THE LAND GIRL

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TWO COMPETITIONS

"WE are frightened out of our wits about the harvest. If the sun ever shines again we shall get down to Bradenham, I hope." Oddly enough, this remark does not refer to our recent peculiar season, it was made by Disraeli over a hundred years ago—so perhaps our climate is not steadily getting worse as some people have thought. Probably it is just one more sign of incurable British optimism that we are always taken by surprise when St. Swithin gets thoroughly out of control.

Whatever St. Luke may do to raise our damped spirits, long evenings will soon give outdoor workers a good deal of spare time. The LAND GIRL hopes that many members of the W.L.A. will occupy their leisure by entering for either or both of two Winter Competitions. The first will be for the best Collection made during the winter. Competitors can choose what they will collect—stamps or pressed wild flowers or drawings or anything which will make an interesting collection. There will be a special prize for the best collection of funny stories and another for the best collection of local customs and anecdotes.

The second Competition is for an essay. We have all heard a great deal lately about what is called the "population question." Families have become so much smaller since Victorian days that Britain is threatened with a declining population. A Royal Commission is considering the problem and many people have expressed their views upon it but what really matters is what the young people think about it, for they are the parents of the present and the future. Many members of the Land Army have married, are marrying or will marry. The LAND GIRL offers prizes for the best essays on "What is the ideal size of a family—and what encourages people to have more than one or two children".

M.A.P.

WELCOME TO THE DAIRYMAID

On your introduction to dairy-work, you may feel nervous of the cows, but the more you know about them, the less fear you will have. There are right and safe ways of handling cattle, which will soon become second nature to you. A little forethought and planning will save patience, time and energy, make for easier working, and obviate many risks.

Every cow is an individual, with her own characteristics; what limited intelligence she displays is usually in connection with food. Some members of the herd are definite gluttons, so must always be tied up first if there is food in the mangers—you will soon learn which ones!

When unchaining cows, it is best to let the chain drop and stand clear, until you are used to the way the cow turns, otherwise you may get a nasty knock. A bag tied round your middle is a boon when tying up wet cows.

If you have to drive a herd on the road, always plan ahead with regard to gates and openings. If you lose one of them, concentrate on the main herd; the straggler will follow when she finds she is left behind. Some herds possess a self-appointed "leader"; head her in the right direction and the rest will follow. **Never** crowd the herd through gateways, or they may damage their pin-bones.

When leading any animal with a halter **never** wind the slack around your hand, —hold it loosely, so that if he bolts, you can pay it out or easily let go. In turning corners, do not go round the animal's head,—make him go round you.

Always keep a lookout for unusual symptoms, lameness (often caused by caked mud between the claws), swollen udders, discharges (especially of blood) animals in season, lack of appetite, etc., and report these, however insignificant they appear, to the cowman. Cowmen are usually as temperamental as their charges and require tactful handling. They resent anything resembling interference, criticism or competition, so let the cowman get any credit and everyone will be happy.

Treat a cow with a calf with the utmost respect, and armed with a stick; naturally, the most docile animal will defend her offspring. Dogs must be kept away; the mother will attack the dog, who will shelter behind you! Good cattle-dogs are trained to disappear when calves are around.

When tying up a cow with a calf, go slowly; let her be reassured of the baby's safety before you start. A newly-calved cow, left loose, must be watched or she may swallow the afterbirth and choke herself. If you have to secure a calf in a bag for transport, tie the loose part of the bag mouth at the back of the calf's neck—not in front, or he may get his legs out through the opening. When feeding calves, make sure that small ones are not punished or kept on short rations by bigger ones, and watch them carefully for scouring.

In the milking shed, don't approach a cow from behind without giving warning by speaking to her. (Not like the recruit who walked up to the cow's head, and bawled "Hello" in her ear!) A normally quiet animal is liable to kick out when startled. You will also soon learn not to let one step on your foot. . . To make an obstinate animal move sideways, twist her tail in the opposite direction.

There are several ways of milking a kicker; you may tie her legs together, put a "bull-dog" in her nose, or keep her employed with food. The safest method is to tie a rope tightly round her middle, in front of the udder; this theoretically, prevents the movement of the spine necessary to kicking. An even better method is to get someone else to milk her! Sore teats are often a source of trouble and should be anointed with healing ointment; clean hands between cows will prevent the spread of the trouble. Fly sprays and removal of stale bedding, etc., which harbours flies, will lessen kicking.

Always be sure that you do not touch an infected udder till after you've finished the healthy ones, to lessen spread of infection.

Milking utensils are much easier to keep clean if you rinse off with cold water all traces of milk as soon as possible before it gets hard.

Make sure that drinking bowls and feeding troughs are kept clean and free from sour stale food and that there is a plentiful supply of clean drinking water for your stock. Bedding should be thickest in the front of animals; they will always trample it backwards.

If you are to officiate at a visit from the vet., have all the necessary data, (e.g., calving date, symptoms) fresh in mind,, and provide him with hot water, soap and a towel.

And for the benefit of the cat population, you might keep a clean dish handy and provide them with fresh milk regularly!

The great disadvantage of dairy work is the long hours and the tie of week-ends, but this is offset by its being a responsible, interesting job well suited to an individualist. Also you can see the food you produce twice a day, and can help to ensure it reaching the consumer in good condition. As you get to understand your individual cows, you will find their care an absorbing and fascinating occupation and they will get to know you and have confidence in you. You may, on occasion, even decide that you prefer their company to that of human beings!

Cornwall. N. E. Jesty, 71662.

The author of this article with a prize-winning favourite.

Congratulations to N. Stoker, 145455, Cumberland, who was the champion in both open and W.L.A. classes at the C.W.A.E.C. Turnip Hoeing Competition at Toppin Castle, Brampton in July.

And to E. M. Cross, 43867, of Monmouthshire, who has been elected Head Student at Swanley where she is taking a Government training in horticulture.

And to M. Mabbutt, 151109 and K. Bricknell, 113501, Cambs. who are employed on the farms which won 1st and 2nd prize in the W.A.E.C. Clean Milk Competitions.

And to E. Sedgebeer, 58761 and M. Addison 111125, Cornwall, who saved the life of a German prisoner who was being gored by a bull. They carried the unconscious man to safety and slammed the door of the bull's house in the animal's face as he charged at them.

ONE YEAR AT AN AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE

Perhaps some land girls would be interested in my experience at an agricultural institute, especially if they are thinking of taking a course themselves. Most colleges and institutes have general courses including dairying, agriculture, poultry keeping and horticulture. These last approximately a year, generally from October to August. At the end after the examinations a certificate is awarded.

The day is generally split up into theory and practical work. The latter usually begins before breakfast and continues for perhaps an hour afterwards. Then there is a lecture and another in the afternoon. The rest of the day is given up to practical work.

Apart from ordinary farm work, there are many other activities of interest to keen students. The Young Farmers' Clubs are generally either at the Institute or nearby and I advise anyone who is not a member to join. The subscription is only a shilling. Outings to places of interest are arranged; for instance we have been to a creamery, an experimental farm, a sugar beet factory and a few other places as well. Rallies have also been held at the Institute and competitions in milking, hedging, hoeing, etc.

