



CONSUMERS JOIN CO-OP WHOLESALE AND SOCIETY

By R. S. Sowell

The Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc., is now operating as a bona fide consumer cooperative and has become a part of the organized cooperative movement, since its stockholders have formally ratified and approved the technical and legal transactions necessary in the transformation of the corporation and have instructed the directors to join the Eastern Cooperative League and the Eastern Cooperative Wholesale. These actions were taken at the new stockholders' first annual meeting, held Wednesday, February 7.

Walter R. Volckhausen, president of the organization and chairman of the meeting, congratulated the citizens here who by their faith have made possible the organization of the cooperative and urged "each one to do everything in his power to make this important part of the Greenbelt experiment an outstanding success."

He stated his belief that the significance of the organizations created in Greenbelt—the Church groups, Health Association, Athletic Club, Credit Union, newspaper, Citizens Association, consumers cooperative, and others—lies in the fact that each, in its success, is a testimonial to the success of Greenbelt and to the success of the democratic principles to which Greenbelt is dedicated.

The report of Earl J. Swales, chairman of the membership committee, was a brief summary of what that committee hopes to accomplish during the current year. Mr. Swales asked each stockholder to become an ex-officio member of his committee and to help him double the membership and secure additional share subscriptions from all members during this first year.

Mrs. Bertha Maryn, chairman of the education committee, stated that "consumer cooperatives are a business and must be run on a sound business basis" and that the nature of a cooperative is such as to require loyalty on the part of the membership which must be gained through understanding.

The education committee will attempt to foster this understanding, said Mrs. Maryn, by keeping the membership alive, interested and informed in matters pertaining to the business, cooperative principles and cooperatives at large; by assisting the membership committee in its work; by keeping watch on all legislation affecting cooperatives and consumers in general; and by setting up advisory councils throughout Greenbelt to discuss various problems.

Mrs. Carrie Harper, member of the board's management committee, read the directors' recommendation concerning the organization's membership in the Eastern Cooperative Wholesale and Eastern Cooperative League.

She pointed out that to continue buying from the E.C.W. and to enjoy the advantages of centralized buying, such as chain stores enjoy, it is necessary to apply for membership in both organizations, which are interrelated.

"It is a mistake," said Mrs. Harper, "to assume that the direct economic interests of the local members may be served adequately by a society which has no contact with the rest of the cooperative movement."

Some other advantages of membership in the E.C.L. and E.C.W. are the expert accounting service the League renders and the participation of the manager and directors in the experiences and development of other cooperative societies. E.C.W. is owned and controlled by local cooperatives in every state along the Atlantic seaboard, from Maine to Florida.

During consideration of this recommendation, Robert Smith, educational director of the Eastern Cooperative League, addressed the meeting for a few minutes, pointing out the advantages of local organizations joining the organized cooperative movement, such as becoming a member of E.C.L. and E.C.W. He said they were building a movement which would enable cooperators to increase their buying power and thus buy at a greater saving.

The membership voted unanimously that the Greenbelt Consumer Services should apply for membership in the Eastern Cooperative Wholesale and Eastern Cooperative League.

Summaries of the legal and technical actions taken by the old and new boards and by the previous stockholder (Consumer Distribution Corporation) in connection with the transfer and transformation of the organization were presented by Dr. Joe W. Still, secretary. These actions were speedily and unanimously ratified and approved by the membership.

The report of the general manager, besides being read by Sulc Laakso, was mimeographed and distributed to the approximately 175 persons who attended the meeting. (Editor's note: Details of Mr. Laakso's report are presented elsewhere in this issue of the Cooperator). Also, printed copies of the organization's new by-laws were made available to the members.

After the meeting, share certificates were distributed to many of the members who had previously paid in full for at least one share. Shares are available to owners in the Consumer Services Offices from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. daily, from George Hodson, office manager.

Co-op Members Get Shares



— Photo by Francis C. Fosnight

George Hodson, office manager for Greenbelt Consumer Services, is shown above passing over to Mrs. Richard W. Cooper her stock certificate, while Treasurer Fred Wilde makes the necessary record. About 100 Greenbelters received their share certificates at the Wednesday night meeting.

CONSUMERS VOTE DIVIDENDS ON 1939 PURCHASES

Greenbelt Consumer Services, will pay a patronage return on 1939 purchases as a credit toward shares of capital stock in the organization. This is the command given the board by the new stockholders at their first annual meeting on February 7.

The matter of paying the \$2,000 patronage return was brought before the membership by Sherrod E. East, vice-president, who presented the board's recommendation that the payment be made. As gleaned from the lengthy debate on the question, the opposition to the patronage return seemed to center around two main points as follows:

First, that the organization, while it showed a savings of \$5,600 for the year 1939, had not wiped out the deficit which occurred during the first year and a half of operation; second, that the board's recommendation provided that patrons who had not purchased shares in the cooperative would share equally with members in the patronage return.

There were some objections to the setting up for a new asset—called "Leasehold", with a value of \$8,400, to be written off in eight years—which wiped out the deficit and permitted the payment of the patronage return, leaving a small surplus. It was pointed out that this was done with the approval of several Certified Public Accountants.

The people of Greenbelt, it was pointed out, had taken over for \$40,000 a business whose net assets justified a price of about \$32,000 but whose earning power justified a price considerably in excess of \$40,000.

In order to reflect the fact that the business is worth \$40,000, and in order to produce a surplus so that the organization could legally repurchase the shares of stock of members leaving Greenbelt, the directors authorized writing the asset "Leasehold" onto the books of the corporation with a value of \$8,400.

Accountants justified the new asset on the ground that it was in order to secure control of the stores, through control of the lease, that Greenbelt citizens had accepted a \$40,000 obligation when net assets were only \$32,000.

Leasehold, it was stated, would be written off over the period of the lease, and the deficit of the initial period of operation would thereby be charged off over the next eight years and would not be borne entirely by the present stockholders.

It was contended by those favoring the purchase return that to a considerable extent the increase in sales from 1938 to 1939 was due in part to the fact that the patrons expected a patronage return, and that the \$2,000 return could therefore properly be considered part of the cost of those sales. The beneficial effect upon future business was also pointed out.

Some members seemed to feel that store patrons who had not bought shares previously should not be credited with the same proportion of the patronage returns as present members. (The actual amount of credit toward shares will depend upon the total amount of the purchases made at the stores by any member, or non-member who has filled out an application, as evidenced by the patronage slips he turns in to the board of directors.)

Those who favored the payment of the patronage return were definitely in the majority, as shown by the decisive vote upon this question. Non-members will share in the benefits accruing to them by virtue of their trading at the Greenbelt stores if they submit their applications and patronage slips by 8:00 P.M. on Saturday, February 24.

FATHER - SON BANQUET IS BOY SCOUT WEEK CLIMAX

Yesterday marked the end of National Scout Week, celebrated by Greenbelt's 77 boy scouts with numerous meetings, record-breaking acquisition of ranks, honors, and merit badges, the arranging of display windows in the Center, attendance of church services Sunday, and a bang-up turkey banquet in the auditorium Monday evening.

The 165 banqueteers, including the scouts, their dads, and guests, were addressed by William A. Murphy from the FBI, Kent Mullikin, representing the Honorable Lansdale Sasser, George Harmon, State vice-chairman of the American Legion, Jack Carney, Sea Scout Commissioner for the District area, William F. Mulligan, president of the Prince Georges County Boy Scouts, Wallace F. Mabee, and Mary Lloyd Willis, who gave two readings, "Mr. Travis", and "The Joiner". The latter was especially applicable to Greenbelt, and brought down the house. Mrs. Willis was presented with an engraving of Lincoln on behalf of the scouts and cubs. Robert L. Dove, former scout master was remembered with a gift from the Troop. O. Kline Fulmer acted as toastmaster. Entertainment, consisting of dancing and singing, was furnished by the Peck Studio. The 16 year old directress, Aileen, has been a great favorite with the scouts ever since she performed at a recent cub entertainment.

The ten scouts and ten cubs who had made the most advancement since the beginning of the year were presented at the banquet with free tickets to the Fort Myers Horse Show on the 23rd. Earl Morgan and Douglas Warner were made first class scouts. Sixteen scouts and eight cubs, in all, received badges and honors recently earned. Two weeks ago the Troop set a County record at the Hyattsville Board of Review by earning 22 merit badges in one session. Most of the honors presented by Scoutmaster Birtle were in safety, pathfinding, and firemanship, although one scout received a merit badge in cooking, and another in metal work. Six boys won stars (for five merit badges) and two boys the life honor (for ten merit badges). Several attendance medals and crosses for church attendance were also presented. Cub honors given out by Rock Kirkham, Capitol Area Cub Commissioner, took the form of one gold arrow award, two lion badges, four bear badges, and one wolf badge.

