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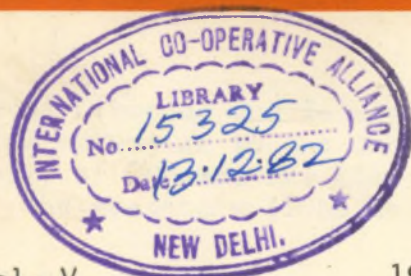


LIBRADOCC

and International Archive News

International Working Party of Co-operative Librarians and Documentation Officers

11 Upper Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9PA England



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Editorial

This issue of Libradoc and International Archive News draws your special attention to the coming meeting of our International Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers. The meeting will be held at the Hotel Cosmos in Moscow on

Friday 10th October 1980

14.00-18.00 Committee of the Working Party

Saturday 11th October

09.00-18.00 Working Party plenary meeting

Sunday 12th October

09.00-12.00 Plenary of the Working Party

14.00-18.00 Committee of the Working Party.

All those in charge of a library or a documentation service in cooperative organisation and cooperative institute are particularly recommended to attend this conference and to participate in the discussion. In case you like to discuss your own subjects do not hesitate about informing our chairman, Mr. Bernard Howcroft, Library and Information Unit, Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., P.O. Box 53, New Century House, Manchester M60 4ES England. Another valuable point of the conferences of our Party is the friendly contact, particularly valuable for future relations between us.

Thank you.

Margareta Wangius
Librarian
Kooperativa förbundet
Box 15 200
S-104 65 Stockholm
Sweden

TRAINING AND THE LIBRARY

By Stephen Drodge, librarian, Co-operative College
Stanford Hall, Loughborough, England.

Almost every library fulfils in some measure three roles, providing for leisure, for information and for education.

For the purposes of this article, however, I shall set the leisure role aside as peripheral to the library's service to management; and I shall look at the information role not per se, but in the form in which it relates to training - that is to say as project data, which, with project techniques, goes to make up the library's educational role in servicing management.

What are these two facets of the educational role of the library? And how can they best be used in the context of management training?

For training, the library can on the one hand supply project data and on the other hand provide a forum for the application of project techniques through approaches such as desk research. Now, I take it as axiomatic that an uninformed manager is an unprepared manager - and unpreparedness is a stage in the ruin of any organisation.

It follows, therefore, that the techniques of extracting relevant documents from the mass of irrelevant ones, and of eliciting the required information from them, are important.

Information retrieval is not, of course, a process associated purely with libraries: nevertheless, as one of the most widely available sources of information, the library and its employment should be part of any training programme which values information, and the techniques of information finding in the library may serve as a generalised model for efficient data gathering in many contexts.

The basis of any library is the efficient organisation of material, and the basis of all research must be a systematic approach, making use of the organisation available.

Serendipity may be more pleasurable than an analytic approach, and in some circumstances it is more appropriate. But if we are looking for swift and accurate results efficiency must come first in information work as elsewhere.

In his book *Resource-based Learning* - Norman Beswick lists four questions for the searcher to ask himself at the outset: What materials are available to me here, relevant to my quest?

What other libraries may help me? What study area is available to me to work in, where a range of materials is readily to hand?

What facilities are available to me to respond to my assignment in multi-media terms?

These are general questions of orientation, requiring that the searcher have a good idea of the objectives and scope of his task.

The answers to the four questions require 1) a knowledge of the types of material likely to be used 2) an awareness of the

different sources for these 3) a clear set of objectives - that is to say a good idea of the information that is required, of the purpose it will be used for, and of the context in which it will be used. (Thus, for instance, on the last point the search will need to be different if the information is to be used for the preparation of a written report, or for a presentation before an audience).

To these questions we may add four further questions which are needed to give precision to the answers: What is the purpose of my search? What information does it require? What depth of information do I need? How does the system within which I am working match with the system of the library?

Now, this form of self-questioning will make any information search both easier and more effective and is therefore valid in its own right within the context of the search.

I would like to suggest, however, that, apart from this intrinsic practical usefulness the techniques of an information search, especially in the stages of definition and planning, have a wider applicability which makes the search itself - not just the results - a purposeful management training exercise.

For training purposes, therefore, a library information search can be used both to obtain required data and to exercise skills of planning and comprehension.

Essentially planning for data gathering requires the same principles which may be applied to the appraisal of any problem and the subsequent formulation of an action plan.

As an exercise it can be useful because its scope and duration may be strictly controlled, whilst, if it is itself properly planned, it is a real, not a simulated project, the end product of which should be information of genuine usefulness to the trainee. Above I have enumerated eight questions - four of Beswick's, and four additional ones. To conclude, we need to examine each of these briefly, in order to bring out more clearly the factors involved in an exercise of this kind which lead me to suggest that it has a value as a training tool.

1. What is the purpose of my search? The most fundamental question - why am I doing this at all? Without a clear answer, it is virtually impossible to answer the other questions or, indeed to perform the search and achieve any meaningful results. As with any planning it is essential first to define problem and object as precisely as possible.

2. What information does it require? If you like - what new data will I need to process in order to get at the conclusions, I need? This is the essentially simple, but still important step from seeing that what is wanted is, say, a comparison of performances of various retailers, to deciding that, for instance, report and balance sheet statistics will be necessary in order to compare them. This question relates principally to the subject of the search.

3. What depth of information do I need? Again, the starting-point is the answer to the first question. But this question relates principally to the object of the search in the example above, to the purpose to which the comparison is to be put - which determines

the amount of detail required.

4. What materials are available to me here, relevant to my quest?

5. What other libraries may help me?

Having established the parameters of the search, we come now to some of the practicalities of efficient library use. These two questions explore the two distinct dimensions of the search - the resources immediately to hand, and the wider (international, if need be) resources of interlibrary contact.

To ensure that all relevant sources of information are fully and efficiently tapped it is necessary to back up a clear idea of what is wanted with thorough groundwork in source tracing, whether by searching oneself through library catalogues and bibliographies (and, in the wider context, library directories, for other specialist collections which may be of help), or by using the library's human resource - its librarians - to obtain guidance, or preferably, both. A headlong dash to a few already familiar sources may be quicker in the short run. But its results are unlikely to be as fruitful as those of a planned search and may indeed be misinformation as much as information if there has been no proper analysis of sources and of their relationship to the purpose of the search.

6. What study areas is available to me to work in, where a range of materials is readily to hand? The information contained in a particular library is not the only thing which needs to be taken into account in assessing the usefulness of a particular library for a particular search.

Can material be taken away? If not, is there somewhere suitable to read? If the information is available in some type of microform, are there enough readers to hand? How quiet or private is the study area in the library?

The Co-operative College library, for instance, has individual study carrels and a video cassette reader - every library has different facilities, and these can be important.

7. What facilities are available to me to respond to my assignment in multi-media terms? A modern presentation will not necessarily be on paper.

Certainly, a report which is to be delivered verbally will be enhanced by the use of audiovisual aids - and if the library has facilities for the production of aids, the presentation can actually begin to take shape at this early stage of the project.

8. How does the system within which I am working match with the system of the library? We need to be aware of the processes which we are operating. Unless the search consists in a very simple chain, locating a source and reproducing it unchanged, there is a process involved, not merely of information transfer but of something more like transmutation.

The data of a given source is obviously arranged according to the interests and needs of its compilers, and if several sources are being used, the likelihood is that they will use several systems;

within a library the various sources are arranged according to the needs of the particular library and its clientele, and again if several libraries are being used, the likelihood is that they will use in some respects different systems.

Meanwhile the arrangement of the end product of any search has to be tied in with the system into which it is being transmitted.

This network of transformations is not necessarily hard to cope with - it can be quite automatic - but it can also be very complex, and it is part of the planning of any efficient exercise to take the problem into full account.

Source: CO-OP Marketing & Management, Febr. 1980, vol. 5:5, p. 11-12. Publ. by the Co-operative Press Ltd, Progress House, 418 Chester Road, Manchester M16 9HP, England.

* * * * *

EIN SCHATZ FÜR WISSENSDURSTIGE

Wissen ist Macht ... dieser alte Spruch der Arbeiterbewegung der zwanziger Jahre wurde auch von den Genossenschaften getragen und unterstützt. So ist es auch zu verstehen, dass die damalige Bücherei des Co-op Verlages und des "ZdK", die um die Jahrhundertwende gegründet wurde, von Genossenschaftlern eifrig benutzt und ausgebaut wurde. Der "Bund deutscher Konsumgenossenschaften" hat dann die Bücherei weitergeführt und sie wurde zur heutigen "Bibliotheks- u. Dokumentenstelle" der Co-op Gruppe in Hamburg mit über 30 000 Büchern und 5000 Broschüren, Urkunden und Dokumenten erweitert. Hinzu kommen noch Filme und Lichtbildserien und technische Vorführungsmöglichkeiten der Audio-Vision. Die Fachbibliothek in Hamburg wird von vielen Interessenten der Co-op Gruppe, Studenten der Hochschulen und Universitäten Hamburg, Münster, Heidelberg und sogar aus München besucht, da es sich herumgesprochen hat, dass man hier wichtige Literatur und Dokumente findet, die selbst in grossen Staatsbibliotheken nicht vorhanden sind.

Gliederung der Bibliothek: Betriebs- u. Volkswirtschaft, Genossenschaftswesen des In- und Auslandes, Gemeinwirtschaft, Fachzeitschriften und Tageszeitungen.

Im letzten Jahr kamen über 400 Benutzer (darunter viele Studenten) in die Adenauerallee. Ausgeliehen wurden fast 3000 Bücher, Broschüren und Dokumente. In der angeschlossenen "Dokumentationsstelle" werden täglich die Presseveröffentlichungen gesichtet und ausgewertet, sowie Material gesammelt, gruppenmässig in der Kartei erfasst und auf Anforderung zur Verfügung gestellt. Der hier wöchentlich erscheinende "Wochen-Presse-Spiegel" für das Management der Co-op Gruppe wurde zu einem gefragten Informationsdienst. Die vielschichtige und vielseitige Arbeit wird als echte Dienstleistung aufgefasst. H.R.B.

Source: COOP Report. Informationen für Coop Mitarbeiter. Heft 1, 1980. 2000 Hamburg 1, Fed. Rep. of Germany.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICES IN SRI LANKA -
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOLLOWS UP SEMINAR RECOMMENDATIONS

A national workshop on Library Management, Development and Documentation Services was held in Sri Lanka by the Project in collaboration with the International Co-operative Alliance in May 1979. The National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka deputed 30 participants to this Workshop. A report of the workshop was submitted to the National Cooperative Council for necessary action.

The NCC has now constituted a National Advisory Committee to develop a proper library system and documentation services for the Cooperative Movement. The objectives of the National Advisory Committee are:

1. to advise the NCC on the improvement of library services in the Cooperative sector.
2. to advise the NCC on procurement of books, journals and other documents for the Central Library as well as for the district libraries.
3. to work out a system which will support the NCC to exchange documentation with other specialised libraries in the country.
4. to systematise the documentation services.
5. to advise the NCC on the utilisation of funds or grants channelled for library services in the country.
6. to work out a systematic training programme for the training of personnel handling cooperative libraries at the district level.

The first meeting of the National Advisory Committee was held in Colombo on 17th March 1980. The Project Director is represented on the Committee. The NCC Librarian has already undertaken the process of systematisation of the Library with the assistance of other libraries at the district level.

Source: Teachers' Training Bulletin (published by the ICA/SCC/NCC Project for Training of Cooperative Teachers in Sri Lanka, 455 Galle Road, Colombo-3, Sri Lanka), Number 3 (Special Issue), March 1980, p. 20, column 1.

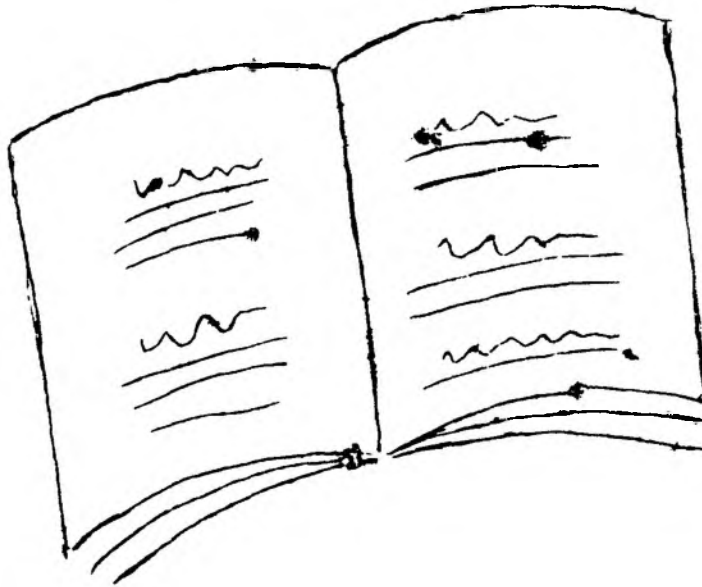
FUNDACIÓ ROCA GALÈS

This foundation has as aim to study and promote the cooperative movement in Spain. Its library consists of 1700 books and 1900 booklets, and receive about 45 newspapers, bulletins and reviews from all over the world, all specialised in co-operative matters. The address is Fundació Roca Galès, Aragó 281, Barcelona-9, Spain.

