Society; South Wales Co-operative Retail Society; Ton Co-operative Society; Ton Pentre Co-operative Society; Treorchy Co-operative Society; Women's Co-operative Guilds; Ynysybwl Co-operative Society.

Peoples Yearbooks:

Co-operative Review Journals; Co-operative Gazette; co-operative societies printed material.

Printed material relating to co-operative societies is held at the South Wales Miners' Library and can be located by searching the library catalogue.

## ● **THE WELSH POLITICAL ARCHIVE AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES**

**The Welsh Political Archive,  
The National Library of Wales,  
Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3BU  
Tel: +44(0)1970 632800  
Email: [gofyn@llyfrgell.cymru](mailto:gofyn@llyfrgell.cymru)  
Web: [www.library.wales/welshpoliticalarchive](http://www.library.wales/welshpoliticalarchive)**

The Welsh Political Archive at the National Library of Wales holds a number of archives relating to the co-operative movement and many more containing items relating to the co-operative movement even if that is not their main focus. The following is a list of the more significant items in the NLW collections:

### **Bargoed Branch of The Co-operative Society NLW Ex 1062**

An account book, 1919-21, of the Bargoed branch of the Co-operative Society relating largely to the purchase of meat and meat products.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/account-book-of-bargoed-branch-of-co-operative-society-relating-largely-to-purchase-of-meat-and-meat>

### **Co-operative Party Wales Papers**

Files of Karen Wilkie as deputy general secretary and the board secretary to the Co-operative Party; national organiser of the Co-operative Party in Wales; founder member of Co-operatives & Mutuals Wales; lead on policy in Wales; and close contact of the Co-operative Group of Welsh Assembly Members.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/co-operative-party-wales-papers-2>

## **Co-operative Society (Western Section)**

Annual Returns: Annual returns, 1937-67, sent by local co-operative societies in South Wales and the border counties ('Western Section') to the movement's headquarters, Co-operative Union Ltd, Manchester. The returns give details of land owned by each local society, profits made, the numbers of employees and members, particulars of trading, investments, liabilities and assets, and commercial operations undertaken during the course of the year. In several cases copies of annual *Reports and Balance Sheets* and other papers are appended to the returns.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/co-operative-society-western-section-annual-returns>

## **NLW ex 1618**

A typescript Welsh version, amended in 1993, of a standard contract between the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd and the producer regarding terms and conditions for the purchase of milk supplies by the Co-op Society.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/typescript-welsh-version-amended-in-1993-of-standard-contract-between-co-operative-wholesale-society-ltd-and-producer>

## **NLW Facs 779. - Blaenpennal & District Agricultural Co-operative Society Ltd,**

A photocopy of Professor Dafydd Jenkins's notes on an address relating to the history of the Blaenpennal & District Agricultural Co-operative Society Ltd, given in March 1956 by John Phillips, Brynwichell, Blaenafon, co. Card., first secretary of the Society. In Welsh.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/blaenpennal-district-agricultural-co-operative-society-ltd>

## **NLW MSS 11559-11560E, 11561C**

Letters and papers from the library of Ellis William Jones (1872-1935) of Plasteg, Bala, largely relating to agricultural co-operation in Wales, and with particular reference to the Welsh Agricultural Organisation Society Limited, Stapleton-Cotton House Limited, etc. Among them are addresses and notes; a notebook containing the names and postal addresses of officers and committee members of agricultural co-operative societies in Wales.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/agriculture-in-wales-2>

### **Welsh Agricultural Organisation Society**

Archives of the Welsh Agricultural Organisation Society, a co-operative society, from its foundation in 1922. Many of the pre-1945 records were destroyed. Records of local societies have been distributed to county record offices.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/welsh-agricultural-organisation-society-archive-2>