Gladys Porter, who has now managed this father and son banquet for the third year in succession, gave out for publication the following menu statistics: fruit cocktail, six gallons; peas, five gallons; potatoes, 100 pounds; turkey, 109 pounds; cranberry sauce, four gallons; cole slaw, one bushel; celery hearts, two dozen; olives, two gallons; Parker House rolls, 400; ice cream, six gallons; home-made cakes, 22; milk, 36 quarts; coffee, 10 gallons. Mrs. Porter said she especially appreciated the co-operation of Russell Kellams, through whom she ordered supplies, of Vernon Iseli, who carved the turkey, and of the Head Landscape Gardener McGregor, who furnished the greens used in decorating. She also praised the scout and cub mothers who made the cakes, roasted the turkeys, took charge of the decorating, serving, and clearing up, and generally made the affair a success.

The displays of camping scenes arranged by the scouts and cubs in the Shopping Center display windows were entered in a contest open to all scout troops in the "Capital Area", i.e., the territory served by the Capital Transit Company. Last year the Greenbelt Troop took first prize in the contest. The boys this year had a choice of making displays around the subjects of handicraft, camping or citizenship.

School Dramatics Will Be Next P. T. A. Discussion

"The Place of Creative Dramatics in Our School" will be the topic for the next meeting of the Parent-Teachers Association on February 26 to be held in the Auditorium. Combined with this will be a commemoration of Founder's Day with a short playlet "Reminiscence" presented by several members of the P.-T.A.

This will be followed by a discussion of creative dramatics by the children who will later put on their play. Questioning by the parents on the merits of creative dramatics will be welcomed. The children will put on the famous old play, "Old Pipes and the Dryad".

All persons interested in children are invited to help carry out the Parent-Teacher slogan "Education-The Business of All".

ADULT NIGHT SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TOTALS 159

159 students are attending classes in the adult education program in Greenbelt schools. The courses included are Shorthand II, Typing I, Typing II, Family Clothing, Home Decoration, Foods and Nutrition, Public Speaking, Accounting I, Accounting II, and Problems of the Adolescent Child.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS MUST BE RECORDED

Notice of the birth or death of any person residing in Greenbelt is to be made to the Town of Greenbelt by a parent or next of kin within 10 days reads a Greenbelt town ordinance which some residents seem to have forgotten. The blanks may be secured from the town clerk in the Town Administration office. The penalty for not turning in the statistics is from \$2 to \$25. The act went into effect March 1, 1939, and is not retroactive.

The office pointed out the need for cooperation on the part of residents in order to keep the files complete. Anyone knowing of births and deaths that occurred after March 1, 1939 are urged to report them.

County Federation Discusses Housing and Hospital

The adoption of revised by-laws was the main item of new business taken up by the Prince Georges County Federation of Citizens' Associations, at its meeting on February 1. The new by-laws were accepted unanimously, after discussion on several points. A copy will be furnished each of the member associations.

A report from the Hospital Committee brought out the fact that tentative architectural plans have been drawn up for the proposed Prince Georges Hospital and will soon be on display in the meeting room of the Federation at Bladensburg. Extensive publicity plans are under consideration, including radio talks, visits by representative groups to legislators and speakers at the various member Associations. As soon as definite plans are under way, information will be available to the members.

The Housing Committee reported a visit to the Board of Building Commissioners in Marlboro in an effort to raise the standard of dwellings constructed in the County. An interesting fact developed during the report revealed that the average cost of dwellings now in the County is \$2800. When the number of houses costing well over this amount is considered, it is also necessary to consider the vast number of dwellings costing far less than \$2800, in order to arrive at this mean figure. The support of the Federation was asked by the chairman of this committee and experts are to be invited to speak at the next meeting of the Federation, in an effort to remedy this situation existing in the County.

Work of Hospital Is Aided

Next meeting of the Hospital Auxiliary as a whole takes place tomorrow evening in Room 200 at 8 o'clock. All who are interested in the organization are invited to attend.

A recent report on the work of the group shows that one of the most useful Auxiliary committees to date has been the supplies committee co-chaired by Margaret Flackett and Peggy Zorach. Mrs. Flackett's group meets Wednesday afternoons, and Mrs. Zorach's on Monday afternoons, at different committee members' homes, to make dressings of all sorts for the hospital. Elsie Yuretich, hospital superintendent, has said that during busy times at the hospital when there are series of operations and deliveries, the supplies furnished by the committee prove invaluable. After their weekly stint of two hours or so the ladies knock off for tea, and a pleasant time is had by all.

Dressings the committee have prepared include hand, stick, and tonsil sponges, cotton balls, laparotomy pads, gauze squares and packings.

SHOOTERS BEGIN PUBLIC CLASSES

The Gun Club's first of a series of public marksmanship classes was held in the school on February 6. The attendance was not large, but much was discussed during the nearly two hours devoted to the instruction and it is felt that the continuance of these classes is justified by the intense interest shown at the primary gathering. Accordingly, it is tentatively planned that the next marksmanship class will be held in the school about February 27. Information about the club and its classes may be obtained from club secretary L. L. Woodman, 40-E Crescent Road.

Last Saturday the first echelon of gallery shooters went to Washington for a practice shoot with the Navy Yard group at the National Guard Armory. Another Armory shoot will be held next Saturday, Feb. 17.

LEGION AUXILIARY PLANS POPPY SALE

At the American Legion Auxiliary meeting on Thursday, in Mrs. Leon G. Benefiel's home, plans were made for the poppy sale which will take place in May.

The Auxiliary requests that the local residents purchase their poppies in Greenbelt, inasmuch as the proceeds from the sale are used directly for the veterans in hospitals in Maryland.

It was decided that each member of the Auxiliary will earn a dollar for the treasury and returns to be made at the March meeting.

Mrs. Miriam Provost was appointed to make a survey of the World War orphans residing in Greenbelt. Mothers or guardians of the orphans can cooperate by calling Mrs. Provost at 3451, as it may be of benefit to them.

Starlight Inn

Baltimore Boulevard. Quality Food, Fabst Blue Ribbon on draught—Dancing every night. Orchestras Friday and Saturday

COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWS

The covered dish supper of the Community Church brought out a crowd of 150 church members and friends, who participated in games and songs after the supper.

Accordion music by Herbert Hall, Sr. was an attraction at the monthly business meeting of the Community Church Men's Class last Friday night. Refreshments were served.

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BANQUET FOR MEN'S CLASS IS TOMORROW NIGHT

Tomorrow night half of the Community Church Men's Class will banquet at the expense of the other half, as a reward for winning the recent attendance contest. Culinary arts under the direction of Allen D. Morrison are to be performed entirely by members of the losing Red team. Serving will be done by them, too, with R. T. Dove in charge.

Irwin M. Proctor, general manager for the affair announces that a program of local talent has been selected to follow the dinner.

There is still some doubt about which team will wash dishes, as the run-off contest to cover this job was nearly a tie.

HEBREW CONGREGATION NEWS

Hebrew Congregation services will be conducted as usual tomorrow evening in the Music Room by Alfred S. Mark. Sunday School will also be held in the Music Room at 10:45 A.M.

Plans are being formulated for a Purim Party to be held soon for the children of the Congregation. No definite date has been set for the party.

A regular monthly meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary was held on Tuesday, February 6, at the home of Mrs. Jeanette Loeb. Tickets for the card party to be held in the Junior Recreation Room on February 20 at 8:15 P.M. were distributed, and it was announced that everyone in Greenbelt is invited to attend. The admission charge will be 25 cents which entitles everyone to refreshments and to participate in the award of door and table prizes.

LATTER DAY SAINTS NEWS

The regular Sunday evening services will be held at 8 P.M. on February 18 in the Social Room. Two distinguished speakers have been invited: Dr. Edgar B. Brossard, a member of the Tariff Commission and former President of the Washington Branch of the L. D. S. Church, and Dr. Ward Cameron.

HUFFMAN GIVEN SURPRISE PARTY

Officer Yale Huffman was duly surprised last Saturday night when he walked into the Junior Recreation Room in the Firehouse and saw the farewell party that was being given for him. Several high school boys aided by their mothers who provided the refreshments sponsored the party. Besides Officer Huffman, Officers Ernest Walker, Albert Attick and George J. Panagoulis and about 50 boys and girls were present.

