

**AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION  
IN ENGLAND**

## THE HORACE PLUNKETT FOUNDATION

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AGRICULTURAL  
CO-OPERATION IN  
ENGLAND

A SURVEY

BY

THE HORACE PLUNKETT FOUNDATION

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## FOREWORD

**F**OR forty years now I have given up my life to agricultural development and rural reconstruction, chiefly by the promotion of co-operation among farmers. I have at times, perhaps, wearied both the public and farmers by my insistence upon co-operation as the necessary basis for any stable agricultural community exposed to the effects of modern industrial and commercial organization, as therefore the foundation for any agricultural policy that thinks of the men and women who live on the land as well as of the supply of food to the townsfolk. I have learned not to use the word co-operation, when others prefer combination, organization or collaboration. To me co-operation is a mode of good living ; none the less it has, from the outset, to justify itself by being good business, however much its ultimate motive power must be the belief in its essential rightness. This book is a record of its achievement in a country where social tradition, the stage of development that farming has reached, and the organization of the trading system, have combined to make the growth of co-operation more difficult.

The Foundation with which my name is associated, aims at supplying both to the interested public and to co-operators themselves, all the available information as to what is actually being done in the way of agricultural co-operation. Its object is neither propaganda nor organization, except in so far as it can serve both by its record of concrete success and failure. Here is an account of a very substantial achievement, a complete answer to the common cry that farmers cannot or will not organize. At no time in my life has the general public been so sympathetically interested in agriculture or statesmen so concerned to find some tempering of the successive storms that threaten the existence of what is not only our oldest industry but also the most fruitful element in our national life. In this book they will find evidence, which few may have suspected, of real vitality in the farming community ; they will learn of growth from the root, on which all the other activities

making for the betterment of country life—technical and social—will act and react for good. Let us take heart, therefore, refresh our faith, and renew our efforts.

HORACE PLUNKETT.

THE HORACE PLUNKETT FOUNDATION,  
10 DOUGHTY STREET,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

*July, 1930.*

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## APPENDIX

The agricultural societies are here listed in their functional groups. The abbreviated titles are those used in the Registrar's Report. F. = Farmers. T. = Trading. D. = Dairies. Po. = Poultry. "Society" and "Limited" are omitted. Affiliations are shown by the following signs:

*W* = Member of the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

*U* = On the Register of the National Farmers' Union.

*M* = A Registered Packing Station under the National Mark Egg Scheme.

*C* = Member of the Co-operative Union.