NATIONAL WORKING PARTY OF
INDIAN COOPERATIVE LIBRARIANS

AND
DOCUMENTATION OFFICERS

(N.C.U.I.)



NATIONAL COOPERATIVE UNION OF INDIA
3-Siri Institutional Area
(Behind Hauz Khas)
Panchshila Marg
New Delhi - 110016

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE UNION OF INDIA

OUTLINE OF NATIONAL WORKING PARTY OF INDIAN COOPERATIVE LIBRARIANS AND DOCUMENTATION OFFICERS.

I. N. M. E.:

The name of the working party shall be - National Working Party of Indian Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers. (National Cooperative Union of India).

II. OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS:

- i) To undertake periodical review and identification of problems of libraries of cooperative organisation and that of academic institutions, teaching the subject of cooperation and to find out practical solutions of their problems.
- ii) To promote and develop libraries and documentation centres within cooperative movement and academic institutions.
- iii) To extend technical advice and services to various institutions and organisations in regard to promotion of cooperative libraries and documentation centres.
- iv) To impress upon authorities that library development should form a part of coordinated cooperative development plans.
- v) To create and promote an effective system of mutual collaboration which will be profitable to all participating organisations and training institutions.
- vi) To endeavour to increase by appropriate means use of I CA Library activities, and at the request of ICA assist and advice ICA and take advice from

~~the ICA that matters relating to libraries and information services.~~

- vii) To encourage the use of common standards to be adopted among cooperative libraries and documentation centres of the participating organisations.
- viii) To impress upon cooperative libraries and documentation centres to become members of Indian Library Association.
- ix) To enrol itself as the member of International Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers and to provide effective support to the International Working Party by participating in its meetings and other activities.
- x) To collaborate with public library authorities at the local level to explore the possibilities of opening a special corner for cooperative literature in the public libraries.
- xi) To cooperate with Block Development Authorities for exploring the possibility of opening a library in their blocks with special emphasis on cooperative literatures.
- xii) To develop the National Cooperative Union of India or Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management libraries as a national depository of all types of cooperative literatures.
- xiii) To make efforts for opening libraries for the workers of the cooperative enterprises, viz. cooperative sugar factories; IFFCO plants; etc., and for the members in all cooperative organisations including the primary level.

- xiv) To make plans for organisations of training programme for cooperative Librarians.
- xv) To request N.C.U.I., NCCT, ICA, UNESCO and other concerned national and international organisations to provide study scholarships to the cooperative libraries to study library science in India as well as in foreign countries.

COMPOSITION:

The composition of the Working Party shall be as follows:

- i) Chief Executive - NCUI - Chairman
- ii) Librarians of National and State level Cooperative organisations; Cooperative Training Institutions; Cooperative Departments both in State Governments and Central Government and National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi - Member
- iii) Director(III) - NCUI - Member
- iv) Librarian - NCUI - Convenor

DIRECTION COMMITTEE:

The Direction Committee will be a standing committee to formulate action plans on various policy matters decided by the National Working Party and allied issues. The composition of Direction Committee will be as under:-

- i) Chief Executive-NCUI - Chairman
- ii) Librarian & Documentation Officer, I.C.A., New Delhi - Member
- iii) Director(CT) Government of India. - Member

- | | | |
|------|---|------------|
| iv) | Secretary, NCCT | - Member |
| v) | Director, Vaikunth Mehta
National Institute of
Cooperative Management | - Member |
| vi) | Director(III) - NCUI | - Member |
| vii) | Librarian - NCUI | - Convenor |

ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF
DIRECTION COMMITTEE:

The following will be the main functions of
Direction Committee;

- i) Take action on resolutions, recommendations etc., adopted by the National Working Party of Indian Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers.
- ii) Initiate and coordinate collaboration between libraries and documentation services of the cooperative organisations affiliated to the National Cooperative Union of India and also those connected with scientific and educational institutes and activities in the cooperative field.
- iii) Advise cooperative organisations and institutes and give advice on library and documentation problems, and when necessary refer them to selected experts, primarily within the working party.
- iv) Coordinate the proposals sent to the Committee and circulate them among librarians and documentation officers to promote discussions.
- v) Promote, where appropriate, the application of the Universal Decimal Classification System, and in particular the use of UDC 334 (Cooperative Movement).

- vi) Ensure and maintain close collaboration with the National Cooperative Union of India and I.C.A.
- vii) Encourage continuous collaboration between libraries and documentation services, especially through exchange of views in a regular publication; modernisation and rationalisation of cooperative library and documentation work, as well as technical development in these special spheres of activity.
- viii) Contact various agencies including Government for seeking financial and other type assistance for the development of cooperative libraries.

PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE WORKING PARTY:

COMPOSITION OF THE
PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE:

The Professional Committee shall consist of the following librarians of national level cooperative organisations, the librarian of Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, and zonal representative one from each zone representing cooperative colleges and other cooperative organisations from Eastern Western, Northern and Southern Zones of the country.

- | | | |
|----|--|-------------|
| 1. | Mr. Suresh Chandra
Librarian
National Cooperative
Union of India,
New Delhi. | - Chairman |
| 2. | Mr. G.Y. Wesley
Librarian
IFFCO
New Delhi. | - Secretary |
| 3. | Mrs. P.B. Rashinkar
Librarian
Vaikunth Mehta National
Institute of Cooperative
Management, Pune. | - Member |

4. Mrs. Anuradha Mohan - Member
Librarian
National Agricultural
Cooperative Marketing
Federation of India,
New Delhi.
5. Mrs. Vimla V. Gupta - Member
Librarian
Ministry of Cooperation
Government of India
Krishi Bhavan
New Delhi.
6. Mr. S.D. Joshi - Member
Librarian
National Cooperative
Development Corporation,
New Delhi.
7. Mr. Balwant Singh - Member
Librarian
N.C.C.T.
New Delhi.
8. Mr. S. Bhattacharjee - Member (EZ)
Librarian
Cooperative Training
College,
Kalyani
9. Mr. M.V. Maste - Member (WZ)
Librarian
Cooperative Training
College
Nagpur.
10. Mr. G.S. Verma - Member (NZ)
Librarian
Cooperative Training
College,
Dehradun.
11. Mrs. Shashikala G. Ugargol - Member (SZ)
Librarian
Cooperative Training
College
Bangalore.
12. Mr. B.D. Pandey - Special Invitee
Librarian and Documentation
Officer
International Cooperative
Alliance,
New Delhi.

FUNCTIONS:

1. To take professional steps regarding implementation of decisions of Direction Committee on the resolutions of the National Working Party of Indian Cooperative Librarians.
2. All expenses for attending meetings shall be borne by the respective organisations.
3. Collect and circulate proposals among Librarians and Documentation Officers to promote discussions.
4. Advise cooperative organisations and institutes and give instruction to or train their staff in Library and Documentation problems, and when necessary, refer them to selected experts, primarily within the National Working Party.
5. Carry out such other activities as are conducive to the promotion of the aims and objectives of the Working Party.

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL WORKING PARTY OF INDIAN COOPERATIVE LIBRARIANS AND DOCUMENTATION OFFICERS.

<u>Name & address of the organisations</u>	<u>Name of the Librarian</u>
1. National Cooperative Union : of India 3-Siri Institutional Area Behind Hauz Khas Panchshila Marg New Delhi.	Shri Suresh Chandra
2. National Agricultural Coop. Marketing Federation of India, Sapna Theatre Building 54, East of Kailash New Delhi.	Mrs. Anuradha Monan
3. National Council for Cooperative Training 34, South Patel Nagar New Delhi.	Shri Balwant Singh
4. Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) 34, Nehru Place New Delhi.	Shri G.Y. Wesley
5. National Cooperative Development Corporation Eros Apartments 56, Nehru Place New Delhi.	Shri S.D. Joshi
6. Ministry of Cooperation Government of India Krishi Bhavan New Delhi.	Mrs. Vimla V. Gupta
7. Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management R.B.I. Building University Road Pune (Maharashtra).	Mrs. P.B. Rashingkar
8. Cooperative Training College 12/1, Kanakpura Road Basrangudi Bangalore (Karnataka).	Mrs. Shashikala P. Ugargal

9. National Cooperative Consumers' Federation
Deepali Building
92, Nehru Place
New Delhi.
10. Cooperative Training College
Kothi No. 3095, Sector 28-D
Chandigarh. Mrs. Sharda Kansal
11. Cooperative Training College
Rajpur
Dehradun (U.P.). Shri G.S. Verma
12. Cooperative Training College
Rajendra Nagar
Hyderabad (A.P.). Miss Deepika Khara
13. Cooperative Training College
Fort, Indore (M.P.). Mr. Satya Narayan Patil
14. Cooperative Training College
Thavria House, Pareek College Rd.,
Bani Park
Jaipur (Rajasthan). Shri R.P. Jangid
15. Cooperative Training College
Kalyani Distt. Nadia (W.B.). Shri Sudhansu
Bhattacharjee
16. Cooperative Training College
Mausam Bagh, Sitapur Road
Lucknow (U.P.). Shri S.R. Singh
17. Cooperative Training College
89, Poonamallee High Road
Kilpauk, Madras (Tamil Nadu). Shri S.P. Rajkumar
18. Dhanajayrao Gadjil Cooperative
Training College
Sahakar Mandir Mahal
Nagpur (Maharashtra). Shri M.V. Maste
19. The Cooperative Training College
Tekari Road
Near Pathar-ki-masjid
Patna - 6. Shri Sudama Pandey
20. Cooperative Training College
43/16-A, Erandwana
Karve Road
Pune Shri B.M. Amnekar
21. Cooperative Training College
Kesh Bharg, Poonappura
Trivandrum (Kerala). Miss Daisy Chacko

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 22. Cooperative Training College
Villabh Vidyanagar
Gujarat. | Shri S.C. Pandya |
| 23. Cooperative Training College
Kahilipara.
Gauhati (Assam) | Miss Gauri Bose |
| 24. Cooperative Training College
361, Sahid Nagar
Bhubaneshwar | - |

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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF CONSUMER UNIONS.
LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION WORKING GROUP.

Report of the First Meeting, the Hague,
30 & 31 January, 1980.

8.

Contacts with Library Working Groups of other organizations

The Group was informed about the contacts the IOCU Library established with the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). As already mentioned in the Circular Letter of 29 September 1978, both ICA and IPPF have for many years been successfully operating working groups on Library and Documentation such as the one IOCU is now in the process of forming. To illustrate the work of ICA and IPPF in this field, the following publications were circled:

- 1) Copies of LIBRADO, a regular newsletter of the Working Party of Co-operative Librarians & Documentation Officers.
- 2) Publications of the Documentation Centre of the ICA Regional Office in New Delhi: ICA Library Catalogue; Special and Annotated Bibliography Series; and Documentation Bulletin.
- 3) A six-part Training Package modulus developed by Jacqueline Forget, Head of the Library and Documentation Services, (IPPF).
- 4) Copies of the IPPF Cooperative Information Service.

The Group examined the material with great interest and found in it much encouragement for its future work. It was suggested that the Group should explore the possibilities of closer cooperation with the ICA and IPPF Working Groups. In particular, the possibility of holding a joint meeting with the ICA Working Party could be considered.

From the Chairman of the Group Jarmila Lentink, Head of the IOCU Library.
9, Emmastraat, 2595 EG The Hague, Netherlands.

NEW CO-OPERATIVE LITERATURE

VON BRENTANO, DOROTHEE

- Grundsätzliche Aspekte der Entstehung von Genossenschaften. Projektleitung: Prof. Dr. W.W. Engelhardt. Seminar für Genossenschaftswesen der Universität zu Köln. - Berichte. Köln 1979. 33 S.(mimeo.)

Zu den Problemen, die im Rahmen der herkömmlichen wirtschaftswissenschaftlichen Genossenschaftsforschung volkswirtschaftlicher und betriebswirtschaftlicher Prägung nur ungenügend geklärt werden konnten, gehört die Frage der Entstehungsbedingungen von Genossenschaften im rechtlichen und wirtschaftlichen Sinne des Wortes. Da diesem Problem nicht nur aus historischen und theoretischen Erwägungen, sondern auch im Hinblick auf aktuelle Genossenschaftsgründungen sowohl in Industrieländern als auch in Entwicklungsländern grosse Bedeutung zukommt, wurde durch die Bearbeiterin der Versuch zu einer umfassenden Abklärung anhand zahlreicher Einzeltheorien der Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaften unternommen, deren Erklärungsbeitrag sozusagen systematisch "abgefragt" wurde.

