

No. 6, Volume 7.

SEPTEMBER, 1946

Price 3d.

TIMBER !

ON August 31st the Women's Timber Corps came to an end. The last four hundred and fifty members who are engaged on the operations of the Home Timber Production Department, will remain members of the W.L.A. until these operations are finished, although no longer part of a separate Corps.

From the beginning of the War, there were members of the Land Army doing forestry work and in 1942 the Women's Timber Corps was established as a special section of the W.L.A. with its own badge and its enviable green beret. At its peak period there were over 6,000 members in England and Wales and in Scotland.

Of all the jobs which women on the land have undertaken, it is the work of the Timber Corps which would probably have startled our great grandmothers most. Land girls like Bo Peep and the Pretty Maid who was going a-milking and the Goose Girl have been friends for many generations; but there have been no nursery rhymes or fairy stories about maidens who hewed down forests nor cautionary tales about young ladies who cut off their fingers owing to carelessness with a circular saw.

During the War, members of the W.T.C. have tackled every sort of job connected with woods and trees. They have driven tractors and locomotives hauling loads of timber up and (still more dangerously) down impossible gradients, they have steered motor boats towing rafts of logs across distant lochs, they have measured trees and cut them down and sliced them up and sent them off to be used as telegraph poles and pit props and sleepers and packing cases and charcoal for munitions. During 1942 it was estimated that some members of the Timber Corps were saving fifty tons of shipping space per year *each*.

The Land Army will miss the Timber Corps at its Rallies and parties, for the green beret contingent was popular in any procession and welcome at any festivity. All members of the W.L.A. will wish their sisters of the Timber Corps the best of luck in the future and will salute them for the fine trail they have blazed in the world of women pioneers.

M.A.P.

WELCOME TO THE LAND ARMY—No. 6

To the new volunteer who has never been closer to cows than the other side of a hedge, they seem terrifying creatures when first seen at close quarters. They are big and bony, with sharp horns usually and an unnerving stare. However, appearances are deceptive, for cows are by nature good tempered and very much creatures of habit. A vicious cow is a rare exception and is almost always one that has been badly treated. The most important things to remember are to have confidence, and to be quiet and gentle but firm. A cow knows at once if you are afraid of her and this unsettles her. She should realise that you are the master but this should be done without rough treatment so that she also trusts you. When you go up to a cow for the first time, speak to her and touch her gently, but with confidence, and she will lose her fear of you. This advice applies particularly to heifers. (female cattle are heifers until they have had their second calves) who are not so accustomed to the cowshed routine and may be nervous. At this stage, bad treatment can spoil a cow as a milker for the rest of her life.

Milking can only be learnt by practice. It will seem hard at first, but as your muscles strengthen it will become easier. The great thing to remember is to get all the milk from the cow or she will soon go dry (stop milking). The last few drops are got by stripping with the finger and thumb. It is better to stay a few minutes longer at a cow and get all the milk than to get up before you have finished because you feel you are taking too long. Remember to keep your nails short and your hands clean and dry. Wet hand milking is bad milking and leads to sore teats and dirty milk.

The beginner's fear is that of being kicked. Remember that there is always a reason for kicking. You may not be milking properly or the cow may have sore teats. Find the cause and report it to the cowman.

In most cowsheds the cows are groomed every day with a tool with toothed edges called a curry comb and a stiff brush. Both should be used vigorously to remove dirt, loose hair and scurf. Do not be afraid that the cow will not like it. Stand slightly to one side and hold her tail in your left hand. Dirt should be removed from the udder, flanks and tail. Care should be taken when grooming near the hocks (the joints of the hind legs) as some cows are touchy here.

Mucking out is hard at first, but is a matter of practice. Do not overload the barrow, it is easier to take an extra load than to struggle with one that is just beyond your strength. Keep the barrow and tools clean; they are heavier to use if they are left caked with muck. When scraping the standings down first thing in the morning, clear a passage in the gutter to allow the liquid to run away. The muck will be easier to fork into the barrow when you clean out. Be careful when bedding cows down, not to prick them with the fork and never bang them on the legs to make them move over. A gentle touch is sufficient to make cows lift their legs.

Finally, always be willing to learn from those who have more experience than you. Watch what they do and never be afraid of asking them why they do it. Work in the cowsheds is often considered monotonous, but if you are really keen and observant, it is an interesting and worthwhile job. After all, cows are living creatures and where there is life there is always variety.

Yorks., N.R.

M. E. Hunt, 137517.

Wind De-flies Cows

Fans in a tunnel create a 50-mile-an-hour wind which blows flies off cows as they enter a concrete milking shed at Whyalls, South Australia. This is part of the installation of a fine modern dairy, just completed. The cows are trained to go through the tunnel and straight to the milking machines.

Nothing so clear
As the cry of the seagull
And the wind
Tossing the vision of fear
From my eyes
And my throat
And my hair
And the world
Nothing more
Than the agonised pebble
Tossed from the shore
To the sea
From the sea
To the shore
And the wind the wind
The summer soft wind
In my hair.

Yorks., E. R.

J. Berry, 28105.

A LAND GIRL'S FARM

There may be some Land Girls who look forward to their release from the Land Army pleased to think that they are forever done with farming, but I wonder how many dream secretly of the joy which might be theirs if only they could have a little farm "on their own"? The Land Girl who has been helping me run my farm for the past few years hopes to make this dream come true, and her plans are worth passing on for the benefit of others who have the same ambition and do not mind giving up everything else to its accomplishment.

But Rosemary is especially lucky. A well disposed relative who owns some land is giving her a home in return for companionship and occasional help and letting her fifteen acres and the use of some buildings for a nominal rent. Not quite a proper farm, but something to begin with and enough to provide the simple sort of living she wants if she manages it well.

Thinking big—bigger than her pocket—she wants to own a pedigree herd of T.T. dairy cows and she intends to start by buying half a dozen pedigree heifer calves and rearing them herself—one of the many jobs she has learnt to do while she has been in the Land Army.

Rosemary believes in giving calves a good start in life by feeding them with cow's milk, so she will buy one or two old cows to provide it. If she starts her calves early in the year they will be

strong enough to turn out to grass in the summer and then from then on their feeding will be fairly simple. When winter comes they should be so well grown that a diet of hay and roots from her own land, supplemented by any concentrates she can get, will satisfy them.

But calves take a long time to grow into cows and it may be three years before Rosemary can sit on a stool and milk them. In the meantime, Rosemary must live and also pay for any purchased food she needs for her cattle and meet the expenses of running her little farm. Her solution to this problem is ducks. Her land is low and a river runs through one of the fields. In the summer time the ducks will find a lot of their own food and a good laying breed like Khaki Campbells produce a great many eggs. They will not cost her a lot to feed. She has already arranged with a neighbouring farmer to grow her a piece of oats which she will eke out with potatoes and any household swill she can obtain locally. If the ducks do not quite keep Rosemary while her calves are growing into dairy cows they will, at least, provide her with some income to meet current expenses. For the rest—she can work and there are plenty of opportunities of earning money open to a skilled Land Girl these days.