GREENBELTERS HELP COUNTY HOSPITAL PLANNING

At the first meeting of the new board of directors of the Prince Georges County Hospital Association, February 5, Dr. Samuel Berenberg was named to serve on the Medical Committee, and Mrs. Betsy Woodman was appointed to the Committee of Public Relations.

February 21 a group of officers and committeemen will meet to assemble figures and data on county hospital requirements which have been gathered by the committee during the last two years. This material will be used as a basis for publicity for the proposed hospital.

Don't miss the Athletic Association banquet Monday night.

Personal Advertisements

The Fuller Brush Company has arranged for one of your neighbors, Irving D. Johnston, 13-C Ridge Road, Phone 5261, to call on you nights and holidays, so you may receive your "free handie brush" and good "Fuller Service."

PIANOS - RADIOS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

RECORDS

(FREE DELIVERY SAME DAY ORDERED)

YOUR GREENBELT REPRESENTATIVE

BOB WHITEMAN

6B HILLSIDE - GREENBELT 2791

ARTHUR JORDAN

PIANO COMPANY
Corner 13th & G Sts. National 3223



Meditations

by

Robert Lee Kincheloe
Minister to the
Greenbelt Community Church

This is the prayer used at the Inter-Faith Symposium, "Religion and Cooperatives", held here October 8.

O God, we praise thee for the dream of peace, justice and righteousness which has ever haunted the prophets of humanity.

Speed now the day when the plains and the hills and the wealth thereof shall be the people's own, and thy freemen shall not live as tenants of men on the earth which thou hast given to all; and when the mighty engines of industry shall throb with a gladder music because the men who ply these great tools shall be their owners and masters.

Thou hast called our people to freedom, but we are withholding from men their share in the common heritage without which freedom becomes a hollow name. The social life we have built denies and slays brotherhood.

We pray thee to revive in us the spirit to build on the basis of democracy the firm edifice of a cooperative commonwealth, in which both government and industry shall be of the people, by the people, and for the people.

We dedicate ourselves to the task of bringing in that day when men shall stand side by side in equal worth, all toiling and all reaping, masters of nature but brothers of men, exultant in the tide of the common life, and jubilant in the adoration of Thee, the source of their blessings and the Father of all. Amen.

Mr. Samuel E. McGlathary, one of the first engineers connected with Greenbelt has now taken a position with District of Columbia branch of the Portland Cement Association as an engineer.

Dotsie Burke celebrated her fourth birthday with a party on February 5 in her home, 28-A Crescent Road. Moving pictures were taken of the party and the cutting of the birthday cake.

SDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1940
From Washington Post
Feb. 8, 1940

Gas Racket Investigation Sought Here

Poor Grades Found Sold as High Test; District Lacks Power to Act

Representative Jack Nichols (Democrat), of Oklahoma, last night said he would demand an investigation of charges that "unscrupulous" gasoline dealers were selling inferior fuel under the guise of a "high test" product.

His statement followed one by James D. Gouldin, president of the Washington Gasoline Retailers, who said the District was powerless to check on the dishonest dealer.

statement through its president: "The findings of the District government investigators can be readily understood when the situation is analyzed. When a filling station operator grants a 2-cents-a-gallon discount or any discount from the current prevailing retail price, that discount must come out of his margin of profit, for he has to pay the same wholesale price, regardless of the 100 per cent station."

At YOUR Co-op Station-

1. YOU GET THE GRADE OF GAS YOU PAY FOR
YOUR station won't cheat YOU.

2. PRICES ON EVERYTHING ARE THE LOWEST
POSSIBLE

through efficient co-op wholesaling and retailing, without expensive advertising and unnecessary middlemen. But there is no UNDER-pricing which has to be made up for with cheating or OVER-pricing.

Greenbelt Service Station
"Cooperation with the motorist"

3 Aid County Hospital Plan

Three Greenbelt High School girls, Lillian Bell, Shirley Friedman, and Varina Craig, together with girls from other Prince Georges County High Schools, visited the offices of several Capitol Hill Senators last Friday to appeal for the establishment of a county hospital under the proposed \$100,000,000 Federal Government's hospital construction program. They were accompanied by John R. Rigles of Seabrook, Maryland, a member of the hospital committee of Prince Georges County Federation of Citizens Associations.

Senators visited were James Mead, sponsor of the bill, Robert Wagner of New York, and George L. Radcliffe of Maryland.

The girls also had luncheon in the Senators' private dining room, watched a session of Congress from the gallery, and had a ride on the Capitol subway.

FORMER JANITOR GETS SIX MONTHS

Elmer Lee Sherman, a former Greenbelt janitor, was sentenced to six months in the House of Correction and six months suspended sentence in Baltimore January 31, two days after his arrest on the charge of breaking and entering into Greenbelt apartments and stealing money after he had left his job here.

John M. Sherby was convicted of disorderly conduct last Monday, February 12, in the Hyattsville Courthouse. Judge Walter Green who heard the case imposed a fine of \$15 and costs.

Mr. Sherby was arrested Friday night in Greenbelt by Officers Ernest Walker and George J. Panagoulis.

FIVE COMMITTEES SHARE WORK OF G. H. A.

Five standing committees of the Greenbelt Health Association have been formed, their chairmen appointed and their duties outlined by the board of directors, according to Dr. Hugh A. Bone, president.

Eugene Henderson is chairman of the new education and publicity committee. According to the motion which created the committee, its duties are "to bring about a full understanding of the objectives, methods and current activities of the Association on the part of its members, and to utilize the services of enlightened members in the education of eligible non-members."

The recreation committee, headed by Mrs. Peggy Zorach, will foster social relationships among members through a series of social activities, the first of which is to be a dinner for the board of directors and members of the staff.

Bringing new members into the association is the work of the membership committee. Edward Weitsman was reappointed chairman of this group. Also reappointed was Joseph O'Leary, chairman of the equipment committee, whose work is getting bids for equipment which is to be purchased for the Association. Abraham Chasanow heads the committee on revision of by-laws. This group works to clarify the by-laws, suggest needed amendments, and to put into legal form policy change recommended by the board of directors.

If you are interested in building your own home in Greenbelt, come to the Tuesday night meeting in room 223 of the school.

LAAKSO URGES VARIETY STORE EXPANSION

The annual report of Sulo Laakso, general manager of the Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc., presented at the corporation's first annual meeting as a cooperative on February 7, was followed with a great deal of interest.

Mr. Laakso reviewed briefly the situation at each store and in some cases stated the management's expectations for revisions which it is believed would improve whatever unsatisfactory condition might exist at present. In other cases he said further consideration is being given before definite policies are decided.

Mr. Laakso stated that the departments which showed improvements were the food store, theater, valet shop (except for the shoe repair branch) and beauty parlor. A second operator will be added to the beauty parlor in the near future.

The service station shows a gasoline sales decline, resulting from the price war in Washington, but is doing well in accessories, service and oil. The barber shop has difficulty handling its largest volume of business, which occurs from 5 to 8 in the evening, but the total volume does not justify a third barber.

With the exception of the shoe repair department, sales at the valet shop have steadily climbed. The shoe repair branch does not pay for itself some weeks. It was suggested by Mr. Laakso that it might be found advisable that this work be sent out with the laundry and dry cleaning. This could be done with no loss to Greenbelt Consumer Services.

The sundry department suffers from a lack of space, shortage of properly-trained personnel and the long hours. It is proposed that if this department is moved into the now vacant furniture store it could be kept open from 10:30 to 8 and should operate six per cent cheaper than now. One-third of the stock cannot be displayed in the present location. Steps have been taken to improve the lunch department.

Employee staff meetings are being held regularly with the thought of improving the work and service. All food store employees are taking the grocery course offered by the National Retail Grocers Association.

A rough estimate, stated Mr. Laakso, indicates that only 68 per cent of the population here supports the stores. The support of an additional 20 per cent would reduce considerably the cost of rendering public service by these establishments. Suggestions boxes are being placed in the stores and patrons are invited to use them.

CO-OP PRESIDENT REPORTS

Report of the president to the Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc., membership meeting of February 7, 1940:

Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc., was launched as a cooperative on January 18, 1940, when certain amendments to its Certificate of Incorporation, approved at the subscribers' meeting of January 2 by many of those now present, were filed with the tax commission of the State of Maryland.

This event was made possible by your subscriptions, by your faith in something which was then only an idea and a hope, and by your patience in waiting while an enthusiastic but untrained Cooperative Organizing Committee groped its way through what sometimes seemed an unending sequence of legal and business technicalities. This event was made possible by your willingness to throw your lot in with your neighbor's, and to accept in business as you have in government the principle of democratic control—of control "by the people and for the people."