Die Studie, die inzwischen zur Prädikats-Promotion der Bearbeiterin geführt hat und auch im Wortlaut veröffentlicht werden soll, wird mit grosser Wahrscheinlichkeit künftige Diskussionen unter den Genossenschaftswissenschaftlern stark befruchten.

Prof. Dr. W.W. Engelhardt (Vorwort).

Copies may be obtained from Universität zu Köln, Albertus-Magnus-Platz 5000 Köln 41, WISO Hochhaus, 6. Stock. Fed. Republic of Germany.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

- Co-operatives and the state.
A Report of the Discussions held at the Meeting of the ICA Central Committee 11-13 September 1978 Copenhagen, Denmark. London, ICA, 11 Upper Grosvenor Street, 1980. 80 pages. (Studies and Reports.14.)

The publication opens with a summary record of the views presented by the principal speakers, and the contributions from the members of the Central Committee who intervened in the debate. The subject was introduced by Mr. Jean Lacroix (France), Mr. Jan Kaminski (Poland) and ICAs two Regional Directors for South-East Asia and East & Central Africa. Messrs. R.B. Rajaguru and Dan Nyanjom respectively. We have added, in the second and third sections, complete texts of papers for those whose appetites might be whetted on reading the summary section and for researchers who require more details.

From the Foreword by S.K. Saxena, Director, ICA.

LANTBRUKARNAS RIKSFÖRBUND & - Farmers' cooperation in Sweden.
SWEDISH CO-OPERATIVE CENTRE Origins and development.
Stockholm, LTs förlag, 1980. 139 pages.
ISBN 91-36-87308-X.

When the Swedish farmers started building up their organisations they had models in other countries. This is valid of the co-operative part in particular. The organisations had some set-backs in the beginning, but were later very successful and today the Swedish farmers' organisations serve as models for other countries, not least in the developing countries. We have many guests from abroad who study the Swedish organisations, and we are also involved in supporting selfreliance activities among farmers in several countries.

Therefore we do not need to stress that the Swedish farmers regard international co-operations very important, based on their own experience both in old time and now. Our history tells us that there is nothing so practical as a good theory and that an intensive exchange of ideas and experiences is a considerable power behind progress. This co-operation is today more important than ever before. This book wants to give a short and clear description of how the Swedish farmer's organisations grew and developed and how they are today. It is my hope that it will contribute to the international exchange of ideas and experiences and be of use and inspiration to its readers.

Erik Jonsson, Chairman, Federation of Swedish Farmers.

From the preface.

VERHAGEN, KOENRAAD - Co-operatives and rural poverty -
eight questions answered.
Oxford, The Plunkett Foundation
for Co-operative Studies, 31 St. Giles,
1980. 50 pages. (Plunkett Development
Series. 1.) ISBN 0-85042-030-X
ISSN 0143-8484

Are co-operatives in developing countries an effective instrument for combating rural poverty? What can they do for small farmers and landless individuals? How can they be prevented from flagrantly missing targets and target groups? How can international assistance promote development on the right lines? These and other questions which exercised project officers of the Netherlands' Ministry for Development Cooperation resulted in the authors' participation in the COPAC Symposium: Co-operatives against rural poverty at Saltsjöbaden (Sweden), with eight questions which had been formulated during preliminary discussions at the Ministry. This report was drawn up on instructions from and for the benefit of, the Ministry of Development Co-operation. It was first published in Dutch in 1979 by the Royal Tropical Institute, Department of Social Scientific Research, with the consent of the Ministry, who have given their kind permission for re-publication in English by the Plunkett Foundation.

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NATIONAL CONSUMER COOPERATIVE BANK

The Bank has recently moved to a new office and its address
is: National Consumer Cooperative Bank, 2001 S Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009, USA. The Bank has also published
a paper named "N C C B News-Update" available from the
same address.

I N T E R N A T I O N A L A R C H I V E N E W S

THE DOCUMENTATION OF THE SWEDISH LABOUR MOVEMENT IS SECURED

By Lars Wessman, Labour Movement Archives, Stockholm

The Labour Movement Archives in Stockholm are described.
Established in 1902 they are the oldest of their kind
in the world.

Let us observe, first and foremost, that the Labour Movement Archives in Stockholm are the oldest of their kind in the world. As early as in 1902, librarian Oscar Borge started activities in a room in the Stockholm Workers' Library. He realised the importance not only of preserving the printed history of the Labour Movement but also of rescuing from oblivion all the unpublished documentation that could be of value. It is, of course, enormously fortunate that the collection of documentation should have started so early on. The pioneer period of the Labour Movement was still in the present, and both written materials and oral testimony could be obtained from the pioneers themselves. His initiative soon caught on in Oslo and Copenhagen, which a few years later started to build up their own memory banks, modelled on the Stockholm Institute.

Until 1965, the Stockholm Institute was financed solely by the Swedish Confederation of Trade Unions (LO) and the Social Democratic Party (SAP). Not until then did the state come in as a principal; at the same time, the Institute was made into a foundation, with the three principals mentioned.

Oscar Borge had originally studied to become a researcher in the natural sciences, taking a Ph.D. in marine botany. His interest in botanical systems can be traced in his somewhat unusual rules for cataloguing, rules that were retained until the early Sixties. Borge became strongly involved politically in the Labour Movement even during his student days; subsequently, after a brief period at the Stockholm Workers' Library, he devoted all his time, until his death in 1938, to his own creation, the Labour Movement Archives.

From its foundation, the Institute was as much a library as a collection of archives. Enormous labour has been devoted to building up a Library that will cover both the national and the international history of the Labour Movement. In recent years, however, heavy increases in book prices have forced the Library to maintain a very austere profile from the standpoint of acquisitions, in both the subjects and language areas covered. For some decades past, the Library has naturally been classified as one of Sweden's research libraries, and with the approval of the National

Library it covers international publication in the field of Socialism/Marxism and history of the Labour Movement. A conscious acquisition policy, and uninterrupted growth, have made the Library extremely interesting also for researchers and libraries in other countries, particularly for those of its sister institutions in Europe that saw their collections dispersed both once and twice during the two world wars.

The Library today contains over 100,000 volumes/items, over half of them in foreign languages, predominantly German and English, but with a wealth of material also in French, Spanish and Russian. Its collections of periodicals and brochures contain numerous items of interest also to an international public.

Obviously, the Institute's collections of unpublished material, the Archives, do not have the same international character as the Library. If, that is, we ignore the fact that the strong internationalism that characterises the Labour Movement is reflected in the wealth of conference material of its organisations, and the long series of correspondence with the rest of the world. Many of the personal archives kept at the Institute also bear witness to the industrious communications maintained with other countries by individuals. However, the only purely international material is a few minor collections left by politicians in exile.

The Archives Department thus covers the records of various organisations, personal archives, and special collections of posters, banners, photographs, and sound tapes. The Institute functions as the record-office of the Labour Movement as a whole, and thus accepts material from all union and political organisations within the movement. For many years it also entertained the ambition of accepting material from the entire country, i.e. from the regional and local branches of organisations. This, however, proved impossible for reasons of space, and owing to the work-load involved. In the Forties, on the initiative of the Stockholm Institute, small local Labour Movement Archives were set up throughout the country. Another motive underlying this development was a concern to keep collections in the local area, near to the collectors of archives and local researchers.

Gradually, the majority of these local archives have come to accept collections also Sweden's other traditional "People's Movements", the Free Church movements, the temperance movement, the sporting and athletics movements etc. Historically speaking, this is no oddity: above all during the pioneer era, the three classical Swedish People's Movements - the Labour Movement, the Free Church movement, and the temperance movement - worked closely together, and it was not uncommon to be a member of all three. At the practical level, such an arrangement was often a sheer necessity in order to obtain local authority grants for the archives.

Today there are some fifty local archives. The majority are People's Movements Archives, and only ten or so of the smaller still concern themselves exclusively with the Labour Movement. In all of them, however, the Labour Movement, after all, is the incomparably largest of the People's Movements. Ten or so operate within an entire county, others only within one or more municipal areas.

Since 1968, the People's Movements and Labour Movement archives have had their own organisation, the Archives Association of the Swedish People's Movements. Apart from the archives themselves, the majority of People's Movement also belong to the Association, which thus now has 140 members.

The Association's resources are extremely modest, and its Office is handled entirely by the Labour Movement Archives. The reason for this is that the resource for consultant activities among members that the Association had hoped to acquire with state funds was assigned instead to the National Swedish Record Office. The latter had previously shown little interest in the archival problems of the People's Movements, but it now acts as consultant and provides grants every year for inventories of archives, the equipment of premises etc. through the Board for Private Archives that was created in 1970 and on which the Labour Movement is represented. The Board also allocates grants for the salaries of certain heads of local archives. It should be emphasised that the Archives Association of the People's Movements and the National Record Office are entirely agreed as to the aims of long-term planning:

- People's Movements Archives at the county level, but with the retention of existing small archives as departments under the county archives. Motive: the collected resources of a county office will give more personal - and thus better - service to both researchers and archive collectors.
- Larger grants for taking inventories.
- An emphasis on the independence of the People's Movements Archives vis-à-vis other institutions, such as the provincial archives and county museums, and an absolute anchorage in the People's Movements themselves.

Having outlined the background, let us now move on to the current organisation of the Archives, and to the questions that will most interest the researcher or visitor, namely the division of collections between different archival institutions, delivery times, lists and catalogues, the question of confidentiality, etc.

All the People's Movements and Labour Movement archives are private institutions, the boards of which are dominated by representatives of the People's Movements. The archives are financed by central and local government funds, and in some cases also by limited grants from the People's Movements themselves.

An exception is the Labour Movement Archives, whose budget is covered to 60% by LO and the Social Democratic Party, and to 40% by the state. The Labour Movement Archives retain their role as the "national archives" of the Labour Movement, and local Labour Movement archives for the Stockholm area. By virtue of their greater resources, the Labour Movement Archives also play a co-ordinative and consultant role vis-à-vis the others, without the latter being in any way subordinate. *Primus inter pares* would appear to be an adequate description. Only the Labour Movement Archives have the double function of Archives and Library.

In the activities of the People's Movements and Labour Movement archives, the emphasis is on the archives of the organisations. There are also special collections of photographs, posters, and banners. Only the Labour Movement Archives purposely collect personal archives. The general picture is that only the papers of a very few national politicians have so far found their way to the public record offices and libraries. However, anyone concerned to obtain a complete source material should make supplementary enquiries and investigations at the state, local government, and company archives. The latter, for example, give a much fuller picture of the conditions of working life than the union archives. The People's Movements Archives will be pleased to arrange contacts with the relevant public and company archives.

The time limit for what is to be found in the People's Movements Archives and what is still kept by the organisations varies very widely. It has so far been dictated by purely practical reasons, which is to say that an organisation which is short of space has supplied more material to the archives than others; however, an effort is now being made to keep at the organisations only such material as is indispensable in the course of day-to-day work.

The Labour Movement Archives keep copies of archive lists from majority of local People's Movement Archives. Similar information is now recorded in the main register of private archives kept by the National Record Office. No printed lists of archives or general surveys are available. The Labour Movement Archives will be pleased to provide an address list of all the People's Movements Archives.

Most Labour Movement organisations have a very positive attitude towards researchers wishing to study their archives. In most cases, all material is fully available. Restrictions may sometimes relate to important series, for example the minutes of committee meetings, but seldom to entire collections. In most cases, the executive or working committees of the organisations concerned can suspend such restrictions on the application of the researcher, provided he can specify what he wishes to see and the purpose of his research. The personal archives, too, are for the most part fully available, which is important since they often provide a valuable complement to the sometimes rather "thin" organisation records.

Sweden has a law stipulating public access to public records, a law that offers the citizen a very good insight into central and local government activities. For a document to be classified, it must be possible to quote an article of the Official Secrets Act. This is commonly referred to as "principle of public access". This principle, and this legislation, naturally do not apply in the private sector, to which the organisations of the Labour Movement belong. However, the high degree of openness practised in the public sector rubs off on the private sector, at least - as we have already suggested - on the Labour Movement. Every effort is made to avoid secrecy, since the Movement is by tradition well-disposed towards research, and realises the importance of research on its own history.

Traditionally, most research in Sweden is performed at the universities. The number of special research institutions outside the universities is still small, even if more research has begun to be assigned outside the universities in recent years. And the debate on this question in Sweden is by no means concluded! At any rate, there is nothing strange about the fact that special research institutes for the history of the Labour Movement should be lacking in Sweden. On the other hand, we can point at a number of university projects, some of them lasting many years, that have been or are concerned with the history of the Labour Movement, or perhaps more often of the People's Movements.

Some of the larger local People's Movements Archives and the Labour Movement Archives maintain close contacts with these projects. The archives can take inventories of material, offer recommendations on method, and help the project in other ways.

