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## ON GUNS AND BUTTER

WITH the Allies knocking at the gates of victory it is only natural that our minds, which have been set for so long on one aim only, should turn to the problem of "what next"? For members of the W.L.A. the answer is simpler perhaps than for many others for the Land Army will be needed for at least a year or longer after hostilities with Germany are over, and the reason is not far to seek. The Nazi policy of guns before butter has been imposed on almost the whole of Europe. The guns were made, the butter wasn't. The guns are at the bottom of the Seine and the Rhone, the Don and the Danube; the peoples of Europe are starving.

It has been a long and weary war and everyone wants a holiday; when armistice is declared maybe we shall get what we have earned and few people have had less holidays or earned them more than members of the Women's Land Army. But holidays are holidays just because one returns to work afterwards, and the war will not be over when it ends in Europe. There may be still a long way to go before we beat Japan.

Members of the Land Army have gained skill and knowledge and experience which they will soon be able to use for the benefit of their brothers and sisters in Europe who have suffered and starved and still refused to give in through so many desperate years. This is a privilege to be welcomed by a Force which has already shown its capacity to serve its fellow men by sticking to its job "come wind, come weather."

M. A. P.



## THRESHING

*This article appeared in the L.G. nearly three years ago and is reprinted now for the benefit of the many thousands of volunteers who have joined the W.L.A. since that date.*

**T**HRESHING is one of the hardest and dirtiest jobs in farming and generally supposed not to be suitable for women, but thousands of Land Girls have tackled this job successfully during the war.

In the old days threshing was done by hand, the corn being beaten with a jointed stick called a flail. Later this primitive method was superseded by a mechanical device which, as time went on, developed into the complicated and highly efficient threshing machine of to-day. It is such a costly piece of machinery that few farmers have their own threshing machine, but get their work done by a contractor who takes his tackle from farm to farm.

### Threshing Sets

The set consists of a steam engine or tractor which draws the machine on the road and supplies the motive power when it is at work, the thresher, and either an elevator or trusser. In corn-growing districts where much straw is sold off the farm, a powerful press baler may replace the trusser.

The most important part of the thresher is the drum, a revolving cylinder consisting of a number of corrugated steel bars which beat out the grain against a set of stationary bars. The drum runs at a speed of 1,000 revolutions a minute. Any machinery that goes as fast as that requires very careful handling, and it is well to remember that where there is speed there is danger.

From the drum the corn passes on to the shakers, which carry the straw out at the front of the machine to the hopper of the elevator or trusser. All the grain, chaff and the little bits of broken straw and leaf known as the cavings fall through the shakers and pass on to the first dressing sieves; some of these sieves are larger than the grain, and remove cavings and chaff, but the bottom one is smaller and sifts out tiny weed seeds and dust. Air blasts from fans play on the chaff riddles and carry the chaff out in a heap under the machine. The grain has now fallen from top to bottom and passes to an elevator which lifts it up to the top and towards the back of the machine, where it goes through the awner and chopper

to remove awns and another set of fine sieves known as the second dressing sieves, and so to the rotary screen or grader. It then falls through the spouts to which are hitched the sacks or bags at the rear of the machine.

### Threshing Gangs

A threshing gang consists of 8 to 12 men. Two of these are generally found by the machine owner; one, the driver, who looks after the tackle, and the second is usually the feeder who passes the corn into the drum. On the cornrick are two or three men. A rick is not just a heap of sheaves, but a carefully built structure, and there are right and easy, and wrong and laborious methods of taking it to pieces. The beginner should not attempt to unbuild a rick until he understands the method of building. The place for a beginner is that of second man on the rick, where he can watch the first man unbuild the rick and can see everyone else at their various posts; the second man passes the sheaves on to the third man, who places them on the thresher beside the bondcutter, who picks them up and cuts the bond or string and throws the loose sheaf down beside the feeder. The bondcutter usually has to collect the strings, and in war-time the strings should certainly be saved. Bond-cutting is very tiring work unless one has learnt the knack which enables the use of a minimum effort. One catches hold of the sheaf by the bond near to the knot, and throwing it down beside the feeder allows the weight of the sheaf to pull the string across the blade of the knife held in the same hand. This work is greatly eased if the man on the rick pitches the sheaves one at a time and all with their heads to the front of the machine. The feeder is the most important man in the gang, because the speed and quality of the threshing depends upon his skill. The rest must work so that the feeder can maintain a continuous and steady flow of corn into the drum. If feeding is uneven the hum of the drum will be punctuated with groans. There are usually two men on the strawstack when an elevator is used; one who passes the straw from the elevator to the stacker who builds the stack. The dirtiest job



## THE LAND GIRL

of all is that of raking cavings and chaff out from under the machine and heaping them up some distance away; the dirt and the chaff will penetrate through whatever one wears, and the only course seems to be to wear one's oldest and dirtiest clothes and grin and bear it.

### Starting Work

The first job on the rick is to remove the thatch and then there will be room for two men on top of the cornrick. Any

wet sheaves must be thrown aside to dry out, because if fed into the drum they might choke it. On a large rick a third man is needed as soon as the roof is off, and will be kept busy most of the time. On the thresher the feeder waits for the drum to get up full speed before beginning to feed any corn. One important man who has not yet been mentioned is the carter who keeps the engine supplied with water and takes away the sacks of corn.

East Sussex.



*The Day's work on the Southern Front*





## ISLAND STORY

When I asked my county W.L.A. headquarters if I might move with my employer to his new farm in another county, they told me how sorry they were I was going, because my position in the North-West of Scotland was such a romantic one! There was I, the only Land Girl whom they could not visit, away on an island off the coast of Ross-shire. I had come from the Midlands sixteen months before and my friends had then dismally prophesied that, six hundred miles farther north, I would either get drowned at sea or succumb to the Arctic cold. Actually, the North-West coast of Scotland is milder than the Thames valley, and my chilblains disappeared never to return, while colds and 'flu were likewise things of the past.

The enemy of the farmer on the arable land of this coast is wind. On our island of Tanera cattle had to be low and stocky in build, and thick and rough in the coat, with thick hair on the udders (no clipping!) to withstand the effect of constant wind. Silky-coated Ayrshires would have shrivelled in a month. There were no trees to break the wind, and this combined with the funelling of wind in our glen meant that the force was sufficient to tear up plants by their roots and hurl them across the garden, to twist off the fruiting flower stalks of the soft fruit bushes, or (in a gale) to screw the bushes themselves out of the ground, to batter down gates and wrench off roofs from barn and byre. Frost was rare, so rare that we could leave our carrots in the ground all winter, to be dug as we wanted them, and could grow mangolds on a seaweed manure with great success. We grew curly kale, because the crinkled leaf of this kale withstands wind much better than the smooth-leaved variety. But, although they were rare, I think I loved best the times when we had snow, for a fine day nearly always followed, and then the mountains of the mainland and all the islands of our group stood white against the blue sky and sea, and the wild geese came down to feed within a yard or two of our windows.

On a calm summer's day we felt that such a thing as wind could not exist. A hill on the farm had been turned from black heather to good grass by use of coral sand and basic slag, and on this pasture the cattle grazed contentedly and our bees hummed honey-gathering amongst the brilliant flowers of clovers and thyme and golden vetches. On such a day we took the motor launch out to

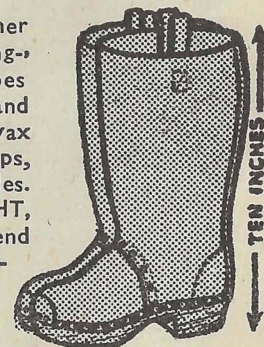
the islands that lay between us and the Minch, perhaps to get more of the coral sand which acts as a lime dressing, slow but long: ten tons to the acre will last twenty years.

Or we went to see our Shetland sheep, that lived and thrived on these bleak, rocky islets, spray swept in winter. Shetland sheep are brown in colour, with a beautiful soft wool, and are immune from blow fly. They are as wily and clever as any fox, and are not at all afraid of dog or human. They cannot be rounded up in a flock as each one thinks for itself, and decides on its own what it will do. We had to have as many people as we could get to help us catch them, and I shall not easily forget the sight of our Gaelic-speaking neighbours on this task, one leaning over a cliff edge holding a long rope with a noose on the end, and another man clinging to his heels to make sure he would not fall over. Below, on a cliff ledge, the sheep looked speculatively at the sea beneath them whither some of their number had already dived and were swimming boldly across a little bay, while two men in a boat, in the intervals of shouting instructions in Gaelic to the men on the cliff, tried to catch them. Meanwhile, the man with the rope was endeavouring to slip the noose over the head of a sheep, and if he succeeded, we all pulled and up it came, to be handed over to two clippers working in a rocky niche precariously hanging over the sea. Around us screamed the hundreds of gulls who had nests on the island, and sometimes a seal's smooth head would pop out of the sea and look at us with interest. And when, at the end of such a day, we came back to our own island across the miles of smooth glassy sea, I felt that this was the best place in the world in which to farm.

