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**Society of
Women Housing Estate Managers**

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ANNUAL REPORT

For Year 1934—1935

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PAMPHLET

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Editor of Bulletin :

Miss GOLD

Assistant Editor :

Miss BAKER WILBRAHAM

REPORT

Annual
General
Meeting.

The Third Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at the Central Club, Y.W.C.A., Great Russell Street, London, W.C.1, on November 3rd, 1934, there being one hundred and eleven members present. Discussions took place on matters of internal interest, including training and conditions of employment.

President.

It was again decided that the office of President should remain vacant.

Office.

Dr. Margaret S. Miller, M.A., B.Com., was appointed Secretary and took up her duties on April 1st, 1935. The appointment of Miss L. M. Mead, B.A., as Assistant Secretary was continued. Miss L. M. Foy was appointed Junior Clerk and began work on August 19th.

Membership.

	31st August, 1934.		31st August, 1935.
(1) Full Members	120	122	1 Original Member resumed Full Membership on ceasing to be a salaried official of the Society.
			2 Members died.
			3 Members resigned.
			8 Student Members became Full Members.
			2 Members became Associates.
(2) Professional Student Members	31	47	1 Student Member became Associate.
			8 Student Members became Full Members.
			25 New Student Members.
(3) Associate Members	40	43	2 Full Members became Associates.
			1 Student Member became Associate.
			1 New Member.
			1 Died.
	191	212	

The Society continues to owe a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Parker Morris for his interest and advice. Legal Advice.

That there is a necessity for the appointment of special officers to deal with the management of large housing schemes continues to be apparent from the number of posts available. It is, though, a matter for considerable regret that a tendency appears to separate the social side of the work from the business and administrative aspects, the former posts being open to women at relatively low rates of pay. While such separation of itself prohibits the obtaining of the best possible results, it is clear that the lower rate of pay must generally result in a correspondingly lower standard of training, this tending in its turn to reduce the whole status of housing management work. Moreover, women accepting such posts would appear to be professionally in a cul-de-sac. It remains our constant endeavour to stress the need for the treatment of management as one whole and the necessity for the highest possible training, such training justifying the receipt of appropriate remuneration. General Development.

We have to record a steady increase in the number of bodies employing our members, also in the number of tenancies under our control. At the end of the Society's year members were employed by 32 Municipalities and 31 Public Utility Societies, beside a large number of private owners. We were in control of over 41,000 tenancies as compared with 31,000 in 1934.

The following first appointments have been made:—

Miss A. H. Baskett, Manager, Isle of Dogs Housing Society, Ltd.
Mrs. Dobson, (Miss Swinburne), Investigator of the Research Sub-committee of the National Council of Women.
Miss Geldard, Manager, Leeds Housing Trust, Ltd.
Miss Humphries, Woman Housing Estate Manager, Bognor Regis.
Miss Ryle, Rent Collector, Stockton-on-Tees.
Miss Upcott, Housing Estate Manager, Islington and Finsbury Housing Association, Ltd.
Miss Vernon, Housing Officer, Tonbridge.

Other appointments are:—

London.

Hiss H. M. Cooke, Assistant Woman Property Manager, Westminster.
Miss Kipping, Manager, Golborne Estate, Improved Tenements Association, Ltd. (Kensington).
Miss C. Watson, Woman Assistant in Housing Department, Hendon.
Miss Winnington-Ingram, Assistant, Golborne Estate, Improved Tenements Association, Ltd. (Kensington).

Provinces

- Miss Calveley, Second Assistant, Chesterfield.
- Miss Coltman, Chief Assistant, Chesterfield.
- Miss Gamble, Woman Property Manager, Chesterfield.
- Miss Garratt, Assistant in Housing Department, Leeds.
- Miss Hall, Senior Rent Collector, Leeds.
- Miss Struthers, Assistant Estate Manager, Rotherham.
- Miss Tod, Assistant Rent Collector, Norwich.

Honours

We congratulate the following:—

Miss Hort on becoming F.S.I.; Miss Bunford, Miss Lamplough, B.Sc. and Miss Taylor on becoming P.A.S.I.

Examination Successes.

We are particularly glad to congratulate Miss Vernon on her distinguished achievement in being placed second on the combined total of her Intermediate and Final results in the examination list of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution. This success brought to Miss Vernon the award of the Galsworthy Prize.

W.H.P.M. Certificate of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Miss Deverell | Miss E. K. Sawers |
| Miss Empson | Miss Seddon |
| Miss Ettinghausen | Miss Struthers |
| Miss Jenks | Miss Tuke |
| Miss Rayner | |

University of London

B.Sc. in Estate Management.