Apart from functioning as the archives and library of the Swedish Labour Movement, the Institute is also required to "promote studies in the history of the Labour Movement". For this purpose, it is not enough to provide good lists and catalogues of the collections. Since 1977, the Institute publishes its own periodical *Meddelanden från Arbetarrörelsens arkiv och bibliotek* (Notices from the Archives and Library of the Swedish Labour Movement), which both presents source material and mirrors current research. This periodical supplements the *Arbetarrörelsens Årsbok* (Labour Movement Annual), which has been published for many years.

Exhibitions and seminars, or debates, are other instruments that the Institute is testing in order to present source material and suitable tasks for research. Ultimately, the aim of all these activities is to bring together the researchers and those commissioning research, or the organisations.

Finally, a few brief points by way of summary. There is every reason to believe that the documentation of the Swedish Labour Movement will be solved in a satisfactory way.

Archive activities were started at an early stage. The Labour Movement Archives in Stockholm started as early as in 1902, and have since been supplemented by some fifty local archive offices throughout the country. Inventories of sources, from the material, are continuously being made in several places. In recent years, these inventories have been built out with recorded interviews - the interest in oral history is increasing the world over.

It has also been possible to an increasing extent to obtain resources from central and local government, since the majority of political parties have a clear anchorage in the People's Movements and to a greater or lesser extent have their own history documented in the People's Movements Archives. The attitude of the National Record Office has also been positive, and the Office is assisting in the creation of a special archive system for the People's Movements.

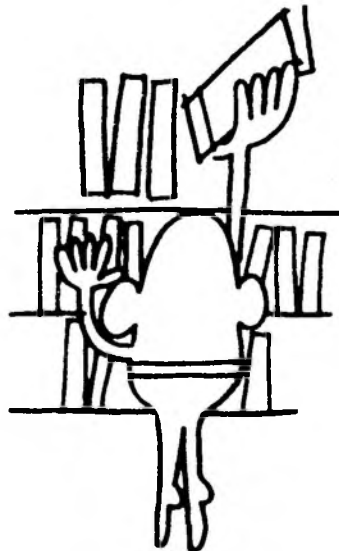
The great opportunities presented lie in the very fact that special archives exist for the People's Movements alone. The organisations look upon these archives as "theirs", and confidently entrust them with material. The personnel working with the archives know the people in the organisation, and are thus in a position to put researchers in touch with "live" sources at the organisations. All this is particularly evident in the case of the Labour Movement Archives, which "only" have to deal with the Labour Movement.

This article has also been published in ARCHIVUM Revue internationale publiée sous les auspices du Conseil International des Archives, and in Tidskrift för Dokumentation. The Nordic Journal of Documentation, Stockholm. 1980: no 1.



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Editorial

This Libradoc and International Archive News has been composed after the Conference of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers in Moscow on 11th October 1980.

The main theme was the automation of libraries. Ms. Champagne's contribution is in this connection most interesting, as it deals with the human factor. In the next number of Libradoc the Russian paper on this subject will be inserted.

After reading the detailed report on the Centrosoyus Central Library my opinion is that such a well-arranged cooperative library would not be achieve-abled outside the Soviet Union. We were invited to see the Lenin Library and the Library of Foreign Literature, and the demonstrations were well prepared.

The readers have a fair prospect of being acquainted with the cooperative libraries in South East Asia under leadership of Mr. B.D. Pandey. The confidence in success is splended amongst the librarians in that cooperative part of Asia.

International Archive News presents the first article in the Museum Section of Libradoc. This complete story of the restoration of the Rochdale Pioneers Museum is written by Mr. Roy Garratt.

It is intended that the next Committee meeting will be held in April 1981, in Frankfurt am Main, during the week before Easter. The Committee and members of the Working Party shall discuss the aims, methods of work, requency and location of meetings, as well as receive reports on current and planned activities, and on recent developments in the field of library, documentation and information work. The purpose is to appraise the aims and activities of the Working Party, measured against the longterm aims of the ICA. The above mentioned is taken from a letter with an attached slip by Ms. Anne Lamming, our secretary, to the members in October 1980. The editor do hope, that many of you have returned or are going to return your slip back to London.

With best wishes for Christmas and
a happy New Year

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OBITUARIES

Mr. Cornelis Kamp died on 9th June 1980, at the age of 71.

He had been librarian and documentation officer at Co-op Nederland, taking early retirement shortly before the organisation was disbanded in 1973.

A great internationalist he was instrumental in the early 1950's in setting up the International Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers, together with Hans Handschin of Co-op Schweiz, and Walter Sjölin of KF. He acted variously as secretary to the committee, and technical advisor to the Working Party. In 1966 he became acting chairman, and was elected chairman from 1967 to 1973.

On relinquishing the chairmanship he was made hon. president.

Kees Kamp was a tireless worker, bringing many matters to the Working Party's attention. He maintained relations with the International Federation for Documentation over the Universal Decimal Classification Scheme, and had his proposals for classification of "Cooperation" internationally accepted. He wrote a Manual for Cooperative Libraries and Documentation Services, and undertook advisory missions to S.E. Asia and Central Africa, in order to help cooperative librarians in developing countries. "Libradoc" the journal which links the members of the Working Party was started by Mr. Kamp in 1964.

Even in his retirement Mr. Kamp kept up his interest in cooperative libraries and documentation matters. He will be missed by the many people who knew him personally and by reputation for his energy, his drive and his unceasing efforts to promote libraries and documentation services all over the world.

By Ms. Anne Lamming, ICA, London.

* * * * *

Hans Handschin has died at the age of 88 years, in the village of Freidorf (in Muttenz, near Basel). He joined Coop Switzerland in 1911. For many years he was the Secretary of the 2nd Department, and, from 1934 to his retirement in 1958, he was Director of the library. Hans Handschin was a mathematician, a polyglot man who had travelled the world, and also a talented author. He wrote a number of books, including the history of Swiss consumer cooperatives, and works on the Danish and on the Finnish cooperative movements. Despite his many talents Hans Handschin remained a very modest man, most exacting in his work; as a writer he was never content with half-measures.

Hans Handschin was also one of the founders of the International Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers. Correspondence between him and Walter Sjölin in Sweden, and C. Kamp in the Netherlands, led to the first meeting held at the ICA in London in 1954.

From *Coopération* 1980:44, translated by Ms. Anne Lamming.

THE CONFERENCE OF COOPERATIVE LIBRARIANS AND DOCUMENTATION
OFFICERS IN MOSCOW

By Ms. Anne Lamming, Secretary, ICA in London

Cooperative librarians and documentation officers from several countries, representing cooperative unions, research institutes and higher education establishments met in Moscow on 11th October 1980 on the eve of the 27th Congress of the International Cooperative Alliance.

Delegates to the conference were greeted by the Deputy Minister of Culture of the USSR Mrs. Goloptova, and the Vice President of Centrosoyus Mr. Godkov, who set the conference off on its important work of exchanging ideas and experiences on how to provide the best possible library and information services to cooperatives.

Reports covered a diverse range of work undertaken by the delegates, both together as a group, and in their own libraries, from Montreal to Moscow, and from Stockholm to Spain. On show were the two newest publications of the group, a technical handbook and a directory of libraries of cooperative organisations.

Bibliographies are always among the services offered by libraries, and this group has recently published one on the role of women in cooperatives, and is now planning a list of the literature on workers' productive cooperatives.

A report on the library of Centrosoyus was warmly received. Many questions were asked by the visitors to the Soviet Union on the work of the library, which gave rise to technical discussions.

Librarians also have a deep interest in museums, and the conference heard with approval of the restored museum which has been created in the first shop of the Rochdale Pioneers in the U.K.

The main conference theme was devoted to the futuristic subject of automation in libraries. Three contributions - from Canada, Finland and the USSR - gave rise to animated discussions, and to a decision to publish the papers as a handbook for all cooperative libraries.

The conference concluded with thanks to the Soviet host organisation for providing the venue and papers to the conference, and for the interesting visits to libraries in Moscow.

THE ROLE OF THE LIBRARY IN SOVIET CONSUMER COOPERATIVES' ACTIVITY

There function in the USSR more than 7,000 consumer societies with a total membership of nearly 60 millions. They run more than 310 000 shops, 94,000 public catering enterprises, 7 higher educational and 127 secondary educational institutions, 155 vocational schools and a number of designing and research institutions.

Co-operative employees and members avail themselves of the services both of state-run and co-operative libraries. There are more than 300 scientific and technical and specialised co-operative libraries. All co-operative higher and secondary educational institutions, vocational schools, design offices, factories, research institutions have their own libraries with a total collection of 26 million copies.

The Central scientific and technical library functions at the Centrosoyus, being the main co-operative library. Its aims and objectives are the following:

- providing services to workers in all branches of co-operative activity;
- more active utilisation of home and foreign literature;
- disseminating achievements of science, technology and advanced experience;
- acquainting co-operative specialists with most important social and political literature;
- supplying literature on consumer co-operation to other libraries on their orders made through the Inter-Library Centre.

At present the Centrosoyus library's collection numbers more than 60,000 copies of books, periodicals, continued publications, translated articles from foreign sources, state standards, industrial catalogues and other materials in Russian and foreign languages. The collection consists of works by classic Marxism-Leninism authors, Party and Government leaders, a great variety of social and political literature, special works on consumer co-operation and its branches of activity: trade, public catering, purchases of agricultural produce and raw materials, food and other types of co-operative industry; books on management, scientific organisation of labour, norm-setting, construction etc.

The completing is carried out on a special plan of subject-matter.

Current completing is accomplished with the help of bibliographical sources, such as

- plans of next-year publications issued by publishing houses having annotations, names of authors, titles, circulation, time of appearance, prices and other data;

- the Soyuzpechat (Union Press) catalogues giving information on Soviet and foreign periodicals and continued publications, including publications of scientific and technical information organs;
- section "Book of the Week" in the newspaper "Knizhnoye Obozreniye" (Books review) listing literature appeared during the week;
- current signal bibliographical information including bulletins, directories etc.

An important condition for successful completing lies in a proper arrangement of the library's work with the Central library which receive preliminary orders guaranteeing their fulfilment. Thus, it is possible to order well in advance necessary publications being still in the course of preparation.

Providing efficient information to the workers of the Soviet consumer co-operatives about new scientific and technical documentation and literature received by the library is one of its most important duties. The library applies various methods in pursuing this task. It prepares twice a month lists of new receipts which are then sent to the heads of the Centrosoyus sections, republican and regional co-operative unions, specialists of research and designing institutions, to the Central Bureau of technical and economic information and so on. Regularly, twice a month the library organises Information Days for which displays of new literature are prepared and specialists from all sections of co-operative organisations domiciled in Moscow are invited. The library workers inform the visitors on the publications displayed, give their recommendations and consultations, after that the literature is available for readers. Exhibitions of books on various problems of consumer co-operative activity are organised at least once a month. The library issues a bibliographical directory of unpublished and departmental materials "Soviet consumer co-operatives" which is available on subscription to any organisation (not only co-operative) and to any person irrespective of his place of work.

To provide efficient service for its readers the library has a number of card-indices and catalogues. There are, for instance, index and systematic catalogues of all the literature being in possession of the library, a card-index of periodicals and continued publications, numeration card-index of standards, card-indices of articles from newspapers and magazines and of translations from foreign sources. All these catalogues and card-indices are for free use of every reader. Readers from other towns may have on their requests necessary information which is offered to them free of charge. The catalogues and card-indices are the part of the Centrosoyus Central Bureau of technical and economic information fund being a collection of the Bureau's own fund and those of co-operative research and designing institutions. They include information materials of co-operative organisations and enterprises showing their scientific and technical and

production achievements.

All co-operative organisations and enterprises contribute to completing the Central Information Fund, the objective of which are the following:

- accumulation and systematisation of co-operative information received from enterprises and organisations;
- completing information funds of enterprises and organisations with most complete subject data given in published and unpublished materials;
- selective distribution of information among leading officials and specialists of this or that branch on all problems of interest for them in the course of their scientific and economic activity;
- active contribution to fulfilment of production and scientific plans, to implementation of scientific and technical achievements and advanced working methods, to raising working efficiency of researchers, engineers, technicians and other co-operative workers.

To accomplish the above-mentioned tasks the sections of the Central Information Fund

- accumulate and systematise special information materials, publications of the Central Bureau of technical and economic information, directories and instructions, data on research and technical achievements of co-operative organisations and enterprises, information materials of co-operative industrial enterprises, catalogues etc.;
- supply the Centrosoyus information fund (its basic and specialised card-indices) with data introducing modern systems of search;
- provide information services for enterprises, organisations and individual specialists on their requests;
- selectively distribute information in accordance with needs made known;
- provide advice on methods of organising and running information service for co-operative organisations and enterprises and participate in elaborating working plans;
- improve branch tables of the Universal decimal classification and render assistance to co-operative bodies of scientific and technical information concerning their implementation.