Rosemary does not hope to make a fortune. Her aim is just to live the kind of life she loves enjoying those simple country pleasures which may be had, if



Drawn by E. B. Wells, 86575, Oxon.

not entirely free of charge, for very little money.

If she can survive the first three years while she is building up her little dairy herd she will have made herself financially independent. The milk from four or five good cows will provide a steady income. Her expenses will be very small and she will employ no labour. This will mean never a half-day off or a late morning. If she ever feels ambitious there is every reason why she could build up a bigger herd from this small beginning. Some of the most successful farmers in the country have started just like this—with little capital, lots of determination and plenty of hard work.

How much capital is required to start a farm? What is the kind of income one can expect to receive from it? These are questions which beginners always ask and they are impossible to answer. To start a big farm with tractors and implements, cattle and sheep, and a weekly wage bill for employed labour, demands an investment of many thousands of pounds. But there is a cheap way too and that is Rosemary's plan; to build up very gradually from small beginnings, working hard herself and putting every penny she can spare into her little business.

Do I advise Land Girls to start farming? As a small farmer myself I am well qualified to answer this question definitely. No, I do not. There are so many easier ways to earn a living; ways with less work, more leisure and more security that no girl should attempt it if she can possibly avoid doing so. But the same thing can be said of many jobs which men and women tackle and I think that if you feel strongly attracted to a certain kind of work, you must do it whether or not it seems sensible from a materialistic point of view. The best things have always been done in this spirit. Whether farming comes in this category of being a "best thing" I must leave others to decide.

At the time of writing I think farming is the best kind of life a man or woman can enjoy. By next winter I may feel differently. Rosemary may feel differently too when she finds herself tied to a tedious routine of monotonous work without even the consolation of a weekly wage packet. But she knows what she is in for after serving five years in the W.L.A. I hope she comes up smiling. I believe she will.

J. B. Thorburn.

Warm congratulations to E. K. Field, 56350, Hants., on obtaining the Royal Horticultural Society's National Diploma in Horticulture following a four year correspondence course taken from the Horticultural Correspondence College, Winchester. Out of 26 candidates for the Diploma in her section, only 9 passed.

And to N. Redhead, 38304, Oxon., an ex-L.A. member of 4 years' standing. She is now working for the Red Cross and has been awarded the Distinguished Service Certificate, one of the highest honours of the British Red Cross Society, for gallantry during shipwreck and for her fine relief work in Siam.

And to I. L. Burton, 1277, Cornwall, on having been chosen for the post of Assistant Labour Officer under the W. Sussex W.A.E.C. She and T. Livingstone, 62532, Surrey, were considered the best out of 5 applicants interviewed at the first session.

And to R. Godden, 164395, and G. Huntley, 163805, Wilts., for their initiative and resource in giving information to the police which enabled them to recapture two escaped German prisoners of war.

And to D. Jelley, 104294, Rutland, who gained 100 per cent. in the Tractor Driving Competition at the Rutland Agricultural Show at Oakham.

And to E. Norcott, 23998, Hunts., who, in the absence of the head pigman for some considerable time, has carried on his job and has been given full responsibility for feeding and farrowing her employers' herd of pedigree pigs.

And to Cliburn Hostel, Westmorland, on winning 2nd and 3rd prizes at Penrith show with a decorated van and a tractor driven by their forewoman, Ruby Martin, 69403.

And to M. Ruttle, 69414, Herts., on having won the French women's open golf championship by beating Miss Diana Fishwick Critchley.

NEW GARDEN PEST

"I'd better have a couple of lettuces, too. Are there any vitamins in lettuce?" "Shouldn't wonder, ma'am," said the greengrocer, "there's bound to be a few insects in any garden stuff."

(From "The Land Worker")

MISS W. GOOLDEN WITH GRANIA AND LOLETTE



(By courtesy of "The Evening News and Hampshire Telegraph")

Miss Wanda Goolden, 27911, who represented Hampshire in the London Victory Parade, has worked on one farm since joining the W.L.A. in September, 1939, and her employer thinks her a grand girl. She has sole charge of Grania and Lolette and holds proficiency certificates for milking and g.f. work (including care of horses). Wanda

never misses an agricultural show in the neighbourhood and further, and has shown and won prizes with Grania; she has been treasurer of the local W.L.A. Club and is a member of the Y.F.C. Her photograph album is a record of work on the farm, W.L.A. rallies etc., and many agricultural books are to be seen on her shelves.

First Results of Vocational Training

Members of the Land Army may be interested to hear of the achievements of some of the girls who have taken their trainings under the Government Vocational Training Scheme. Here are some of the jobs they have secured: taking charge of a Jersey dairy herd and also keeping books, starting salary £4 a week; taking charge of stock and doing farm secretarial work, £4 a week; clerical and supervisory work, £4 with prospect of £5; taking charge of farming operations and working up T.T. herd, £3 10s. plus board and lodging; book and record keeping, in charge of milk round, £3 plus "extras"; taking charge of pedigree Jersey herd, £5 to £6 a week. One girl has a partnership in a 2½ acre market garden, another is running her own smallholding and yet another is on the staff at the Northamp-

tonshire Institute of Agriculture. Two girls employed on a Sussex farm are earning £3 10s. a week each, with a cottage free plus milk and vegetables.

All Moulton trainees took the examination at the end of the Course and *all* gained the College Certificate. We offer them our heartiest congratulations.

In a recent broadcast an East Suffolk veterinary surgeon instanced the new anaesthesia for operations on cows who seem to have a special capacity for swallowing strange objects—anything from a darning needle to an umbrella. In an operation on a cow, this surgeon extracted from the animal's stomach two three-inch nails, three screws, a bolt and nut with washer still on it, some barbed wire, three pennies and a halfpenny.

(From "The Land Worker")

ON DRIVING TRACTORS

Here are a few hints and tips for budding tractor drivers.

Where actual parts of the engine are mentioned, this refers to Fordsons, as I am more conversant with this make, as I have now begun my fifth year of driving this model, but the general principle of care refers, of course, to any machine.

Although it may seem contradictory, cleanliness is essential when dealing with engines, and all tools, etc. should be kept free from grit to prevent them from carrying dirt into the engine and bearings, etc. A sack spread on the ground helps in this way, as tools may be put down without becoming covered in dust, and also small parts removed from the tractor are less likely to get lost if they are dropped.

A few minutes spent each evening in dusting the machine over saves time and trouble if at any time she has to be dismantled.

When filling with T.V.O. from an ordinary five gallon drum, always keep the hole at the top of the drum to prevent the liquid from splashing over the tractor and generally wasting.

The tractor will be easier to start in the morning if run on petrol for a minute or so last thing when finishing up for the day. Always give the number of cranks as there are cylinders, with the ignition off, when starting from cold, as this primes each cylinder and so facilitates starting.

If the engine is hard to turn over (this is more noticeable in cold weather) the clutch pedal hooked down makes it somewhat easier, but should be released directly it is started. Also warm water, if available, in the radiator is of assistance, as it takes the chill off the engine. Always drain the radiator (and air filter if the water type) in cold weather, and do not refill with pond water as dirt is likely to block the tubes. The water should be periodically changed.