A. Morley, 1637.

### INVEST TWO COUPONS AND KEEP DRY

in a pair of Industrial Leather or Rubber Topped Wellingtons, or wartime model Shoes or Gloves. For farmers and food producers. Pliable wax dressed uppers, pull-on loops, foot-shaped Beechwood soles. Welts leather bound. LIGHT, WARM, comfortable. Send stamped addressed envelope for list.



L. TWEENWAY, LTD., Horley, Surrey



## GOOD WORKS

"Rose Hips and Blackberries" ought surely to have been one of the cries of old London. It sings in the ears and it smells and tastes of hedges and fields in September sunshine. And now we've learnt that even these pleasant and lovely elements of hedgerows and youthful picnics can be called up for war service.

Rose hips in particular combine goodness and beauty in a way that is all too uncommon. They are far richer in vitamin C than even oranges and C is one of those vitamins which we must have to keep healthy, especially when we are young. Last year 500 tons were collected—this year the target is 1,000 tons. This means there must be a larger band of collectors. In one county, for instance, 5 tons have been gathered each year so far but this time they mean to get 12½ tons.

Blackberries are wanted by Fruit Preservation Centres all over the country, mostly for jam. Both for these and for hips, payment is made per pound collected. So here is a chance to spend free time in the evenings or at week ends, in a manner which is pleasant, extremely useful and moderately profitable—what more could anyone ask?

There is another opportunity for good work, this time for post war help. Women's organisations are going to knit clothes for children in occupied Europe. The National Federation of Women's Institutes have undertaken to knit 20,000 lbs. of wool per month into shawls, jerseys, cardigans and pilches for babies from 9-15 months old. The wool is already at county depots and the work has started but it means a pretty big target for each individual Institute.

If you will help in any or all of the ways suggested will you get in touch with the Secretary of your local Institute? She will either give you herself (or tell you where to get) full particulars of how, when and where to pick and what to do with your pickings, and how you can help with the knitting.

Seventy thousand Land Girls ought to be able to make any hip or blackberry target look silly and if they really get down to the knitting there just won't be enough wool to go round. What about hostel and club targets? Which county will get most hips or blackberries per head? Go to it, Land Army, and shew what you can do.

**FOR SALE.**—Brown checked jacket. Bust 34-36ins. £2. no coupons, very little worn. Burton, Sharow, Nr. Ripon, Yorks.

## SHEPHERD'S DELIGHT

On the Downs the shepherd sang,

He sang a plaintive air,

The wind blew soft, the wind blew sweet,

The sun set red and fair.

And as the shepherd roamed along,

The lilt came faint and true,

The shepherd thought about his sheep,

And I, my dear, of you.

I. of Wight.

A. M. Hume.

On August 17th Headquarters moved back temporarily to its old home at Balcombe Place, and until further notice, all communications should be addressed to Balcombe Place, Balcombe, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

## London Club

We are sorry to announce that the Club at 2, Chesham Street, London, S.W.1. has been closed for the time being. The date of re-opening will be announced in the LAND GIRL.

*Warmest Praise* is due to Mary Simons, 56044 (West Sussex) who drove off a bull which had attacked the cowman and got him down. She got the bull into his pen and then managed to carry in the cowman who had two ribs broken. He would almost certainly have lost his life but for this volunteer's courage and presence of mind.

And to L. Thomas, 85626 (Lancashire) who also saved a fellow-worker who had been knocked down and seriously injured by the bull to which he was attending. Miss Thomas beat the animal off with a hay fork.

*Congratulations* to O. M. Tait, 60730 (Derbyshire) who tackled a man who assaulted and tried to rob an elderly woman. Miss Tait was highly complimented by the Sheffield magistrates.

**Good Soil** by Dr. Brade-Birks of the Agricultural College at Wye has just been published by the English Universities Press in their "Teach Yourself Farming" series, price 3s. It is written "for the serious student of the soil" and for such it should be indispensable.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CALENDARS.

A Christmas card with the W.L.A. badge and a greetings message, price 6d.

A calendar, designed for the W.L.A. by Fougasse, price 2s. with envelope.

Both these will shortly be available.

Order from your County Office

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



## THE LAND GIRL



*Vivien Kipling, 29763, who has sole charge of the Training School for Dairy Workers at lower Woodside, Hertfordshire.*



## THE LAND GIRL

### LOWER WOODSIDE, HATFIELD

Lower Woodside is a country estate which, although less than twenty miles from London, might be in the heart of the country. The place was taken over by the Hertfordshire War Agricultural Committee early in the war, and the owner still lives in the main part of the house. The other part was requisitioned as a Hostel for the W.L.A. and shortly became a Training School for Dairy workers. Courses for Forewomen and Gangers are also held there. The total capacity of the place is 33, 11 of whom are employed on the dairy side, and 22 on the land.

The Dairy girls sleep in the house itself, and the others in a flat adjoining. This overcomes the difficulty of keeping different hours, and, greatly to the credit of the Dairy girls, the Warden, who sleeps quite close to their quarters, tells me that she has never yet been disturbed by their rather outlandish hours.

The farm buildings lie some little distance from the house, and they have been completely reconditioned and fitted up with all modern contrivances, including a Manus milking machine, electric sterilizer, etc. The Ayrshire herd arrived in July 1943, starting from Scotland 17 strong, and arriving with their numbers augmented by 1, a calf having made its appearance on the way south. Numbers have now risen to 51 cows, 15 calves, 27 heifers, and Arthur and Ernest, the father and father-to-be of calves born since last April.

The entire management and work of this section of the farm is carried out by members of the W.L.A. There is no cowman on the place, and V. Kipling, 29763, has sole charge of training, milking, dairying, service, calving and calf-rearing. All the principles of clean milk production are strictly adhered to. V. Kipling is ably assisted by G. Carlton Smith, 14331, and D. Edens, 82327, and 2 Dairy gangers, V. Euty, 121250, and M. Willgoss, 62360. Six trainees come every 6 weeks for a course of instruction. This is the programme of the day at this time of the year:—

- 4.30 Girls wake themselves with the aid of an alarm clock, and, after tea and biscuits, go across the fields to fetch in the cows. Wash and groom.
- 6.0 Milk. Calves fed.
- 7.45 Breakfast.
- 8.30 Clean sheds and prepare food, etc.
- 12.30 Lunch, followed by a rest, and (if wise) a sleep.
- 2.45 Tea and a slice of cake.

- 3.0 Fetch in cows, wash and groom.
- 4.0 Milk, etc.
- 6.0 Dinner.
- 9.0 Hot drink and so to bed.

Two girls go every evening, last thing, to see that everything is all right at the farm, and the general routine is sometimes broken if a calf chooses to arrive after work-hours.

Every girl, staff or trainee, gets a day and a half off each week, and this equalises the free time that those working on the land get at week-ends.

Sleeping in the flat, which used to be the stables, are the girls employed on the land. The resident staff consists of the Forewoman, S. Adams, 67415, a horse-girl, S. Wagget, 138497, and two tractor-drivers, M. Harmer, 89406, and P. Chapman, 95553. Mr. Hawkins, the Instructor, lives in the farmhouse near the farm. 12 to 18 students come every month for a course, to learn the job of a Forewoman or Ganger. This section keeps different hours from the girls in the main building. Their programme is:

- 7.0 Breakfast, followed by filling sandwiches for the day.
- 7.55 Assembled by the Forewoman, and walk to work on the farm.
- 12.30 Sandwich lunch.
- 6.0 Dinner.
- 9.0 Hot drink.

A break of 10 minutes is given during work, both morning and afternoon.

Three lectures a week are given on agricultural subjects, and an occasional film. The lighter side is by no means neglected, and there appears to be a good deal of local talent in the Hostel, judging from the variety of items presented at some of their social evenings. These are held in the recreation room, which has recently been added, and, since one of the girls is a competent pianist, the erection of the room has stimulated the raising of funds for a really good piano. These evenings are occasions when members of the two sections have the opportunity of meeting and getting to know one another. Otherwise, apart from dinner-time, their hours are so different that they do not have much opportunity of mixing.