All co-operative workers living or staying in Moscow make use of the Centrosoyus Central library which either gives literature for temporary use, or supplies the readers with copies of articles and other material for permanent use.

Readers who live in other parts of the Soviet Union may order literature through the Inter-Library Centre. In this case, on receiving the order the Centrosoyus library sends the material to the library of the local co-operative organisation. After being used it is sent back to the Centrosoyus library.

Readers working in the Soviet consumer co-operatives may obtain any kind of literature possessed by the library. At the same time, within the All-Union coordination system of library completing the Centrosoyus library is to send its co-operative literature on orders received through the Inter-Library Center to any library in the country. In its turn it has the right to order necessary literature from other libraries. The library is a subscriber in more than 10 libraries, including the State V.I.Lenin Library, the State Public Scientific and Technical library and others.

The Centrosoyus library provides services for co-operative leading officials and specialists with the help of its system of selective distribution of information. The subscribers receive special bulletins with annotated information on subjects of interest for them. They may choose necessary materials and direct their orders to the library which supplies them with originals or copies.

Being a methodological centre for all the co-operative libraries, the Centrosoyus library elaborate plans, instructions and recommendations for each category of libraries. Its methodologists keep an eye on the work of co-operative libraries teaching their workers the methods of library work.

Nowadays, with a great volume of literature on various branches of the national economy being published, all the activities of the co-operative libraries are directed at minimising the time spent by specialists in search of necessary materials. It is difficult even to choose the material without the librarian's assistance.

Considering the present level of scientific and technical development, no branch of the national economy, consumer co-operation including, can manage without a developed network of library services.

The library must help intelligentsia, workers and collective farmers in perfecting their knowledge, in moulding aesthetic taste, in mastering scientific and technical achievements and advanced working methods.

The task of co-operative librarians as they see it is to widen propaganda of the printed word, to make the materials possessed by the libraries available to all citizens, to students and pupils, in particular, to render the reader efficient help in choosing the book and independent studying it.

Contribution from Centrosoyus in Moscow, oct. 1980.

TO AUTOMATE OR NOT TO AUTOMATE ?

By Michelle Rhéaume-Champagne, Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales, Montréal, 1980. Paper from the conference in Moscow, oct. 1980.

Introduction

The most significant aspect of the times in which we live is the speed of change, and the very rapid technological developments. Automation has grown out from this, and become an everyday factor. How have libraries reacted to this ? For many people libraries are still synonymous with carefully guarded traditions. There were already experiments being carried out in 1960 aimed at establishing integrated systems for one particular library. In the 1970's the network concept appeared, with claims to be at national level. At the same time mini-computers were being developed to cater for the needs of individual libraries, with the possibility of ultimately being linked to a network.

Automation has thus been entering the world of libraries during the past 20 years. The more time goes on the harder it becomes for any library managers to ignore this fact. Automation has spread so far everywhere that the users have developed a new need, i.e. rapid access to information which libraries must fulfil in order not to be left behind and surpassed by the "information brokers".

We will review the main analyses which must precede any decision to automate a library, and look at the criteria on which such a decision must rest. We shall illustrate it with various possible fields of application within the framework of the services available, and we will underline the impact of such change on the staff.

The various analyses

It is first of all necessary to be aware that automation implies radical change. From this follows the necessity to weigh carefully all the factors involved in making the most rational decision possible.

These are some questions for which it would be useful to have the answers: What is the present situation and the present state of performance of the system ? Is it time to change this system ? What would be the advantages and the disadvantages of such change for the users and for the staff ? What would be the financial implications ?

Let us look again at these questions, in the light of practical experiences drawn from different services. On the documentation processing side, it is necessary to list all the stages that a volume must pass through in order to calculate the cost and to evaluate the performance of the service. It may be found that the cost is high in comparison with similar libraries, that the service is more or less speedy, i.e. that the time elapsed between the arrival of a volume and placing it on the shelves is too long etc. At the lending desk it may be that the number of loans is so high that the way of registering loans annoys users because it is so slow, that there are many sources of mistakes (cards being misfiled), that the user is unhappy because he cannot reserve books etc. If we examine the reference service it may be seen that those who make searches do so with little success because of the many hours of research needed for looking through indexes which causes such delay as to be intolerable. It may then look as if the introduction of data banks may be desirable. If you examine your interlibrary loans you may discover that delays in receipt of documents could be reduced if the organisation belonged to a network which would facilitate finding locations for documents.

All these analyses are crucial since they make it possible to identify the problems, the jobs which are most suitable for automation and also the urgency attached to resolving some of the problems. The ultimate aim of these analyses is to improve the service and user satisfaction; it now becomes a question of deciding at what cost this aim shall be achieved.

Criteria for cost evaluation

What are then the advantages of automation in terms of cost ? A few criteria are suggested here to help evaluate the situation. Will it be possible to carry out a task more rapidly, more efficiently at less cost ? Will it be possible to carry out a task which has become impossible to do manually because of the complexity or the volume involved ? Will it be possible to cut down on staffing levels ? Will it be possible to increase productivity by cutting out routine tasks and cutting down the number of errors ? Will the speed of access to information increase ? Will it be possible to offer new services ? It is here a question of carrying out a cost-effectiveness analysis, i.e. an evaluation of the level of performance in regards to the costs of achieving it, and an evaluation of the cost-benefit, i.e. an evaluation of the very existence of the service in terms of the costs arising from it.

So far we have considered user satisfaction, and an evaluation of the delivery of services and costs. However, what about the staff who will have to live with these changes ?

Impact on staff

It is essential for the head of a library to completely understand the possible consequences of the introduction of automation on the services, job descriptions and the staff in general. The human factor is the decisive element in implementing an automated system. If it is not properly understood it may arouse systematic opposition and lead to failure.

We have already mentioned that automation means radical change. It must furthermore not be forgotten that opposition to change is entirely natural. It would therefore be appropriate to warn staff right from the start of the studies which will take place. Despite all, there may be feelings of insecurity which arise from ideas that certain posts may be abolished or jobs rearranged, which, in itself, may be justified.

Given the feelings that may arise, it is all the more important to keep the staff informed as soon as decisions are taken, in order to let them know of changes that are likely to take place, to explain the goals aimed at and the results hoped for.

It will, in fact, be much easier for the staff to work in a relaxed manner if they are kept in touch with what is going to happen to them. The implementation of the changes must be seen through with a carefully designed training program for the employees. These precautions should help to reduce and eliminate the resistance and uncertainties engendered by change.

It is therefore important for management to plan in great detail all the changes, such as transfers, new job descriptions etc, rather than to react piecemeal as matters arise. If it is known in advance what consequences the changes are likely to bring it will be much easier to introduce the new system.

It may, for example, happen that certain jobs demand a high level of concentration (e.g. codification, entering data into a terminal etc.). It would then be appropriate to organise a rotation to minimise physical tiredness for the employees. It would also be appropriate to remind the employees of the improved level of service which will follow from these changes, in order to enrich their jobs and in this way also their job satisfaction. Lowering of job satisfaction may lead to lower output, absenteeism etc. The objectives aimed for could become impossible to attain, and higher costs will result. The opposite to that aimed for would then be obtained. From this follows the importance of management planning the implementation of the system.

Conclusions

In 1980 a library manager thus has new responsibilities towards the users that he serves; he is responsible for deciding whether to

introduce automation into his library. If it is taken for granted that the object of the library is to satisfy and answer to the needs of the users, and if, after careful analysis it is clear that the current situation does not make it possible to do so, then automation may be considered as the desirable alternative, once the cost-effectiveness calculations have been completed.

Nor must one ignore the impact that such changes may entail on the structure of the services, on job descriptions and on the morale of staff in general. It is, in fact, essential to obtain and retain the collaboration of staff by informing them from the very beginning of the process, and by keeping them informed throughout the period of further developments, by reminding them of the objectives being pursued.

We will end with a few brief words on the choice of software and hardware, which presupposes a well-considered choice. These must be chosen to permit a combination of the greatest simplicity and malleability in order to respond to the needs which are present now, and will be in the future. When it comes to linking up with a network the choice will have to be made primarily because the network responds to our own needs, and then because it offers many possibilities for development.

Translated by Ms. Anne Lamming, Secretary, ICA in London
Orig French
London August 1980

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A BRIEF REPORT ON THE PREPARATORY STUDY VISIT OF THE COOPERATIVE LIBRARIES, DOCUMENTATION & INFORMATION SYSTEM & SERVICES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

By B.D. Pandey, Librarian & Documentation Officer ICA ROEC, New Delhi, "Bonow House" 43, Friends Colony, 110065 INDIA.

1. Introduction

The ICA Regional Office & Education Centre ofr South-East Asia intends to organise a Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers of South-East Asia in April 1981, for the duration of 15 days:

2. Objectives of preparatory study

In order to be able to conduct the workshop effectively, it was decided to conduct a preparatory study of the working of cooperative libraries and information system of the participating countries. The study will help the ICA to prepare a need based syllabus for the workshop and to indentify suitable participants for the workshop.

3. Countries visited

The countries visited were as follows:
Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Republic of Philippines and the Republic of Korea.

4. Study methodology

- 4.1 Visited cooperative institutions and their libraries.
- 4.2 Concerned persons were interviewed.
- 4.3 Working of libraries was studied.
- 4.4 Information was also collected through a questionnaire covering all aspects of cooperative libraries and documentation services.

5. Subject area covered

- 5.1 Present position of the library services in the country.
- 5.2 Present system of collection of documents.
- 5.3 Technical aspects of the library work.

6. Future plan for follow-up

- 6.1 Need for well organised library, documentation and information network for the cooperative movement of the country.
- 6.2 Cooperative information network through resource sharing.
- 6.3 Development plans for the cooperative libraries at various levels.

7. ROLE OF THE ICA AND ITS INTERNATIONAL WORKING PARTY
OF COOPERATIVE LIBRARIANS AND DOCUMENTATION OFFICERS

In my opinion the role to be played by the ICA and other international agencies in the promotion and development of cooperative libraries, documentation and information services among participating countries should be discussed during the workshop.

8. COUNTRY REPORTS

8.1 THAILAND: 1st to 6th September 1980

8.1.1 Institutions visited:

Cooperative League of Thailand, Cooperative Promotion Department Faculty of Economics and Business Administration of Kasetsart University and National library.

8.1.2 Present Position of Cooperative Libraries:

At present there are two good libraries, viz. libraries of the Cooperative League of Thailand and Cooperative Promotion Department. Both the libraries have good collection of books and are managed by trained librarians, and have reasonable space, etc. However, these libraries are not rich in cooperative literature. They are not doing documentation work at present.

8.1.3 Future Plan of Action and Follow-up:

During discussions it was felt that the Cooperative League of Thailand library should be reorganised and should work as a national cooperative library of the country. The librarian should be made responsible for the planning, network of the cooperative library system and its development in the country. This can be achieved by organising a national workshop for cooperative librarians or persons in charge of cooperative libraries at provincial and district level cooperative units.

It was also felt that ICA and other national and international organisations particularly the International Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers should come forward for the necessary assistance particularly in supply of cooperative books, etc. The details of future follow-up plan for cooperative library development in Thailand should be drawn during the workshop and its recommendations should be submitted to the cooperative authorities for necessary follow-up.

8.2 MALAYSIA: 8th to 12th September 1980

8.2.1 Institutions/Organisations visited:

Cooperative Union of Malaysia, Malaysian Cooperative Insurance Society, Angkatan Kerjasama Kebangsaan Malaysia Limited,

Cooperative College of Malaysia, Department of Cooperative Development, Cooperative Book Store of University of Malaya, Farmers Organisation Authority, Fisheries Development Authority, Consumer Cooperative Super Market, and National Library.

8.2.2. Present Position of Cooperative Libraries:

Cooperative College of Malaysia has an excellent library. It has enough space for books and readers. At present the library has over 14,000 books and receives over 250 journals. It is managed by a trained librarian, hence library documents are classified and catalogued. Farmers Organisation Authority, Fisheries Development Authority and Malaysian Cooperative Insurance Society have their own small libraries. These libraries do not have qualified staff to arrange library documents in a scientific manner. However, during my discussions with the concerned authorities of these institutions I found good enthusiasm among concerned authorities to have a good library manned by trained staff. They were fully aware and convinced that a well organised library, documentation and information centre is an essential tool for a cooperative organisation not only for cooperative reference but even for general reading for staff.

8.2.3 Future Plan of Action

Introduction:

Malaysian movement being a fairly well developed movement has good cooperative training college imparting cooperative training to the cooperative personnel of the country. As an institution of self education, the authorities of the movement are fully aware and appreciative of developing a network of cooperative libraries and documentation and information in the country. They feel that the libraries network will be a good support for their educational and training activities on one hand and for general cooperative information utility services on the other. The movement has a well trained manpower which is an added advantage to the movement.