When the engine is really warm it should be run with the ignition fully advanced, as retarded ignition overheats the engine and helps burn out the valves. Never run with the choke half or fully closed.

It is essential to keep the thumb underneath the starting handle when cranking up, as a broken wrist is likely to be the result if the handle is gripped in the ordinary way if backfiring occurs. It is not necessary to turn the handle right over, as this also can be dangerous if the engine backfires.

It is important to keep account of the hours run for purposes of changing engine, transmission and air filter oil. For Fordsons the hours are as follows. Engine, every 50 running hours, transmission 200 ditto, and air filter 250 ditto, or more frequently in dusty conditions. When changing the engine oil it is essential to remove the crank case cover and oil screen, which rests on the cover and comes away with it when the cover is removed, and clean them with petrol.

A cocoa tin is useful to fit over the exhaust pipe if it is the vertical type, if the tractor is left outside, as this keeps out rain or dampness. It is advisable to make quite certain that the exhaust pipe is not hot when covering up as they have been known to set fire to the cover. A rod leant against the tank at an angle keeps the cover away from the manifold if very hot.

If the tractor is left idle for any length of time, especially in cold weather, a clean dry piece of sacking to cover the magneto helps to prevent condensation.

If the wheels are iron and collect an undue quantity of soil, this should be scraped off, as the lugs or cleats cannot grip the ground to the fullest extent.

"Pinking" should be avoided. This is sometimes caused by too weak a mixture entering the combustion chamber and so can be corrected by adjusting the vaporising needle.

The plugs should be periodically removed, taken apart and cleaned, also



At the Isle of Wight Recruiting Rally.

the carburetter and vaporising plate. It is as well to clean out the sediment bulb, as too often T.V.O. and petrol drums contain rust and grit.

If running on the road with road bands, go slowly, as the vibration loosens nuts and bolts and generally jars the engine. Tighten up all nuts and bolts when the journey's end is reached.

Sometimes dirt blocks the air holes in the filler caps and this stops the flow of fuel to the engine, thus creating a mystery when she comes to a stop for no apparent reason.

In damp weather if she will not fire, this is sometimes caused by condensation in the engine. The ignition should be turned off, plugs removed and wiped dry, fuel turned off and the drain plug underneath the carburetter opened. Then turn the engine over a few times. This blows the moisture out. The same applies if the engine will not start through too much vapour in the combustion chambers when starting up when hot. Always remove all terminal screws and washers before removing plugs, as this saves the risk of dropping one into the cylinder through a vacant plug hole.

After ploughing, the spares, mould boards, land-slide and coulter should be cleaned and covered with oil or grease to prevent rust, as no plough will scour properly if rusty.

A chain is useful to carry in case of getting stuck, as often by uncoupling the tractor, the implement can be drawn out from firmer ground by means of the chain.

Always unscrew the radiator cap at arm's length if you wish to see the water level after she has boiled, as steam or boiling water is likely to spurt into your face when the cap is released.

Do not take any notice if people laugh at you for being fussy. A good engine and implements are worthy of care, and remember "More haste, less speed". Do not try to see how quickly you can do a job, especially when just beginning, as a rushed job usually has to be done over again, and bad work is not worth doing and gives the doer no satisfaction. Surrey. B. Lee, 62530.

Anglo-Belgian Correspondence

Anyone interested in finding a Belgian pen-friend may write to M. Francis Van Dun, 9, Van Peenestreet, Antwerp, Belgium, giving full name, address, date of birth, school, profession, languages, hobbies and stating whether a girl or a boy correspondent is wanted. An International Reply

Coupon (6d.) should be enclosed, duly postmarked at the office where it is obtained.

RECRUITS' COLUMN

Hints

1. A horse, if he has worked any length of time on the land, is pretty sure of his job, so give him a little credit for knowing what he is about when pulling his wagon load through an awkward gateway. He will resent it if you get in a fluster and shout at him suddenly or jerk his head quickly, and is more likely then to stamp on your foot and take the gatepost along with him! He is not infallible, of course, so don't leave *everything* to him. Don't creep into the stable quietly but let the horses know you are coming otherwise they get nervy and may lash out at you if they cannot see immediately that you are not a stranger. W. Suffolk. M. Haines, 82111.

2. A most important reminder to girls is to take either a week's rations with them or an emergency card for one week. Many people find it very difficult to feed a hungry land girl during the first week.

Don't rely on getting to the shops as soon as you arrive but take notepaper, ink and stamps with you.

Wilts. D. A. Clapton, 64058.

3. It is a good idea for newcomers to learn the names of parts of harness and also farm tools. I shall never forget when one of the men said "Fetch us t'stretched, lass". I looked all round but could see nothing that resembled one. He grinned and without a word picked up the stretched which was almost under my nose. It turned out to be a narrow piece of wood about three feet long with hooked chains on either end and was used to couple the first horse to the horse in the shafts.

Just a hint about forking. Once having forked a sheaf up to the loader, don't give it an extra jab if it seems to be falling—let it fall. Otherwise you may jab the loader's hand.

Yorks. W.R. H. M. Rowntree, 99461.

General Knowledge Questions

1. What proportion does the weight of a plucked and trussed chicken bear to its live weight?

2. How many gallons of water will a heavy milking cow drink every day?

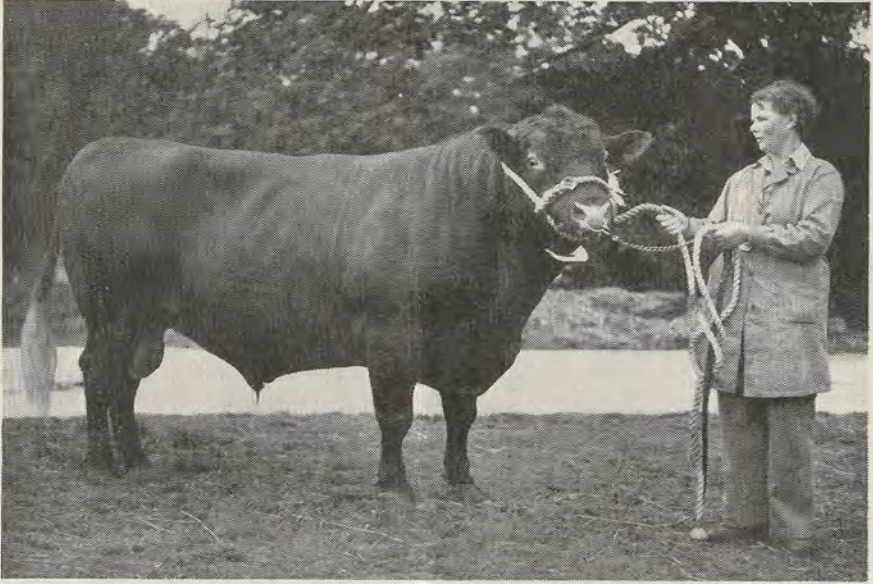
3. Which New Forest animals are especially famous?