The course for Forewoman and Gangers is one of infinite variety, and, according to the season of the year, no job is left unremarked. Once a week, an explanation of machinery and the various parts of all field implements and their uses, takes place. Perhaps one of the most important parts of the programme is the keeping of time-sheets, the delight of some, and the bugbear of others, according to where their fancy lies.



One feature of the place, which has only recently been taken in hand, is the garden. This was more or less of a jungle until a month or two ago, when it was adopted by one of the Horticultural Instructors at the County School of Agriculture. Under his guidance, two volunteers have dug the place, and cleaned it up so successfully that there is every hope of getting all the vegetables for the Hostel grown there. There is also a pen of Rhode Island Reds and some young chicks. The money for the hens was loaned from the Hertfordshire Welfare Fund, and, as soon as the sale of eggs has reached the requisite figure, it will be paid back.

Milk from the Farm, vegetables and fruit from the garden, eggs from the poultry-run—is it a wonder that we all make excuses to run out to see how they are getting on at Lower Woodside? Apart from these minor attractions, it is a very real pleasure to turn in there at any moment of the day, and to be greeted by Mrs. Evans, the Warden, and to hear the merry voices and songs of the girls in cow-sheds and fields. Mrs. Evans is, I think, a great believer in happiness as a factor towards efficiency in work. At any rate, she has both in good measure at Lower Woodside.

Herts.

C. Beck.

## THE WOMEN'S LAND ARMY

by V. Sackville-West

This is the story of how the Women's Land Army went to war.

It is told with authority, sympathy and good humour by Victoria Sackville-West, and is splendidly illustrated with lots of first-class photographs.

The profits on the book are being given by the author to the Land Army Benevolent Fund.

Miss Sackville-West's first-hand knowledge of the work of the Land Army, combined with her love and understanding of the land of England, makes this little book a fascinating and vivid contribution to the history of our times.

D. S. McCullough

Are you a keen scyther? Do you own a scythe or do you want to own one? Mr. P. Mountford, 77, Sandford Grove Road, Sheffield 7, makes a steel snathe (galvanised) with adjustable handles, in either the ordinary or the Scots pattern—blades of varying lengths—and the attachments you need to fit the blade and the handles to suit yourself. This scythe particularly the one with the divided Scots handle, seems especially well suited to members of the W.L.A.

## HEADQUARTERS NOTES

Accidents amongst members of the Land Army are fortunately few and far between. Nevertheless, it is extremely important that every volunteer should know what steps to take in case she suffers an accident either in the course of her work or in her off hours.

In the case of an accident in the course of work the volunteer should at once notify her county office which will be able to help her, if she is incapacitated, to make a claim on her employer for compensation or to bring an action for damages if the accident was due to the negligence of another person. The county office should be notified even if the accident does not incapacitate the volunteer because she may find that as a result of the accident she becomes incapacitated later on and, unless the accident is recorded and the evidence of witnesses obtained, compensation cannot be claimed at a later date.

In the case of an accident in a volunteer's free time, there will be no claim for compensation against the employer but the volunteer may claim any National Health Insurance benefit to which she is entitled just as though she were sick.

Too many cases occur where Land Army members cannot draw the National Health Insurance benefits that would otherwise be available because they have failed to get their cards properly stamped or franked during periods between jobs. Every volunteer should realise how very important it is that her National Health Insurance card should be stamped or franked each week whether she is in employment or not.

Inez M. Jenkins.

We greatly regret to announce the death of Miss Sybil Richardson, M.A. owing to enemy action. Miss Richardson had been a member of the administrative staff of the Hostels Department at Headquarters for nearly two years and her efficient work and cheerful willingness to help in difficulties will be much missed by County Offices as well as at Headquarters. We are sure that members of the W.L.A. will want to extend their sympathy to her father and stepmother, Dr. and Mrs. Richardson of Bournemouth.

Land Girls of Urmston (Lancashire) have contributed to a crop of tomatoes which looks like breaking all records. The Head Gardener has paid a fine tribute to their work.



## CORRESPONDENCE

*The writer of the following letter won a special prize in a competition for Land Girls who had never before done any sheep shearing.*

Dear Editor,

During Salute the Soldier week in Horncastle last May, there was a clipping competition including a class for W.L.A. volunteers, so I decided to have a try just for the fun of it all. I took a pair of shears with me and felt very shaky when the signal was given for the start. I was the only Land Girl there willing to have a try. There were crowds round my pen waiting to see me start, so my face was feeling like an overgrown beetroot as I entered and lay down my shears. Three Lincolnshire Long Wool sheep looked as big as horses but I made a grab at one and managed to down it, me falling on top. He gave me a fine smack under the jaw, leaving a lovely green patch and a tidy smell. Some of the crowd laughed—others were sympathetic but I was too busy to notice.

When I had done the first sheep, the sweat was rolling down my face but the praise of the crowd gave me more pluck to tackle the next, and I was able to get on better when I could keep my mind off the crowd and on my work.

I think I have tried nearly every job on a farm, hedging, stacking, thatching, plashing, tractoring, and I have never been beaten by one. I do think if you try a job and are interested in your work, you will win. I only wish there was another competition tomorrow and lots of Land Girls in it. You bet I'd be there enjoying it all.

Lindsey, Lincs.

A. Trafford, 57515.

Dear Editor,

On alighting from a train at a small village station I enquired of a man the way to a farm where a certain Land Girl was employed. Before answering my query the man named the Land Girl and added with such fervour "if anyone ever deserved a medal it is C— B—. There is nothing that girl cannot do."

Such a fine and unsolicited testimonial speaks very highly for the work of the W.L.A.

Scotland.

E. McDonald.

Dear Editor,

Some Land Girls might be interested in the following letter, from my brother a prisoner of war in Poland, after four years and three months of captivity, he writes:—"Whenever I look at the photograph of yourself driving a tractor I

always think the Land Army is the women's equivalent of the 'Silent Service'—essential, efficient and lacking outward show."

Herts.

C. Randall, 92903.

F. Palmer's article "Design for a Dairy" has roused much interest. A. Sutcliffe, 137847 (Bucks) sent the following description of the dairy in which she works:—

"It is divided into two parts and has white tiled walls three-quarters of the way up, on top of which, together with the ceiling, is "Keene's Cement" painted over with white paint. The floor is partly concrete with iron rods inlaid and partly red tile. This all makes for easy cleaning. There are eleven windows, counting six inside windows, thus the dairy is always light and airy. The floor slopes quite decisively towards the drain—also white tiles.

In the first part of the dairy, there is a double trough under two sets of taps and under the window—seven taps in the dairy all told, with hot and cold water. There is a steam pipe which can be put in the trough if we have used up all the hot water—very convenient. On the opposite side there is a table with a stainless steel top and two good sized drawers. The steriliser, also in the first part of the dairy, is in the form of a big built-in cupboard, with two doors—back and front. As the steriliser coincides with the partition between the two rooms, these two doors are a great saving for our feet. We have a steam jet for use when there is comparatively little sterilising to be done.

In the other part of the dairy, the jars, the hopper and cooler reside, and all (except the hopper) are sterilised there; we milk by auto-recording machinery—hence "the jars." The refrigerator is in the second part of the dairy also, and is built on similar lines to the steriliser except that it has only one door.

I cannot, unfortunately, do justice to this dairy of which, I am sure there are not many so good in every way."

Dairymaid, 122679 (Salop) adds new suggestions:

The dairy should be near cowshed, home and road; there should be a stage on the roadside for easy loading with a protecting cover if the milk must await collection.

"Tiled floors look best, but need careful cleaning where tiles join. For the wash-up place floor, I prefer concrete. White tiled walls are ideal—until the tiles get broken! The upper portion and



the ceiling should be painted, not white-washed, as steam tends to make white-wash flake off."

She wants three rooms (dairy, steaming-room with jets and separate wash-up place) and a store room and thinks there should be *no* connecting door with the boiler house—to prevent dust being blown through when people forget to shut it.

"Washing-up troughs should be long enough to take a large churn easily and wide enough for bottle-crates; they should slope slightly towards the outlet hole and should be raised from the ground enough so that dairy buckets will fit underneath comfortably.

In a large dairy the cooler may be too big to be taken down and washed in the troughs. I am never very satisfied with the brush-and-bucket method of washing. Any suggestions?"

M. Hamp, 35782, Bucks., sends the following ideas for winter evenings.

**Soft Toys**, such as golliwogs and rag dolls can use up odd scraps of material.

**Coat Hangers**, get plain wooden coat hangers and cover with silky material putting in kapok or cotton wool for padding. What about small lavender bags to match the hangers?

