

BIG CHEQUE FOR HOSPITALS

Stocksbridge Co-operative Society Donation

EMPLOYEES' LONG SERVICE REWARDED

Stocksbridge Co-operative Society who have always given support since 1860 on a voluntary basis to Sheffield Hospitals, among other institutions, on Wednesday evening set the grand seal on their efforts by making contributions totalling £500 to the Sheffield Hospitals' Million Pound Appeal Fund. Of this sum £400 comes from the Society's surplus, or the members' own money, agreed upon unanimously by the members themselves, and £100 from the Society's employees.

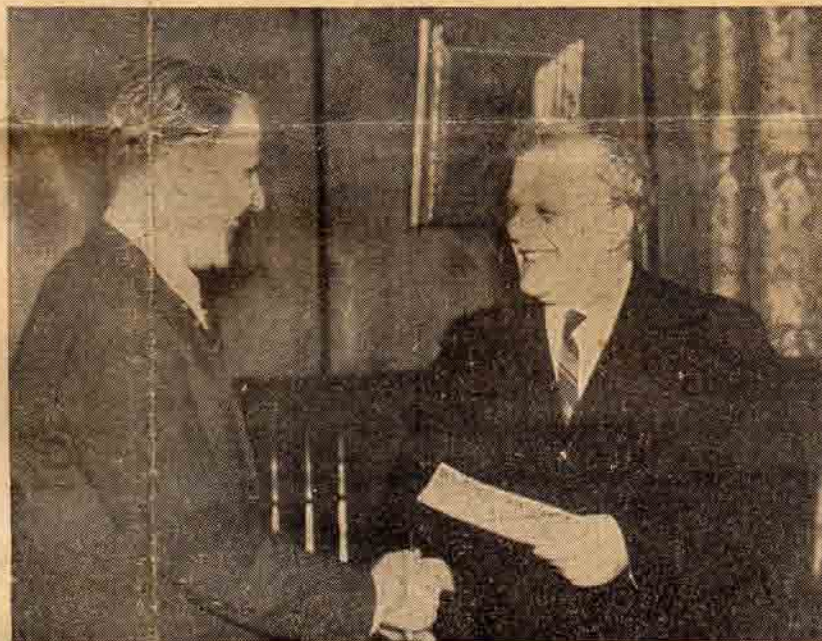
AHEAD.

On the formation of the Penny in the Pound scheme the Society immediately responded to the call and were the first organised body in their district to fall in with the scheme. Recognising the splendid work of the hospitals, and seeing the necessity for continuous improvements and expansions and need for modern equipment, and fully appreciating the efforts and skill of the surgeons and doctors, the members in general meeting unanimously resolved to make an immediate grant of £400. As a result of this immediate donation the name of the Society will be perpetuated by a Stocksbridge Co-operative Society Cot in one of the hospitals.

On Wednesday the cheque was formally handed over, and the faithful service given by seven employees was recognised by presentations of gold watches.

Both ceremonies were performed after tea at a gathering of departmental heads of the Society, members of the Committee, their wives, and a few guests at the Society's tea-rooms.

Mr. J. Pyrah, President of the Society, presided and the company included Coun. Vincent Challis (Secretary-Manager), Mr. Stevenson (Chairman of the Joint Hospitals' Million Pound Ap-



Mr. V. Challis presenting the cheque to Mr. Stevenson.

peal Fund), Mr. C. H. C. Crabtree (Organiser of the Id. in the £ scheme), Mr. P. Coe (Grocery Manager, Sheffield and Ecclesfield Co-op. Society), Mrs. Coe, Miss Wild and Mr. Eastwood (National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers' representatives), and Mr. and Mrs. A. Thickett.

Before handing to Mr. Stevenson the Society's £400 cheque, Mr. Pyrah said at the last half yearly meeting there was a recommendation that the Society contribute £400 towards the Million Pound Appeal Fund. Some time ago the Joint Committee of the Hospitals launched the Million Pound Appeal. The idea of the appeal was to increase subscriptions over a period of seven years. Their Society considered the question and decided to recommend to the members that instead of extending payments over seven years they would take one bite at the cherry and complete their subscription. The Society were giving £400 and the Society's employees £100.

Coun. Vincent Challis handed over the employees' cheque for £100, and mentioned the willingness with which the recommendation was passed. "May your scheme be very successful," he said.