Social life in the hostel is very jolly. Not only was it homely and friendly but we lived as future farmers should. Our year was spent entirely in this atmosphere and I think we greatly benefited by discussions and debates on farming topics in the long winter evenings.

The staff are very helpful; they never tired of answering our questions and a terrific lot can be picked up in the year's course.

Financial difficulties can be overcome by the help of the Government Training Scheme.

Nowadays agriculture demands trained people and there could be no better opportunity for the keen land girl than one of these courses.

Monmouth. O. M. Cannam, 145399.

During high winds in parts of the fens where soil is liable to "blow" it is not unusual for from half a ton to a ton of soil per acre to be lifted from one farm and deposited on another and if artificials have been recently sown these will go with the soil.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PICTURE

The following is part of an article written by Mrs. Aileen Wing, W.A.A.F. It is reproduced by courtesy of THE FARMERS WEEKLY in which it first appeared.

I have served in H.M. Forces for nearly five years and I am sure most people in agricultural areas have little idea of the life the Servicewoman has to lead, the conditions under which she works and the appalling low wage she is paid for her labours.

Firstly, the W.L.A. should be honest and admit that some at least of its members joined because they went in mortal fear of being conscripted. I know this is true because several Land Girls have told me so. When I decided to join the W.A.A.F. in 1940, I was regarded as slightly mental. No one in her right mind joined up in those days before conscription. As it turns out, the Servicewoman has had the best of the bargain, and naturally enough the W.L.A. members are feeling sore.

Now what happened to a volunteer or conscript when she left the comfort and security of her home to face the wide, wide world? She was sent to a depot where there were no outstretched arms to welcome her; only the orderly corporal, who didn't care what the newcomer thought or felt but was only concerned with getting her licked into shape. She was pushed about, shouted at, lectured to, and worst of all, had most of her personal liberty taken from her. The food was indifferent and in some cases downright bad. The dining halls were enormous, unlovely and barrack-like and the noise had to be heard to be believed.

Of course, there was always the N.A.A.F.I.—and will those who have sought a cheering cup of N.A.A.F.I. tea ever forget it? No wonder that many girls who joined up before the Act of 1941 just couldn't take it and went home by the first available train. This the conscript could not do. She had to do as she was told and had to go just where she was sent. Once there, she might be given a job which she hated—and many of the jobs were monotonous and unpleasant.

For instance there were the Flight Mechanics. They toiled in huge hangars whose doors were open at both ends summer and winter and where the atmosphere resembled the North Pole. They went home around 7 p.m., tired and filthy. The issue of fuel was often only enough to give each girl one hot bath a week. When the coal or coke supply was exhausted you got none till the next issue. That meant no fire or hot water and a Nissen hut is a mighty cold place in winter.

Then our conscript might be a domestic worker in the airmen's cookhouse. There she would have to scrub stone floors, wash piles of dirty dishes, peel potatoes and scrape vegetables. For this she received the magnificent sum of ten shillings a week.

A clerk received seventeen and sixpence a week to start, rising to twenty-one shillings when she had passed a proficiency test. Remember that most of the clerks were shorthand typists, many of whom had years of experience and good jobs in civil life.

The Service girl was kept, but what did that amount to? Most of them lived on isolated aerodromes where the sleeping accommodation was a hut containing twenty beds. The sanitary arrangements were crude, consisting of one chemical lavatory in each hut, while often the girls had to walk some distance to the Ablutions Block.

In winter the path there was sometimes ankle deep in mud. The water was invariably tepid, there was no heating in the huts and the sitting room was in some cases, of necessity, half a mile from the sleeping quarters.

The conscript had to be in most nights at 10.30 and the Orderly Corporal saw to it that she was. A girl might be lonely, unhappy, hate her job and be far away from home. That was just too bad, because there she would have to stay until some lucky chance made the clerk at Records Office pick out her name for a posting.

The lowest rank of commissioned officers in the W.A.A.F. received seven and tenpence per day. Out of this was deducted daily messing, generally a shilling a day, National Health Insurance and Income Tax. Your officer then had about thirty five shillings a week out of which she had to pay laundry, keep up her uniform and live in a style becoming to an officer.

Promotions were slow and the majority of officers never got beyond the equivalent of Lieutenant in the Army, which carries the princely salary of nine shillings per day, or sixty three shillings per week, less what I have already mentioned. Of course they too received sleeping quarters and food, but

in many cases those did not differ greatly from the ranks.

How do these conditions compare with the W.L.A.? In the first place the Land Girl is not subject to military discipline. She can be as uncivil as she pleases to her employer and get away with it. A sharp word spoken to a corporal might mean that a Service girl was put on a charge which could result in her being confined to camp for a week. If the Land Girl feels like it, she can pack up and walk out. She will not have the Military Police scouring the country for her.

When she goes to a dance, she can be as glamorous as her looks will allow; but the poor Service girl never gets out of uniform except on leave and you cannot imagine what that means until you have worn the same old garb for months on end with those oh, so unbecoming thick grey stockings. The Land Girl is not told that her cherished long hair must be cut off as it is touching her collar, leaving her a choice of three hair styles—an Eton crop, a short bob or the inevitable roll. You cannot imagine how much the conscript longed to let her hair down.

In very few cases did the Service girls' pay plus emoluments equal forty eight shillings a week—and some of them were doing jobs they had been doing for years, in which they were expert.

You will see, therefore, that the Service girl's life was not a bed of roses.

The W.L.A. may think I am being unduly harsh with them. I think their job is hard and the pay was inadequate, but this is common to all ranks of women's labour. I believe many Land Girls think the Service girl has an easy time—and what I have said may help to dispel this illusion.

General Knowledge

1. How many lbs. of flour do 100 lbs. of wheat produce?
2. If a cow has 5 rings on her horns how old is she?
3. Which flowers earliest—pear, apple cherry?
4. What vegetable takes the shortest time to germinate?
5. Which five countries, before the war, were the world's largest wheat producers?

Answers on page 13.

Parson's Wife: Binks, here's a free ticket to see the Morris dancing in the village hall. Will you come?

Binks: Aye, that I will. It be wunnerful what they can make these little cars do nowadays.

(*From "The Land Worker"*)

See page 1 for full particulars about Winter Competitions. In both, the closing date will be March 1st and information about sending in entries will be given in the February LAND GIRL.

F. E. Morris, 95400, leads them by the nose in Essex.

RELEASE

Good-bye, Land Army, but not good-bye the land;
The Land has become my friend, part of my being,
It has given me peace of mind, wide vision and
Fellowship with growing and living things.
I shall never pass fields with people haymaking,
Watch the cows coming in to be milked—or see them
Stooking, corn carrying, wurzel pulling, horse raking,
Without breaking my heart to be working there too.
Dawn, a stormy sunrise; or quiet June sunset,
Still, sunny days of frost; warm midsummer rain,
Are as lovely as east wind is loathsome, and yet
Even it is a part of the spell that enthrals me.
Thank you Land Army that brought me to the land,
Where I have found a truer life, simple, enduring,
Learnt something of earth's calm philosophy, and
Filled a treasure house with precious memories.