4. Why are coster-mongers so called?

(Answers on page 14)

THE LAND GIRL

MISS WOOD AND KNEPP MINIVER



Miss M. Wood, 208, W. Sussex, enrolled in the L.A. in January, 1939. She has been a milker since three days after war began and she hopes to stay permanently in agriculture. For over three years she has worked for Sir Merrik

Burrell at Knepp Castle Estates. One of her duties has been to help look after Knepp Miniver who was Red Poll Champion bull at the Seven Counties Show in July. He lives out on a tether, gets only grazing and weighs 18½ cwt.

THE LIFE OF THE QUEEN

I do not advise any girl to wish she were a Queen. They have a dreary time of it;—at least, the queen-bee does; and I suspect the life of a constitutional monarch is just as bad. The queen-bee only leaves the hive twice in her life, which is a monotonous round of egg-laying; far from having any ruling-power, all her activities are regulated by the workers, guided in turn by that mysterious force we call the Spirit of the Hive. It is they who decide how many eggs she shall lay and of what sex, and regulate her food-supplies accordingly; they who determine when she shall go out with a swarm—which she is often most unwilling to do; they who, in many cases, put her to death.

This happens for a number of reasons, if she is damaged in any way; if she is old and her powers beginning to fail; if the bees are disturbed by the hive being opened too early in the year; or if a foreign queen is introduced without sufficient precautions by the beekeeper, or strays in accidentally from another

hive. Then the bees commit regicide; but as no bee will take upon herself the dreadful responsibility of making a direct attack on the queen (who in any case is bigger and stronger than they) they solve the problem by clustering round her so close and in such large numbers that she is suffocated to death. This is known as "balling the queen".

When a colony, for any reason, is deprived of its queen, the bees immediately set about rearing another, for a queen they must have, or perish; as no other bee can lay fertile eggs to continue the race. They build one or more special cells which project from the side of the comb and resemble a peanut in size and texture. In this cell is placed an ordinary fertile egg or a worker-grub under three days old; for any embryo worker under that age can be miraculously developed into a queen by special feeding. All baby bees are fed for the first three days with bee-milk or "royal jelly"—after that they are weaned on to a mixture of honey and

pollen, called "bee bread"—but the infant queen gets copious supplies of "royal jelly" for the whole of her larval period—so much so that she positively swims in a bath of milk.

She emerges from her cell on the fifteenth day from the laying of the egg, a sleek, handsome princess, differing from the workers in her long, slim body, her short wings neatly folded across her back, and her lack of the tools for collecting nectar and pollen and making wax with which the workers are supplied. Her first act is to look for possible rivals, and if she discovers another queen-cell about to hatch, she will raise an angry piping, often audible outside the hive; the occupant of the cell piping in reply. Unless prevented by the bees, she will attack her rival and sting her to death; for the queen possesses a smooth, curved sting, different from the straight barbed sting of the worker, which she will never use except on another queen.

The newly-hatched princess is very active and runs about freely on the combs; and at this stage the workers take very little notice of her. Some time between the third and seventh day after hatching she leaves the hive for the first time for her mating-flight. This usually takes place about the middle of a fine sunny day and is sometimes preceded by a few short preliminary flights; but on the nuptial flight itself the queen flies fast and far, all the drones in the neighbourhood follow in pursuit, the strongest and fleetest overtakes her and they mate on the wing. The conquering male tears himself away, and dies; for he leaves a large part of his intestines behind, firmly wedged in the vagina of the queen. Trailing these triumphant evidences of her mating behind her, she returns to her hive, where the bees at once begin to make a great fuss of her, and cluster round to feed and clean her. For the rest of her life she will be surrounded by a ring of courtiers, constantly attending to her needs.

She is now ready to embark on her long career of egg-laying, which rises to a peak in the height of the summer season—a good queen can lay as many as 5,000 eggs a day—and dwindles to nothing in the late autumn, when the bees cling together in a cluster to keep themselves warm, and all outside activity ceases. The queen is always in the heart of the cluster, if there are not enough stores to carry them through the long, cold winter, and the bees starve, it is the queen who gets the last drop of honey and survives to the end; if disease attacks the hive, the queen is generally the last

to be infected. The life of a worker bee varies from six weeks in the busy summer, to several months in the passive winter; but a queen will live for as much as five years, and is at her best in her second season. But she never leaves the hive again, unless the bees decide to swarm.

This is the natural method of increasing the number of colonies, and occurs in the summer when supplies are plentiful and the hive overcrowded. The bees start their preparations well beforehand by building ten or a dozen queen-cells along the bottom bars of the combs, which the reigning queen is not allowed to approach. Meantime she is put on a slimming diet, so that she shall be able to fly well, and the rate of her egg-laying is reduced. On a fine, warm day, after a great deal of preliminary excitement, a large proportion of the bees leave the hive in a great cloud, with the queen, willing or unwilling, in their midst—if she refuses to come out, the swarm will go back home again to fetch her. They cluster like a big bunch of black grapes on some nearby bush or tree, while they send out scouts to look for a new home. When the scouts return, the swarm departs for an unknown destination, there to build anew their amazing city; leaving behind their stores, brood, young bees, and unhatched queen-bees, to carry on the original colony.

This is the normal cycle of the life of a queen, when not interfered with by the beekeeper, who usually has his own ideas about how to turn the deep-seated instincts of the race to his advantage. But though domesticated for many thousands of years, the bee is by no means tamed, and those wishing to profit by her industry must work with her and not against her. So, in the end, the true, humble subject of the honey-bee queen is—the beekeeper.

Warwickshire. A. M. Coates. 2026.

Can I Help You?

In the next issue of the *Land Girl*, a special "Can I Help You?" column will be started. Volunteers are invited to send in questions on any subject in which they are interested and on any personal problem.

Moles are causing considerable damage to crops and land throughout the county of Northumberland. Since October last between 25,000 and 30,000 moles have been killed by the County W.A.E.C.'s trappers. More trappers, however, are needed by the Committee to deal with the 450 mile-destruction contracts that have been placed with them.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor,

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, paid our Hospital at East Grinstead a visit recently, and opened the American Surgical Centre. The U.S.A. gave £100,000 to the Queen Victoria Hospital and the new Surgical Centre covers nearly an acre of land and is equipped with the very latest surgical equipment.

It was a beautiful afternoon for the ceremony and the Hospital looked very gay with flags and bunting.

There were many distinguished visitors and an R.A.F. Guard of Honour and band and further Guards of Honour of nurses and hospital personnel. We two land girls were included in the latter and we had a very close view of the Queen who looked very charming in pale mauve and white.

After the opening ceremony, Her Majesty made a tour of inspection of the Hospital and its grounds. We land girls felt very proud as our kitchen garden and flower beds looked a picture and we heard many complimentary remarks when we mixed with the huge crowd that was present.

Our work is very interesting and we are kept pretty busy. The Hospital is famous for the work it is doing in plastic surgery and jaw injuries and it is wonderful to watch the progress made by the

burnt victims of the blitz as well as of the battlefield, children and civilians besides members of the Forces.