The fact that the significance of this event far outsteps the geographic boundaries of our town is to be seen in the detailed reports it has evoked in the newspapers in many parts of this country.

The town of Greenbelt was created essentially as an experiment to see what people could and would do for themselves in a town designed for democracy—in a town planned so that its citizens could most readily and most effectively work together for their common benefit. To my mind the significance of the organizations which we have created in Greenbelt—our churches, our Health Association, our Credit Union, our newspaper, our Citizens Association, our Athletic Association, to mention only a few—lies in the fact that each, in its success, is a testimonial to the success of Greenbelt, and to the success of the democratic principles to which Greenbelt is dedicated.

On January 18 Greenbelt's consumer cooperative took its place beside these other organizations, capable of providing a major testimonial to the success of Greenbelt, but with its responsibility multiplied as a result of the publicity which it has received and of the volume of the business which it has taken over.

We, each and all of us, who have started this cooperative must assume this responsibility. Greenbelt's stores are our stores now, and it is our job and our opportunity to make them succeed. To accomplish this will require our wholehearted loyalty, and our insistence upon the utmost in efficiency and service in the stores.

I wish to congratulate the citizens of Greenbelt assembled here who have made this undertaking possible, and to urge each one to do everything in his power to make this important part of the Greenbelt experiment an outstanding success.

Respectfully submitted,
Walter R. Volckhausen



FOOD STORE



OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY GREENBELT RESIDENTS



FRIDAY
DAY
THURSDAY
IN
WEDNESDAY
AND
TUESDAY
DAY
MONDAY
OUT

DAY IN AND DAY OUT

**ONLY YOUR CO-OP GUARANTEES
THE BEST POSSIBLE VALUES**

We hear of many "guarantees" today but many of them in no way guarantee. They sound fine and that is about all.

The one absolute guarantee that a store offers the greatest possible values, is to have the business so organized that its sole purpose is better values to the consumer -- a consumer-owned cooperative.

Cooperative wholesaling and retailing are today very efficiently organized. They bring you dependable quality at the lowest possible everyday cost on every item. There are no tempting specials that have to be made up on other items. The overcharges or profits are returned to you.

THREE WISE SHOPPERS MAKE IMPORTANT DISCOVERIES

**ALERT CO-OP WHOLESALES NEW ITEMS
SET FOR EXCEPTIONAL POPULARITY**

1) POTATO SHREDS "mashed potatoes in seven minutes" with this new process that eliminates peeling and trimming. Cooked Idaho potatoes are run through a ricer and evaporated to dryness. They need only be soaked 5 minutes in boiling water, then whipped. Packed in half pound cellophane bags giving 12 to 15 servings, costing less than 2 cents per serving. 21c

2) FRESHLIKE PEAS - Vacuum Packed New vacuum process preserves garden freshness along with valuable minerals and vitamins and natural color. Simply heat in double boiler or boiling water for twelve minutes. No. 2 can - 15c

3) CO-OP SHORTENING After long research we now have the product that measures up to the finest brand shortenings in all ways yet can be sold 8 to 10 cents cheaper. Ask your neighbors. Co-op is now outselling all others three to one. It's pure, creamy, odorless, light—in short top notch. 3 lbs. - 41c



Now! - DELICATESSEN FISH - Now!

A new wide assortment of delicatessen fish - Pickled Herring, Smoked Salmon (Lox), Smoked Butterfish, Smoked Whitefish, Pickled Sprats, and Kipperd Salmon.

GREENBELT COOPERATOR

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Telephone Greenbelt 3131

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Marie Bargas, T. Blauw, Betty Bone, Phil Brown, Leonard Buck, Abraham Chasanow, Helen Chasnow, Leah Chinitz, Lucile Cooper, Howard C. Custer, George Fair, Francis C. Fosnight, Elizabeth Goldfaden, Beatrice Hesse, Dayton W. Hull, Ethel C. Johnston, Marjorie Jane Ketcham, Frank Loftus, Bertha Maryn, Maxine Melton, William R. Melton, Donald Nicodemus, John Norvell, Frieda Perlzweig, Dorothy F. Pratt, Frances Rosenthal, Lillian Schwartz, William Shields, R. S. Sowell, Werner Steinle, Claire Still, W. J. Van Schelven, Phyllis Warner, Ed Weitsman, Kathryn Wood, Betsy Woodman, Lyman L. Woodman, Elizabeth Yuretich.

Volume 4, No. 24 February 15, 1940

Milk or Milked

The screws are being turned again on the consumer. The excuse which is so nearly always glibly ready is again available, if in slightly altered form. This time it is not "war scarcity" as it was a few short months ago. Now the slogan is "marketing agreement".

In the unflinching, amazing, but always gouging methods of "business", we are being given the full benefit of the increase in milk costs to the distributor. This, in spite of the known outrageous spread in cost between the purchase price of raw milk and the final retail sales price.

Nor will this process of price changing work in reverse English. For with a drop in the cost of milk to the dairies we may rest assured that there will be enough lag and drag in the selling price of the milk so that we will not see a return to the former price of milk for months, or even years. Dairies may be Johnny-on-the-spot for price increase, but when it comes to a reduction, no spikka da English.

However, it is a life-sized however, we have a good weapon for combatting the profiteer in the cooperative. It would be well to call a halt to this criminal game of consumer football in so vital a food as milk. Use the co-op to buy your milk and re-sell it to you. You will then be the controlling factor in the supply; will have a say in its price, in its quality; and any extras, will be returned to you at the year's end instead of winding up as a bookkeeping item under "bottle breakage".

Economical and intelligent buying will not necessarily stop at the traditional glass bottle for milk supply. Wax paper containers are a new, possibly inexpensive idea, certainly trouble-free in many ways. No smashing, no washing, no returning, no "breakage". See your Better Buyers group leaders now and "get hep".

A final word. One dairy serving this community was reported to us, on good authority, as having been paying the so-called "increased price" prior to the recent move by the other dairies and selling milk, nevertheless at a competitive price. This dairy, under compulsion, or otherwise, is "playing ball" and has advanced its milk price, without justification, as its cost today is the same as one month ago.

Here the public is being gouged twice. Once, because if the dairy could pay the present price and sell at the former retail price, then all could (it is a 100 per cent union dairy). And, the dairies, if they made an excess profit, could still well afford to absorb the extra cost rather than pass it on to the public. And finally, it is a highly unsavory proceeding, when the public is submitted to needless increased prices as a "business" procedure.

Hatch Act

Senate Bill 1871 of the 76th Congress, commonly known as the "Hatch Act" calls itself "an act to prevent pernicious political activities". In the act itself Federal employees are explicitly prohibited from participating in practically any kind of political activity—pernicious, quasi-pernicious, or just plain taking part in politics—"the art of government or administration of public affairs."

It would appear from this that the use of the word "politics", like "propaganda", implies an undesirable state of affairs, in fact, a destructive one. But all politics or political activities are not pernicious and stand very little chance of becoming so.

To "prevent pernicious political activities" is not an aim to quarrel with. Indeed, the aim should be more widespread. The means, however, is something to consider carefully lest more be lost than is gained. In one of the United States Attorney General's rulings on section 9, Federal employees cannot be a candidate for an elective office, Federal, state or local. Only positions such as "justice of the peace, notary public,—on boards of education, school committees, public libraries, and in religious or eleemosynary institutions" are deemed non-political. Thus, regardless of how well-qualified an individual may be for a municipal office—an office which must be carefully filled for the progress and benefit of the whole municipality—he cannot run for office. In many communities, perhaps, the choice of incumbents is not so narrow but that an-

other person can be found to do the job well. But in the incorporated municipalities adjacent to the District of Columbia, Federal employees may not join officially in local government.

Such a situation does more than create a possibility of cheating the local governments of best material—in this instance state and county positions as well as municipal—but tends to build a negative attitude in the Federal employee toward so-called political issues.

Every day another circumstance becomes political in scope. It is because today more than ever, matters which concern society—national or municipal—are becoming matters which concern the government, its principles and policies. Thus, then, a bill in the state legislature concerning the education system of the state, makes interests in educational progress political interests. As such they may be voted upon, or opined about by our Federal employees (and only in private for civil service employees). But, although said employee may be well-versed on the subject at hand, intensely interested in passing of the bill for benefits way beyond himself and although he may be subjected to all sorts of subversive propaganda, the only thing he can do is vote and express an opinion! He may innovate no movement in defense of the measure or to thwart the bad propaganda.

And as government interest in social problems and their solutions manifests itself, the field of activity for helping effect changes in our way of living, or even to preserve those desirable ways now in existence, becomes extremely narrow.