W. Kent. E. Millar Craig, 39614.

The designer of this quarter's cover is J. M. Thomas, 102146, Glamorgan.

The Driving Fear. Mary Dunstan. (Heinemann. 8s. 6d.)

It is an unusual experience to read a spy thriller in which the heroine is an Englishwoman in the pay of the German Secret Service, and more unusual still to be made to sympathise with her. But there is no cheating. Laura Merridew in "The Driving Fear" really is what she is represented as being from the first. The subtlety with which the author develops this surprising theme is also unusual in this type of book; perhaps one should not call it a "thriller" at all, for all the characters are life-like, and the poignant situations arise smoothly and naturally. The setting of beauty, warmth and languor in Cyprus acts as a mild anaesthetic for the operation.

M. Jaeger.

NURSERY VISIT

The early morning sun beat through the windows of the 'bus as we set off for Chester. We were going to Bees' Nurseries at Sealand. We passed through varied countryside, the serene beauty of Montgomeryshire, the flat hay-scented valleys between Gabowen and Oswestry, the smoke and smells of Wrexham and lastly through Chester itself with its old half-timbered houses, narrow cobbled streets and fine shops. At two o'clock we drove into the yard at Bees', and piled out of the 'bus into a blazing July afternoon.

We are horticultural students at Plas Dinam so we have become a little accustomed to the botanical names of plants, and at Bees' we were able to pick out with pride those we recognised, whilst noting those that were unfamiliar. We were all interested in the many things the manager of the herbaceous section told us out of his vast fund of knowledge gained through twenty-nine years at his job. Why are so many Scotsmen good farmers and gardeners? In his lilting speech he explained how the search for new varieties entails years of work, watching to see whether any one hybrid was more unusual or beautiful than another—and how often the search was unrewarded. He showed us a bed of Anchusas of the most unbelievable hue that had originally come from 2,000 feet up a mountainside in Crete. The first few plants had been only 4-6 inches high, but the change of habitat had altered their character and they are now a uniform height of 18 inches, an improvement, I think on the lanky variety with its ugly foliage that we see so often in our borders. We were told that Gaillardia cuttings planted out in the unkind heat of mid-summer yet developed into a better plant than cuttings put in in the autumn.

Many other herbaceous plants—scarlet, orange and yellow Kniphofias or Red Hot Pokers, dainty many-coloured Pyrethrums, Delphiniums from the deepest Royal blue to a blue mist and creamy white (a new variety), peonies, roses and a host of others—we inspected all in turn, and it was not until half past four that we began to think of tea. But once we had begun, the prospect of a long, hot refreshing cup of tea was too much for us! Though we were hot and dishevelled, footsore and weary—and we were all of that—it was quite certainly worth it.

Mont. D. Fisher, 73463.

At Fieldgrove Farm, Bitton, Glos. This is a W.L.A. training farm run by the W.A.E.C.

14TH HALF-DIAMOND

Between now and Christmas many Land Girls will be due for their 14th half-diamond—a thought to make one pause.

A few weeks ago I was one of about a hundred girls who had over four years' service to their credit, attending an Old Stagers Party in Dorset, and what struck me most, in a marvellous evening, was the wonderful sense of friendship and good comradeship that seemed to exist between us. As one or another arrived she would be greeted from groups here and there with "How nice to meet you again", "Glad you could make it" and similar remarks, and we **were** glad to have an opportunity of meeting girls from all over the county who had served as long as ourselves. But above all it was the 13th Good Service Badgers who hung together and somehow it seemed as though we were the sixth form girls at a school prize-giving.

In 1939 we started together in the lowest form, all of us enthusiastic, but most of us inexperienced and working as very isolated units. Each year we met at a Rally, a Savings Week Parade or some such event, and received another Good Service Badge. We began to look out for each other amid the crowd of new faces and we would talk of our work and of our future and we felt we were becoming the older girls in the school, already helping to train the new recruits who were taking our place in the lowest form. We shared the fears of Invasion and the triumph of the Battle of Britain, so literally over our heads—we firewatched and worked overtime, put money in savings groups, danced and knitted and the years slipped by till last December, when we had our grandest moment together at the Lord Mayor's Party in London, when the Queen presented us with our six years' armlets.

I think that set the seal on our feelings for each other, as during the forty eight hours we were together we got to know each other really well and I feel that whatever the future may bring, if we ever happen to meet we shall greet each other as friends who have shared much and who have a very special bond forged by our years of service for our land. I hope those of us who are remaining in agriculture will remember

our early struggles and do all we can to help and encourage those new girls who are starting in the lowest form in these unglamorous days of Peace.

Dorset. B. M. Puzey, 1453.

If your shoes have that weather-beaten look after a thorough wetting, rub the surface with half a raw potato before polishing. This will help to give them a good gloss.

(From "The Young Farmer"

All old friends of the LAND GIRL have a warm corner in their hearts for "Miss Baxter and I". The ridiculous adventures of this ingenious pair of Scottish Land Girls were recorded by Miss Isobel Mount in a series of articles, the first of which appeared in the LAND GIRL in 1940 and the last in 1945. All twelve will re-appear shortly in book form, under the old title of "Miss Baxter and I" with the added attraction of delightful illustrations by the author. Nothing could make a more charming Christmas present from a member of the W.L.A. to any friend with a sense of humour.

The size and form will be the same as those of "Poems of the Land Army" and also the price—2/9 post free, 16/- for six copies and 31/- for twelve. Publication date is as yet uncertain. Orders can be sent any time, with cash, and **copies will be sent as soon as delivery is made by the printers.** Order from the LAND GIRL, 6, Chesham Street, London, S.W.1.

Mrs. F. C. Jenkins, Chief Administrative Officer, W.L.A., with Mrs. Clement, County Secretary, and five volunteers at Thropton Hostel, Northumberland.

HONEY AND VENOM

What is wrong with the following statement?

"How doth the little busy bee
Delight to bark and bite;
To gather honey all the day
And eat it up at night . . ."

Well, one of the grosser errors appears in line three; for what the bee gathers from the flowers is not honey but nectar, which has to undergo quite an elaborate process of manufacture before it becomes the honey we enjoy. Nectar is a solution of cane sugar, with traces of resins and aromatic oils that give the different flowers their separate flavours and perfumes; and varies in strength from one species to another. This is important; for the sensible little bee will desert one kind of flower as soon as another which secretes a richer nectar is available; and so in certain weather-conditions bees may leave the fruit-blossom to work the useless dandelions underneath, or neglect the lime-blossom which yields one of the most delicious honeys, in favour of the privet, whose honey to us, has a disagreeable taste. Farmers in America have discovered that if they want their orchards properly pollinated, they must keep the weeds down and not grow certain other crops which are attractive to bees, in the immediate neighbourhood of the fruit-trees. On the other hand, weeds on wasteland that might be thought useless, can yield valuable honey-crops; willowherb, blackberry and charlock are all good nectar-plants.