### REQUIREMENTS SOCIETIES

#### "COUNTY" SOCIETIES.

Berks, Bucks and Oxon F. *W. U.*

Cheshire, Shropshire and N. Wales F. Supply Assn. *W. U.*

Cornwall F. *W. U.*

Dorset F. *W. U.*

Eastern Counties F. Co-op. Assn. *W. U.*

Lunesdale F. *W. U.*

Manchester and Dist. F. Co-op. Assn. *U.*

Midland F. Co-op. Assn. *U.*

Northamptonshire F. *W. U. M.*

Northern Agricultural Co-op. *W. U. C.*

N. Notts F. *U.*

Oxfordshire F. *U.*

Preston and Dist. F. T. *W. U.*

Shropshire F. *W. U.*

S. Herefordshire Agric. Co-op.

Southern Counties Agric. T. *W. U.*

Staffordshire F. *W. U.*

Tees-side F. *U. C.*

Warwickshire F. *W. U.*

W. Cumberland F. T. *U.*

W. Midland F. Assn. *W. U.*

Wiltshire Agric. Co-op. *W.*

Worcestershire F. *W. U.*

Yorkshire F. *U.*

## " HALF COUNTY " SOCIETIES.

Biddulph and Dist. Agric. *W. U.*  
 Brandsby Agric. *T. W. U. C.*  
 Chepstow *F.*  
 Chester and Dist. *F. T. W. U.*  
 Cumberland and Westmorland *F.*  
 Derbyshire *F. U.*  
 East Devon Agric. Co-op. *U.*  
 Furness and S. Cumberland Supply Assn. *W. U. C.*  
 Isle of Wight *F. T. W. U.*  
 Ledbury Agric. Co-op. *U.*  
 Lydney and Dist. *F. Co-op. W. U.*  
 Macclesfield and Dist. *F. T. U.*  
 Melton Mowbray and Dist. *F. Assn. W. U. M.*  
 Mid Cheshire *F. Co-op. W. U.*  
 North Devon *F. W. U.*  
 Pewsey Vale Agric. Purchasing Assn. *U.*  
 South Devon *F. W. U.*  
 South Shropshire *F. W. U.*  
 S.W. Lancs. *F. U.*  
 West Devon and North Cornwall *F. W. U.*  
 West Surrey *F. Assn. U.*

## " RURAL LOCAL " SOCIETIES.

Arderne Assn. *W. U.*  
 Askett Agric. Co-op. *W. U.*  
 Aspatria Agric. Co-op. *W. U.*  
 Brailsford and Dist. *D. F. Assn. W.*  
 Buckingham Agric. Trading Assn. *U.*  
 Cirencester *F. Assn. U.*  
 Coalville and Dist. *F. Assn. U.*  
 Crich and Dist. Agric. Co-op.  
 Darley *F. W. U.*  
 Dunster, Williton and Dist. Agric. Co-op. *W.*  
 Donyatt and Dist. Co-op.  
 Dunnington *F. Supplies U.*  
 East Surrey Farmers' Co-op. *U.*  
 Escrick and Dist. Agric. Co-op. *U.*  
 Farnham, Alton and Dist. *F. and Hop Growers' Co-op.*  
*Assn. W. U. C.*  
 Gwinear and Dist. Agric. Co-op. *W.*  
 Hartley Agric. Co-op. *U.*  
 Heathfield and Dist. Poultry Keepers' Assn. *W. U. M.*  
 Hurstpierpoint Co-op. *U.*  
 Keswick and Cockermonth *F. Co-op. U.*  
 Launceston, Lewannick and Dist. *F. W. U.*

- Lostwithiel and Dist. F. *W. U.*  
 Marshland and Wingland Agric. T. Assn. *C.*  
 Milton and Dist. S. H. Co-op.  
 New Forest *W. U.*  
 Newark F. *U.*  
 Northallerton Agric. Co-op. T. *U.*  
 Nursery Trades Assn. *U.*  
 Purton and Dist. Agric. Co-op.  
 Ridgeway F. T.  
 Sherston Co-op. Milling *W. C.*  
 Surrey County Poultry Scty.  
 Swaledale F. Assn. *U.*  
 Titchfield Abbey Co-op. *U.*  
 Upwell Poultry Scty. *U.*  
 Wanborough Dist. Agric. Co-op. *W. U.*  
 Waterlooville and Dist. Poultry Scty.  
 Wealdon F. *U.*  
 Wellow and Dist. Agric. Co-op. *W. U.*  
 Wetherby F.  
 Wharfedale F. T. Assn.  
 Whitby and Dist. F. *U.*
- "URBAN LOCAL" SOCIETIES.
- Brighouse Fanciers and Utility T.  
 Burnley S. H. Assn. *U.*  
 Calder Vale Agric. T. *U.*  
 Eccleshill and Dist. Poultry Keepers' Assn.  
 Greetland and Dist. T.  
 Halifax and Calder Valley F. *U.*  
 Hartshead, Clifton and Dist. F. *U.*  
 Hebden Bridge and Dist. F. Assn. *U.*  
 Hemingfield and Dist. Poultry and Pig Keepers' T.  
 Horwich Utility Poultry Scty.  
 Liverpool and Dist. F. Co-op. Assn. *W. U.*  
 Oldham and Dist. F. Provender Supply.  
 Oldham Poultry League.  
 Penistone and Dist. F. T.  
 Ripponden & Dist. F. Assn. *W.*  
 Rochdale and Dist. F. *U.*  
 Rochdale and Dist. Poultry League *U.*  
 St. Helens F. *U.*  
 Sowerby Bridge and Dist. D. F. and Milk Dealers' Assn. *U.*  
 Wakefield and Dist. Scty. *U.*  
 Wortley and Tankersley F. Co-op. *U.*  
 Wyke and Dist. T. *U.*