**Twigs** can be made to look gay by painting with different colours and decorating with silver paper and cellophane paper.

**Match-box cases and spill boxes** can be made from cardboard and decorated with scraps of coloured paper and perhaps a picture or verse.

H. M. The Queen has honoured the Benevolent Fund by repeating her previous donation.

**FOR SALE.**—Chocolate brown Whipcord Jodhpurs, almost new. Waist 27ins. Waist to ankle 40ins., Inner leg 28½ ins., Calf 14¼ ins. Toye, Blaythorne, Chadlington, Oxon.

**FOR SALE.**—One pair ladies beige ice-boots and Stille skates, size 5. worn once. Lambert, c/o The Park, Broome, Nr. Stowbridge, Worcs.

**WANTED.**—Riding Jacket and / or Breeches. Height 5ft. 4ins. Bust 34ins. Waist 26ins., Hips 38ins. Yates, Upper Pant, Nr. Abergavenny, Mon.

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Manchester, 3.

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

*The following is a list of the Weights and Measures which candidates for Proficiency Tests (and other volunteers) should know.*

### Weight (Avoirdupois)

16 drams	..	..	1 oz.
16 ozs.	..	..	1 lb.
14 lbs.	..	..	1 stone
2 st. or 28 lbs.	..	..	1 quarter
4 qrs. or 8 st. or 112 lbs.	..	..	1 cwt.
20 cwt. or 2240 lbs.	..	..	1 ton

### Apothecaries' Fluid Measure

60 minims	..	..	1 drachm
			or teaspoonful
8 drachms	..	..	1 oz.
20 ozs.	..	..	1 pint
4 teaspoonfuls	..	..	2 dessertspoonfuls
			or 1 tablespoonful
1 tablespoonful	..	..	½ oz.

### Capacity

4 gills	..	..	1 pint
2 pints	..	..	1 quart
4 quarts	..	..	1 gallon
2 gallons	..	..	1 peck
			(14 lbs. or 1 stone)
4 pecks	..	..	1 bushel (56 lbs.)
8 bushels	..	..	1 quarter
1 qr. English Wheat	..	..	504 lbs.
1 gallon	..	..	277.274 cubic ins.

### Linear or Long Measure

12 inches	..	..	1 foot
3 feet	..	..	1 yard
5½ yards	..	..	1 rod, perch
			or pole
40 poles or 220 yards	..	..	1 furlong
8 furlongs or 1760 yds.	..	..	1 mile
3 miles	..	..	1 league

### Area or Square Measure

144 sq. inches	..	..	1 sq. foot
9 sq. feet	..	..	1 sq. yard
80¼ sq. yards	..	..	1 sq. pole
40 sq. poles	..	..	1 rood
4 roods or 4840 sq. yards	..	..	1 acre (10 chains)
640 acres	..	..	1 sq. mile

### Other Weights and Measures

Hand	..	..	4 ins.
			(for measuring the height of a horse)
Gallon of milk	..	..	10¼ lbs.
Truss of old hay	..	..	56 lbs.
Truss of straw	..	..	36 lbs.
Bushel of wheat	..	..	63 lbs.
Bushel of oats	..	..	42 lbs.
Bushel of barley	..	..	56 lbs.
Bushel of potatoes	..	..	56 lbs.
Bushel of apples	..	..	40 lbs.



## THE LAND GIRL

### Scottish Notes

**BANFFSHIRE.**—"The W.L.A. have more than proved their worth" was the tribute paid by Sir George W. Abercromby, Bart., of Forglan, Convener of Banffshire and Chairman of the A.E.C., when he presented the first four-years service armlet gained by a L.G. in Banffshire. This was Miss Beatrice Gordon, St. Mary's Dufftown, daughter of Major Wm. Gordon, social welfare officer of Upper Banffshire and late secretary of Banffshire Territorial Army Association.

**DUMFRIES-SHIRE.**—Dances in aid of the W. & B. Fund and Local Welfare Fund were held at various places. Most of them were arranged by the W.L.A. members themselves and were very successful. On July 8th Sark Bridge hostel held a very successful and enjoyable Garden Fete and Whist Drive. The sum of £50 was raised, which has been divided between the W. & B. Fund and Gretna Welcome Home Fund. Mrs. Ferguson presented G.S. Badges.

**KIRKCUDBRIGHT.**—The members of the W.L.A. in the Stewartry tangibly demonstrated in St. Andrew's Hall, Castle Douglas, that they are capable, not only of assisting with the cultivation of their employers' lands, but that they can put their knowledge of the agricultural industry into most practical use. When Major Andrew M. Montgomery, M.C., of Netherhall, sent over from the U.S.A. to his sister, the late Mrs. Jaffé, a number of packets of American vegetable seeds, gifted by the St. Andrews Society of the State of New York, the hope was expressed that the W.L.A. members in the County would plant the seeds in the gardens at the hostels and other places where they were boarded, probably culminating in a small competitive exhibition at Castle Douglas sometime during the season. Each girl was handed three packets of seeds and the result was truly amazing. Onions, which would have been a distinct credit to any professional gardener, were displayed in the hall, together with other well-grown vegetables which would turn many an amateur horticulturist green with envy. There were large entries in practically every class, and the judge, Miss G. Biggar, Corbieeton, had an unenviable task in adjudicating the winners. There was a representative attendance of the general public, and at the close, the various exhibits were handed over to Castle Douglas and Kirkcudbright Hospitals.

**E. LOTHIAN.**—Several members of the W.L.A. took part in the Horse Parade in Haddington, on July 29th, in aid of the Scottish Red Cross Agricultural Fund by Mr. J. Glass, M.B.E. and a Committee. In the W.L.A. competitions, M. Logan, Alderston Mains, won first prize in the "Everyday Harness" competition. C. Sutherland, Nesbit Farm, won the prize for "the best-looking land girl" and J. McLean, Poggie, won first prize for "The Most Purposeful-looking Turn-out." In the June number of the LAND GIRL, a report was given of the variety show "Meet the Land Army" which had such a successful "tour" in East Lothian. Unfortunately the fact that girls from Marygold Hostel, and Samuelston Hostel also took part in the Show as well as the Roselea girls, was omitted from the report.

**MIDLOTHIAN.**—W.L.A. members in Midlothian who are of a sociable disposition have had scope for their activity during the past few weeks. At a Field Day at the farm of the Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture (kindly lent for the occasion,) about 40 girls took part in a comprehensive programme of competitions, including forking, digging, hoeing, stock judging, tractor driving. The standard of driving was in some cases extremely good, one entrant obtaining 100 per cent. marks. Races, an abundant tea and music enhanced the charm of a fine afternoon. The Judges were obviously anxious to make the competitions instructive to the on-lookers, of whom there were many, so that W.L.A. members not competing also benefited. The re-

sult of the Essay Competition on the subject of "The Field Day" showed that W.L.A. members have also literary talents. Less than a week later the Countess of Rosebery was kind enough to grace a Garden Fete held at Midfield Hostel. She also spoke and presented G. S. Badges. Again the weather was kind and the lovely garden presented a spectacle of great animation, side shows, clock golf and ample refreshments contributing to the entertainment. The proceeds were given to the W.L.A. Midlothian County Comforts Fund. On Aug 5th a parade of Women's Services formed part of the programme at a Charities Football Match. 50 L. G's. from the Lothians formed an impressive rearguard and aroused great enthusiasm. A dance at Crookston Hostel on 26th July resulted in a further contribution to W.L.A. Midlothian County Comforts Fund and a Whist Drive at Struan Hostel on 28th July swelled the coffers of the same fund. On 11th August a few Edinburgh volunteers went to the opening of the American Exhibition in aid of the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, when the Lady Provost of Edinburgh, Lady Darling, was At Home to members of the Women's Services and the Women of Edinburgh and of the Allies. On the following afternoon a Garden Fete at Glencorse Hostel, raised £80 or more for the Welfare and Benevolent Fund. Despite a freak summer, weather has favoured every one of these events, and the opportunity for social intercourse has been greatly enjoyed by W.L.A. members, Sub-Committee and office personnel.

**E. PERTH.**—Lord Kinnaird presented G.S. Badges and armlets to well over 100 L.G's. at a Rally held in the Norrie-Miller Park on 22nd. July. Miss S. M. Beaton received an armlet and half-diamond for 4½ years' service. Misses E. Hamilton, M. Laird, C. F. Benwell, Mrs. D. Paul received four years' armlets. Mr. John T. Renton presided and a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. David Mackenzie, Secretary A.E.C. £63 14s. was handed over for the W. & B. Fund bringing the amount raised in E. Perthshire to £230 6s. 4d.