The worker-bee possesses a long, supple, and most delicately-constructed tongue, with which she can suck up the largest or most minute amounts of liquid from many kinds of flowers; the nectar then passes into a special "honey sac" which is separated by a valve from the true stomach and digestive tract, so that the bee can either retain the nectar or digest it at will. On returning to the hive she regurgitates the nectar into one of the prepared cells in the honeycomb. Meantime the enzymes contained in the bees' saliva have started to work a chemical change in the nectar; they split the cane-sugar of which it is chiefly composed into two other sugars known as glucose and fructose. After being deposited in the cells, it has to be still further concentrated by having a large part of the moisture evaporated out of it. Nectar contains up to 80 per cent. of water, honey 15 per cent. and all that surplus moisture must be removed by the warm temperature of the hive and by

currents of air which the bees create by fanning with their wings. When the cells are full and the honey perfectly ripe, the bees seal them over with cappings of wax, and only then is it fit to be taken by the beekeeper. The amount of work the poor little bees must do to make one pound of honey, is almost incredible; their honey-sacs only hold one-fifth of a drop and to find and carry enough nectar to make one pound of honey, the bees may have to fly 50,000 miles, the equivalent of twice round the earth.

The finished product differs in flavour, colour, and consistency according to the flower from which the nectar was gathered; from the greenish lime-tree honey to the port-wine coloured honey from the bell-heather, from the amber of hawthorn to the ivory-white of clover, and from the coarse, quick-granulating honey of charlock to the true heather-honey which never granulates at all. It is the glucose in honey which crystallises and causes granulation: the fructose is much more slow to crystallise, but is sweeter than the glucose; all granulated honeys can be liquefied by heating. Naturally some grains of pollen from the flowers get into the nectar and as the pollen-grain of every species of flower differs in form, size, and colour from every other, experts are able to tell by microscopic examination whether "English honey" has been adulterated by cheap imported honey by finding in it pollen-grains from plants that do not grow in this country. Properly ripened honey should keep indefinitely if kept perfectly dry, but it absorbs moisture very easily from the air and if the moisture-content rises too high it may ferment. Pure honey is sterile and inimical to the growth of moulds and bacteria; for that reason the ancients used it in the treatment of wounds. A jar containing a dead baby embalmed in honey was found in one of the Egyptian tombs, both baby and honey being in perfect condition.

It is a strange thing that the bee, feeding on this innocent nectar, on water, and on pollen—which provides the protein in the bee's diet, to supplement the nectar's carbohydrates—should be able to secrete a most complicated venom, containing at least eight chemical ingredients, none of them being the formic acid of which the bee's poison was once thought to consist. The bee has a poison-sac to which both an acid gland and an alkaline-gland contribute; and it is the complexity of the poison and the smallness of the hole by which it is injected, that makes it difficult to find a really effective antidote. The amount of venom secreted by one bee is minute (it took 25,000 bees to produce the 75 milligrams of venom used in one experiment) and its weapon is far finer than the finest hypodermic needle, yet one sting was sufficient to kill a woman—a fatality which happened only a few months ago. Of course it is rare to find anyone so sensitive to bee-venom as that, in most cases stings, even in quite large numbers, cause discomfort rather than danger, and bee-venom has been used medicinally, not only as a cure for rheumatism, but for fever, erysipelas, and diseases of the eye. A good deal depends on where the victim is stung—if the sting chances to enter an important nerve-centre or artery, the most curious symptoms can result, such as faintness and violent irritation of the palms of the hands and soles of the feet. I have a theory of my own about the most effective antidote which I have unfortunately not yet been able to test. We are told that when explorers in darkest Africa are bitten by snakes, they drink at once large quantities of whiskey and I believe that sufficiently copious draughts of mead—that delicious intoxicating drink made from honey—might restore the bee-keeper from the effects of any number of stings!

Warwickshire. A. M. Coats. 2026.

"Recently I saw a Land Army girl driving a large flock of sheep far more quietly and efficiently than the average drover with big stick, two sheep-dogs and several small boys equally armed."

R. Glave Saunders in "The Countryman."

Special Announcement

LOCAL DISCUSSION GROUPS

The W.F.G.A. has 15 Regional Officers and numerous local discussion groups throughout the country. *Send for our map leaflet.*

THE WOMEN'S FARM AND GARDEN ASSOCIATION,

Courtauld House, Byng Place, LONDON, W.C.1 *Euston 3651.*

Membership 12/6 a year including regular news sheets

ON THE AIR

On August 29th, I went to the B.B.C. Recording Studios to talk about the Relief Milking Scheme.

Mrs. Brooke, my County Chairman, and I were met in the Reception Room by the producer's assistant, the producer herself (Mrs. Hancock) being ill at the time. We had a little discussion together about my script and then I was conducted across Oxford Street, down a little alley to some more studios and through a maze of corridors to the Recording Room.

This was quite a small room, containing a reading desk, microphone, and various instruments which reminded me of a dentist's surgery—I had the same feeling also—being very "hot and bothered". Evidently the assistant noticed it because she told me to remove my pullover, tie and anything else I liked which would help me to feel more comfortable. I did—drank a glass of water and felt much better. She was very nice and gave me some helpful tips and easy-to-understand instructions.

There was no one else in the room, but two girls (engineers or technicians) sat on the other side of a big glass panel in the wall of the adjoining room, surrounded by earphones and other instruments. They looked very efficient as they listened and watched me all the time. All objects, such as hand-bag, etc., which might fall and make a noise were moved to a good distance from the microphone, and there was a special way to move sheets of paper containing script while reading, to avoid rustling—one folds down the top right hand and left bottom hand corners, making two small "ears" with which to *lift* the sheet.

Before the actual recording began, I went through "my piece" twice, to get the correct timing, punctuation, and expression, with the assistant, and then, while waiting for the time set for the recording, we just talked about anything—not broacasting—and by that time I felt decidedly better.

Eventually a red light appeared, which indicated the engineers were "on the job"—shortly after, a voice boomed at me to "Give some level please". That meant reading a few sentences so that they could adjust their instruments.

Another short interval and again the voice, "Ten seconds to go".

I had already been told that when I heard that, I should just have time to cough or clear my throat if necessary. I coughed—next a green light flashed and I was "off".

When I had finished five minutes later I waited very nervously for the result and it came through, "perfect recording with no technical hitch whatever".

The actual recording was done in the rooms, in the regions somewhere above, I think. The whole thing from the time we entered the Reception Room until we left was only 40 minutes. I did not see any other people (except policemen) and was amazed by the complete silence everywhere; a great contrast to my day at the Albert Hall in May.

Mrs. Brooke and I then had tea and returned home—so ended another great day in my Land Army career.

E. Sussex. H. J. Hobden, 30306.

Everyone who works with cattle knows that, in spite of their dignified bearing, cows can and do sometimes behave very foolishly.