Suggstions:

- i. To cooperative college should take responsibility for library development in the country.
- ii. The college should conduct regular training programme and courses for cooperative library development in the college on the same lines as they have training programmes for other subjects.
- iii. To begin with the college librarian should conduct a survey of cooperative libraries in the country and establish the future documentation and information needs of the cooperative movement. A plan for the national network of cooperative library development and information system should be prepared.
- iv. After the plan is prepared and future target group is found, a

- national workshop should be organised for the potential cooperative librarians of the country.
- v. College librarian in collaboration with the ICA ROEC should produce simple teaching packages to teach library science to the untrained persons.
 - vi. After the national workshop, a series of provincial level workshops should be organised.
 - vii. In view of the potentiality and richness of the movement and the English language proficiency and the availability of trained librarians with the college it is suggested that Malaysian movement should extend a helping hand to other sister movements in the Region to develop their library system.
 - viii. College librarian should also maintain close collaboration with the ICA ROEC for exchange of cooperative literature and technical know how, etc.
 - ix. It is suggested and strongly recommended that college librarian should take active part in the activities of the International Working Party of Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers and also participate in its meetings held from time to time.

8.3 INDONESIA: 15th to 18th September 1980

8.3.1. Institutions visited:

Dewan Kooperasi Indonesia, Office of the Director General of Cooperatives, Cooperative Training College, National Navy Cooperatives, Office of the Chief Technical Adviser (Project Manager) ILO/UNDP Project in Indonesia.

8.3.2. Present Position of Cooperative Libraries:

There are twentyseven training centres spread over the country and over six thousand people are engaged in the development and promotion of the cooperative movement in the country. There are various national and international organisations engaged in helping and guiding cooperative education and training programmes in the country. To meet their reference and documentation requirements there is not a single good cooperative library in Jakarta. Cooperative Training Centre, Office of National Navy Cooperative have libraries consisting of a few hundred books. But these libraries also need much improvements in their collection as well as in technical aspects. However, I was told that these two libraries are managed by trained librarians. But I only met the librarian of the National Navy Cooperatives, who is a trained person and very keen to learn and improve her library services.

8.3.3. Future Plan of Action:

There is a great need for library development in the country. During the discussions with the cooperative officials I found that there is a genuine desire to start a network of

cooperative libraries in the country. Specially, I found great support to my promotional mission from the President and other officials of Dewan Kooperasi, Director of Cooperative Education and Extension and Project Manager of ILO/UNDP Projects. I also found similar enthusiasm among other cooperative officials.

8.3.4. Special Observations and Suggestions:

- i. After the ICA workshop two selected participants may be deputed to get in-service training for one month in the Cooperative College of Malaysia. The same participants accompanied by Malaysian Librarian should proceed to New Delhi for in-service training with the ICA ROEC. These librarians should also visit cooperative libraries at Delhi and Pune. The duration of their stay in India may be for one month. In this connection Mr. Sularso, Director, Cooperative Training and Extension, and Mr. U. Taalikka, Chief Technical Adviser (Project Manager), ILO/UNDP Project, told me that the funding of these in-service training visits will be of no problem. They were willing to finance these study visits.
- ii. After these participants are trained they should be made responsible for the technical aspects of promotion and development of cooperative libraries in Indonesia.
- iii. It is suggested that these two trained librarians should organise a national level workshop of one month duration for the librarians or persons looking after the libraries or 27 cooperative training centres of the country. Simple teaching material should be prepared for the workshop. Resource persons from ICA ROEC and Cooperative College of Malaysia may be invited for the successful conducting of the workshop.
- iv. National workshop should be followed by provincial level condensed workshops with on the spot guidance.

8.4 PHILIPPINES: 18th to 29th September 1980

8.4.1 Institutions Visited:

Cooperative Union of the Philippines, Bureau of Cooperative Development, Agricultural & Cooperatives Institute, Polytechnic University of the Philippines, PRRM and also met an official of Cooperative Sugar Federation.

8.4.2 Present Position of Cooperative Libraries:

Though the Philippines has a high rate of literacy and the people have an awareness about the cooperative movement which is 75 years old, due consideration has not been given to the need for a well organised library system for cooperative in the country. There is no cooperative library where one can find all literature on the cooperative movement of the country. Polytechnic University and ACCI have their libraries

but they too are not very rich in cooperative literature. Therefore, in my opinion there is a need for a national cooperative library for the country.

8.4.3 National Cooperative Library:

It is suggested that there should be a National Cooperative Library for the country. The library should possess all available old cooperative documents of the country as well as should receive on a continuous basis current cooperative literature produced in the country and also from other parts of the world. This library should be open to all cooperative organisation, cooperative officials, University students and any other person who wish to know and read cooperative literature. This project perhaps can be undertaken by the newly organised National Cooperative Union of the Philippines.

8.4.4 Future Expansion and Extension Programme for National Network of Cooperative Library and Documentation Services:

The National Library should be a collective pilot project of all cooperative organisations/institutions. It should expand to cope with the future reference requirements of the cooperative movement. The National Cooperative Library should be responsible for the development of provincial level library system, etc. This can be done in a phased manner. In fact Mr. Manuel F. Verzosa, Secretary of the Cooperative Union of Philippines in consultation with Mr. Ben Faustino and me has prepared a comprehensive tentative project plan for a national cooperative library system. The project would be discussed during the workshop and necessary recommendations would be discussed. After necessary discussions at their end as well as in the ICA, the Report shall be released to concerned authorities for necessary implementation. In this connection we have received the following communication from Mr. Verzosa:

"We are pleased to inform you that the Executive Committee of the Union approved the Project Plan for the National Cooperative Library System which we discussed and agreed upon in principle, together with Atty. Bienvenido P. Faustino, ICA Councillor of the Philippines. The Union has announced the Project to its 13 affiliated Regional Cooperative Unions and commenced the acquisition of cooperative literature. We expect to hire a professional librarian before the end of this quarter."

8.5 REPUBLIC OF KOREA: 1st to 3rd October 1980

8.5.1 Institutions Visited:

National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (Research Department and Library), National Agricultural Cooperative College.

8.5.2 Present Position of Cooperative Libraries:

Both the institutions, I visited have very libraries. These libraries have good collection on cooperative and allied subjects. Over 70% of the documents are in Korean language, about 10% in Japanese language, and nearly 20% in English. Libraries have enough space for documents and readers.

Both the libraries have technically qualified staff. Documents are properly classified, catalogued. Shelve arrangement and display of journals and newspapers, etc. is excellent. Precisely, the libraries arrangement speaks itself that these are being managed by trained staff.

8.5.3 Future Plan and Special Observations:

Due to the reasons of my short visit I could not discuss much about the future plan, etc. However, I felt a good awareness among the authorities about the need for a good library for a cooperative organisation. The librarians were keen to participate in the workshop to be held in Manila. I intend to discuss with Korean Cooperative Librarians for future development plan for cooperative libraries in their country during their participation in the workshop.

9. General Observations and Impressions of my Study Visit to S-E Asia

- i. Cooperative authorities appreciated the ICA initiative for cooperative library promotion and development in the Region.
- ii. Cooperative librarians responded very well with the idea of having a Sub-Regional Workshop for Cooperative Librarians and Documentation Officers of South-East Asian Region.
- iii. There are a few potentialities for developing National Cooperative Library network in a few countries of the South-East Asia.
- iv. ICA ROEC and other concerned national and international organisations should extend a helping hand to the cooperative movements of the Region in the development and promotion of their library systems.
- v. ICA should carry out on a regular basis activities of library promotion and development in the Region of South-East Asia.

* * * * *

UGANDA COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE

The Uganda Cooperative Alliance has appealed to the ICA to help them rebuild their library which was destroyed during the war. The UCA urgently need books in English on the following topics: management, training, publicity, and books on other cooperative topics, as well as textbooks on related fields, including banking, taxation, legislation, consumers, auditing, housing etc. Multiple copies would be helpful it available. Please send all material directly to: Mr. Y. Ekojot, Secretary General, Uganda Cooperative Alliance, P.O. Box 2215, Kampala, Uganda.

COOPERATIVE HOUSING IN CANADA. THE LATEST REFERENCES ON THIS SUBJECT
AT THE ECOLE DES HAUTES ETUDES COMMERCIALES, MONTREAL.

Coopératives d'habitation

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Contribution from Michelle Rheaume-Champagne
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THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF CO-OPERATION AND PARTICIPATION

A Third Sector

EDITED BY
ALASDAIR CLAYRE

The need to find a solution to the problems of industry in Britain and elsewhere in the western world is becoming increasingly important to politicians, industrialists, economists, and political scientists. These essays form a significant contribution to the discussions on the organization of industry.

The search for alternatives to the collapsing structures of western market economies is leading towards the possibility of a 'third sector' distinct from private share-holder owned industry, and from public nationalized enterprise. In a 'third sector' firm, those who do the work either participate in or take over completely both the main functions previously fulfilled by capital: they share power and responsibility for the running of the company; they may elect the management; they take responsibility for financial loss and gain. 'Third sector' firms include co-operatives operating in a free market and firms practising a combination of profit sharing and value added sharing to a significant degree. Small businesses or large businesses broken into smaller profit centres may adjust most readily to these principles of organization. But in the long run the scope of these principles may be wider.

The main aim of the book is to relate the study of co-operation, participation and value added sharing clearly to the mainstream of political economy. It originated in a conference held to discuss various practical instances of these principles and a highly provocative thesis expounded by Peter Jay on a workers' co-operative economy in the UK. Most of the papers were written after the conference in response to the

Continued from front flap

issues raised. Contributions by Alasdair Clayre, Peter Jay, Robert Oakeshott, Felix FitzRoy, James Meade, Brian Chiplin, John Coyne, John Cable, Ljubo Sirc and Roger Sawtell contain arguments both for and against co-operation and a detailed examination of the theory of co-operative and participative organization. Alasdair Clayre is a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. He has published books of fiction and non-fiction and is now a director of Antelope Films, an independent production company.

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HOUSING CO-OPERATIVES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

A Manual for Self-help in Low Cost Housing Schemes

by **A.C. Lewin,**
U.N.D.P. Consultant, West Germany.

This practical manual is for those dealing with the organisation and implementation of self-help housing groups in developing countries. It looks at the organisation, construction and legal processes associated with self-help housing groups and their activities. It would be of value to those engaged in co-operative housing schemes as well as to administrators, social planners and social researchers more generally interested in housing and co-operative schemes in developing countries.

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1980, 112 pages. £2.00 isbn 085042 035 0. Paperback. 15cm x 21cm.

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"La funció del Moviment Cooperatiu és servir la comunitat per mitjà de fer unir el poble amb uns interessos comuns com a consumidors i com a productors, dintre una base democràtica i igualitària"

A més d'això, mira de transformar una societat capitalista i competitiva cap a una comunitat que dirigeixi els seus recursos econòmics i socials per tal d'assegurar el benestar i el desenvolupament de tots els seus membres

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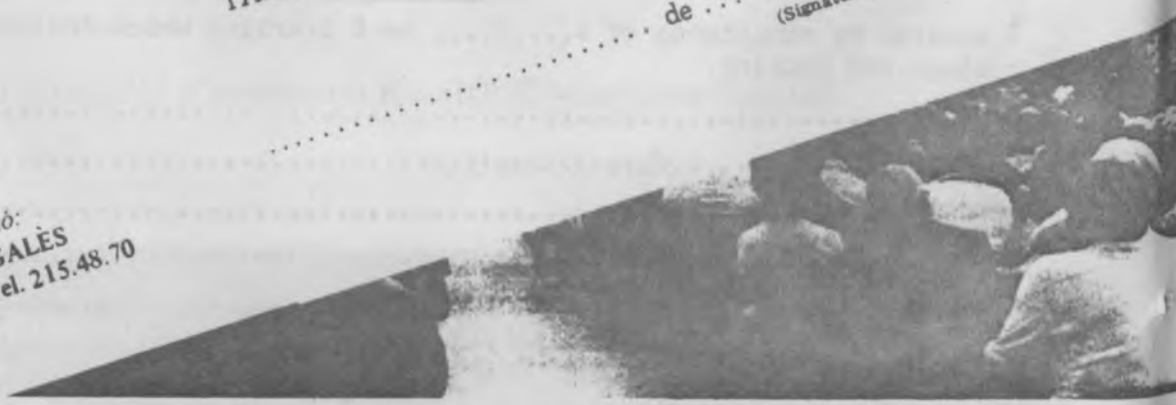
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PHOENIX RISING.....

THE STORY OF THE RESTORATION OF THE ROCHDALE PIONEERS MUSEUM

There was a sense of deprivation felt by co-operators around the world when the British Co-operative Union had to announce some six years ago that the famous Rochdale Pioneers Memorial Museum, the "Home of Co-operation" in Toad Lane, Rochdale, would have to be closed to visitors for an indefinite period. This was because the building had been found to be in a dangerous condition and in need of extensive repair and restoration.