**W. PERTH.**—Miss C. D. MacKiggan, 13493, Bankhead Hostel, Blairdrummond, won first prizes for fresh powdered butter at Arnprior Agricultural Show.

**WIGTOWNSHIRE.**—A Dance in aid of the W. & B. Fund was organised by the Home Guard in the Drill Hall at Stranraer on July 14th. About 110 couples were present. There was a pleasant atmosphere, a good band, and a hope expressed that there would be another such occasion in the near future. Profits amounted to £50. The girls at Portwilliam Hostel have formed themselves into a Concert Party, and have from time to time visited villages and given a 2½ hours programme, composed of singing, dancing, and sketches written by themselves. The spirit of camaraderie that pervades this hostel in its isolation makes it out as an example to others in a more fortunate locality.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS.**—The W. & B. Fund Committee have decided this year to sell Christmas Cards to Scottish L.G's. for the fund. Orders for cards, which will be 6d. each, should be placed with the local W.L.A. Secretary.

**BEDFORDSHIRE'S GYMKHANA** in aid of the Benevolent Fund was the first display of equitation ever held in the town of Bedford. The Land Army rose splendidly to the occasion and a very merry time was had by all. A display of "Haute Ecole" riding by Mr. Gloster and his famous horse "Mavourneen" was much appreciated. The whole organisation was undertaken by Mrs. Graham, County Chairman, the Committee and the office staff, and their plans were admirably carried out with the aid of volunteers. Altogether an event reflecting great credit on the Land Army and great benefit to the Fund.



## THE LAND GIRL

### NEWCASTLE RALLY

The County Rally was held on July 8th at King's College, Newcastle, Lady Denman being present. This opportunity of meeting the Director was much appreciated. She spoke in the morning to a gathering of Local Representatives and in the afternoon to W.L.A. members, both addresses meeting with a great response.

The presentation of a cheque for £450 for the Benevolent Fund, was made to Lady Denman by Amy Wealleans, who had herself sold 7 books of tickets for the County Draw; this amount of £450 is in addition to the £1001 already sent from Northumberland. After Lady Denman had presented Proficiency Certificates, and Badges, the Drama Cup and Certificates, she left the Hall through a guard of honour of Four year armlet holders. The day ended with the Draw for the 156 prizes given in aid of the Benevolent Fund. Mrs. Ord and the other organisers of the Rally deserve our warmest thanks for their excellent arrangements and our thanks are due to the Lord Mayor of Newcastle for his welcome to the W.L.A. and to the Staff of the Agricultural Dept. of King's College for their educational exhibits.

### BENEVOLENT FUND

On August the Fund totalled £90,358. The monthly total was £3,475. KENT still has the highest total of £6,623 8s. 4d., and DURHAM has the highest monthly total of £1,030 17s. 4d.

There have been some exciting contributions from the counties this month which have carried the Fund past the £90,000 mark. Hopes are now high that the £100,000 may be exceeded this year. DURHAM'S splendid total is the result, but not as yet the final one, of a month's special campaign during which everyone helped to raise money in a hundred different ways. E. SUSSEX recently opened a shop in Lewes for a week and also a caravan sale at Haywards Heath. Already over £700 has been sent in from the proceeds of these original ventures. CORNWALL sent a cheque for £500 as an "instalment" of the £1,000 which they hope to raise this year, and DEVON raised the grand amount of £300 at a Flag Day organised by the office staff in Exeter (they nearly beat the Alexandra Rose Day total.)

STAFFS, in two single events, raised £226—£136 from a garden party organised by Womborne Hostel and £90 from the Young Farmers' dance at Stafford. £60 was raised for the Fund in DERBYS by a garden fete organised by Trusley Manor Hostel and £51 in E. YORKS by Miss Iddon's garden fete. DORSET'S total of £79 included £25 from cinema proprietors in the county and £22 from Miss White's social at Charminster. LEICS' £67 was largely made up by £37 from a L.A. fete at Rugby and £20 from dances held at Lutterworth hostel. £53 from KESTEVEN included £46 from a garden fete at Corby hostel; £49 from E. SUFFOLK contained £20 from the Kirton L.G.'s' concert (to which we understand the county staff contributed a surprise item!) £26 came from a concert organised by three hostels in SOMERSET, £25 from a dance at Hutton, LANCS, £20 from a garden party held at Bourton Manor hostel, SALOP, and £20 from Mickleton Hostel, GLOS.

Too late for mention last month we received £28 from Bank House dance, Holland, and a total of £61 from W. RIDING.

Several entrants for the Winter Competition whose exhibits were sold were kind enough to give the money to the Benevolent Fund and one grateful volunteer sent 5s. to the Fund over and above the hiring charge for her Wedding Dress.

### COUNTY NEWS

**LONDON & MIDDX.**—In the recent Proficiency Badge test 10 candidates passed in milking and dairy work; 5 each in G.F. work, outdoor gardening and glasshouse work, and tractor driving; 7 in outdoor gardening (another section), 1 in poul-

try work; 9 in field work. 11 candidates gained distinction. We are grateful to Mrs. Sykes for arranging these tests for us. Harrow L.A. Club had a very successful garden party at Mrs. Fryer's home on July 8th. Mrs. Beale, County Chairman, presented Proficiency Badges and a 4 year armlet. G. Ridout and friends entertained the party and the various stalls sold out quickly—£38 was sent to the Benevolent Fund. Miss I. Godfrey, one of our 4 year armlet members, recently gave a talk on "Life in the L.A." to a Company of London G.T.C. cadets. She writes: "The talk lasted for over an hour; I endeavoured to tell them everything relating to jobs, billets, uniform, work and play. They seemed interested in most jobs but a buzz of interest went round when the Timber Corps was mentioned, followed by a sigh when they learned recruiting for this branch was closed. Rat-catching didn't appeal to them very much, and some seemed to have the popular idea that pigs are unpleasant creatures. I tried to destroy this belief. One or two thought the wages should automatically rise with each year's service. They all thought the uniform issue good." A volunteer enrolled in London and posted to the country, writes "I like rabbiting best of all the Pest Destruction jobs, perhaps because one sees more of the woods and countryside than when one goes rating. . . I gave the first rat I saw gassed artificial respiration to see if it would come to life." Presumably it didn't, thus setting at rest our correspondent's fears as to the effectiveness of this form of Pest Destruction.

**MON.**—The Victory Milk Churn of the Milk Marketing Board has been won by Monmouthshire as the best milk-producing county in the Midland League. That L.Gs. were partly responsible for this success was acknowledged by Sir Foster Stedman, D.L., J.P. (Chairman of the W.A.E.C.) when he publicly thanked them for the help they had given. The first county rally of Monmouthshire Federation of Y.F. Clubs was held at Usk. M. Park, 43864, was runner-up in the county championship milking competition which was won by her brother. C. Evans, 121196, was chosen by the residents of the Glyn Hall R.O.F. Hostel to be Queen of their Annual Carnival on 29th July. Miss Evans travelled to Manchester to choose her gown which was given by the W.T.A. A new W.L.A. Club will be opened at The Hostry, Llantilio Crossenny, on Sept. 1st, and it is hoped shortly to start one at Caldicott, while the existing clubs are being augmented for their autumn opening. A most successful C.E.M.A. concert was held at Mount Ballan Hostel, when the artists, who were much appreciated, were Miss Mary Kendall, pianist and Vivian Joseph, 'cellist. We look forward to another C.E.M.A. concert there on Sept. 18th, when the artists will be Leon Goossens, oboe player, Nancy Evans, contralto, and Ivor Newton, pianist; it is hoped L.G.s will make a special effort to attend.

**NORFOLK.**—The volunteers at Crow Hall Hostel have done most valuable work during the recent arrival of evacuees at Downham Market. After land-work had finished at noon on a Saturday, the girls arranged shifts, and worked throughout the week-end, even at night, until Monday morning, when they returned to land-work. They helped to sort the children, take them to billets, and even took some to the pictures. Barton Bendish Hostel held a very successful Garden Fete in aid of the Benevolent Fund; the day was brilliantly fine and many people were attracted to the gardens. The proceedings ended at night with a very jolly dance. At the Y.F.C. Rally held at Crown Point, Norwich in July, 10 L.G's. entered for a stock judging class. The winner was B. Van Moppes, with M. Dunn as runner-up. The judges were very pleased with the standard of the written answers. On a large fruit farm at Walpole St. Andrew, belonging to Mr. W. L. Pratt, all records in fruit-picking were broken by the L.G.'s employed there. Eleven tons were picked in two days.