There should be, then, either a reinterpretation of those sections of the act which apply to these problems, or an amendment specifically stating conditions of participation which nullify present evils.

In Thirty Years

In 30 years nearly 10 million boys in every country of the world have been Boy Scouts. From its start in 1907 under the leadership of Robert Baden-Powell the movement demonstrated a vitality and promise which has expressed itself in continuous growth through three decades of war, revolution and economic chaos. Wherever there was dictatorship this great boys' club was either suppressed or taken over by the government, but the membership and the program swelled and developed faster and faster in democratic countries.

The greatest phenomenon of all was the amazing way in which Scouting took hold in the United States. Introduced here almost by accident in February of 1910 the Boy Scouts of America now numbers 1,100,000 registered boys and leaders. Half the Boy Scouts in the world are in this country.

Behind this showing is a story of unselfish devotion by volunteer leadership which has built the program which now reaches one out of every four boys of Scout age. From the beginning Scouting has been maintained as an outdoor game based on a boy's tendency to "gang up", his natural interest in outdoor life, and the need for teaching to youngsters the idea of service to others.

With the rapid growth of the organization there have appeared certain weaknesses and abuses in the application of the program. A tendency towards professionalism has developed in the national leadership; many troops have fallen into the hands of sponsoring bodies who use the boys to serve their own ideas of super-patriotism; probably half the troops in the country lack adequate leadership. These are the chief flaws—and they can be remedied by further parent participation in the program, and a more generous offering of leadership service by qualified men.

The fundamentals of Scouting have remained unchanged through the years. It is still based on the slogan "A good turn every day", and on the Scout Law:

- A Scout is trustworthy,
- A Scout is loyal,
- A Scout is friendly,
- A Scout is courteous,
- A Scout is kind,
- A Scout is obedient,
- A Scout is cheerful,
- A Scout is thrifty,
- A Scout is brave,
- A Scout is clean,
- A Scout is reverent.

This is truly a fine moral code, and one that could well be attempted by adults who have never been Scouts.

Keep Off

Stay off your lawn during these wet muddy days while the ground is recovering from winter freeze! If you insist on tramping short-cuts and parking your auto on the lawn during February you will have something approaching a cow yard throughout the spring.

Even the sturdy sod set out here can not long stand up under the abuse of the last week. Deep car ruts and areas trampled down to red mud can only be replaced with expense. And if they are replaced that expense comes out of your pocket and your neighbor's pocket.

It was nice, of course, to live in the slums where there was no grass to worry about, but you are out of the slums now. You have a lawn, and you have a responsibility to keep that lawn in the best possible condition, because it belongs to all of us.

COMMUNITY BUILDING USE

To the Editor:

We would like to advise all organizations wishing to have parties or banquets in the Community Building to notify the Management Office, or Mr. Howey in the Community Building, at least two days in advance of the date set for the party so that we may arrange for the use of dishes and tables. This will avoid the confusion resulting from making these arrangements at the last minute.

— O. Kline Fulmer

Letters to Editor

ON THE MEETING OF THE NEW COOPERATIVE

To the Editor:

The individual who "moved the question" and those who voted in favor of that action, thus cutting off further discussion of the patronage dividend which was voted a few minutes later, did our new cooperative no favor. To choke off discussion of such controversial matter is bound to be detrimental to any meeting and to the cooperative holding that meeting.

I have reference, of course, to the meeting of G. C.S. on February 7. It is not intended however, to take up that discussion here. I desire only to attempt to clarify two points relative to the dividend which I believe were not clearly understood by those present at that meeting.

1. Article 4, Section D of the financial agreement with C.D.C., states that, "The Cooperative agrees to pay....., to be applied against principal, the total of all sums received during such quarter in payment for its shares of capital stock.....less the total of sums disbursed in repurchasing fully paid shares."

Therefore, to vote a dividend to be credited to shares is to vote a payment to C.D.C. Once voted, the question of partial payment of the dividend in goods is simply a question of sending the money to New York or spending it in our stores.

2. What was the purpose and the meaning of the 2 per cent restriction on the amount that could be paid to any one family? The Chairman replied to a "point of information" on this question that it was not a "point of order" and could not therefore be discussed.

The motion as noted includes a two-way maximum. Let us see what this means. On a turn-in of sales slips in amount of \$200,000, a \$2,000 dividend represents a one per cent return on patronage. On a \$100,000 turn-in the same dividend represents a two per cent return on patronage. On a \$50,000 turn-in it would represent a four per cent return on patronage. But, since two per cent has been fixed as the maximum the \$2,000 dividend would automatically be reduced to \$1,000, the balance to be returned to the cooperative's account. And on a \$10,000 turn-in the dividend of nominally \$2,000 has dwindled to a mere \$200.

Now who knows the actual amount of dividend which was voted in such a hurry?

This is not meant in criticism of our Board of Directors who have given so freely of their time, nor even to question the wisdom of the motion as passed, but only to stress the importance of full discussion if the members of our cooperative are to know what is being done. And I still maintain that this is essential to any democratic organization if it is to be healthy.

— Allan S. Arness

EXPLANATION ON G.C.S.

To the Editor:

I would appreciate it very much if I could, through your columns, answer a question which has been presented by several Greenbelt citizens, namely:

Why do the by-laws of Greenbelt Consumer Services provide that non-members shall share equally with members in the savings returns of the cooperative?

This question has excited sufficient interest so that there is talk of a special membership meeting to consider it. Practice differs from co-op to co-op in the treatment of earnings derived from purchases made by non-members. According to the by-laws of G.C.S., members and non-members share equally in patronage returns, but non-members receive their return only in the form of credits toward capital stock, until their first share is paid in full, whereupon they are entitled to membership.

There are very basic reasons for the advocacy of this policy. In the first place, if the co-op is, as it claims to be, a non-profit organization, the savings returned to the non-members belong to them. The savings resulted from the non-members' purchases, and if they were kept by the cooperative or turned over to the members the member-owners would profit from the non-members' business—and all the cooperative's boasting of its freedom from the profit motive would seem to border on the hypocritical. Advertising of this and other cooperatives stresses the fact that devotion to the service rather than the profit motive is no minor distinction of a cooperative, and is conducive to such policies as selling on a basis of consumer-value rather than company-margin.

In the second place, the cooperative seeks to encourage the patronage of non-member residents in its own interest, for the greater the total sales, the smaller the unit cost, to the common benefit of all patrons, member and non-member.

It has been claimed that there will be no incentive to purchase stock in G.C.S. if non-members have the same right to patronage returns as members. This argument applies only to the first share of stock

owned by each family (on which G.C.S. has already received over 40 per cent of the \$8850 receivable). It is from the sale of additional shares to members that the capital to make possible rapid liquidation of the debt to Consumer Distribution Corporation is to be expected, and to purchase of such shares the argument does not apply.

Finally, it was felt by some of those who drew up the by-laws of G.C.S. that offering such preference to members over non-members could very well develop in Greenbelt a group of "ins" and "outs"; could tend to dissociate the non-members, whose support and encouragement the members earnestly desire, and could lead to mutual distrust instead of the mutual benefit which is the basic objective of the cooperative.

— Walter R. Volckhausen

LIBRARY CORNER

LIBRARY SCHEDULE

Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon
 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.
 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

Tuesday, Thursday - 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon
 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Saturday - 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon
 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

FEBRUARY—The birth month of two or more presidents. For this particular month, those who frequent the library will find posted on the bulletin board facsimiles of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, his letter to Mrs. Bixby who lost five sons in battle, and George Washington's tentative list of Cabinet and other appointments for the United States Government under the new Constitution. These facsimiles are taken from the originals kept in the Library of Congress.

A complete set of the National Geographic for 1939 has been presented to the library by Dr. George A. Trieman of 7-F Ridge Road.

Many of you probably listen to the Round Table presented by the University of Chicago. This is a radio discussion of current problems presented by the University of Chicago in cooperation with the National Broadcasting Company every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 P.M. The texts of these discussions are received in the library each week and if you are interested in any particular broadcast the library will be very glad to supply any available material.

— Reba S. Harris

WITH THE PLAYERS



The local Players hold a combined business meeting and radio play rehearsal to-night in school room 222 about eight P.M. It is reported that part of the meeting will be devoted to a discussion of the possible reorganization of the Greenbelt Players group.

The casting of the April play, "Bury the Dead" is not yet complete. Those interested may get in touch with Ellen Quinn Krebs or co-director Nathan H. Schein. (Only male parts are open at this writing.)