The sense of deprivation was understandable. The Rochdale Pioneers Museum, ever since its opening as a museum in 1931, had been a place of pilgrimage for thousands of overseas co-operators who wished to see the original little shop opened by the Rochdale Pioneers in 1844 - a shop which marked the beginning of the World-wide Co-operative Movement. It was, of course, also visited by countless British co-operators proud that the Rochdale pattern of Co-operation had launched not only their own Co-operative Movement but had been adopted by co-operative organisations in so many other countries.

The premises in Toad Lane had been occupied by the Rochdale Equitable Pioneers Society for some 23 years and then their success enabled them to move to a new central premises farther down Toad Lane and which had been built by the society itself. They had never actually owned their original building but only rented it and, when the Pioneers left, their famous little store became a private shop.

By 1914 hundreds of overseas co-operators visiting the headquarters of the British Co-operative Union and of the Co-operative Wholesale Society in Manchester used also to call at nearby Rochdale to see the Toad Lane store where the international co-operative movement began. To their astonishment they saw that it was now a pet shop selling canaries and birdseed and found it difficult to realise that they were looking at the original "Home of Co-operation".

The 1914 British Co-operative Congress decided that it was high time the building was purchased by the Co-operative Movement to restore and preserve it as a monument to the memory of the Rochdale Pioneers. Unhappily, the first World War intervened and it was not until the 1920's that the British Co-operative Union was able to carry this plan into effect. A subscription was raised from British societies to purchase the building and a number of overseas co-operative organisations also generously contributed.

The building was duly purchased and when at last the private shopkeeper's lease ran out he departed with his canaries and birdseed and the Co-operative Union was able to turn the premises into a museum. The CWS Architects Department were commissioned to restore the building to its appearance of 1844. This task was skilfully carried out and at last in 1931 the building was officially opened as the Memorial Museum of the Rochdale Pioneers - the opening ceremony being appropriately carried out by a veteran co-operator, Mr Ben Jones, who had known several of the original Pioneers personally.

The Museum was modest in extent, occupying only the ground floor of the building. The two upper floors, which had been used by the Pioneers respectively for their library and class room and drapery and shoe repairing sections were left empty.

But the Museum fulfilled its purpose. To walk into the original shop was like stepping back into the 19th Century where one could view rudimentary shop furniture and Victorian scales. The basic simplicity of the shop, with its whitewashed walls, was successfully retained and it was easy to visualise the

Pioneers and their wives going into the candle-lit store in an evening to purchase the pitifully few goods it was at first able to offer.

The rear room - formerly the Pioneers stock room - housed a range of glass cases exhibiting precious relics and documents relating to the Pioneers and to the history of the Co-operative Movement.

However, the Museum had its deficiencies. Being confined to the two ground floor rooms the exhibits in the rear room were not always displayed to the best advantage. Indeed, because of lack of room certain relics had to be stored away and visitors rarely had an opportunity of seeing them. The financial limitations of the Co-operative Union, the custodian of the Museum, prevented the utilisation of the upper rooms of the building and the proper development of the Museum.

But what the visitors saw they liked. Certainly, the Museum rapidly became a Mecca for co-operators from all over the world - it had a tremendous emotional appeal for visitors from as far afield as the United States and Japan, Greenland and New Zealand. Often overseas visitors astonished their more phlegmatic British hosts by their reaction on entering the building. Some kissed the walls, bowed before the portraits of the Pioneers and have even knelt down before the glass case containing the original first minute book of the Rochdale Pioneers Society.

This was a manifestation of the influence the Rochdale idea of Co-operation had had on these visitors as a lifeline of economic and social improvement for the people of their countries. The Museum itself provided further inspiration. One delegate from a developing country, where the Co-operative Movement is having quite a struggle, told his British host: "When you took me to your wonderful new co-operative supermarkets and fine department stores, when you outlined to me the extent and power of the British Movement I felt in a sense overawed and disheartened. How could we in my country ever achieve such fine things when our working population and peasantry are so poor? And then you bring me to the old Store and I see for myself the remarkable simple and humble beginnings of the British Movement. To think that your achievements have sprung from this." These remarks epitomised the genuine feelings of so many Co-operators from developing countries when they visited the Museum.

And then in the mid 1970's the blow fell. A routine survey to effect some modest improvements to the display of relics and documents led to further investigation of the fabric and a number of serious structural defects were revealed. The walls were found to be several inches out alignment, and, to the astonishment of the investigators, excavations showed that the foundations of the building were partially of clay. The CWS Architecture & Design Department came to the grim conclusion that the building was structurally unsafe and if neglected could be in danger of collapse. But this was not the whole story. Further investigation disclosed woodworm infection in the rafters, incipient cracks in the walls and the development of damp.

Work began immediately to arrest some of this decay. The woodworm was quickly cleared by Pestoxin, a subsidiary of the CWS. To ensure that the building did not collapse, the CWS architects proposed that not only new beams and trusses be inserted but that the interior should be braced by a concrete framework which would literally hold the building together safely and securely. The alternative, they told the Co-operative Union, would be the demolition and rebuilding of the entire Museum - and the cost for that would be colossal.

The Union, of course, could not accept the alternative. It was anxious that a good job should be done but within the bounds of prudent expenditure.

At the same time the Union realised that the problem of repairing and restoring the Museum not only presented a challenge but an opportunity. Here was a chance not merely to restore the building but to improve and extend its facilities in line with modern Museum planning. It was an exciting prospect which if properly accomplished could lead to the creation of one of the finest museums of its kind in the United Kingdom.

But how was that opportunity to be financed? The Co-operative Union itself paid a great deal from its own funds from the outset to have urgent repair work carried out but its financial resources were limited and obviously it could not afford to complete the job on the scale envisaged.

There had been touching spontaneous offers of funds from co-operative organisations and individuals overseas, particularly if they or their representatives had actually seen the Museum now standing as an empty shell and in a derelict condition. Even representatives of co-operative movements in developing countries said they would try to scrape something together to help to save the Museum even though their movements were sometimes the recipients rather than the givers of aid.

Appreciative as it was of these offers, the Co-operative Union took the view that the Museum was primarily a British memorial to the Pioneers and for the sake of its good name the British Co-operative Movement would have to shoulder the main burden of the cost of repairing and restoring this unique heritage. Therefore, in 1974 the Co-operative Union launched an appeal to the British Movement to raise £30,000 to complete the task. The response was heartening. Soon donations were steadily flowing in from co-operative societies, auxiliary co-operative organisations and individual co-operators in all parts of the United Kingdom. The gifts ranged from several thousands of pounds from large co-operative organisations to one or two pounds from veteran co-operators who were now old age pensioners. Whatever their size these donations were greatly appreciated. At the same time, generous grants were made towards the work by the Government's Historic Buildings Council, and by the local municipal authorities in the area - the Greater Manchester Council and the Rochdale Town Council.

The Co-operative Union advised overseas co-operative organisations from the outset that an appeal for funds was being launched but feeling that it was primarily a British responsibility to raise the money. The Union did not attempt to organise a formal international appeal. Nonetheless, a number of overseas co-operative organisations responded generously as did individual overseas co-operators.

The work has been completed at a cost of more than £45,000.

The repair work was nothing if not radical. The top floor of the building was found to be so unsafe that it had to be removed entirely. The old staircase leading to the upper floors also had to be torn out along with a mass of other defective woodwork. Cracks in the walls were repaired and the rising damp arrested. Then the major job began of inserting the concrete framework which would hold the building together.

Naturally, all this took time and being an 18th Century building - it was erected about 1790 - this rescue operation was bound to be a slow and delicate process.

From the outset, the Union had advised central co-operative organisations abroad that in sending delegations and individual representatives to the British Co-operative Movement they should take the Museum's closure into account in arranging their programmes.

But this did not deter many devoted co-operators from overseas. They were determined to make their pilgrimage to the "Home of Co-operation" despite the fact that it was now a mere empty shell, devoid of furniture and exhibits, which had been placed in storage, and shored up on the outside by a temporary scaffolding. They made the journey to Rochdale simply to view the building from the outside and a delegation from the Japanese Consumers Co-operative Union even brought along a television camera unit to film from the doorway what they could of the interior of the empty shop. Not unnaturally, co-operators all over the world wanted to know how long the repair work would take. The Co-operative Union was besieged with requests from Co-operative organisations, at home and abroad, asking just when the Museum would be reopened. With regret the Union had to tell them - "wait and see" - and adopt a very tentative attitude because the work had to be carried out slowly and carefully and was facing many snags and difficulties.

For example, all was going well late in 1973 - the carpenters were just about to install a new staircase and the electricians lay under-floor heating in the rear room on the ground floor when to their dismay water started flooding into the building. The source of this unwelcome flooding was a mystery. The local authority denied any knowledge of a broken water main and various protected tests as to the source of the water were inconclusive.

However, whilst this work had been going on at the museum there had also been extensive demolition and rebuilding work in the vicinity of the Museum - old property was being knocked down and a new enclosed shopping centre for the town of Rochdale was being erected. It was eventually suspected that the workers had disturbed an underground spring or stream which was causing the water to flow into the museum. "Dig a hole to find the source of the water and seal it off", it was suggested. Easier said than done - to dig a hole and perhaps still not find the source of the trouble would cost, it was estimated, at least £500 - money earmarked for other vital purposes. To seal the walls of the Museum to prevent the water penetrating would have been an even more costly operation.

With commendable ingenuity, the CWS architects devised a system of concealed pipes and channels under the floor of the Museum which diverts the water through and out of the building without damaging the fabric.

With this major problem solved, work continued steadily and by 1974 the concrete framework holding the building securely together had been completed. A concrete framework inside the Museum sounds pretty austere but officials of the Co-operative Union were delighted to observe that the framework was by no means obtrusive - in fact it harmonises with the overall simplicity of the building and it would be easy to assume that the columns of the framework on the ground floor had been there to buttress the walls ever since the building was erected.

After all, the old store was originally a common or garden warehouse with no architectural pretensions and the Pioneers traded amid whitewashed brick walls bare of ornament.

Architecturally, the restored building was retaining the same basic simplicity.

The under-floor electric heating, mentioned earlier, was installed under the stone pavement in the original shop and in the Museum proper at the rear of the shop. This ensured that the precious historical objects and documents on display would be kept at the right temperature to preserve them from deterioration.

The old rather cumbersome horizontal display units in the rear room, which did not display relics and documents to the best advantage, were replaced by bright modern-

horizontal glass cabinets illuminated by diffused electric lighting which highlighted the exhibits adequately without risk of the heat from the lighting damaging the documents.

A tasteful new staircase was erected giving access to the remaining upper floor which at one time had been the Pioneers' reading room, library and class room. This upper floor was a transformation indeed! The removal of the unsafe top floor meant that the sole upper floor had become a fine lofty hall giving an unrestricted view to the interior of the roof and its supporting rafters. Further, some of the original rafters, suitably treated, still supported the roof although other beams had been replaced by modern woodwork.

The upper "hall" was illuminated by concealed electric lighting but the removal of the unsafe top floor meant that natural lighting was more than adequate because extra daylight is provided by the skylights in the roof.

The Co-operative Union at once saw the potential for this upper floor and decided it was going to be a multi-purpose room in which meetings, cinema shows, lectures and contemporary Co-operative exhibitions would be held.

Consequently, all the necessary offices were installed at the side of the room - toilet, kitchen and storeroom.

The development of this upper floor has added a whole new dimension to the building. Before restoration, visitors could merely see historical relics and documents relating to the Pioneers on the ground floor. But now on the upper floor they could participate in Co-operative social and cultural activities in the very "Home of Co-operation".

The Co-operative Union feels that this upper floor - now called the "Abraham Greenwood Room" after the famous Chairman of the Rochdale Pioneers original education committee - is an appropriate tribute by contemporary co-operators to the Pioneers of 1844 who probably would have been delighted by its spacious appearance and by the purposes for which it is being used - educational, cultural and social objects always had a prime place in Rochdale Society's constitution and these were implemented by the Pioneers on this floor.

Eventually, the shop furniture, relics and documents which had originally been displayed in the Museum were taken out of storage and redisplayed.

What then is the Museum like today? Let us go on a brief tour which will indicate to those who visited the building before the repair work that everything has been carefully restored and that they and newcomers will see and enjoy the same exhibits which were previously on display but in greatly improved surroundings.

There have been no alteration to the frontage of the building - it is as it appeared in 1844 after restoration by the CWS Architects Department in 1931. It is pleasing to report that the famous street sign "Toad Lane" is to be affixed to the Museum itself by the local municipal authority.

Going inside the shop we are immediately struck by its basic simplicity. Once again on display are the rudimentary counter, consisting of a bench across two barrels, a clerk's desk where members' purchases were registered to compute the dividend, and Victorian scales. Also on display are models of the various goods which the Pioneers initially supplied - sacks of flour, oatmeal, and sugar, with butter and tallow candles on the counter. Various descriptive panels tell the story of the Pioneers and the ramifications of the British and international Co-operative movements.