### **Welsh Town-Planning and Housing Trust Records**

Records of the Welsh Town-Planning and Housing Trust Limited, established in 1913, including minute books, deeds, correspondence, financial papers and printed material relating to housing estates in Barry, Burry Port, Llanidloes, Machynlleth, Newtown, Rhiwbina, Weston Rhyn and Wrexham, and other associated papers. Many housing schemes were organised on a co-operative basis.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/welsh-town-planning-and-housing-trust-records-2>

### **NLW MS 22673D**

A volume containing poetry and essays mostly in Welsh, 1830-1856, by Rowland Thomas ('Idris Ddu', 1789-1856) of Merthyr Tudful including a Welsh language poem of the mid 1850s by 'A Collier' which is a description of a working retail co-op.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/idris-ddu-cerddi-thraethodau>

A selection of archives containing records relating to the co-operative movement

### **Ian and Thalia Campbell Papers**

Newsletters, leaflets, ephemera and files relating to banners and posters concerning the co-operative movement.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/ian-and-thalia-campbell-papers-2>

### **Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos Papers**

Cledwyn Hughes's Co-operative Society Ltd Member's Pass Book, 1946-55. (File E20)

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/lord-cledwyn-of-penrhos-papers>

### **Cwrtmawr Manuscripts**

An extensive collection of vouchers (mainly receipts) with an occasional covering letter, to J H Davies, 1905-16. Many relate to the purchase and binding of books, periodicals, etc., especially from Frank Crowe, Celtic Book Depot, Wrexham, Bertram Dobell (aft. P J and A E Dobell), London, and E. W. Evans, Dolgelley. There are also records of purchases from Blaenpenal & District Agricultural Co-operative Society Limited, Carmarthen Farmers Co-operative Society Limited. (MS 857B)

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/cwrtmawr-manuscripts>

### **Davies And Charles (Brymbo) Family Papers**

A scrapbook, c1895-1944, containing newspaper cuttings, programmes, etc., relating to cultural and other events in the Brymbo area and to the Davies and Charles families. A few references to the Brymbo Industrial Co-operative Society are included. (File 2)

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/davies-and-charles-brymbo-family-papers-2>

### **Dunraven Estate Records**

File 419 Printed Preliminary Prospectuses of the Red Ash House Coal Co-operative Co. Ltd, for the purchase of the lease and plant of the Bettws Llantwit Colliery, near Bridgend [1881]; and four letters, 1878-81, relating thereto, between Henry J. Randall, Bridgend, and W. Boyle, London and Birmingham.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/dunraven-estate-records>

### **Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru: cyfansoddiadau a beirniadaethau**

Essay 'Agricultural co-operation in North Wales during the twentieth century, with special reference to the co-operative marketing of farm produce' by 'Gweledydd' (D.J. Davies, Aberystwyth) file 1931/9a (in Welsh)

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/eisteddfod-genedlaethol-cymru-cyfansoddiadau-beirniadaethau-2>



## **Glyneiddan Papers**

Papers (reports, addresses, correspondence, etc.) relating to the following societies: South-West Wales Dairy Farmers' Association, 1909; Vale of Towy Dairy Farmers' Co-operative Society Ltd, 1913-14; West Wales Farmers' Dairy Society Ltd, 1919-26; and the Carmarthen Farmers' Co-operative Society Ltd, 1905-45. (Series D 100)

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/glyneiddan-papers>

## **Gogerddan Estate Records**

GEG1/3 Printed rules of the Llanfarian (Glanfarian) and District Agricultural Co-operative Society, with a letter confirming the incorporation of the Society and an application for shares, 1903-1904.

GEG1/2 Deposit account book of Sir Pryse Pryse, with the Agricultural and Horticultural Co-operative Association Limited, 1872.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/gogerddan-estate-records>

## **D T Guy Papers**

Minute book of Cardiff Printers Ltd, 1946-73, a co-operative venture established in 1920 (File 11).