We are proud to be part of such a famous Hospital and to feel we are doing a worthwhile job.

E. Sussex.

J. E. Davey, 141850,

J. P. Arnold, 158276.

(From the Warden of the Llandudno Rest Break House)

Dear Editor,

I think many girls are interested to hear about the Rest Houses, and we have had many hundreds here since we first opened 2½ years ago.

On the occasion of the visit of the King and Queen to N. Wales, our volunteers who were staying here formed an extra guard of honour at Deganwy station and were very happy about it.

Coach tours and steamer trips are all in full swing, but the favourite day out is to Bettws y Coed, Swallow Falls, Snowdon and Caernarvon with time to see the Castle there. The railway takes visitors to the top of Snowdon and their charge is 10/- for the return trip; it takes an hour each way and is a memorable ride. The day out on the coach takes from 9.45 to 6.30; this gives 3½ hours at Snowdon, and the scenery throughout is some of the best in N. Wales.

I would like to say for the benefit of



In the garden of the Llandudno Rest Break House.

THE LAND GIRL

volunteers booked to come to this house that on arrival at the station they should take the first taxi from the rank as they get out of the train instead of waiting about as we have no L.A. car to meet them. There are always plenty of taxis and the drivers all know the W.L.A. House—there is no other W.L.A. in Llandudno.

M. Jones.

Dear Editor,

Having had the misfortune to break my ankle recently, I am confined to hospital for the first time in my life and I would like to express my admiration for the way the nurses work.

These girls work terribly hard, for very long hours, coping with a staff shortage unknown on most farms, and off duty time must often be spent on lectures—all this for a salary which most Land Girls would scorn. And nurses must always appear cheerful and unhurried.

Give me my cows any day! How I miss them.
Surrey.

D. Moulder, 162134.

Dear Editor,

I should be interested to know if any volunteers in their dairy herds have any cows which we term "Holy".

Here we have a cow who gave birth on Christmas Day, 1943, to a heifer calf (whom we call Christmas Carol), to another on Easter Day, 1945, and a third on Palm Sunday, 1946.

Christmas Carol calved this year on February 2nd, Candlemas Day.
Berks.

S. Crosdale, 60238.

Dear Editor,

In reply to M. R. Harris, 69733, who writes in the July number saying she has not missed one single hour for sickness in 4 years, I have not missed one minute for sickness in just over 6½ years.
Herts.

W. Farrow, 1313.

Dear Editor,

In the LAND GIRL I spotted a letter from a volunteer who claims the honour of doing 4 years' service without the loss of an hour for sickness. I joined the service in May, 1940, and have not lost a day for ill-health, is that a record?

I started doing general farm work but have almost completed 4 years Pest Extermination. I have not seen very many letters from other girls who are on the same job. Are these many?
Essex.

E. Gunfield, 13743.

Dear Editor,

We Land Girls are appreciated by some people.

I cycled to Weston-super-Mare on August Monday and went to the café on the pier for lunch. A gentleman and his wife sat down at the same table and we started talking. When we had finished, he rose to go, turned back and said "I don't know what we would have done without you Land Girls." I finished my cigarette but when I asked the waitress for my bill, she said "The gentleman has already paid yours."

Somerset.

P. J. Walker, 163137.

Dear Editor,

The following is a true incident. When I was recently feeding our bull, an elderly spinster who was passing through the farm at the time came and watched. After a moment she said, "Isn't he a lovely creature! Are they *horn* with those rings in their noses or do you have to put them there?"

E. Sussex.

D. M. Huggett, 87401.

BENEVOLENT FUND

Donations to the Benevolent Fund during August have been rather less than usual but this may probably be accounted for by the fact that harvesting has left everyone with little time for other activities. The total now raised is over £319,000. The largest amounts sent in this month were £32 raised by EAST SUFFOLK and £15 by MONMOUTH. During the month 400 grants were made. Expenditure to date on grants and loans amounts to £79,000.

The Committee of the Benevolent Fund is most anxious that members and ex-members of the Land Army suffering from Rheumatism should have an opportunity to obtain, where necessary, the advice of a specialist with, of course, the approval of their own doctors. Arrangements have been made for these consultations to be undertaken at the Fund's expense and without cost to the volunteers. If you are one of the unfortunate people who are severely troubled by this complaint, and your doctor would like you to have a second opinion, write to your County Secretary for further particulars.

One of the girls helped by the Fund during August hopes to take a four year degree course at Kent Horticultural Institute, Swanley but, before embarking on the course, she must first pass her

matriculation. The Fund has given substantial assistance towards the cost of studies for the examination, and it is hoped that this ex-member of the Land Army will be rewarded by success at the end of her long training.

A four year girl has had to be released from the Land Army because both her parents are semi-invalids. Before joining the Land Army she was a shorthand-typist, and she has received a grant to enable her to take a revisory course so that she will once more be fitted to take a job which will enable her to support her parents.

BOOK NOTES

The Untutored Townsman's Invasion of the Country, by C. E. M. Joad (Faber & Faber, 8s. 6d.).

I'm sorry this is such a mouthful of a title, but the book is well worth reading. Before we joined the Land Army, so many of us were untutored townsmen; now we have become countrymen. The book therefore concerns us in both aspects. Dr. Joad deals competently—as one would expect him to—with all aspects of the problem of urban invasion of the country, both temporary (as holiday-makers) and permanent (as would-be country-dwellers) and he has some useful suggestions to put forward. A provocative book, which should provide some interesting discussion.

Glasshouse Food Crops, by E. R. Saltmarsh (Crosby Lockwood, 12s. 6d.).

Glasshouse work may have its trying side, but it is at least not heavy work for the most part, and many Land Girls who have worked under glass are being drawn towards taking up this form of horticultural work as a career. Mr. Saltmarsh's book will prove a most useful guide from the first steps of choosing a site, to detailed accounting, with chapters on special crops and other points on the way. The book is well illustrated with photographs and diagrams. I recommend it particularly to librarians of clubs.

The Countryman's Weekend Book, by Eric Parker (Seely Service, 12s. 6d.).

This is another book for the townsman turned countrywoman, and determined never to go back. It is at once a compendium and an anthology and its contents range over such varied subjects as the building of a house, the choice of a dog, garden pests, the best woods to burn, birds, insect and pond life, country crafts and industries. It is a book for those who love the country and want to know more about it, a book for them to take out with them and read in the country as I took my copy into the heart of Hampshire recently. And it will be a book to dip into over the fire in winter evenings not now so far away. Beryl Irving has contributed some nice little drawings. Put this book on your list for birthday presents—to give, or to demand!

E. M. Barraud.

It is regretted that no *Scottish Notes* have been received this month.

The Land Army song, price 1d. (2d. post free) or 1/- a dozen, post free, can be obtained from the Editor, *LAND GIRL*, 6, Chesham Street, London, S.W.1. Profits of sales go to the Benevolent Fund.

The much-discussed "Caesar and Cleopatra", starring Vivien Leigh and Claud Rains, with Stewart Granger, is among the films to be released at Gaumont British cinemas during September.