Ruby, the cow illustrated on this page, poked her nose into a watering can which stuck to her muzzle. As she breathed the spout whistled and Ruby was so puzzled by the noise she was making that she forgot how inconvenient it was to wear. When the can was removed—and it came away quite easily—Ruby walked away apparently quite unconcerned that she had made rather a fool of herself.

J. B. Thorburn.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor,

I want to find an ex-Land Girl whose sole interest is farming, with three or more years' experience and if possible with knowledge of poultry, geese, ducks and who is keen on field work, who would like an opportunity to take a share in pulling together a twenty acre attested dairy farm in partnership with another Land Girl concentrating on the dairy side.

A little capital would be preferable and the idea would be to take a larger place later on.

Will anyone interested write to L.G., c/o Editor, LAND GIRL, 6, Chesham Street, London, S.W.1. L.G.

Dear Editor,

I was interested when I read J. E. Davey's and J. P. Arnold's letter in the "Land Girl", about the Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital at East Grinstead. I was a patient there in 1941, when I had a double compound fractured jaw, caused when I tried to stop a bolting horse and cart on the farm. I got to know patients from all over the country undergoing delicate plastic treatment, that seemed miracles of surgery, and I found it most interesting to watch the developments.

I was quite reluctant to leave, even though I had spent my 21st birthday and also Christmas in there. My jaw healed perfectly, and I have not felt anything of the injury since.

W. Kent. C. A. Ward, 8671.

Dear Editor,

My horse Candy has a very sweet nature. She is self appointed leader of our six cows and when I call she comes galloping down the field with my once sedate dairy herd kicking up their heels and tearing behind. I half expect the milk to be butter.

The chickens flutter and peck her corn but she just thrusts her nose into the middle of them.

When my old sow decided Candy's hay made a nice bed and went to sleep on it, Candy ate all the hay she could get at and then as the pig still didn't move gave her a hearty nip that sent her packing.

The chickens and geese sleep with her and once I found a cockerel roosting on her back!

Devon. M. Starkey, 53752.

Sir,

Fines up to £20 for the first offence and £50 for any subsequent offence are the penalties for infringing Section 5 of the Prevention of Damage by Rabbits Act, 1939. By this section it is illegal, for the purpose of killing rabbits, to use a spring trap except in a rabbit hole, and anybody who knowingly permits such use is liable to similar penalties. In quite exceptional cases an Agricultural Committee is allowed to set aside the law under Defence Regulation 63, subject to certain very stringent conditions, but generally speaking anybody who practises or permits open trapping of rabbits is liable to these fines of £20 and £50.

The Act became law at a time when we were all thinking about the imminence of war, and as a result many trappers have overlooked it and are not aware that they are breaking the law and taking heavy risks.

C. W. Hume,
Chairman of U.F.A.W.

Dear Editor,

Here's a word to the new recruits. If you stab your Wellingtons with a fork or anything, I've found the following quite successful.

Clean round the hole with a wet cloth, then sandpaper it to take off rough edges, then smear with chalk which you then wipe off with a dry cloth. Apply rubber solution and allow it to dry for about a minute, then put an ordinary patch (from a bicycle puncture outfit) on and be sure it is plenty big enough, also stretch it well as you put it on, press hard for a few minutes and cover with chalk to take away any stickiness.

Yorks. N.R. M. Cornish, 27292.

Dear Editor,

I get the LAND GIRL magazine every month and I enjoy every bit of it. What I like best are the letters from members telling about their first day on the farm so I thought I'd write about my first day.

Well it was not a very pleasant day for either me or the Farmer or his Wife. I arrived at the unearthly hour of 1.30 a.m. when I had a good look at everyone and started to cry. Everybody in that house made a fuss of me but I just screamed at them. They got a bit fed up with me. The Farmer looked at me and shook his head and said "It will be a long time before she will milk a

cow". Well he was right. Six years later I ventured under my first cow and I did not need a stool to sit on. I could stand up and milk without bending my back.

You see, I was born on that farm and learned to milk at the age of six.

I joined the W.L.A. as a milker in February, 1945 and I enjoy it very much. To my fellow members I offer my heartiest congratulations, especially those girls from the towns and cities, who gave up good clean jobs and volunteered to "Lend a Hand on the Land".

Good luck to all of you.

Leics. E. Roe, 153428.

M. L. Boyce, 57170, of 2, Council Houses, South Newton, Nr. Salisbury, Wilts, would like to correspond with a Land Girl who is working in Scotland.

CAN I HELP YOU?

Readers are invited to send questions for answer in this column.

Can you advise me how to clean a waterproof lumber jacket which has become very soiled?—C. Scott, Salop.

The only hope is to scrub it with a nailbrush and warm water and soap. Do *not* use petrol or patent cleaners for fear of perishing the rubber.

How can you remove tomato stain from the hands?—N. Harrison, Staffs.

Several courses have been recommended as effective. Crush a green tomato in the hand and rub till the stain is removed, then rinse in water before the acid dries. Rotten tomatoes, followed by a cold water rinse are said to be good. A stick of rhubarb, steel wool, Zixt soap and vim are four other suggestions.

I should like to take a Correspondence course to improve my knowledge of dairy farming. Where can I write for particulars? What books can I read?

For serving members of the W.L.A. there are special Courses and information about them can be obtained from the volunteer's county office. Occasionally ex-members can be admitted to the Course, and there is the Agricultural Correspondence College, Bath, which arranges such courses. Useful books are—"Farming Year" by Scott Watson: "Cows and Milk" published by the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs: "Elements of Agriculture" by Fream: "Farming Handbook" by Garnett and Others.

BENEVOLENT FUND

Nearly 300 volunteers have now been trained in practical homecraft at the Fund's two centres. Wycliffe House, which was opened about six months ago to take the overflow of trainees, is now closing down and all future courses will be run at The Square House, Bury St. Edmunds. It may not be generally known that the courses are also open to ex-members of the Land Army, and that special arrangements have also been made for girls to take revisory courses later provided there is room. A charge is made for such courses but the original course costs the volunteer nothing—in fact she gets 10/- a week pocket money.

During the original course a trainee is instructed in cooking by most methods that may be encountered later (including the old fashioned kitchen range) and all a housewife's day to day duties. Volunteers even visit the local butcher and see joints carved, and learn to read meters and mend fuses at the electric showrooms. Lectures range from subjects such as the "Rights and Duties of the Citizen" to "Babycraft" from the prenatal to the toddler stage. Trainees visit the labour ward of the hospital and see babies immediately after birth and watch the oiling and bathing processes.

The Benevolent Fund is justly proud of these unique courses, and if you want to take one your County Secretary will be delighted to advise you how to set about becoming a perfect wife and mother.

Nearly £320,000 has now been raised for the Fund, and over £100,000 has been spent mainly on grants which exceed 10,900. Over 400 grants were made in August, and at the time of going to press September's total was more than 500. The month's donations include over £64 from two of the W.T.C.'s Comforts Funds which are now closing down.