The seven-day movie schedule is bound to string the Players, regardless of the fact that they have been assured use of the theatre for their two-night productions. The first hitch is that their rehearsals will have to be held at some less convenient place. Second stumbling block is their loss of the "club room" beneath the stage of the theatre, where they hold meetings and build and store scenery and equipment.

SPOTLIGHTS:

Fordyce G. Lyman of the Players is director of "Thunder Over Mexico" (story of Juarez) being presented over WJSV at 4 P.M., Saturday, February 17 by the F.B.I. drama unit as its offering in the radio play tournament. (The tournament commenced February 3 and continues each Saturday at 4P.

4 P.M. Listen in and try to pick out the best show.)

Elizabeth (Lib) Goldfaden, Corresponding Secretary of the Greenbelt thespians, is working on her Master's degree.

WASHINGTON CALENDAR:

"No Time for Comedy", starring Katharine Cornell and Francis Lederer, will be at the National Theatre (8:30 P.M.—\$1.10 and up) during the week of the 19th.

At Pierce Hall, 15th and Harvard Streets, the Foreign Language Cinema show for Saturday, February 17 (8:00 P.M.—40 cents) is "Rancho Grande", musical romance in Spanish, with the Mexican singer Tito Ruizar.

—Lyman L. Woodman

President's Birthday Ball Nets \$150 Here

R. Bernard Jones, chairman of the dance committee of the Citizens Association, announces that the proceeds from the Birthday Ball will amount to more than \$150, with some money still to come in. Tickets taken at the door totaled 493. Mr. Jones wishes to express his appreciation for the organizations and individuals who helped make the ball a success; as typical of the cooperative spirit shown he cited the example of the woman whose husband had his leg in a cast. This couple bought tickets even though they were unable to attend.

Half of the money raised will go to the National Infantile Paralysis Fund, the rest will go to Prince Georges County for the use of any town which may have to deal with the disease.

HOME OWNERSHIP MEETING IS TOMORROW

An open meeting to discuss the building of private homes on Greenbelt land will be held Tuesday, February 16, at 8:00 P.M. in Room 223 of the Elementary School.

The meeting of housing enthusiasts is sponsored by the Citizens Association's committee on housing. The chairman of the committee, Dayton W. Hull, expects to have a report ready on the contents of approximately fifty questionnaires which have been received to date by the committee. Sherrod East will report on the financial aspects of home building, including the efforts that have been made to reduce the size of the necessary down payments.

Also up for discussion is a draft of the proposed letter to Farm Security officials which, it is hoped, will result in the go ahead signal that many prospective home builders are waiting for.

MORE ADULT NIGHT SCHOOL CLASSES OPEN

The course in Problems of the Adolescent Child will start Wednesday, February 14. This class will be held in the Elementary School in Room 222 at 8:00 P.M. It is announced that Mr. Paul Kelly will conduct this course.

The Public Speaking and Business English course will begin Thursday, February 15. This class will be held in the Elementary School in Room 225 at 8:00 P.M. Registration is still open for this and all other courses.

For the benefit of those interested in retail selling, credit unions, banking, etc., a course will be offered if enough show interest. College credit may be earned if it is desired.

BRIDGE CLUB INTEREST GROWS

The Duplicate Bridge Club held its regular weekly session on Monday in Room 200 of the Elementary School. Fourteen players enjoyed an evening that ended with Mrs. Green and Mrs. Haven emerging the winners after 21 boards had been played. Mrs. Hodges, a newcomer, and Mr. Likens were the runners-up.

Calendar Of Events

Thursday, February 15		
Credit Union	6:30 - 9:00 P.M.	Meeting Room
Bowling Club	7:30 P.M.	Social Room
Women's Gym	8:00 P.M.	Auditorium
Greenbelt Players	8:00 P.M.	Room 222
Friday, February 16		
Credit Union	6:30 - 9:00 P.M.	Meeting Room
Basketball	8:00 P.M.	Auditorium
Bible Class	8:00 P.M.	Social Room
Hospital Auxiliary	8:00 P.M.	Room 200
Hebrew Congregation	9:00 P.M.	Music Room
Saturday, February 17		
Gun Club	2:30 - 5:00 P.M.	Range
Confession	7:30 P.M.	27-A Ridge Rd.
Shoe Craft	7:00 - 9:00 P.M.	10 Parkway
Square Dance	9:30 P.M.	Jr. Recreation
Basketball Game	8:00 P.M.	Auditorium
Sunday, February 18		
Catholic Sunday School	8:30 A.M.	Theater
Mass	9:00 A.M.	Theater
Community Church School	9:30 A.M.	Auditorium
Community Church Choir	10:00 A.M.	Home Economics
Community Church	11:00 A.M.	Auditorium
Hebrew Sunday School	11:00 A.M.	Music Room
Gun Club	1:00 - 4:00 P.M.	Range
Latter Day Saints	8:00 P.M.	Social Room
Christian Science	8:00 P.M.	Music Room
Monday, February 19		
Cub Den	7:00 P.M.	Social Room
Shoe Craft	7:00 - 9:00 P.M.	10 Parkway
Garden Club	8:00 P.M.	Social Room
Athletic Banquet	8:00 P.M.	Auditorium
Duplicate Bridge	8:00 P.M.	Hobby Room
Girl Scouts	8:00 P.M.	Room 200
Tuesday, February 20		
Girl Scouts #17	3:15 P.M.	Social Room
Bowling League	7:30 P.M.	College Park
Auxiliary Card Party	8:15 P.M.	Jr. Recreation
Housing Committee	8:00 P.M.	Room 223
Wednesday, February 21		
Junior Choir	7:00 P.M.	Music Room
Athletic Club	8:00 P.M.	Social Room
Catholic Ladies Club	8:00 P.M.	Social Room
Men's Gym	8:00 P.M.	Auditorium



VOLUME 4, NUMBER 7

One of the most interesting things in the whole city of New York, as far as I can tell from my three brief visits, is Fellowship House. I want to tell you about it because it puts into practice so many of the ideals that we are fighting for in Greenbelt.

It is a cooperative housing project. Thirty individuals of diverse nationalities, races, creeds—German, Jew; black, white, yellow; men, women—have joined together to provide themselves shelter under a common roof; and food around a common table.

They do practically all their own housework—each doing an equal share. Their only employees are a manager, a part time cook, and a furnace care-keeper. They run the house in a very business-like way on a very small capital investment. Excellent records are kept, and each member is held strictly accountable for his group responsibilities—both financial and social.

The group makes its own rules and regulations, of course. These are liberal and reasonable, requiring merely a proper degree of good sense and social consciousness on the part of individual members.

A striking example of the group's success is to be seen in its method of accounting for supplies used. Only two regular meals are served, but any member is privileged to raid the ice-box or supplies cupboards at any time. A regular price list is set up, and each member leaves a memorandum of his takings in a handy box. These are collected and entered in the manager's records against the member's account.

The manager asserts that these charges check closely with the inventory records, indicating that the mutual trust the members have placed in each other has been well founded.

Barrington Dunbar the manager, a native of British Guiana, is one of the three negroes in the group. He is a very capable manager; his genial but straightforward personality has been largely responsible for both the financial and the social success of the enterprise, which successes seem now to be assured. There was a period of dubious promise, while the group was finding out that high ideals, without responsible management and sound regulations, were not enough to assure success. But now the business accounts are in good order—they are simple and adequate—and the necessary social adjustments seem to have been completed. The atmosphere of comfort and general harmony permeating the house is entirely heartwarming, and would be remarkable in any group of that size, even without the extraordinary variety of backgrounds and personalities found in this group.

— Howard C. Custer

Poison Ivy Club

This week's candidate for the Poison Ivy Club is a well-known public figure who makes a habit of never stopping for the stop sign when driving onto Crescent Road from the Shopping Center.

Co-op Question Box

GREENBELT CONSUMER SERVICES

HEALTH ASSOCIATION CREDIT UNION

- Q. Can payments on loans or shares be made to the credit union during the day?
- A. On six days a week payments may be made to George Hodsdon of Greenbelt Consumer Services, whose office is across the hall from that of the credit union. Mr. Hodsdon is vice-president of the Greenbelt Credit Union and is receiving payments as an extra service to the members. It is anticipated, however, that we will soon have a clerk to keep the Credit Union office itself open during at least part of each day and to assist with the usual rush of business on Friday and pay day nights.
- oo00oo
- Q. How are the physicians of the Health Association selected?
- A. The physicians are selected by the board of directors as to personality and appearance and are asked to state their qualifications in writing. These qualifications are then submitted to a well-rounded technical advisory board of three physicians who then advise the board in its selection. This technical advisory board consists of one doctor from Farm Security Administration, one from private practice, and one from the U.S. Public Health Service.
- oo00oo
- Q. Can I pay for my share of Co-op stock with my patronage returns alone, or must I pay some cash?
- A. You need pay no cash; the by-laws permit you to acquire your share by means of your patronage returns, and it is entirely proper for you to take advantage of this privilege, since your patronage as a non-member is of great value to the Co-operative and makes you, in a very real sense, a responsible party to the success of the cooperative. However you may not vote at the cooperative's elections, or on the cooperative's policies, until you possess a complete share; and you collect interest on fully paid shares only. Also the more you are able to make cash payments on shares, and to buy additional shares, the sooner will the cooperative be freed from its indebtedness to Consumer Distribution Corporation (drawing four per cent interest), and the greater will grow the cooperative's ability to serve you as you would like to be served. The cooperative will be in a much stronger position when its entire capital is supplied by its members.