## DAIRY SOCIETIES

## DAIRIES (WHOLESALE).

Allendale F. *U.*  
 Blackpool and Fylde F. Pure Milk Supply Assn.  
 Brailsford and Dist. D. F. Assn. *w.*  
 Derbyshire F. *U.*  
 Farmers' Clean Milk Depot.  
 Gloucester F. Milk Depot *U.*  
 Horeham Road Co-op. *U.*  
 Ilminster and Dist. F. Co-op.  
 Lunesdale F. *w. U.*  
 Midland D. F. *U.*  
 Sparkford Vale Co-op. D. *U.*  
 Sturminster Newton and Dist. F. *w. U.*  
 Wincanton D. F. *U.*  
 Yorkshire F. *U.*

## CHEESE.

Ashby Folville Co-op. D.  
 Colston Bassett and Dist. D.  
 Earl Sterndale and Longnor D. Assn. *U.*  
 Harby F. D. *U.*  
 Kinoulton F.  
 Long Clawson D. *U.*  
 Manifold Valley D. Assn.  
 Masham F. D. Co-op. *U.*  
 Melton Mowbray D. F. *w. U. M.*  
 Scalford D. *U.*  
 Stathern and Dist. D. *w. U.*

## CHEESE (SURPLUS MILK).

Barrow in Furness and Dist. D. F.  
 Chichester and Dist. Milk Producers *U.*  
 E. Sussex D. F. *U.*  
 Frodsham Area Surplus Milk.  
 Itchen Valley Co-op. *U.*  
 Lostwithiel and Dist. F. *w. U.*  
 Middlewich and Dist. F. D. *U.*  
 S. Wilts Milk *U.*  
 Southwell F. Cheese Factory *U.*

## DAIRIES (RETAIL).

County Dairies *U.*  
 Haltwhistle Co-op. Creamery *U.*  
 Harpenden D. *U.*  
 Richmond and Dist. F. *U.*

## BUTTER (RETAIL).

Cornwall County F. and D. Co-op. *U.*

## CHEESE (RETAIL).

Preston and Dist. F. T. *W. U.*

## LIVE-STOCK AND MEAT

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Eastern Counties F. Co-op. Assn. *W. U.*  
 Hants Abattoirs.  
 North Devon F. *W. U.*  
 Plymouth and Dist. F. *U.*  
 Selston and Dist. F. Direct T.  
 Tweedside F. Co-op. *U.*  
 West Devon and North Cornwall F. *W. U.*

## AUCTION MARTS.

Allendale F.  
 Halifax & Calder Valley F. *U.*  
 Henley-in-Arden U. M.  
 Melton Mowbray and Dist. F. Assn. *W. U. M.*  
 York and Dist. F. Auction.

## PRIVATE SALES.

Eastern Counties F. Co-op. Assn. *W. U.*  
 Ledbury Agric. Co-op. *U.*  
 Northern Agric. Co-op. *W. U.*

## BACON FACTORIES.

Herts. and Beds. Co-op. Bacon Factory.  
 St. Edmundsbury Co-op. Bacon Factory.  
 Yorkshire F. Bacon Factory.

## PIG FATTENING.

Watford Pig Keepers.

## WOOL MARKETING

Central Wool Growers' *U.*  
 Cornwall F. *W. U.*  
 Eastern Counties F. Co-op. Assn. *W. U.*  
 Kent Wool Growers' *U.*  
 Midland Wool Growers.  
 Northern Wool Growers.  
 North Devon F.  
 Southern Wool Growers.  
 Tweedside F. Co-op.  
 West Devon and North Cornwall F.