At Tumut, New South Wales, ten years ago, school children planted a 23-acre pine forest which is now ready to return them between £400 and £500 worth of good timber from thinning operations. The 10,000 trees have now attained a height of between 40 and 50 feet.

"Miss Baxter and I", by Isobel Mount (Scottish W.L.A.), a collection in book form of twelve articles which have appeared in the LAND GIRL. Price, including postage, 2/9 each. Order from THE LAND GIRL, 6, Chesham Street, London, S.W.1.

SCOTTISH NOTES

ANGUS.—Two parties were arranged recently for members of W.L.A. The first was held in the Café Moderne, Arbroath on 13th July for Arbroath, Montrose and district members. The second in "The Regent", Dundee for Dundee and district members. Miss E Lindsay Ireland presided at both parties and handed over G.S. armlets and badges. At the Arbroath party Miss Ina Brown who received an armlet for six years service proposed thanks and offered congratulations to Miss E. L. Ireland on receiving the M.B.E.

At the Dundee party, thanks and congratulations were given to Miss E. L. Ireland on the call of Miss M. Smart. The Trottick members handed over £5 to the W.L.A. Benevolent Fund.

Songs, recitations and piano selections were contributed by members. After tea, games and dancing were engaged in. Ices were served and the parties ended with the singing of Auld Lang Syne.

DUMBARTON AND RENFREW.—To mark the closing of the Helensburgh W.L.A. Club a farewell party was held at the end of June. Invitations were accepted by the men at the local Naval Base and the neighbouring R.A.F. Station. Many ex-W.L.A. members were also present, and it was a pleasing sight to see them all together again.

A very pleasant evening was spent and a good tea enjoyed by all. Before leaving, the President of the Club proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Bell (Chairman of the W.L.A. Sub-Committee) for all the work and interest she had taken for the benefit of the Club.

The balance of funds (£10 10s.) has been handed over to the Welfare and Benevolent Fund.

Christmas Cards and Calendars

The Welfare and Benevolent Fund Committee have again authorised the sale of Christmas Cards and Calendars in aid of the Fund. The Cards (including envelopes) will be sold at 6d. each and Calendars (including envelopes) at 1/- each. Orders should be sent to the W.L.A. Secretaries or to Miss McCaig, 15, Grosvenor Street, Edinburgh, 12.

It is interesting to note that the Fund has already benefited to the extent of £1,012 11s. 11d. by the sale of Cards and Calendars.

"Most Happy Husbandman," by Ethelind Fearon (Macdonald, 12s. 6d.), is the story of a year on an Essex farm by someone who knows the life and the job, inside the house as well as out, and has also a wide range of general interests. Does Thaxted mean anything to you? If so, the book will have another great attraction—that is the author's village. Bernard Reynolds has included the famous spire in three of his charming little decorations. Keep one or two book tokens for this.

"The Government of the English Village," by A. R. Kerrell-Vaugan, gives a very clear and concise account of local government in the village. If you are interested, as you should be, I can recommend it whether as a first explanation of how these things are done, or as a reference book (but it is a pity there is no index). (Staples Press, 5s.)

E. M. Barraud.

Answers to General Knowledge questions on page 5. 1, 70. 2, About 7 years. 3, Cherry. 4, Radish. 5, U.S.S.R., U.S.A., Canada, China, India.

Wood-cut Christmas cards, 4d. each including envelopes. Miss Agnes Phillips, 32, Regent Street, Rugby.

COUNTY NEWS

BERKS.—During last month we have again been running successful Milking Courses and we should like to welcome those girls who are new both to Berkshire, and to the L.A. It has been found that these Courses have been most helpful, and it is hoped to run further ones through the winter. To celebrate the end of the last Course a most enjoyable Party was held at the Hostel, which was attended by Lady Mount, the County Chairman.

It is with great regret that we say goodbye to two of our Committee Members, Mrs. E. Hacket and Mrs. B. S. Macdonald. We have been most grateful for all their work and help given during the period of the war, and shall miss them very much.

BUCKS.—We are very glad to welcome the many new girls who have lately arrived in the County, and hope that they will soon settle down here. Another hostel has just been opened at Chicheley, near Newport Pagnell, the first inhabitants being about 24 new recruits who are happily adjusting themselves to hostel life.

It is expected that a very active autumn and winter lie ahead, and arrangements are being made for film shows, concerts and lectures on cookery, domestic subjects, health, hairdressing and beauty culture. One of the chief events will be a L.G.'s Conference in December, at which we hope to get the reactions of the volunteers themselves to life in the L.A., and to discuss the remedy for any defects and how to introduce any improvements possible.

CHESHIRE.—Five volunteers have taken a Proficiency Test this year and everyone has passed. They are:—E. Entwisle—Milking and Dairy Work (hand milking); V. Leek—Milking and Dairy Work (machine milking); M. MacDonald—General Farm Work; B. Mears—Poultry Work; E. M. Evans—Gardening.

Several of our volunteers were present at the Altrincham Agricultural Show which is one of the largest Agricultural Shows in Great Britain, on Sept. 18th, and in spite of the bad weather, about 30 of the girls gave Milking and Threshing Displays. One enterprising volunteer has begged a load of manure from her employer and now has a flourishing bed of mushrooms.

CORNWALL.—We are going ahead with the winter programme for Hostels. From October 10th-18th Messrs. Pears Ltd., are carrying out beauty culture demonstrations by two experts. Later in the month Mrs. Tamplin, of the Central Council for Health Education, will make a return visit. Pencubitt, Barn Lane and Leslie House Hostels are having Needlework classes by experts from the Cornwall Educational Authorities, and a representative of Messrs. Lever Bros., Lux Washability Bureau will give instructive talks early in January, 1947. The C.O.I. have made special visits with Films. In all these activities we extend hearty invitations to any girls in billets. In December we are having a "Merry Mart" for the County Welfare Fund. Each Hostel is

Christmas Cards

with W.L.A. badge and greetings message

Price 6d. each

Order from your County Office

All proceeds to the W.L.A. Benevolent Fund

(By courtesy of the "Cumberland News", Carlisle)

Geltsdale, the Champion Hostel in N.E. Cumberland in the Turnip Singling Competition at Brampton in July.

making itself responsible for a stall and the County Office staff are making the arrangements. Hearty congratulations to Miss Godbeer, 120014, who began a Course at Swanley Horticultural Institute on September 23rd, and to Miss Richardson, 23742, who has been working on the same farm for nearly seven years; and to St. Columb Hostel Savings Group for saving £40 in 5 weeks.

A hearty welcome is extended to Miss Seton-Burnell who started as County Organiser on Oct. 1st. Miss A. L. Stewart is progressing after her serious operation and hopes to return to duty soon.