Going into the rear room we are in the Museum proper. This was originally the Pioneers' stock room and was also used as the meeting room of the Board of Directors who sat on forms amid sacks of flour and boxes of tea to transact their business.

The new glass cases effectively highlight the precious relics and documents in this room. One case is devoted to Robert Owen, the "Father of Co-operation", whose writings did much to inspire and influence the Pioneers. Another case features the great 19th Century co-operative leader, G J Holyoake, friend and adviser of the Pioneers whose books about them were translated into foreign languages, thus spreading the Rochdale idea of Co-operation overseas. The other cases tell the story of the Pioneers in roughly chronological order from the inception of the Society to the 1944 Centenary Celebrations. The chief treasure of the collection is the original minute book of the Rochdale Equitable Pioneers Society dating from August 1844 which recounts their early struggles and achievements. This has a display case to itself.

Also in this room is a handloom (circa 1870) -- a type of loom those members of the Society who were weavers would have used. This loom previously lay concealed in a cupboard in the Museum for many years because of lack of room to display it.

The rear of the room is dominated by a magnificent photographic lifesize mural of 13 of the Pioneers, prepared by the CWS. This mural gives the impression that the Pioneers are sitting in the room waiting to receive visitors. In front of the mural is a nondescript little table said to have been used by Charles Howarth, President of the Society, on which to draft the first constitution and rules of the Society.

In the cases devoted to the 1944 Centenary of the Society are gifts and messages from co-operative organisations all over the world and going up the stairs we see plaques and posters from overseas co-operative organisations hailing the 1944 Centenary.

In the "Abraham Greenwood Room" on the upper floor, much needed wall space has been utilised to display more adequately interesting contemporary portraits and photographs of the Pioneers taken in later life, and pictures of events in the history of the Society and the Museum. Documents relating to the formation of the CWS are also portrayed. This room is richly carpeted and appropriately provided with tables and chairs for committee meetings and lectures.

Concurrent with the final stages of the restoration work at the Museum has been the restoration of Toad Lane itself. As was mentioned earlier, a considerable amount of property in Toad Lane was demolished and an attractive new shopping centre built on the site. This has meant that nine-tenths of the original Toad Lane has now disappeared. The remaining portion was occupied by the Museum, two adjoining shops (built at the turn of the century), a nearby church and priest's house (now a lawyer's office).

Realising the profound historical and international importance of the Rochdale Pioneers Museum, the local authority - Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council - decided that this surviving portion of Toad Lane should become a historical conservation area. An imaginative scheme was drawn up to re-create a 19th and early 20th Century street scene in Toad Lane and the local authority, with the collaboration of its parent body - the Greater Manchester Council - has expended some £100,000 on this work. The street has been re-cobbled and genuine Victorian gas lamp posts erected. The two shops adjoining the Museum have been refurbished to give them a period appearance and one is now operating as a Victorian toy shop, selling authentic and reproduction 19th Century toys, and the other has become a small wine bar and restaurant, a facility which will be much appreciated.

by visitors to the Museum. At the rear of the Museum a tasteful hard-court garden has been created where visitors may relax or take photographs after inspecting the building. Adjoining the Museum, an authentic 19th Century Rochdale post-box is being erected which again will be used for posting mail. This is a unique post-box - there is none other like it in the United Kingdom - for in addition to being a post-box it also serves as a lamp post, the lamp surmounting the top of the box. Originally, the lamp was fueled by methane gas from the sewers below ground - a fine example of Victorian energy conservation! - but when it is resited in Toad Lane it and the other lamps in the street will of course be lit by electricity.

Thus the Museum and its surroundings have become a haven of 19th Century England amid the modern shopping developments of Rochdale.

In 1979 the Co-operative Union was at last able to announce that the Museum was open again to visitors, although, of course many overseas groups had obtained a preview of the interior of the building in previous years even though it was in an unfinished state - so anxious were they to make their pilgrimage to the "Home of Co-operation".

Soon Co-operative groups from the United Kingdom and abroad were pouring into the Museum and expressed their warm commendation of the improvements and extensions which had been carried out during the long years of repair and restoration.

The facility of the newly created upper room was quickly appreciated and it is felt to be quite a cachet to hold a formal meeting in the Museum - in the very heart of the World wide Co-operative Movement. Boards of directors of both British and overseas co-operative organisations, whilst visiting the Museum, have transacted boardroom business in the "Abraham Greenwood Room" so that it can be recorded in their minutes that they have conducted their societies' deliberations in the original "Home of Co-operation". In 1978, the Central Executive - the principal committee of the Co-operative Union - held a formal meeting at the Museum for the first time in its history and in the following year, the Education Executive, the national education committee of the Co-operative Union, carried out its deliberations in the "Abraham Greenwood Room". This was the first time since the days of the original Educational Committee of the Pioneers Society that a co-operative education committee had met in the building. The ambience of the Museum contributes much to the sense of historic occasion when such meetings are held.

It was a great joy and honour to the Co-operative Union in October 1979 to receive members of the Central Committee of the ICA at the Museum during the Committee's meeting in Manchester that year. A shuttle-service of mini-buses took individual members of the Committee to the Museum but the ICA Executive Committee, headed by President Roger Kerinec, paid a formal visit to the Museum accompanied by British Co-operative leaders and officials. In his speech at the Museum, Mr Kerinec paid a heartfelt tribute to the Pioneers and praised the work which had been carried out in restoring the Museum.

The ICA Working Party of Librarians and Documentation Officers actually held the final session of its plenary meeting in the Museum and transacted important business.

The Co-operative Union was grateful and encouraged by the praise it received from these distinguished international delegates for bringing about the rebirth of the Museum. One Swedish delegate, emphasising the international character of the Museum, said she regarded it not as a British memorial to the Pioneers but as "our Museum" - it belonged to co-operators of all countries. She confessed she could not sleep the night before she visited the building in case it did not look as she imagined it and was disappointed in the restoration work carried out. However, she assured her hosts that she was absolutely delighted with what she saw and felt that the Co-operative Union had fully succeeded in retaining the 19th Century character and

atmosphere of the building.

Distinguished visitors from outside bodies have also been received at the Museum. In 1980 the building was honoured with a civic visit from the Mayor of Rochdale and leading municipal officials and the Queen's representative, Sir William Downward Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, has also inspected the building.

Mrs Roy Jenkins, wife of the President of the Commission of the European Economic Community, was another distinguished visitor.

Before the building was restored, it could be visited only by organised groups and by arrangement but following restoration the Co-operative Union was determined that it should be opened regularly to the general public so that the "man in the street" could call in and enjoy and learn from the treasures the Museum contains. In particular it was felt that the people of Rochdale, which had given generous financial support for the restoration, should have ready access to the Museum.

A Society of Friends of the Rochdale Pioneers Museum was established to which members of the public were welcome to join and a programme of lectures and social events at the Museum arranged. Voluntary stewards were recruited from the Society to assist in showing the public around the building on one or two days a week but it soon became evident that the building should be open for longer periods each week and permanent staff were required. Towards the end of 1979, a Museum Warden was appointed, who is assisted on Saturday, the busiest public opening day, by a rota of voluntary stewards from the Museum Friends' Society. The Museum is now open five days every week (closed Sunday and Monday) from 10 am to 12 noon and 2 pm to 4 pm. However, Co-operative organised groups are not restricted by these hours and they may visit the Museum at other times, if they wish, by arrangement with the Co-operative Union.

The restored Museum has attracted the attention of the media. A full page feature on the building has appeared in the "Manchester Evening News", an influential journal which covers not only Manchester but many satellite towns. The Museum was included in the "Good Museums Guide" published in the colour supplement of the leading Sunday newspaper "The Sunday Times" and it has been highlighted on "Blue Peter", a popular children's programme on BBC television. It is estimated that some 8,000,000 youngsters watch "Blue Peter" and this TV feature resulted in a tremendous influx of young visitors to the Museum. The Museum was also to be highlighted in another BBC television Programme "Horizon" to illustrate the influence of the Rochdale Pioneers on the creators of the Mondragon Co-operative Movement in Spain. The Museum has also been featured on the Granada independent television channel.

All this has resulted in several thousand members of the public visiting the Museum over the past 12 months and a considerable amount of correspondence has been received from all parts of the country asking for more information about the Rochdale Pioneers and the Co-operative Movement.

The Co-operative Union is anxious that the Museum should not simply be a monument to men who lived 136 years ago but a "live" educational institution, a centre for propaganda and publicity about Co-operation. The Union feels that the Museum has a potential for development in many directions and will welcome new ideas to widen its scope and activities.

The ICA Working Party of Librarians and Documentation Officers has been thinking on the same lines. There are now co-operative museums in a number of countries and the Working Party is of the opinion that a Museums Section should be established to act as a forum for the exchange of information, and opinions and to discuss problems of mutual interest. It is logical that this should be done

under the auspices of the Librarians Working Party because of the associated interests of Co-operative Museum directors and curators and Co-operative Librarians and archivists concerned with the history of their respective Co-operative Movements. The Librarians Working Party already has an excellent journal "Libradoc" which could be the channel for the exchange of ideas and information on a regular basis. It surely would be well worthwhile to use this medium to promote the further development of Co-operative Museums throughout the world and advise and guide Co-operative organisations anxious to set up Museums of their own. The task is of great importance. Museums are not merely monuments of the past but signposts of the future. If we forget our history and do not preserve the Co-operative historical heritage then we are in danger of losing sight of our basic, original principles and purposes which should serve as landmarks for future development. Let us go into more detail as to the usefulness of having a Museums Section in the International Working Party of Librarians and Documentation Officers. The Working Party is of the opinion that a Museums Section would:-

- 1 Enable Co-operative Librarians to have a useful liaison with Co-operative Museum directors and personnel for the mutual exchange of ideas on the content, preservation and presentation of archive materials in Co-operative Museums and on questions of making historical documents in museums accessible for study by scholars and students.
- 2 Enable Museum directors and personnel to exchange useful information and ideas on new techniques of exhibition, display and preservation of material in their Museums and in the development of new Co-operative themes lending themselves to exhibition and display. Also to exchange information on cultural, social and educational activities which might possibly hold within or in connection with Co-operative Museums.
- 3 Be a useful source of information, guidance and advice to Co-operative Movements and organisations contemplating setting up their own co-operative museums where they have not already done so. The experience and expertise of custodians of existing co-operative museums could be channeled through the Museums Section to colleagues in other countries charged with the task of establishing Co-operative Museums.
- 4 Promote interest in the idea and possibility of establishing Co-operative Museums by Co-operative Movements and organisations which have hitherto not considered the question of setting up Co-operative Museums in order to preserve their historical heritage.

The international Working Party resolved some three years ago that such a Museums Section be established and a preliminary questionnaire elicited a positive response from 14 Co-operative Museums in various parts of the world. The Librarian of the Co-operative Union, as administrator of the Rochdale Pioneers Museum and a member of the executive committee of the Librarians Working Party, was appointed co-ordinating officer for the new Museums Section. Unfortunately, his pre-occupation with the restoration and re-establishment of the Rochdale Pioneers Museum has not enabled him hitherto to pursue the task of launching the Museums Section until now. This article marks the first contribution to the exchange of information on Co-operative Museums contemplated by the Working Party by telling the story of the rescue, repair and restoration of the world's most famous Co-operative Museum - in Toad Lane, Rochdale. Contact will again be established directly with those Museums which expressed interest in the idea of participating in a Museums Section but other organisations who would also like to join the Museums Section are earnestly requested to write to the Librarian of the British Co-operative Union, Holyoake House, Hanover Street, Manchester, M60 0AS. Their membership of the Section will be cordially welcome. Even if your Movement or organisation does not have a Co-operative Museum and is not yet thinking of establishing one, membership of the Museums Section could be

advantageous as a means of preparation for the time when your Movement or organisation has to consider taking steps to collect, preserve and house the mementos, relics and archives relating to its history.

It is envisaged that contact and exchange of information between members of the Museums Section will be maintained by correspondence and by articles, news items and communications in the Working Party's own bulletin - "Libradoc" - which would be made available to all members of the Museums Section. Where feasible, members of the Section could attend Meetings of the Librarians Working Party where they could have the advantage of personal contact and discussions with Museum personnel of other countries and with Co-operative Librarians.

In order to make the Museums section of the Librarians Working Party as widely known as possible, this first article in the Museums Section of Libradoc is also appearing in the Review of International Co-operation. Co-operative Museums can do so much to inspire, influence and educate both contemporary and future generations of Co-operators. The Museums Section will be a valuable medium for promoting the growth and development of Co-operative Museums and deserves the interest and participation of as many member-organisations of the ICA as possible.

By Mr. Roy Garratt, Librarian (Member of the Working Party Committee)
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