## EGG MARKETING

Beaminster and Dist. Collecting Depot *M.*  
 Carterton Egg Club *M.*

Cornwall F. Egg Marketing *U. M.*  
 Cornwall F. *W. U.*  
 Cumberland and Westmorland F.  
 Cumberland Poultry F. *U. M.*  
 Devizes and Dist. Poultry *U.*  
 Donyatt and Dist. Co-op.  
 East Devon Agric. Produce *U.*  
 First Lincolnshire Egg Pool *M.*  
 Framlingham and Eastern Counties Co-op. Egg and Poultry *U.M.*  
 Gloucester Fruit and Vegetable Co-op. Marketing *U. M.*  
 Growers Sales *U.*  
 Heathfield and Dist. Poultry Keepers Assn. *W. U. M.*  
 Henley-in-Arden Auction Mart *U. M.*  
 Isle of Wight Egg and Poultry Supply Depot *M.*  
 Ledbury Agric. Co-op. *U.*  
 Loughborough and Dist. F. Assn. *U. M.*  
 Lunesdale F. *W. U.*  
 Melton Mowbray and Dist. F. Assn. *W. U. M.*  
 Norfolk Egg Producers *U. M.*  
 Northamptonshire F. *W. U. M.*  
 Nottinghamshire Egg Producers *U. M.*  
 Pershore Co-op. Fruit Market *U.*  
 Poultry F. of Devon *U.*  
 Preston and Dist. F. T. *W. U.*  
 St. Austell and Dist. Co-op. *U.*  
 St. Gennys and Dist. Produce.  
 Shropshire Egg Producers *U. M.*  
 Shropshire Produce Co-op.  
 South Herefordshire Agric. Co-op.  
 Southdown Egg Producers *U.*  
 Southern Counties Agric. T. *W. U.*  
 Stamford and Dist. Co-op. Egg Scty. *U. M.*  
 Stonegate and W. Sussex F. Co-op. *U. M.*  
 Taunton Vale Egg Producers *M.*  
 Tavistock F. Produce.  
 Underley Poultry Keepers.  
 Upwell Poultry *U.*  
 Wilts Graded Eggs.  
 Worcestershire F. *W. U.*

#### FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Cambridge Producers.  
 Cottenham Growers' *U.*  
 Devon F. Cider Growers' Assn.  
 East Anglian F. *U.*

East Grinstead Dist. Producers.  
 Frampton and Dist. Growers' *U.*  
 Gloucestershire Fruit and Vegetable Co-op. Marketing *U. M.*  
 Growers Sales *U.*  
 Henley-in-Arden *U. M.*  
 Kirdford Growers' *U.*  
 Lea Valley Co-op. Nursery.  
 Littleton and Badsey Growers' *W. U. C.*  
 Marshland and Wingland Agric. *T.*  
 Norfolk Fruit Growers' *U.*  
 Norfolk F. and Garden Produce Assn.  
 Pershore Co-op. F. Marketing *U.*  
 Potter Heigham Fruit Growers' Co-op. Assn.  
 Shropshire Produce Co-op.  
 South-West Lancashire *F. U.*  
 Tamar Valley Fruit Growers' Assn. *U.*  
 Tiptree and Dist. Fruit Growers' Assn.  
 Upwell and Outwell Packing Station *U.*  
 Welford-on-Avon Growers' *U.*  
 West Cornwall Bulb Co-op. *U.*  
 Worcestershire *F. W. U.*

## INSURANCE

Agricultural and General Co-op. Ins.  
 Co-op. Ins. Soc. *W. C.*  
 N.F.U. Mutual Ins. Soc.

## SUNDRY SERVICES

Acomb and Dist. Agric. Implement.  
 Addington Agric. Credit.  
 E. Sussex Agric. Credit.  
 Elmswell and Dist. Co-op. Threshing.  
 Furness and Cartmel Dist. Agric. Credit.  
 Goodnestone Agric. Lime.  
 Gorran Co-op. Threshing.  
 Leicester and Rutland Cattle Improvement.  
 Leigh Agric.  
 Market Weston Threshing.  
 Normanton-on-Soar and Dist. Threshing.  
 Nursery and Market Garden Industries Development, Experiment  
 and Research Station.  
 Rattlesdon and Dist. F. Co-op.  
 Romsey Dist. F. Implement.  
 Sheriff Hutton and Dist. Threshing.  
 Swannick and Dist. Basket Factory.

Tamar Valley and Dist. Basket and Box Making Factory *U. C.*

Tiverton F. and Shire Horse.

Tregony Threshing Machine.

West Devon Agric. Co-op. Threshing Assn.

West Lancashire F. Blacksmiths *U.*

Worksop Threshing.



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