CUM. AND WES.—Girls from both Westmorland and Cumberland were much in evidence at Cumberland Farm Fair, held for three days in Curwen Park, Workington. They acted as stewards in the show rings, demonstrated milking machines and drove tractors in the daily parade of agricultural machinery. Queenie Tyler of West Cumberland did especially good work, being on duty every day. A recruiting Marquee was manned by W.L.A. Representatives and Organisers and many hundreds of people visited it. A word of thanks is due to W.A.E.C. and private employers, who generously allowed their girls time off with pay to visit the Show! The Turnip Hoeing finals were held at Wigton and won by Longtown Hostel, with B. Anderson, Lazonby Hostel, as Champion Hoer. Mr. Faulder of the C.W.A.E.C. kindly presented the prize. Proficiency Tests are in full swing, with forty entries. Plans are beng made to move the Uniform Store (now at Castlegate, Penrith) back to Woodland House, where a L.A. Club is also to be opened. It will then be possible for volunteers to visit the Uniform Store on a Saturday afternoon and to meet their friends at the Club for tea afterwards.

Mrs. Burkitt has joined us as Organiser for North-east Cumberland. We all hope she will settle happily here.

DERBS.—The W.L.A. was allocated a stand at the Home Produce Rally held at Chatsworth House on 27th July. We had a very attractive display and we found visitors to the Rally particularly interested in the photographs showing the various branches of work which our girls are engaged in. We had a similar display at the Food Production Show in Endcliffe Park, Sheffield, on the 31st August.

The Warden and girls at Stanton Hostel organised a very successful dance in September and £13 has been received from the proceeds for the Benevolent Fund.

Miss D. Oldfield, 155348, was the only L.G. (or female) to compete with forty men in a Singling Sugar Beet Competition held at Weston-on-Trent. She won a prize of 10s.

DEVON.—J. R. Medway was chosen as Carnival Queen at the Paignton Victory Carnival and about 35 L.G.'s past and present, the larger number from St. Elmo Rest Break House, took part in a show at the Carnival, an excerpt from which was broadcast on the West Regional programme. It was a change to see representatives of the other Services, as the Queen's attendants, giving pride of place to the W.L.A. G. Murphy was chosen Harvest Queen for Moretonhampstead and P. Gulliford as Carnival Queen for Bideford. At the Bristol Farm Week Sheila Elsworth won the Y.F.C. entry Public Speaking and also 4th prize in the Stock-Judging Competition. We offer her our heartiest congratulations on these achievements. M. Cox and E. Helm assisted in the Thatching Demonstration at Bristol's Farm Week. M. Cox is an accomplished thatcher both with mats and reeds and E. Helm, who has only been with us a short time, is remarkably efficient in this work. Their performance was outstanding. Congratulations to W. Lomas, who has been accepted for a Government Training Course at the Northants Institute of Agriculture, Moulton. Bideford Hostel

girls ran a dance in aid of the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, and raised £15 10s. 0d. A forthcoming attraction is the big Handicraft Exhibition and Drama Competition, which it is proposed to hold in Exeter in December and for which entry forms are now being sent out. We welcome Miss Woodiwiss as Organiser for South Devon, in place of Miss Huggins, whom we are sorry to lose.

DORSET.—The Chairman writes:—"We are very sorry Miss Brew had to leave us so soon, but we wish her every success in her venture. Miss Beazley, who has been with us since Dec., 1940, is taking her place as County Secretary—no one could have been more zealous and thorough in their work, and we all congratulate her most heartily on this well deserved promotion. Miss C. M. Martin, until recently a Commissioned Officer in the W.A.A.F.s will come to us shortly as Assistant Secretary."

Our very best wishes go to Miss M. Bird (4835), and Miss J. Linington (29598), who have secured a year's training at Swanley Horticultural College. It is good to know that volunteers so often think of the needs of others, and we congratulate Woodyates Hostel on raising sufficient money to enable two Dutch children to visit this country for a much needed fortnight's holiday. A Dutch friend of our County Organiser was able to visit the Hostel recently, accept the cheque, and give the volunteers a good idea of present conditions in Holland. News of ex-W.L.A. members always interests us. We learn that Miss Prudence Smithwick is working as a Catering Officer for the Y.M.C.A. in Schleswig-Holstein, with her Headquarters at Kiel. With the task of providing teas and snacks for 2,000 to 3,000 troops she should be fully occupied!

DURHAM.—Congratulations and all good wishes to Betty Crossling (at present in Dryburn Emergency Hospital, Durham) for her 21st birthday, which was on 18th September.

During July and August 21 volunteers in this county have received help from the Benevolent Fund to the extent of £111 4s. 0d.

Good wishes to Eva Harrison, 148141, who has undertaken to run a dance in aid of the Benevolent Fund at Croft Spa Hotel on 2nd October.

What about other efforts from Durham volunteers?

ESSEX.—Very few social events have taken place during the last few weeks but Mark Hall celebrated its third birthday with a dance. One of our Milk Recorders, Mary Titterington, was chosen by the Milk Marketing Board to attend a Recording Refresher Course at Oaklands Agricultural Institute, St. Albans. Only three girls were selected to take this course together with twenty-six men. We congratulate Mary Baker, who has been accepted for one year's course at Moulton Institute of Agriculture, also Eva Funnell and Kate Patterson who are going to Newton Hall, Cambs. One of last year's Moulton girls, Margaret Roche has now her own smallholding which she is running with her brother. Recruits are still coming in steadily and all hostels are full to capacity with a prospect of re-opening others as German prisoners are repatriated.

We are very pleased to welcome Miss Kenyon, County Organiser, who was doing L.A. work in Suffolk, and Miss Mitchell, our new Assistant Secretary, who comes to us from the W.R.N.S. and hope they will be happy working in Essex.

GLOS.—J. M. Richardson, 29591, has been accepted for training at Moulton Agricultural Institute. We wish her the best of good luck. F. M. Cronk, 35056, is the winner of the Hon. Mrs. W. R. S. Bathurst's Long G.S. Prize for the September quarter. She has been working at Westbury-on-Severn since 1940, enrolled in the W.L.A. in August of the same year, and holds her Badge for Milking and Dairywork Proficiency Test. M. Fiske, 37710, is to be congratulated on winning 1st prize and a Silver Cup with a heifer, and 1st prize with a young bull she took to the Stroud Show. The final profit for the W.L.A. County Welfare Fund from the Bring and Buy Sale was £68 7s. 8d. Miss Flemming's two dogs, "Keltie" and "Clover" collected £11 for the Benevolent Fund during the Bristol Farm Week. Some of the Mickleton Hostel volunteers have given a concert with some of the R.E.'s stationed at Long Marston. The combined Concert Party is called the R.E.W.L.A. Players, and the show, which was a tremendous success, was given in the Long Marston Camp Garrison Theatre.

We are sorry to lose our County Organiser, Miss Fletcher, who is going overseas. Miss Janvrin of Withington Rectory is taking her place, and we extend a warm welcome to her.

HANTS. is proud of its members who are doing well in their work. June Larkham has been promoted to the post of Forewoman for the W.A.E.C. Grace Morgan, age 19, is in full charge of a valuable T.T. Herd in the north of the county and will be helping her employer to get cattle ready for the show ring. E. K. Field has obtained the Royal Horticultural Society's National Diploma, working from home and at the same time doing a full-time Land Army job. We are sorry to lose Alma Gauntlett and Ivy Pankhurst who are both starting on their training as teachers this autumn.