*Land Army, with 'ox, in Gloucestershire*

**NORTHANTS.**—125 W.L.A. members have gained their Proficiency Badges, 14 with distinction. 20 have obtained certificates for Correspondence Courses taken last winter and spring. Stone House Hostel, —Thornby, gave a highly successful first Birthday Party in July. All the girls' parents, many from long distances, were invited and arrangements were made for those who could not return that night to be accommodated for the weekend. Mrs. Carnegie came down from the Y.W.C.A. Headquarters. A presentation of G.S. Badges was made by our Chairman, Lady Spencer, and a very successful stall realised over £12 for the P.O.W. Fund. Newnham Hall had a very delightful garden fete also in July, opened by the County Secretary in the absence of the County Chairman. Kingscliffe, by a similar fete realised the wonderful total of £100 for Salute the Soldier Week. The inmates of Yelvertoft Hostel have, since "D" Day, adopted the Thornby Grange Convalescent Hospital and visit the wounded there every Sunday, taking welcome gifts of eggs, books, cigarettes, etc. which they purchase themselves or collect from friends round about. The privately employed volunteers have organised a number of successful efforts in aid of the Benevolent Fund. The continued appreciation of the members of the W.L.A. both by the W.A.E.C. and by individual farmers, and the continued eager demand for them is very heartening. We welcome to the county a third organiser, Mrs. Wakeland Smith.

**NORTH LAND.**—An Agricultural Show was held at Ashington on July 29th, at which girls from Nedderton Hostel sold programmes. Two classes, confined to W.L.A. members for sewn and knitted garments, were well supported in quality if not in quantity. Prize winners were: 1st.—Mrs. V. Morris and Miss Frazer. 2nd.—Miss Wilkinson and Miss Gray. There has been an excellent response to the circular about the surrender of clothing coupons, over two-thirds of the girls concerned having sent in their coupons within the first fortnight. Marjorie Munro of Warenford Hostel has visited factories and talked to the workers in connection with the appeal for Holiday Volunteers for Agriculture. The M.O.I. have written appreciatively of her help.

**NOTTS.**—The Rally on July 29th was held at West Bridgeford Secondary School by kind permission of the Headmaster Mr. Holmes. It was opened by the Duchess of Portland who gave

21 4 year armlets to volunteers, and all who had gained distinction in their proficiency tests were also presented to Her Grace. Miss Moncrieff from Headquarters gave a very interesting talk on the Benevolent Fund and the LAND GIRL magazine. After an excellent tea, everyone enjoyed a first class entertainment given by an E. N.S.A. concert party shortly due to go to the 2nd. Front. Our thanks are due to all the kind friends who helped.

Sutton-on-Trent Hostel gave a most delightful party to celebrate their 3rd. anniversary. Among the guests were Lady Sibell Argles the County Chairman, and Mr. Bush and Mr. McCamm of the W.A.E.C. The cake, made by Miss Rose and iced in the W.L.A. colours, was cut by Mrs. Shelton who has been at the hostel since its beginning. The party was held during Salute the Soldier Week and the hostel total was £21, over £3 being raised by selling a 6d. stamp to all who viewed the cake. Mrs. Pearson and Miss Judson surpassed their last year's effort by raising £1,000 for Salute the Soldier in their savings group of 48 members at Hodsock. Well done! Proficiency Tests have now finished, there were 69 entrants, 54 passed, 26 with distinction.

**SOMERSET.**—Just before the harvest, the remainder of the Proficiency Badges were presented at two Rallies. The Duke and Duchess of Somerset did the honours at Bath, and Mr. Vernon Bartlett, M.P., at the Somerset Farm Institute, Cannington. The next Tests will take place in September and October, and it should be an incentive to W.A.E.C. employees that the Committee has agreed to give a weekly bonus of 2s. 6d. to their workers if they pass a Test in their present type of work. A delightful party was arranged for the wedding of Miss Nisivocia, from the W.L.A. Hostel, Flax Bourton, by Mr. and Mrs. Alwen. L.G.s in Bruton raised £33 for the Red Cross, and then were entertained themselves by Mrs. Phipps. Mrs. Higson gave a lovely party to 60 members at Lufton Manor, Yeovil. Outdoor sports in brilliant sunshine and a cinema show were most popular. Among the satisfying sights to be seen this harvest are a number of W.A.E.C. employees pulling flax. Specially selected in pairs, one drives the tractor and the other manages the machines. They are in charge of operations, and are to be seen moving from farm to farm with cycles tied on to their flax machine.



We regret very much to announce the death by enemy action in London of Doris Birtles, employed in Somerset by the W.A.E.C. since May, 1942.

**STAFFS.**—On July 22nd, a most successful Garden Party was held at the Wodehouse, Wombourne, by Miss Shaw-Hellier, our Vice-Chairman and the Hostel girls; the magnificent sum of £136 being raised for the Benevolent and County Welfare Funds. Congratulations to all who made this event such a success and our best thanks to Miss Shaw-Hellier for the loan of her grounds and her valuable help and advice. A most enjoyable afternoon was spent, the main attractions, being the Gift Stall, so nobly stocked by our girls handiwork, with the help of Miss Heckford, the Warden; side shows, skittling for a pig, races for the kiddies and 'Larry the Lamb' in attendance. Congratulations to the girls who passed their Proficiency Test in Milking and Dairy Work on July 31st. and August 1st. There were three distinctions and eight passes.

On July 25th Mrs. Jenkins, Assistant Director, paid her first visit to Staffordshire and addressed a meeting of the District Representatives in the County Buildings, Stafford giving us valuable advice regarding the W.L.A. We hope Mrs. Jenkins enjoyed her visit as much as we enjoyed having her with us.

**E. SUFFOLK.**—With the kind co-operation of the Women's Institutes and the Girls' Friendly Society, a very nice Club-room and canteen for L.G.'s was opened on July 29th at 26, Butter Market, Ipswich. It will be open on Saturdays from 2 to 9 p.m., and if there seems a real need for it will probably be available later on Sundays as well. Congratulations to Miss E. Carless (Helmington) and Miss R. List (Blakenham) both "herdsmen," whose employers have recently won awards in the Burningham Farm Competition. Miss Carless also took part in a recent broadcast of "Country Magazine." At Sutton Hoo Hostel, Miss M. Lewis is in charge of the W.A.E.C. herd, and with the assistance of her sister, and two other L.G.'s she has now begun to train new volunteers. At a Milking Test four entrants passed, two with distinction and four others have passed a G.F. and machine milking test, one with distinction. In July, the County Office organised what it hopes will be the first of a series of concerts in aid of the Benevolent Fund. All the items were performed by L.G.'s, except for a surprise one produced by the Office Staff. Mrs. Bean (V. Rep) held a marvellously successful Fete in the small village of Blythburgh on August 7th, which resulted in £68 4s. 4d. for the Benevolent Fund and C. Welfare Fund. Our Chairman, Lady Cranworth, held a party for hostel wardens in her lovely garden on August 2nd. Miss Woodgate (Assistant Labour Officer, W.A.E.C.) and five of her area forwomen were also there, and the former gave a most interesting talk on the work of our hostel gang girls.

**W. SUFFOLK.**—The Suffolk Agricultural Association have again generously given £10 for distribution to W.L.A. members. It has been decided this year to award these prizes to volunteers gaining highest marks in the different series of proficiency tests. The winners are as follows: —**Field** (23 entries), Mrs. Cobbold, 99 per cent. **Milking** (42 entries), Miss C. Iquine, 97 per cent. **General Farm** (23 entries), Miss M. Garland, 95 per cent. **Tractor** (13 entries), Miss J. Atkinson, 91 per cent. **Pest Destruction** (7 entries), Miss D. Brown, 90 per cent. We are now on our second round of tests and have just completed the Milking series, 14 passed and the following gained distinction, Miss M. Pearce and Miss H. Cambridge. Miss Cambridge on the invitation of the West Suffolk Milk Production Officer helped to judge one of the later tests. Congratulations to Fornham All Saints and Risby Hostel who have had very successful entertainments for the Benevolent Fund. "Barnyard Follies," comprising of a mixed cast of W.L.A. and Agricultural workers have given two very enjoyable shows at Wickhambrook and Dalham.

We are very pleased to welcome Miss Wadham who has joined our County staff as Assistant Secretary.