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/d-t-guy-papers-2>

## **Herbert Stanley Jevons Papers**

Files relating to the Co-operative Wholesale Society and Co-operative Union lectures on the co-operative movement in Burma and the economic problems of the co-operative movement.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/herbert-stanley-jevons-papers-2>

## **E T John Papers**

File 5504 Rules of the Foel Agricultural Co-operative Society.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/e-t-john-papers-2>

## **Robin Reeves Papers**

Files relating to the Welsh Co-operative Movement (Files C/1, C/15)

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/robin-reeves-papers-2>

## **Papers of Sir Daniel Lleufer Thomas**

One of the founders of the Cardiff Workers' Co-operative Society which built Rhiwbina Garden Village.

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/sir-daniel-lleufer-thomas-papers-2>

## **David Thomas (Bangor) Papers**

Chiefly printed items including Aberdaron Co-operative Housing Society, Ltd. (File 30)

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/david-thomas-bangor-papers-2>

## **D. A. Thomas (Viscount Rhondda) Papers**

1893, March 22. **George Cumner** [?], chairman of the Workmen's Co-operative Societies, 3 and 4 Cardiff Street, Aberdare, et al. A meeting of delegates representing the co-operative societies in the Aberdare valley resolved to write to MPs requesting them to support any measure brought before Parliament to reduce the high Railway Rates. The rates levied by the various railway companies can be exorbitant. They seek the approval of D A Thomas. (File A1/27)

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/d-thomas-viscount-rhondda-papers-2>

## **Voelas and Cefnamlwch Estate Records**

Reports And Balance Sheets of the Nant Machno and District Agricultural Co-operative Society Ltd (FA4/78-80, 1942-7) and correspondence with various agricultural and mil co-operatives

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/voelas-and-cefnamlwch-estate-records>

## **Wales TUC Cymru Archives**

Files relating to the co-operative movement in subfonds G and R

<https://archives.library.wales/index.php/wales-tuc-cymru-archives-2>

## **Print Materials**

NLW has extensive holdings of the Wheatsheaf journal and Co-operative Home Magazine - issued by the Co-operative Wholesale Society. The Wheatsheaf and Co-operative Home Magazine also carried inserts from individual co-operative societies (each society would, typically, have had its own 4-8 page insert, with local society news, monthly over decades) NLW has examples, such as Abergavenny Society, May 1934 – many years; Cwmbwrla, various 1903-5; Swansea, various, 1906-8; Tredegar,

probably late 1914/early 1915. There was also a South Wales Supplement inset to Wheatsheaf/CHM from the 1920s to the late 1950s, most of which are held by NLW, although the South Wales Supplement is not listed in the NLW catalogue.

**Co-operative Home Magazine / Wheatsheaf** [https://discover.library.wales/permalink/44WHELF\\_NLW/6kpfmq/alma994410302202419](https://discover.library.wales/permalink/44WHELF_NLW/6kpfmq/alma994410302202419)

**The Co-operative Sheaf**, issued by Taibach & Port Talbot Co-op Society, June 1940

**The Woman's Outlook** 1919-1933

[https://discover.library.wales/permalink/44WHELF\\_NLW/6kpfmq/alma99408171302419](https://discover.library.wales/permalink/44WHELF_NLW/6kpfmq/alma99408171302419)

**Co-operative News**

[https://discover.library.wales/permalink/44WHELF\\_NLW/6kpfmq/alma99285867702419](https://discover.library.wales/permalink/44WHELF_NLW/6kpfmq/alma99285867702419)

CWS retailing performance / Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd  
[https://discover.library.wales/permalink/44WHELF\\_NLW/6kpfmq/alma99301742802419](https://discover.library.wales/permalink/44WHELF_NLW/6kpfmq/alma99301742802419)

**Annual report / CWS**, CWS report and financial statements, Annual report & accounts / CWS

[https://discover.library.wales/permalink/44WHELF\\_NLW/6kpfmq/alma99301751602419](https://discover.library.wales/permalink/44WHELF_NLW/6kpfmq/alma99301751602419)