L.A. clubs which have flourished during the war are being carried on on a new basis. The Welfare Committee is arranging a series of meetings in different parts of the county. The first ones will be held in October and will take the form of beauty demonstrations by Messrs. A. & F. Pears. The next meetings will probably take the form of Christmas Parties, and in the New Year it may be possible to arrange talks by members of the International Land Club. The Committee hope to spread the meetings over the country in such a way that every volunteer will be able to attend on at least one or two evenings.

E. KENT.—Several of our L.G.'s have been successful in obtaining vacancies at training centres. Congratulations to D. Godfrey, 40455, who starts at Moulton on Oct 7th; to M. A. Cook, 21329, who has been accepted for a Poultry Course by the Monmouth Institute of Agriculture; to J. Southen, 154959, who is doing a Horticultural Course at Swanley. We send them our very best wishes for their success.

LEICS. AND RUT.—Many of our volunteers entered for the Tractor Driving and Horse Handling competitions at the Rutland Agricultural Society's Show at Oakham on 5th Aug. last. We offer our congratulations to D. Jelly, 104294, who gained 1st prize in the Tractor Test with 100%, K. Ireland, 23623, 2nd prize with 85%, and H. Hussey, 115393, 3rd prize with 80%; also, P. Wallace, 103676, who gained 1st prize in the Horse Handling Test with 100%, K. Ireland, 23623, 2nd

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prize with 99%, and A. Dalby, 51751, 3rd prize with 98%. We feel that our volunteers put up a really good show. It is hoped to have tests at this Show again in 1947. We are very glad to say that four volunteers began their year's training at Swanley Horticultural Institute, and are thoroughly enjoying it. Another of our volunteers starts at Moulton Institute in Oct. We wish them all the best of luck.

We are very sorry to have to report the death of one of our volunteers, Mary Carter, owing to a motor cycle accident whilst on holiday. We offer our sympathy to the widowed mother and family.

HOLLAND (Lincs.).—A warm welcome is extended to all new volunteers in Holland, our total of girls employed is on the increase after touching bottom in April. We have just re-opened two of the three Hutment Hostels relinquished last February, and girls will mostly work as a W.A.E.C. gang. We are also pleased to have two new Wardens—Miss B. J. Spencer and Miss A. S. McGillivray and hope they will find their new work enjoyable. A Flag Day in Spalding has resulted in a total of £40 for Benevolent Fund.

Our office was moved to Winsover Road recently, and all concerned have settled in quite comfortably.

We have said goodbye to Miss Larrington, our Hostels Section Officer, who has commenced training to become an Almoner, and our best wishes accompany her.

With Harvest work behind us, we look forward to increased social activities for the winter months.

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 so'd.

FOR SALE.—Ladies heavy brown tailor-made breeches. Waist 31 ins. Leggings to match. As new. 7 gns. Ricketts, Ozleworth Park, Wootton-under-Edge, Glos.

FOR SALE.—One woollen dress. Wine. Bust 34. Only worn once. Coupon free. £3 10s. Also one red elastic bathing costume, as new, 25/-. Coupon free. Brown, East View, Eardisley. Herefordshire.

FOR SALE.—Brown costume, £3 10s. Yellow sports frock, £1. Grape afternoon dress, trimmed pale blue, 30/-. Black taffeta skirt, £1. All stock size, good length. Oyster satin shirt blouse, 13½ ins., 15/-. Blue velveteen blouse, 14 ins., 10/-. Ellis, Coulaghailtro, Kilberry, Tarbert, Argyll.

FOR SALE.—Grey flannel suit, £3 10s., white pique blouse, 15/-, floral crepe dress, £1 5s. Bust 32. Small size. Stagg, Cricketfield Cottages, Longparish, Hants.

FOR SALE.—Black tailored costume, short jacket, one-button fastening, 34 bust, straight skirt, pleat back and front. £3 10s. Rattray, Jackson's Farm, Pilling Lane, Preesall, Nr. Fleetwood.

FOR SALE.—Apple Green Taffeta Dance Frock. Bust 34. £2. Navy Skirt. Waist 27, Hips 34. 10/-. King, Sunnybank, Boxford, Colchester.

FOR SALE.—Tan, smooth wool "Barry" pinafore dress, embroidered pockets, £4 15s. Also white short sleeved, open neck "double two" poplin blouse, £2 2s. Both stock size and new condition. Stanger, Vine Farm, S. Luffenham, Rutland.

WANTED.—Pair W.L.A. type shoes, size 5. Must be waterproof, good condition. Wilding, Fernyhalgh, Meadow Way, Chigwell, Essex.

WANTED.—Girl's riding coat. Length 27 ins. Bust 30 ins. Hobson, Hall Yard, Burton, Lincoln.

County Returns

County	Ben. F. Total £	s.	d	Employed
Kent	9762	4	6	1788
Surrey	5510	12	1	1329
Essex	5645	8	6	1220
Herts.	4701	14	2	1016
Hants.	8662	4	2	1014
Northants.	2871	11	5	948
Bucks.	4903	0	3	928
Leics. & Rutland	2644	8	11	911
Warwicks.	7546	9	9	902
Devon	4113	6	3	876
Yorks., W.R.	3337	15	4	853
Worcs.	3100	0	0	829
Yorks., E. & N.R.	2838	13	2	804
W. Sussex	5173	6	3	756
E. Sussex	4140	12	3	755
Cornwall	1675	5	11	743
Somerset	2417	15	1	742
Norfolk	6267	10	7	724
Lincs.—Lindsey & Kesteven	3273	18	0	720
Northumberland	2358	10	3	686
Beds.	1070	16	6	680
Cheshire	3218	2	4	675
Glos.	2702	9	4	628
Notts.	1836	6	0	606
Oxon	3853	14	3	596
Berks.	3556	10	8	568
Hunts., Cambs. & Ely	3746	16	7	562
Wilts.	2061	17	3	545
E. Suffolk	3590	3	8	515
Durham	1996	0	9	482
Staffs.	1791	8	9	470
Salop	1954	3	11	451
Monmouth	1009	18	0	427
Cumbs. & West'ld	711	5	6	422
Glam.	1170	13	9	420
Dorset	1436	3	5	416
Lancs.	2807	18	6	416
Herefords.	1866	10	4	404
Flint	697	3	6	369
W. Suffolk	2161	7	0	337
London & Middx.	1279	12	7	319
Brecon, Radnor & Mont.	863	19	0	316
North Wales	1928	14	2	316
Lincs.—Holland	2036	8	9	314
Denbighs.	1209	16	11	307
Derby	1517	3	0	245
Cards. & Carms.	742	18	5	219
Pembs.	1122	2	8	183
I.O.W.	295	15	2	182

The total number of volunteers in employment on 18th September was 30,934.

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