GREENBELT THEATRE

Thursday, Feb. 15 One Day Only

ROBERT TAYLOR · GREER GARSON · LEW AYRES

Remember?

Friday and Saturday, Feb. 16 & 17

THRILLS! ACTION! ADVENTURE!
and ROMANCE!

BEAU GESTE GARY COOPER
RAY MILLAND ROBERT PRESTON

Sunday and Monday
Feb. 18 & 19

CHARLES LAUGHTON

JAMAICA INN

INTRODUCING MAUREEN O'HARA
Sensational new star discovery... with Leslie Banks, Evelyn Williams, Robert Newton
From the best-selling novel by DAPHNE DU MAURIER



MRS. GREENBELT



Good Evening, Mrs. Greenbelt

And I do mean "Good evening!" I feel like a chap who has come into a warm room from a blizzard and, wiping his glasses off, gazes around him with a benign, childlike wonder. The sun is shining, the snow is gone and a high wind is doing its best to blow away the winter. Aren't you relieved to come out of what Peg Halsey calls "this dim aquarium of a country" and see all the green leaves just under the surface? And doesn't your nose just wrinkle with the smell of spring? If it doesn't, you're no pal of mine and I don't know where you come from!

Better quit mooning over the seed catalogs. You can't afford all those things you've been looking at, anyway. And get down to business with a down-to-earth seed list. Better get your orders in early. It's always nice to have them ready to hand, you know. And for goodness sake, take down the shovel and the hoe and let's meet spring at the corner.

—Peggie (dirt on her nose!) Arness

RECIPES

Mrs. Ethel Rosenzweig comes around again with a recipe—this time for "Easy Rolls".

2 cakes compressed yeast 1/4 cup lukewarm water
1 teaspoon sugar 1/3 cup shortening
2 teaspoons salt 1 cup scalded milk
3/4 cup water 4 cups sifted flour
(all-purpose)

Crumble yeast into a small bowl. Add lukewarm water and 1 teaspoon sugar and set in a warm place until it becomes light and spongy (about 15 minutes). Combine shortening, salt and 2 tablespoons sugar in a large bowl and add scalded milk and water. Stir until shortening is melted and cool until lukewarm. Add yeast mixture. Add flour gradually, mixing thoroughly. Cover and let rise in warm place for one hour, or until light and spongy. Stir down and let rise again until very light (about half an hour). Drop dough from spoon into greased muffin pans. Let rise in warm place until light (about 15 minutes). Bake in very hot oven (450° F.) for 15 minutes. This recipe makes two dozen rolls.

STUFFED RIB CHOPS WITH APPLES

6 rib chops, 1 1/2" thick 1/4 tsp. salt
1 cup fine dry bread crumbs 1/8 tsp. savory
1/4 cup chopped celery seasoning
1 tblsp. butter dash of pepper
1 tblsp. minced onion 1/8 tsp. celery seed
1 tblsp. chopped parsley 3 tart red apples

For the stuffing cook the celery, onion and parsley in the butter for a few minutes, add the bread crumbs and seasonings and stir until well mixed. Wipe the chops with a damp cloth. Cut a pocket in each chop, as illustrated. Sprinkle the chops with salt and pepper and rub lightly with flour. Sear the chops in a heavy, hot skillet, turning the fat edges down at first and then browning both sides. Then fill each chop with stuffing and skewer the edges together with toothpicks. Lay the stuffed chops on a rack in a baking dish or pan with cover. On the top of each place, cut side down, one-half an apple which has been cored but not pared. Cover closely and bake in a moderate oven (350° to 375° F) for about 45 minutes, or until the meat is tender. Lift the chops and apples together from the baking dish onto a hot platter and remove the toothpick skewers. Garnish with parsley and serve at once.

Mrs. Patricia Beebe earns our gratitude by sending in the following, which should be a nice addition to our Greenbelt Cookbook.

"Here is a recipe to really dress up the dessert problem. It can be varied in a number of ways. A member of my family made up this recipe.

GLORIFIED JELLO

1 package jello - (strawberry or cherry)
1 cup hot water - (not boiling)
1 cup cream - (evaporated milk may be used - top milk is fine) or 3/4 cup cream, 1/4 cup canned fruit juice

1/2 cup nut meats (pecans or walnuts or both)
Pour hot water into large bowl and sprinkle jello in slowly and stir until all is dissolved. Add cream and fruit juice and mix well. Pour into refrigerator trays or individual molds and put into refrigerator to "set". When jello begins to get solid remove from tray and beat with egg-beater for a few seconds. Add broken nut meats and if you like canned mixed fruit. Return to trays and allow to congeal.

The beating is not necessary unless one wants a creamier, fluffier Glorified Jello."

Greenbelt's New Babies

Mr. and Mrs. Jean Nance, 6-G Hillside, announce the birth of a son February 7, at 6:33 A.M., in the Greenbelt Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli DonBullian, 7-D Ridge Road, announce the birth of a son, Donald, February 9, at 5:45 A.M., in the Greenbelt Hospital.

BETTER BUYER BRIEFS

At executive committee meeting of the Better Buyers Club held on February 8, Mrs. Frieda Bierwagen was elected secretary-treasurer to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. Charles Fitch. Mrs. Helen Heine was elected to the position on the executive committee which Mrs. Bierwagen had formerly held. Committee chairmen were named as follows: Membership, Mrs. Bernice Brautigam; Publicity, Mrs. Doris Seybold; Education, Mrs. Bernice Jernberg; Social, Mrs. Frieda Bierwagen; Special Menu Committee, Mrs. Evelyn Cooper. Mrs. Janet Yeatts will serve as Historian for the coming year.

Recently elected officers in one of the Better Buyers groups of B-Block were Mrs. Rae Peterson, chairman and Mrs. Gladys Hughes, secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Helen O'Melia will represent the group on the menu committee. A different chairman presides at each meeting.

Mrs. Peggy Zorach will lead the discussion on budgets at the next meeting, which will be held February 23 at the home of Mrs. John Vashon, 18-C Crescent Road.

Due to the illness of Mrs. George Mesnig, the Better Buyers group scheduled for meeting at her home met with Mrs. Carl Jernberg on February 6. The question of cooperative buying of milk was taken up and several members signed the questionnaire which is being generally distributed in town. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Charles Vickers, 11-L Ridge Road.

On the evening of February 7 the Nifty Shoppers Club met with Mrs. Ruth Underwood in her home at 2-C Southway. The rise of milk prices formed the basis of the discussion. The group had as guest for the evening Miss Ollie Hoffman. At the next meeting, the club will meet with Mrs. Ethel Lehman, 5-H Ridge Road at 8 P.M. February 21. Dr. Joe W. Still will give a talk on cooperative medicine. All members are urged to be present.

Mrs. Allan Arness was hostess to her Better Buyers group on February 8. As was general with the other groups meeting this week, the rise of milk prices and the question of cooperative milk buying formed the main topic of discussion. The next meeting will be on February 22, at the home of Mrs. Joseph Bargas, 6-D Ridge Road.

Shake Hands With the Cow --

We're All Being Milked

It's not necessary for me to go into the rights and wrongs of the deplorable milk situation existing here. I know there's an editorial in this issue of the Cooperator and I know that your Better Buyers groups have all gone into the subject at length and I don't propose to elaborate on something you already know quite well.

But there is also something I know which I am afraid may have escaped some of you, and I'd like to speak about that for a minute. I know the tremendous power which you hold in your hands, and I'm so afraid you haven't realized it or that you underestimate the importance of exercising it in this case. Here is the field; here is the weapon ready to your hand—here is victory. Will you refuse to take up the cudgels in your own defense? A solid phalanx of women who are prepared to fight for their economic well-being can do wonders. Will you stand together? Or do you prefer to shake hands with the cow?

