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WOMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE GUILD.

28, Church Row, Hampstead, London, N.W. 3.

November 12th, 1921.

ELECTION OF GENERAL SECRETARY.

**Please read this at your Branch Meeting before
filling in the Voting Paper.**

FELLOW GUILDSWOMEN,

We beg to enclose the Voting Paper for the Election of a new General Secretary. Branches are reminded that the Central Committee was entrusted with the duty of selecting candidates, and of recommending the most suitable. Branches should therefore consider their vote with an open mind, because they were not in a position to make a decision until they saw the selection, qualifications and recommendations.

Candidates selected by the Central Committee.

- (1) Five Candidates have been selected from the list of Applicants as those most suitable for the post.
- (2) The names of the candidates are placed in the order of suitability in the opinion of the Central Committee.

The following is a summary of their qualifications :--

1. **Miss ENFIELD**, Age 39.

Has served $4\frac{1}{2}$ years in the Guild Office as assistant to the General Secretary. Her work included

- (a) drafting memoranda and reports, writing papers and articles and collecting material for them.
- (b) Dealing with correspondence particularly in regard to International Co-operation, Co-operative politics, Maternity work.
- (c) Speaking at Guild Branches and Schools.

- (d) Attending Committees (including London Advisory Committee of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, and Standing Joint Committee of Industrial Women's Organisations as deputy for the General Secretary).
- (e) Interviewing M.P.'s and Peers in connection with the Guild's amendment to the 1918 Insurance Act.

Is a member of the London Co-operative Society and Hampstead Guild Branch. Has made valuable contributions of a constructive character to Co-operative questions, notably the relation of Co-operation and Trade Unionism, International Co-operative Trade, and the place of Co-operation in the new Social Order. Visited the Austrian Co-operative Congress and Vienna, and wrote "A Fortnight in Austria"; attended the Co-operative Congress in Basle, and was responsible for carrying through the Women's International Meeting; was appointed Secretary to the International Co-operative Women's Committee. Has a knowledge of foreign languages.

Before coming to the Guild Office was head of a staff of 20 in the Insurance Department of the National Federation of Women Workers. Dealt with correspondence on legal cases, etc., and supervised the Branch organisation. Previously worked in connection with a local Women's Trade Union Branch at Nottingham and did investigation for Trade Boards and National Insurance in that town. Before this was a teacher in an elementary and secondary school, and at a Pupil Teachers' Centre. Has been on committees of various Peace Organisations, and at the present time is on the Executive of the National Council for Lunacy Reform.

2. **Mrs. BARTON, J.P.**, age 49.

Has served two terms (6 years) on the Central Committee and has been National President, Vice-President and Treasurer. Was Branch Secretary for 17 years, served on District Committee (twice, *i.e.*, 6 years) and on Sectional Council. Was 7 years on the Brightside and Carbrook Education Committee, and has been 9 years on the Board of Management, including service on its Office Committee. Has represented the Guild on and taken Classes for the Central Education Committee. Is a Director of the National Co-operative Publishing Society. Represented the Guild at Basle Congress and moved the Guild Resolution in the Congress.

Is City Councillor of Sheffield and Member of Sheffield Maternity Committee, and has arranged Deputations to Health Committees. Was on Housing and other Government Committees. Is Co-operative Parliamentary Candidate for King's Norton. Attended United States Government Child Welfare Conference as guest of the United States. Was one of official Government Lecturers on the Insurance Act. Has had organising experience in National Federation of Women Workers, A.U.C.E., and other unions. Is well known as a public speaker.

3. **Mrs. UNSWORTH**, age 49.

12 years Secretary of Derby Branch; 3 years on Derby District Committee (President); 3 years on Midland Sectional Council; 4 years Sectional Secretary; 8 years on Midland Educational Committees' Association; Congress Reception Committee Secretary, 1920. Teacher of Co-operative Union Classes.

Brought up to business and had 3 years' experience in office. Been on many Committees (Citizen).

4. **Mrs. FERGUSON, J.P.**, age 50.

Has served 3 years on Central Committee and been National President and Treasurer. Has served as Branch Secretary and President on the District Committee and Sectional Council. This year elected Sectional Secretary. Was a member of Education Committee of the Darlington Society and of its Board of Management. Represented the Guild on the Central Education Committee, the Joint Capital Campaign Committee and the Northern Educational Committees' Association, and was the Guild delegate to the Austrian Co-operative Congress, visiting Vienna.

Before marriage she held positions in commercial businesses. Is a member of her local Maternity Committee and was responsible for organising local Maternity work.

5. **Mrs. HOOD, J.P.**, age 55.

Was 3 years on the Central Committee and been National President and Treasurer. Has served as Branch President and Secretary, been twice (6 years) on District Committee and 4 years on Sectional Council. Secretary to General Purposes Committee Guild Annual Congress, 1916.

Is a member of the Consultative Council of Ministry of Health and of Enfield Maternity Committee. Is a member of Edmonton Board of Guardians (Finance Committee) and Middlesex Insurance Committee (Finance and General Purposes Committee). Is a Vice-President of Standing Joint Industrial Women's Committee. Has spoken on 5 deputations to Cabinet Ministers. Was member of local War Pensions and Food Control Committees.

N.B.—The Central Committee has decided that the question of whether the General Secretary should stand as a Parliamentary candidate must be settled by Congress.

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The Central Committee unanimously and strongly recommend Miss Enfield for the post of General Secretary. In addition to the experience recorded in the summary of her qualifications, she possesses judgment and initiative, a grasp of principles, a knowledge of Movements, and great thoroughness of work. She is an able writer, with

the capacity for making clear statements and giving helpful advice. She is thoroughly competent to deal with the educational side of Guild work, and is an acceptable speaker at Branches and Schools. Those who work with her recognise that her personality is one to win respect and appreciation, and in her intercourse with people she is tactful and conciliatory, while holding her own views with conviction. Miss Enfield's age is a further qualification.

Believing that your branch in recording its vote will give careful consideration to the needs and interests of the whole Guild, we are

Yours fraternally,

(Signed) MARY B. DEWSBURY, *President.*

E. LAYTON, *Vice-President.*

J. GREEN, *Treasurer.*

A. BLAIR.

J. CLOSE.

B. MILLMAN.

E. PENNY.

A. PROSSER.

MARGARET LLEWELYN DAVIES, *General Secretary.*

P.S.—Enclosed is a brief summary of the work which has to be carried out by the Guild Office.