The National Book League, 7, Albemarle Street, London, W.1, have recently issued a Book List on *Agriculture and Rural Economy*, a new edition of No. 58 in their series. The price of the Book List is 8d., including postage.

ROYAL VISIT TO CAERNARVONSHIRE

I was fortunate in being one of the contingent of ten Caernarvonshire volunteers to be inspected by Their Majesties the King and Queen at Caernarvon Castle on July 18th.

When we had found the place reserved for us inside the Castle we watched the arrival of the contingents of other organisations. Suddenly we heard the National Anthem, then cheers from the people outside, and when after a little all was quiet I was able to catch a glimpse of the King's Naval uniform and the Queen's grey coat.

The Queen was chatting with the British Red Cross workers, on to St. John's people, British Legion—it would soon be our turn. Mrs. Edmunds-Edwards, our County Secretary, was presented to Their Majesties and she walked with them along the line. They spoke to a six-year volunteer and to one or two others with shorter service. They were near me now and Mrs. Edmunds-Edwards was explaining about the Proficiency Badge to the King. Then the Queen stopped—I tried to remember all the things I was supposed to do—but when she asked me "Where have you been working?", "What actually do you do?" and "Do you like your work?", her charm and dignity chased away formality and I was able to answer her quite naturally. It was over, the Women's Land Army had been inspected and Their Majesties had passed on to the W.V.S. Land Girls have had their grouses and grumbles but I'm sure none could say we went unrecognised on that day. We saw the admiration on the faces of our King and Queen.

N. Wales.

L. Smith, 56203.

A HOSTEL OUTING

North Petherton Hostel arranged a trip to Cheddar and Weston on Sunday, 7th July. The day dawned bright and sunny and we all arose from our bunks in the best of spirits and invaded the kitchen to help cut the sandwiches and cake and prepare gallons of soft drinks.

We left the Hostel at 10.30 a.m. by coach and arrived at Cheddar at 11.30 a.m.

We drove right up the Gorge—it certainly is a marvellous sight—and then split up into groups, some to visit the caves, others to scramble up and down the rocks. A guide showed us through the caves and when he told us that the stalactites form 1 inch in 4,000 years it made us seem a very small part of the universe. The caves are wonderful and by the time we had explored them thoroughly we were ready to do full justice to lunch.

Then we left for Weston-super-Mare where we made straight for Fortte's Ice Cream Parlour. . . . It was warm enough for several of the girls to bathe and much of the well earned Land Army

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cash was spent on the Pier—on scenic railways and such like.

We left Weston for home at 8 p.m.—a very tired but happy party.
Somerset.

J.K., 48477.

FANCY DRESS AT "GELTSDALE"

Cries of "It's a lie!" from Mother Riley, the clatter of clogs from the Dutch couple, the gentle shuffling of the Chinese Lady, shouts of "Who's got a pin?", "Do I look alright?", the South Sea Maiden waiting to be sewn into her sarong, Gipsy Lee promising us all a tall dark handsome man and the Pied Piper trying to charm the mice in the cellar. Such were the scenes in Geltsdale Hostel half an hour before the eagerly awaited Fancy Dress Dance. At 7.30 p.m. our lorry unloaded its strange cargo outside the village hall.

Eventually the great moment came for the judging of the costumes. Prizes were awarded to the following: *Original* "Arborne"; *Comic*, "Old Mother Riley"; *Prettiest*, "Mexican Lady", who kindly returned the prize for someone else, the next prettiest being "South Sea Island Girl"; *Best Couple*, "Two that were lost in a Harem".

Midnight found us tumbling into our lorry—our first dance this year had been a great success; £10 was sent to our County Welfare Fund and £5 17s. 7d. went into our own hostel fund.

We would like to thank our Warden, Miss Davies, our D.R., Mrs. Rac, and our cook, Miss Reay, for their untiring efforts in helping to make the Dance a success.

L. E. Fenn, 57703.

Writers of letters, articles, poems, etc., for the magazine must send their names and addresses with their contributions. These will not be published if the authors wish otherwise, but the Editor cannot print any contribution of which the author is unknown to her.

PERSONAL ADVERTISEMENTS

The cost of advertisements in this column is 2d. a word.

Advertisements quoting a price are accepted only on the understanding that if a would-be buyer sends cash with her order, she is at liberty to return the goods and will then receive her cash back, less cost of postage. Anyone sending cash should enclose stamps for its return if the goods have been sold.

FOR SALE.—Riding jacket, gaberdine, stock size, matches khaki breeches, excellent condition. £2. No coupons. Deverell, 262, Northumberland Avenue, Welling, Kent.

FOR SALE.—Wine costume (John Lewis), 34 ins. bust. Skirt length 27 ins. Waist 26-28 ins. Good condition. £3. Isherwood, 8, The Lynch, Winscombe, Somerset.

FOR SALE.—Brown riding boots with trees, good condition, size 5. £5. Watts, Council Houses, Mildenhall, Marlborough, Wilts.

FOR SALE.—Ladies blue satin pyjamas, foreign embroidered. £2. Beaton, Kingston, Garmouth, Morayshire, Scotland.

FOR SALE.—Dunlop wellingtons (7), never worn, £1. Circular silver locket, scrolled, inside space for two photos, silver chain, £5 or offers. Grey, 94, Eyhurst Avenue, Elm Park, Romford, Essex.

FOR SALE.—Blue jumper suit, bust 32, waist 24, light woollen material, as new, 50/-. Blue dress, white spotted, bust 32, as new, 30/-. Powell, 36, Firstway, Raynes Park, London, S.W.20.

FOR SALE.—Bicycles, Raleigh upright and Elswick sports. Good condition. £5 10s. and £3 respectively. Green corduroy tailored trousers, hardly worn. £2 5s. Flower, Little Hawsted, Kiln Lane, Headington, Oxford.



(Photograph by Cyril F. Ford)

At Bank House Hostel, Holland, Lincs. The girls of this hostel are always keen to help at any local function and have, by their own efforts, raised £50 for the Gosberton Nursing Association. In July, with the help of the parishioners, they organised a garden fete in aid of the Gosberton Church Restoration Fund.

COUNTY NEWS

LONDON AND MIDD.—We have just taken over from the W.A.C. a hutment Hostel in the north of the County. This Hostel we hope will be primarily for Milkers. There is every possibility that a relief Milking Scheme will be started in the Potters Bar, Enfield area. Our W.A.C. is just starting its own herd and several farmers in the area have agreed to train L.G.'s as Milkers. This is quite a new line for the L.A. in this area, as we have been concerned chiefly with Market Gardening and Fieldwork. We are very pleased to think we shall have an opportunity of exporting trained Milkers from our County, instead of sending girls out to other Counties for their Milking trainings.

We welcome Miss Adlington as our new Organiser, and hope she will be happy working with us.