Mothers Get Points on Child Rest and Nutrition

"Building Good Health" was the topic of discussion by Mrs. Florence Garrett, public health nurse, at the meeting of the Pre-School Mothers Club on February 7. She spoke with particular reference to the small child. She listed good nutrition as the first important point, recommending the booklet "Feeding the Young Child in the Home". Second in importance is adequate rest. "Even if he doesn't sleep the young child should be put to bed by himself in the afternoon to preserve emotional health for both child and mother", said Mrs. Garrett. The number of hours he should sleep depends upon his individual temperament.

The third point in child health is prevention of communicable disease. The toxoid for diphtheria has brought the death from that disease down from an approximate 1,000 in Maryland in 1929 to 200 in 1939. Toxoid requires but one shot, but should be followed by the Shick test in six months.

Mrs. Woodyard and Mrs. Kling served as hostesses for the evening, serving attractive cookies and candies. Mrs. Moore presided. The next meeting will be held March 6, with "Cooking for Young Children" as the topic.

MELTING CAKE CHOCOLATE

When making cake that requires melted chocolate, place the chocolate in a pan in the oven while oven is heating, instead of pursuing the usual method of melting over hot water. This saves the extra electricity used by the old method.

Attention! Milk Consumers

The following is the questionnaire which is being circulated among the families of Prince Georges County, together with the agreement which calls for signatures. When you are approached by someone who is asking for your cooperation in milk buying, won't you at least give this your serious thought? Talk it over with your husband and determine where your interests lie.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Milk Marketing Agreement compels some of our local dairies to pay the farmer more for his milk. This increase in price is passed on to the consumer. The dairies are not absorbing the increased cost by instituting economies which might keep the price of milk the same, or lower it.

CAN THE CONSUMER PROTECT HIMSELF AGAINST THE HIGHER PRICE, OR BUY FOR LESS?

We all know what combined efforts and pooled resources can do. If a group of customers, buying 200 quarts or even more daily, will agree to buy their milk from the one company offering the lowest bid to their bargaining committee, they should be able to get delivered milk at a reduced price, just as a store does.

WOULD THE MILK SUPPLIED BY THE SELECTED DAIRY BE JUST AS GOOD AS THAT WHICH YOU ARE NOW BUYING?

Mr. Wood, Chief Sanitarian of Prince Georges Health Department states in a letter to the Maryland Milk Consumers Committee "All dairymen in Prince Georges County, at the present time, are meeting these (Prince Georges Milk Ordinance) requirements. You may be assured that when you purchase milk in Prince Georges County that they are complying with these regulations, as we only allow, under this ordinance, Grade "A" Pasteurized and Grade "A" Raw. This means that from the standpoint of bacteria count, butterfat content, farm and dairy plant score that any dairy's milk is as healthful as another. Statements of the dairies to the contrary are pure sales propaganda.

IS THE TASTE OF MILK FROM DAIRIES DIFFERENT?

The Consumers Study Group of the University of Maryland American Association of University Women had a blindfold test and were unable to distinguish any particular difference. An experienced milk taster rated the samples as follows: (25 being perfect score) Harvey 22; Holbrook, 20 rancid; Chevy Chase, 22; Walnut Hill, 22; Seibel, 22 flat.

WILL YOU GET MILK WITH AS MUCH CREAM?

Comparing the cream line is no sound test for butterfat. Dairies now price their milk on the basis of the butterfat content. The butterfat content of milk ranges from 3.6 to 4.5 and prices per quart range from 10 cents to 16 cents.

DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH YOU ARE PAYING FOR THIS BUTTERFAT IN MILK? For example if you buy 4.0 per cent milk at 14 cents you pay approximately \$1.75 per pound for the fat, if you pay 13 cents for 4.1 the fat cost about \$1.50 a pound. Table cream at 25 cents a pint or whipping cream at 50 cents a pint is \$1.25 for the fat in it. It seems like better buying to save a few cents a quart, even if it should be of a lower content (it must be over 3.5 per cent) and buy our fat as butter at 35 to 38 cents a pound.

There are other economies that are feasible, such as larger containers, deposit on bottles, every other day delivery. Store prices should be less than home delivery.

If you want to reduce the price of your milk, join the buying group.

"Will you be willing to buy milk through a buying club which will enter into a buying contract with the dairy offering the best bid, said contract to be approved by members of said buying club at a public meeting?"

Youth is not a time of life—it is a state of mind. It is not a matter of ripe cheeks, red lips, and supple knees. It is a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a vigor of the emotions; it is a freshness of the deep springs of life.

— Anonymous

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Suppliers to your Food Store

Our Town: Post Office



--- Photo by Francis C. Fosnight

By Anne Hull

One of the most attractive features about the Post Office is the frequency with which you meet your friends there. Another feature is that it's the warmest spot in the Center on cold days. In this "town of the future" it is a link with the past, as it looks and smells inside just like every other post office you've been in. If we used its services even a little more than now, a program of house to house or "city" delivery could be put into effect, says Postmaster Bryant.

Receipts from the sale of stamps, postcards, envelopes, and the like, together with the revenue collected from box rent, have been steadily mounting. Total postal receipts for 1938 were \$5,550.16, and

for 1939, \$7,656.11. The latter figure is short of the \$10,000 standard necessary for the establishment of city delivery, but Mr. Bryant figures this could more than be made up if each of his thousand or so patrons would spend one cent a day more in the post office. Among his customers he numbers heads of Greenbelt families, visiting relatives and friends, town employees, transients, and out of town dwellers such as those from Beltsville who are in the habit of using our post office.

The busiest time in the post office is from 8 to 11 A.M., what with two incoming and two outgoing mails to sort, besides customers to look after. Assisting Mr. Bryant are Mrs. Ella D. Davis, assistant postmaster, and in the capacity of clerks, his wife Mrs. Ruth Bryant, Mrs. Leta Clark, and Miss Dorothy Anderson. Business is so demanding that the staff does not take time to go out for lunch, but munches sandwiches and brews coffee in a percolator backstage. Incoming mail must be distributed to 540 boxes, and outgoing mail sorted, cancelled, and put into mail sacks to be picked up by the postal delivery truck which calls four times a day. In sorting out-going mail the letters are first distributed into pigeonholes labeled for nearby towns, principal U. S. cities most frequently written to by Greenbelters and all the states. Mail addressed outside the country is put in a pigeonhole marked "foreign". The letters are then sorted into appropriate bundles and put into mail sacks which are taken to Berwyn, where further sorting is done by postal clerks on the train. Parcel post goes to Baltimore for sorting, except when there is sufficient volume going to one place to warrant putting it in an individual sack. Air mail bound for points south and west is sent to the Washington airport; air mail going north and east is sent to Baltimore.

For the benefit of air mail minded patrons the post office commissioned Henry Meyer and Levi Pittman to make a map showing flying time to principal cities from the Washington airport. It is illuminated from behind, and the different cities marked by flashing dots of blue, green, red and yellow according to their distance from Washington. The map may be seen from the stamp window, and should be very

useful when computing how long it will be before Aunt Minnie receives that letter. Mr. Bryant points out that while air mail is twice as expensive as the ordinary service, it is several times faster, and he hopes more people will take advantage of it. During Air Mail Week of May 15 to 21, 1938, a special mail flight on May 19 was made from the Schrom Airport, and almost every family in town sent a letter aboard the 'plane. Mr. Bryant estimates that there were more than a thousand pieces of air mail sent from Greenbelt throughout that week. They were all marked with a special rubber stamp showing an airplane with the words, "First Flight, May 19, 1938, Greenbelt, Maryland." This "cachet", along with all those used throughout the country at the time, is on display at the Post Office Department in Washington.

Our post office was established September 30, 1937, as a fourth class office; by July 1, 1938, its increased revenues made it eligible for third class rating. Its present status is a high third, almost second class. The first day showed a land office business, with organizations and private individuals all over the country mailing in letters "under cover" to be sent out under the Greenbelt postmark. Trade then slackened off sharply, and did not pick up appreciably till just before Christmas of the year. Since then it has been making steady progress, and only needs a bit more revenue, as indicated in the first paragraph, before house to house delivery may be initiated. So if you get tired of making trips to the Center for mail, and would just as soon meet your friends in the Food or Variety Store, Mr. Bryant has the answer.

REMAINDER OF SHARE CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

There is reposing in the office of the Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc., a large number of share certificates which should be called for, according to an announcement issued Saturday.

Shareholders who failed to get their certificates at the annual meeting on February 7 may obtain them at the office of the cooperative during the hours of 8:30 to 5.

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