**SURREY.**—The campaign to raise at least £1000 for the Benevolent Fund by Oct. 31st is going ahead and the areas are all working hard to achieve their targets. The following areas are to be congratulated on already sending in their full amounts:—Bisley, Peaslake, Haslemere, Wanborough, Surbiton, Chessington, Horsley, Ham, Petersham and Kingston. Special congratulations are due to Abinger for doubling their target, Elstead, Shamley Green and Wotton for trebling it and Dunsfold for multiplying it by six! Farnham and Seale were set a large target but they have already sent in three instalments and have nearly reached the goal. Volunteers employed by the S.W.A.E.C. have separate Depot and Hostel Targets and we hear that their plans are maturing. The Puttenham and Ockham Depots are combining to run three Dances and a Caledonian Market in Guildford before Xmas. Contributions for sale at the Market will be welcomed and offers of gifts should be sent to the County Office. Plans are also being made for a Winter Programme of weekly classes and monthly lectures and several volunteers replied to a Questionnaire sent out. French, Musical Appreciation and Travel Talks are heading the bill for popularity up to date. 12 Volunteers attended a Course of Poultry lectures held in Guildford by the County Poultry Adviser. P. Blackman, P. Warner and V. Whitehouse are to be congratulated on passing the exam at the conclusion of the Course and obtaining a County Certificate. P. Blackman headed the list with 82 per cent. Honours.

**E. SUSSEX.**—On August 16th, Joyce Newton of Oak Cottage, Mark Cross, and Mabel Sales of Green House Lodge, Rotherfield, were presented at Lewes with Carnegie Hero Fund Trust certificates, and a cheque for £10 each, for their recent gallant action in saving the life of their employer, Captain Hugh Price Jones, of Frenches Farm, Rotherfield, who was being gored by a bull. The names of these two plucky girls are also to be inscribed on the illuminated roll of heroes of the Trust. The presentation took place at the W.L.A. Club in Lewes. The awards were handed to the girls by Sir George Boughey, Chairman of the East Sussex County Council, who was supported by Mr. W. Hutchinson, Deputy Chief Constable of Sussex, and our County Chairman, Lady De La Warr. Up to date 190 girls have gone in for their proficiency tests, 164 passed the test, 72 of them with distinction. Our efforts on behalf of the Benevolent Fund and County Welfare Fund, which took the form of a Gift Shop were crowned with success and brought in £1,000. 14 volunteers have sat for the Correspondence Course, and have been awarded certificates.

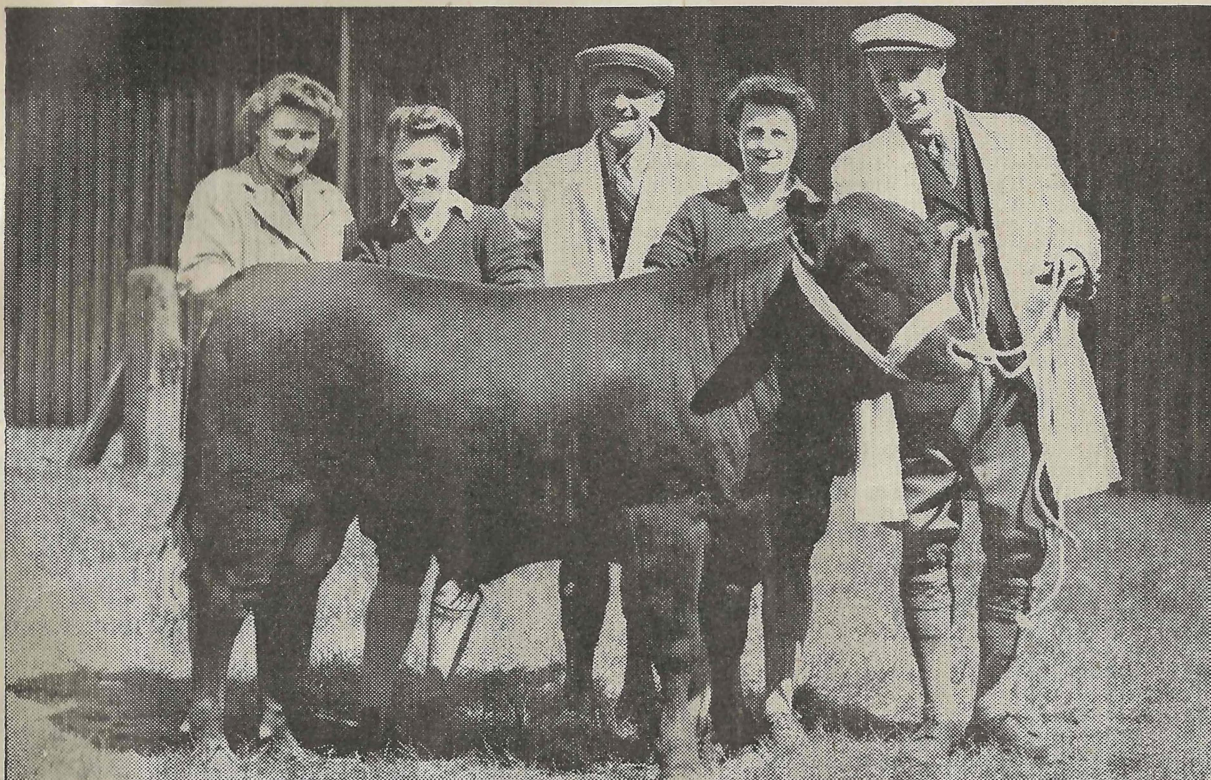
We are all very sad at losing our Assistant County Secretary, Miss Trost, who is taking a post at Headquarters. Our warmest wishes go with her.

**W. SUSSEX.**—Everyone is too busy with the harvest to have much news this month. Lammas Sunday was celebrated in most parish churches in the county and in several of these L.A. members read one of the lessons. The service from Warnham Church was broadcast on the National wave length, the L.A. was represented in the Procession and Miss Norah Pay read one of the lessons with great clarity and dignity. In June, Worthing, one of our oldest clubs, celebrated its third birthday with a party, complete with supper and birthday cake.

**N. WALES.**—We are exceedingly sorry that Lady Haydn Jones is resigning from the North Wales Committee but we are very pleased that she will remain as a district representative and that she has consented to open our fete at Bala. A warm welcome is extended to Mrs. D. R. Edwards, Corwen, our newly appointed member and to Miss M. Lloyd and Miss M. Davies who have accepted office as co-opted members.

Since January, 112 candidates have entered for





*Grundisburgh Swashbuckler, Champion Red Poll, (owned by Lord Cranworth) with attendants in E. Suffolk.—(l. to r.) P. Churchyard and J. Gilbertson (L.A.), G. Cherry, K. Reed (L.A.), C. Ashketile (Herdsmen).*

Proficiency Tests and 95 passed, 13 with distinction. The results of the milking tests though unspectacular were consistently good. Our second pests tests held at Bala included volunteers from Denbighshire and Flint; we had the pleasure too, of entertaining Miss Bibby, Mrs. Peyton and Mrs. Mansell. We congratulate H. Jones, Forewoman of the Merionethshire Pest Destruction gang, on her record result of 96 marks and F. Johnson of Anglesey, on her distinction. The hospitality of Mrs. Lockyer and all at Eryl Aran was much appreciated. We thank Mrs. Drage for her party to Tremadoc and Llanstymdwy Clubs and for making arrangements for the Glynllifon Dance, also Lady Newborough for presenting the prizes and for the use of the lovely ballroom.

It is with great grief that we announce the death of Brenda Ashworth who was to have been married this month, and to whose family and fiancée we offer our deep sympathy.

**WARWICKS.**—On July 6th., the W.L.A. Hostel at Park Hall was honoured by a visit from H.R.H. the Princess Royal. Land Girls from the hostel and neighbouring farms assembled to form a guard of honour as the royal car drove up to the hostel. After being welcomed by our Chairman, Mrs. Fielden, who represented Committee and Staff of the W.L.A. and W.W.A.E.C., Her Royal Highness made a tour of the hostel and showed great interest in all the arrangements. Everyone then assembled in the Recreation Hall where the Princess Royal presented Four Year armlets and Proficiency Badges to 21 volunteers, who were all charmed with the words of encouragement they received. After being escorted by Mr. Hughes, chairman of the W.W.A.E.C., to see members of the nearby harvest camp, Her Royal Highness drove away amidst the cheers of Land Girls and campers. The memorable evening ended with a grand array of refreshments at the hostel and an amusing entertainment provided by E.N.S.A.