NORTHANTS.—This County was represented at the Victory Parade by Kathleen Sutton who says "the second week-end in June will remain in my life as both wonderful and unrepeatable" and tells of the warm and grateful welcome accorded to the W.L.A. by the crowds. The Relief Milking Scheme is gradually extending and there are now 5 relief milkers employed doing very fine work. So much depends on the success of this scheme and we are grateful to these members of the W.L.A. for their capable help. It is hoped the scheme may extend all over the County. The W.A.E.C. is once more opening Wilby Castle as a preliminary training centre for new volunteers, there they will gain one month's experience before being allocated to their places of employment. Recreational activities in the hostels have been rather in abeyance as usual in the summer but some of the hostels have had some greatly enjoyed demonstrations in the art of make-up. Numbers in Northants are steadily rising and we do welcome the many new volunteers who have come from other counties to help us.

NORFOLK.—Many new recruits are now in this County and we should like to give them a warm welcome and wish them best of luck in their new work. Arrangements are being made for a second Handicraft Exhibition and Competition to be held at the Lads' Club by kind permission of the Chief Constable, on Nov. 30th. A new class this year which we hope will attract a number of entries is for amateur photography. A class for Handicraft has commenced at Banningham Hostel, with Miss Winsworth, of the Norfolk Education Committee and a very good friend of the L.A. as teacher. Several of our members have had wonderful holidays at the Torquay Rest-break House, and have come back refreshed and full of enthusiasm for the friendship and kindness with which they were met. A. Gathergood who is taking a Course at Swanley Horticultural Institute, Kent, has sent us a most interesting letter telling of her new experiences there and of the work she is doing. At a very successful Whist Drive at Dilham Hostel, £16 4s. 6d. was raised. £7 was allocated to the County Welfare Fund and the remainder to the Benevolent Fund.

NORTH'D.—Congratulations indeed to Mrs. Rea, Representative in Cornhill and Norham district, on the splendid result of £75 for the Benevolent Fund, which she raised with her

"draw". Mrs. Pumphrey, Representative in Cambo, organised a dance which brought £10 to the Benevolent Fund and Fenton and Thropton Hostels have sent in £5 each. Our total is growing steadily. Social activities for the coming winter are now being planned and privately employed members are asked to get in touch with their nearest hostel if they are able to join in the classes or entertainments which will be arranged. We have sold nearly 100 copies of Northumberland's pictorial map and it is being exhibited at agricultural shows in the County.

NOTTS.—Farm week in Notts. was a big success and warm tributes were paid to the W.L.A. for their magnificent work. The opening ceremony was performed by R. Harwood, who has been a member of the W.L.A. for four years. On July 27th a party was held in Nottingham for the girls due for six year armlets. The County Chairman, Lady Sibell Argles, presented the girls with their armlets and congratulated them on their excellent work and long service. Tea was then provided and the party finished up with a visit to the Theatre, which we hope they all enjoyed.

We are very sorry to have lost Mrs. Fotheringham, our County Secretary, who has been the prop and stay of Nottinghamshire for many years—both as Assistant Secretary and County Secretary, but wish her all the very best of luck and happiness. We are happy to have with us Miss Richmond—unfortunately only temporarily—as County Secretary, and hope she will be happy during her stay with us.

We regret to announce the death of Miss Betty Underwood. She is a great loss to the W.L.A. and is greatly missed by her fellow L.G.'s at Retford Hostel. We offer our most sincere sympathy to her parents.

PEMBS.—A highly successful Garden Fete was held at Hill, Narberth, on Aug. 10th in aid of our County Welfare Fund. We are exceedingly indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Sackville Owen (our County Chairman) for placing their charming house and grounds at our disposal—Mrs. J. Bennion, Stackpole, opened the Fete and paid great tribute to the L.G.'s for their magnificent work in winning the Battle of the Land. The weather was good and trade was brisk—I think we all agree it was a very enjoyable afternoon. The Welfare Fund will benefit by £140. The Hostels have been visited by a team of Beauty Experts who gave a series of lectures and demonstrations on the "Art of Make Up"; these proved extraordinarily interesting and we hope to have the opportunity of arranging similar demonstrations during the winter months. The Warden at Solbury Hostel organised an impromptu concert in aid of the Welfare Fund and the proceeds amounted to £8.

We are delighted to welcome two new District Reps., Mrs. Kelway for Solbury Hostel, and Miss O. Linton for Clarbeston Road, and we hope they will enjoy working for the L.A.

SOM.—Farming came to town at Bristol when Farm week opened at Ashton Court on Aug. 14th. L.A. members looked most business like and we were delighted that the Land Girl whose smiling face has appeared on all the West Country hoardings for the past few weeks was able to make the journey from Scotland and represent us on the platform on the opening day. The W.L.A. stand in the Education Tent was a source of great interest and stewards had a busy time preventing the pigs and the cattle from "straying" into the keeping of small admirers! On behalf of the W.L.A. Miss Johnson (Som.) proposed a

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London, S.W.1.

Answers to questions on page 7.

1. Two-thirds. 2. 12-14 gallons. 3. Ponies.
4. From "costard" a very ancient kind of apple.



At the "Old Stagers' Party" at Puddletown, Dorset.

vote of thanks to Lady Apsley who opened the show on the second day.

We are extremely sorry to lose our Welfare Officer, Miss Anderton, who during the short time she has been in Som. has proved a friend in need to many L.G.'s. We wish her every success in her new work. We welcome in her place Miss Flemming. We also welcome Miss Carter, who will take Mrs. Leckenby's place as Assistant Secretary.

STAFFS.—Social events have been very limited during the harvest period. Wombourne Hostel organised an evening bus tour to Worcester and Evesham during July. Fortunately the weather was kind and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Loggerheads arranged a social evening to welcome the new recruits who have entered the A.E.C.'s employment on gang work and this also was a great success. Linda Moulton, 88427, has just completed a four months' Agricultural Course at Rodbaston Farm Institute and will now take up a more responsible post as a member of the W.L.A.

E. SUFFOLK.—We are very pleased to welcome Miss Monk as our new Assistant Secretary. Miss Monk has served in the A.T.S. for 4½ years and we hope she will be happy in our organisation.

By this time last year, the Harvest in this county was nearly all in, but this season it is a much more protracted business. Everyone is struggling to save as much as possible from the devastating results of the all-too-frequent storms. We are extremely sorry to lose Elfrida Lewis, who did outstandingly good work both as a Relief Milker and as a Dairy Forewoman at Columbyne Hall training hostel. We wish her every happiness and success in her new career. We shall shortly be planning a new series of Proficiency Tests, and would like the names of prospective candidates as soon as possible. We are glad to say that although the Y.M.C.A. at Princes Street, Ipswich, is reverting to a civilian Club on Sept. 1st, 1946, the Committee has decided to invite members of H.M. Forces and the W.L.A. to continue to make use of the premises. We would like volunteers to note that special emphasis has been laid on the fact that W.L.A. members are asked to wear full uniform. We continue to get many appreciative letters from L.G.'s who have benefited in some way or another through the Benevolent Fund.