"MAGNIFICENT" CHEQUES.

Expressing his appreciation of what he described as two magnificent cheques, Mr. Stevenson said he was thankful of such gratitude not only because of the cash value, but because of the encouragement it gave them to continue their appeal, and of the splendid example it set other people. The £500 was going to be commemorated by an inscription over a cot so that it would always be known that their Society had given the money to that appeal.

Briefly outlining the reason for the appeal, Mr. Stevenson said it was really a matter of developing their present hospitals on modern lines. Some years ago the joint medical staffs advised the Board that progress in hospital development lay along the way of specialisation,

which meant separation of different types of cases and their treatment in separate blocks by specialists.

A certain amount of re-building would be necessitated under the scheme. This development would not take place straight away, but as they got the money they would start.

Coun. Challis said a million pounds was not much, and probably Sheffield would have raised it by the time Sheffield Wednesday won the English Cup. (Laughter.)

Mr. Crabtree said his work was in connection with the Id. in the £ scheme which their Society had supported so splendidly for 16 or 17 years. The Million Pound Appeal Fund and the Id. in the £ scheme were entirely separate, but unfortunately the former had lost its organiser, and he was helping until a new organiser was appointed. He was pleased to have been able to accept their hospitality, and in thanking the Society expressed the hope that they would continue to be such good subscribers.

LONG SERVICE

Before presenting the gold watches, Mr. Pyrah described the society's activities 35 years ago when he first became associated with it. There had been many changes, but one phase that had not seen rapid changes concerned the employees. They had had few dismissals and there had been harmonious working between the employees and the society. One great feature of the success of those working relationships was that there had been a system of give and take, which led to far better results than those achieved by force. One feature that troubled him as far as employment went concerned youths. They had to employ a number of youths and, unfortunately, when several of them came to an age of about 16 years they had to go because they could not incorporate them all and give them a man's salary.

The committee felt that it would be nice if they could recognise the work of their employees who had been with them a large number of years, and so seven of them were to be presented with gold watches suitably inscribed, as tokens of the society's appreciation.

Presentations were then made to Mr. Ernest Marshall, grocery branch manager at Deepcar, with 49 years' service; whom Mr. Pyrah described as a most modest man and always dependable; Mr. Robert A. Wormleighton, grocery manager central stores, commenced service 1898; Mr. Frank Challis, butchery department manager, commenced 1899; Mr. Arthur Evans, grocery manager at Horner House branch, commenced 1902; Mr. Horace Crossland, grocery manager at Crane Moor branch, commenced 1902; Mr. William Denman, Central grocery staff, commenced 1907, and Mr. Charles B. Woodcock, the Society's cashier, who also commenced in 1907.

Testifying to the Society's generosity Mr. Marshall said the fact that they had so many employees with such long service showed that conditions were not too bad and, on the other hand that good service had been given. Such presentations encouraged employees and assisted in promoting the good will so essential to a successful concern.

Mr. Fred Brown, as the oldest director presented an easy chair to the Society's President, Mr. J. Pyrah. Mr. Brown mentioned that Mr. Pyrah was first elected to the committee in 1904 and became president of the society in June 1907 and had served the society continuously as president from that time. Mr. Pyrah, he said, was the embodiment of all that was upright, honourable and courageous, and he had been a fine example for many young folk.

Returning his thanks for the gift, Mr. Pyrah said when the Committee decided to give watches he declined the offer. The Committee were insistent that he should have something and Mrs. Pyrah reminded him that a chair he was sitting in had seen 47 years service on March 13th, which was the date of their marriage. Friday the thirteenth was the date of his marriage and the day before that his landlady flitted and he had to go and get married without breakfast. The chair they now presented would be well used and Mrs. Pyrah would see it was well cared for.

A whist drive followed, with Mr. A. Curry and Mr. E. Faulkner as M.C.'s. Winners were: Mr. and Mrs. J. Pyrah, Mrs. V. Challis, Mr. Fred Birkhead, Mrs. D. Castledine and Mr. Arthur Eastwood.





Above: Mr. F. Brown making the presentation of an anniversary to Mr. J. Pyrah (seated), with whom are Mrs. Pyrah and Mr. V. Challis (Secretary of the Society). Below: The seven employees of the Society who received gold watches for long service.

PRICE