The results of our recent Draw in aid of the Benevolent Fund far exceeded last year's record and produced a profit of £820 18s. This has been the result of much hard work by L.G.'s and D.R.'s who managed to sell 35,320 sixpenny tickets! The Draw is the first effort towards our Benevolent Fund Week, from Oct. 28th. to Nov. 4th.

**WILTS.**—Many congratulations to the members who passed their correspondence courses. The "great drive" to raise funds for the Benevolent Fund has raised £300 so far. District Representatives and members of the W.L.A. have been untiring in their efforts. Mere hostel made a really supreme effort and raised £60 at their dance and informal concert. Marlborough and District also made a magnificent effort and raised £50. We were lucky in having Lady Katharine McNeile at both dances. For the patchwork quilt made by the girls at Wharf House, Seend, nearly £40 has been collected up to date. We are organising two Harvest Festival Rallies this year, one in Salisbury on September 29th, and one in Malmesbury on October 7th. Darley Hostel, Hullavington, and Pump House, Luckington, had the great opportunity of providing a Guard of Honour to Her Majesty Queen Mary on the occasion of her visit to Twatley, W.W.A.E.C.'s holiday harvest camp. They gave Her Majesty three cheers as her car left the camp and received special congratulations for their turn-out and bearing. We are very pleased to hear that Lady Denman is paying us a visit in October, during which she will meet the County Committee and also the District Representatives' at a meeting at Conock Manor.

We are very sorry indeed that Miss Walton has had to resign on grounds of ill-health and wish to extend to her our sincere thanks for the assistance she has given us. We welcome Miss Hodgson back to the County as Area Organiser.

**WORCS.**—This summer we are having 15 garden parties in different parts of the county within reach of every L.G., with games, competitions, sports and magnificent teas provided by the generosity of D.R.'s., employers and other friends. Worcs. is proud to have a W.L.A. Music Club, with choral and orchestral sections, under the able guide of Mrs. Phillips. They have performed very successfully, at one of the garden parties and hope to tour hostels later. More Proficiency Tests are being held with satisfactory results. Congratulations to all the milking and dairy work candidates who have been 100 per cent. successful. The last L.G.s' Council' was held on August 12th. Mr. C. M. Gardiner, of Evesham R.D.C. gave a lively and interesting talk on Local Government. The



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Council Meeting was the occasion of a presentation to Mrs. K. M. Coombs, who is leaving to become W.L.A. Regional Organiser for Wales, after more than 5 years' work as County Secretary. On behalf of the District Representatives and the County Committee, Mrs. Lea (Worcs. County Chairman) presented Mrs. Coombs with a cheque. She congratulated her on her new post, but assured her how wide-spread was the regret occasioned by her departure, and thanked her in the name of the County for the magnificent service she had given to the Land Army during her period of office.

**YORKS, E.R.**—The first series of the Proficiency Tests were completed in July: Dairy Work, 12 girls passed, 4 distinctions; G.F. Work, 20 girls passed, 8 distinctions; Field Work, 8 girls passed, 4 distinctions; Tractor Driving, 3 girls passed, 2 distinctions; horticulture, 2 girls passed. The sum of £88 8s. has been raised for the Benevolent Fund in the last two months. The principle events being:—Dance at Filey, organised by Muriel Cressy and Joan Gaunt, £13 13s.; concert organised by Mrs. N. S. Wright and W.L.A. members at Burton Pidsea, raised £9; dance at Bilton, organised by Betty White, £15 15s.; a most successful garden fete was organised by Jean Iddon, in Beverley, raising £50. The East Riding, Yorks Welfare Fund benefited by £20 11s. 6d. from a Whist Drive and Dance at Thwing, organised by Doreen Woodcock, Elsie Fowler, Constance Woodward, Hilda Law and Minnie Verity.

**YORKS, N.R.**—The Benevolent Fund total received considerable help as a result of a most successful dance, organised by the Barnard Castle Billet Group and Mrs. Bigge's Melsonby W.L.A. Club, held at the Morrill Arms Hotel. Greta Bridge, Lady Milbank, Mrs. Bigge and Mrs. Sherston, W.L.A. representatives for the area, with Miss Holmes, the forewoman of the billet group, very kindly helped with the arrangements. The final result was the splendid sum of £50. Girls from Thirsk hostel took part in two parades and also organised a dance during "Salute the Soldier" week in Thirsk. After the first parade, the Colonel who took the Salute congratulated them on their marching and the smartness of their appearance. The girls were very proud of these congratulations in view of the many complaints made about the way in which W.L.A. members do sometimes wear their uniform. The dance organised by this hostel raised £16 for "Salute the Soldier" week. We were pleased to welcome Mrs. Keep and Mrs. Boddy as the new warden and assistant warden. On July 19th the Brompton Hostel celebrated its first birthday with a party, together with a cake made and iced by the hostel cook.

**YORKSHIRE, W.R.**—A very successful "Bring and Buy" Sale was held at Throngsbridge, Huddersfield, on July 22nd, when over £200 was raised for the Benevolent and County Welfare Funds. Mrs. Pott, who was responsible for the organisation of this event, together with the members of the W.L.A. Club, and other energetic helpers are to be congratulated on making the afternoon such an enjoyable one. Brisk business was carried on at the many attractive stalls and sideshows during the afternoon, and in the early evening sports were arranged and local volunteers keenly competed for the Silver Rose Bowl, given by Mr. Tinker (in whose garden the sale was held) for the W.L.A. member who gained the highest number of points—this was won by Joan Oddy, of Sheepridge. Birthday parties and E.N.S.A. shows are the fashion in the hostels. Doncaster celebrated its second Birthday Anniversary in July, and Brooklands Hostel is holding its first Birthday Party at the beginning of September. E.N.S.A. are very kindly giving a series of shows in our hostels which are greatly appreciated.

**ESSEX** welcomes very warmly Mrs. Byrne, M.B.E., J.P., as its new County Chairman. Mrs. Byrne has been a member of the County Committee since 1940 and Vice-Chairman for the last two years.

## County Returns

County	Ben.	F.	Total	Em-
	£.	s.	d.	ployed
Kent ..	6623	8	4	4183
Essex ..	5177	16	7	3542
West Riding ..	1080	16	1	2427
Surrey ..	1625	19	4	2294
Hampshire ..	2063	3	1	2131
Leicester 1797 } Rutland 279 }	1604	5	8	2076
East Sussex ..	2362	17	5	2001
Hertford ..	3809	4	1	1980
Worcester ..	1705	7	11	1909
Somerset ..	1341	6	8	1855
Northants ..	2188	14	8	1820
Warwick ..	2494	1	3	1757
Devon ..	2929	5	4	1738
Bucks ..	4103	9	4	1706
Norfolk ..	2244	3	3	1670
West Sussex ..	2083	2	9	1648
Cheshire ..	1529	6	7	1573
Lancashire ..	872	1	7	1456
Wilts ..	543	15	8	1448
Cornwall ..	782	0	9	1383
Northumberland ..	1687	4	3	1381
North Riding ..	443	12	2	1251
Gloucester ..	1749	18	6	1249
Nottingham ..	426	11	0	1232
Hunts 302 } Cambs 520 } Ely 322 }	931	4	3	1144
Berkshire ..	1301	18	5	1123
East Suffolk ..	1602	9	2	1103
Oxford ..	3465	5	0	1072
Beds ..	716	12	11	1042
Durham ..	1351	19	0	1016
Shropshire ..	1175	17	4	1006
East Riding ..	250	8	8	987
Cumbs & West'd ..	457	12	5	901
Lincs—Kesteven ..	722	3	0	870
Dorset ..	933	1	1	834
Stafford ..	757	10	3	808
Lincs—Lindsey ..	591	3	8	745
Glamorgan ..	679	13	11	677
Hereford ..	971	18	11	647
Monmouth ..	593	7	7	655
Lincs—Holland ..	789	8	8	633
West Suffolk ..	1312	11	11	624
Derby ..	842	1	7	622
Denbigh ..	484	7	11	606
Flintshire ..	436	16	10	575
North Wales ..	1135	0	9	546
London & Middx. ..	742	11	8	490
Pembrol : ..	655	19	8	392
Cards & Carms ..	533	10	11	350
Isle of Wight ..	120	9	5	333
Brecon & Radnor ..	274	0	6	285
Montgomery ..	290	8	11	224
Timber Corps ..	2151	14	7	3336

On the 31st August 68,970 volunteers were in employment.

## "THE LAND GIRL"

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