W. SUFFOLK.—We are very sorry to lose our Chairman, Lady Briscoe, who has worked untiringly on our behalf since 1939, but glad she is remaining on the Committee. L.G.'s in her district will also be pleased to hear she is continuing as their

representative. We welcome our new Chairman, Mrs. Custeison, who was the first County Secretary in W. Suffolk and has always been a great friend of the L.A. The Y.W.C.A. have informed us that they are shortly giving up the management of the hostels. We would like to take this opportunity of expressing our sincere thanks to all their members who have helped to make the hostels happy homes for the L.G.'s. In Sept. we begin to take over and hope by the end of Oct. to be running all the W.L.A. hostels in this county. Two notable successes should be recorded. M. Hay has passed her Matriculation in the first division, so six years in the W.L.A. have not dulled her brain. M. Mills has secured a vacancy this autumn at Harper Adams College for the poultry diploma course.

SURREY.—An account of our Rally in the Duke of Sutherland's Sutton Park Estate on July 6th has already appeared in the "Land Girl" but congratulations are due to: M. Crowhurst, who won the watch presented by J. A. Ingham of Keystone Ltd., in the General Knowledge Competition; M. Morley and V. Reynolds—1st prizes in Hoeing and Singing Competition; P. Dawson, I. Raynham and D. Hill—1st prizes in Horticultural Competition; J. Roos, E. Hussey, D. Heasman, V. Whitehouse and Z. Weatherhead—1st prizes in Ploughing, Thatching, Horse-work, Poultry and Dairy Cow Judging Competitions respectively; also to Mrs. B. Fentiman who won the Beauty Competition. Many thanks are due to the County Organisers, Office Staff, Comm. Members and D.R.'s who helped to make it such an enjoyable day. Congratulations to the following who have been accepted for a Horticultural Course at Swanley College: B. Coles, E. Horder, P. Dawson, D. Hill and B. Gurney. The award of the B.E.M. to K. Bruce has given great pleasure throughout the county; it was certainly earned and deserved by her long and excellent service in the county. As a L.A. volunteer she worked from Sept., 1939 to March, 1946.

We are delighted to welcome Miss P. Nankivell, who has been appointed County Organiser, and we wish Miss Tester, County Organiser, the best of luck as she is leaving the L.A. to take up psychiatric work.

E. SUSSEX.—During the past weeks we have welcomed many new recruits from as far afield as Yorkshire and Wales, and hope that they will quickly settle down and be happy in their new life and surroundings. The W.A.E.C. hope to open two new Hostels shortly and the W.L.A. expects to open a Hostel in Brighton for 100 girls employed on market gardening. We have again secured places at Plumpton for the Agricultural Course

starting on Sept. 23rd, and congratulate the 5 volunteers who have been chosen to go there. We are hoping for further vacancies elsewhere during the next few months, as we still have 6 volunteers waiting to take a Course. Congratulations to R. Hooper, 17916, who has secured a vacancy at Studley College, Warwickshire, and goes there next month to study for her N.D.D. Plans are well advanced for the Competitions arranged in connection with our Exhibition in Brighton, and full details will be sent out in Sept. We are delighted that W. Sussex are joining in our plans and will help us to make it a real Sussex Exhibition. The dates fixed are Feb. 17th to 22nd at the Corn Exchange, Brighton. Our apologies to B. Newnham, ex-W.L.A. 48586, for our mistake in the July News. Betty is working for the Public Analyst of the County Milk Laboratory, not for the Milk Marketing Board.

WILTS.—We are very sorry to have to say goodbye to our late Chairman, the Hon. Mrs. Methuen, who has had to resign on doctor's orders. We are most grateful to her for her many years' work for the W.L.A. in Wilts, and hope that the rest will soon benefit her health. We welcome our new Chairman, Mrs. Awdry, who has for some time been a Comm. Member and a very active worker

County Returns

County	Ben. F. Total			Em- ployed
	£	s.	d.	
Kent	9762	4	6	1970
Surrey	5510	12	1	1335
Essex	5645	8	6	1247
Herts.	4701	14	2	1032
Hants.	8662	4	2	1031
Yorks, W.R. ..	3337	15	4	966
Leics. & Rut. ..	2634	8	11	945
Northants.	2871	11	5	941
Bucks.	4903	0	3	939
Devon	4111	12	9	890
Warwickshire ..	7546	9	9	854
Worcs.	3100	0	0	843
Yorks, E. & N.R.	2823	2	6	842
Somerset	2416	5	1	779
Cornwall	1675	5	11	766
W. Sussex	5171	14	9	766
Norfolk	6267	10	7	759
E. Sussex	4135	9	3	741
Lincs, L. & K. ..	3268	18	0	695
Beds.	1070	16	6	693
Northumberland ..	2358	10	3	691
Cheshire	3218	2	4	681
Glos.	2691	9	4	636
Notts.	1836	6	0	627
Oxon.	3853	14	3	623
Hunts, Cambs. & Ely	3746	16	7	613
Berks.	3655	18	2	569
Wilts	2061	17	3	545
Durham	1996	0	9	508
E. Suffolk	3590	3	8	502
Staffs.	1791	8	9	461
Salop	1954	3	11	452
Cumb'd & West'd ..	711	5	6	446
Glam.	1170	13	9	440
Lancs.	2807	18	6	438
Mon.	1009	18	0	422
Dorset	1436	3	5	421
Hereford	1866	10	4	386
Flint.	697	3	6	371
W. Suffolk	2161	7	0	358
Denbighs.	1209	16	11	338
N. Wales	1928	14	2	331
Lincs.—Holland ..	2036	8	9	313
Brecon, Radnor & Mont.	863	19	0	310
London & Middx. ..	1279	12	7	281
Derby	1517	3	0	256
I.O.W.	288	5	8	193
Pembs.	1122	2	8	191
Cards. & Carm's. ..	742	18	5	189
W.T.C.	7074	4	1	400

The total number of volunteers in employment on 18th August was 31,926.

"Poems of the Land Army", price 2/9 each, including postage. Order from the Editor, 6, Chesham Street, London, S.W.1.



ing 10" x 5" in size.
on letter packets not
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Label.

LY'S SERVICE

Miss Davies was a most enthusiastic worker and very helpful to everyone. She takes with her our very best wishes for success in her new post.

Some of the volunteers in our County, together with members of the Office Staff, were fortunate enough to visit the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford-on-Avon recently. Among the plays seen were "The Tempest", "As you like it", and "Love's Labour Lost". Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and it is hoped to repeat these outings again next year. During July, we held a Produce Stall in aid of the Welfare Fund, the proceeds of which amounted to £19. The stall proved most popular, the majority of the produce being sold half-an-hour after the sale began!

YORKS. N. AND E. R.—As from July 15th the County Offices of the N. and E. Ridings were amalgamated and since this date all W.L.A. matters are being dealt with from Finkle Street, St. Sampson's Square, York. During July and Aug., stands and displays were organised at various Agricultural Shows in both Ridings. The collection taken at the Burton Agnes Show on behalf of the Benevolent Fund amounted to £12 8s. 0d. During July demonstrators of Messrs. Pears, Ltd., visited all the hostels in the evenings and from the reports received their tour was most popular.