Miss Cathrall (Part I Final)

Intermediate B.Sc. in Estate Management.

Miss Craven

Other Societies.

The Society has become affiliated to the Women's Employment Federation. Members have represented the Society at many conferences and other meetings, including the following: Miss M. R. Baskett represented the Society at the Annual Conference of the Royal Institute of Public Health and read a paper on "Some Social Aspects of Housing and Re-housing"; Miss Murray was appointed the Society's delegate to the International Congress of the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning and read a paper on "Housing Estate Management"; Miss Jeffery, O.B.E., spoke on our behalf at a meeting organised by the Federation of British Business and Professional Women and held at the House of Commons to meet the women M.P.'s; Miss Curror is on the panel of speakers of the Scottish Women Citizen's Association.

Bulletin.

Regular issues of the Quarterly Bulletin continue to be made. Last year we noted with satisfaction that the numbers had increased in size and interest and this improvement has been maintained during the current year.

Propaganda.

Extensive use has been made of the pamphlet "Housing Estate Management by Women" in response to demands for information on the subject from both official and non-official sources. It has been increasingly felt, however, that there was need for a briefer statement on the subject and an abridged pamphlet is now in course of preparation.

Meetings Addressed by Members.

A large number of organisations have been addressed by members in the course of the year, including the following, in addition to those already mentioned:—

London.

- Housing Exhibition, Ealing.
- National Council of Women, Barnes, and Housing Sectional Committee.
- Queen's College, Harley Street.
- Royal College of Nursing.

Provinces.

- Ashton-under-Lyme, National Council of Women.
- Bath, National Council of Women.
- Beckenham, Women Citizens' Association.
- Birmingham, Soroptimists' Club.
- Cambridge, Students' Meeting, Girton and Newnham.
- Canterbury, Public Utility Society.
- Chester, Toc H and Women's Co-operative Guild.
- Hastings, founding of Public Utility Society.
- Hornchurch, Women's Co-operative Guild.
- Huntingdon, Venturers' Club.
- Leicester, Association of Social Workers, Soroptimists' Club.
- Llangollen, National Council of Women.
- Maidstone, Women Citizens' Association.
- Manchester, Institute of Housing Management, Toc H.
- Newcastle, Students' Society of the Incorporated Association of Rating and Valuation Officers.
- Northern Women's Liberal Club, Delegates' Meeting.
- Preston, National Council of Women.
- St. Alban's, National Council of Women.
- Tonbridge, Women Citizens' Association.
- Woking, Borough Council.

Scotland.

- Edinburgh Social Union, Annual Meeting.

FAWCETT COLLECTION

South Africa.

Cape Town, Health Visitors,
Efficiency Club,
Municipal Women's Association.
Devil's Peak Ratepayers' Association.
Overseas League.
Trained Nurses' Association.
Toc H. League of Women Helpers.
Education Fellowship.
Broadcast in "Occupational Talks" series.

Annual
Provincial
Conference.

The Annual Provincial Conference was held at Sheffield in the week-end of May 18th and 19th. Arrangements had been made for a visit to the Corporation Estates and for a civic reception by the Deputy Lord Mayor. At the evening meeting Mr. D. L. Bridgwater, B.Arch., A.R.I.B.A., gave a very interesting lecture, illustrated by lantern slides, on "The Planning and Construction of Working Class Flats". Members' meetings were devoted to discussion on training and other matters and Miss Samuel gave an address on her tour in the U.S.A.

Deaths.

We much regret to record the following deaths: Mrs. Tait and Miss F. Thompson (Full Members), Miss Churton (Associate Member) and Sir William Chance (a Trustee of the Society).

Overseas
Visitors.

The Society's removal to more central premises and the holding of important international housing conferences in London have combined to bring about an increase in the number of visitors from overseas, mainly from the U.S.A., but also from Europe and Australia. All showed a keen interest in the work of management and particularly in the Society's training scheme. Many of the American visitors referred to the interest aroused in the U.S.A. by Sir Raymond Unwin's tour in 1934, in which Miss Samuel participated.

Housing
Act, 1935.

The Society has watched carefully the progress of the Housing Act, 1935.

Mr. George Strauss, M.P., moved the Society's amendment to Clause 2 (definition of room) during the Committee Stage of the Housing Bill, but the Minister did not accept it.

We have used our best endeavours to secure representation for the Society on the new bodies to be set up under the Act. In this we have been greatly helped by Sir Gerald Hurst who moved an amendment to Clause 24 of the Bill during the Report Stage. The Minister of Health undertook to give full consideration to our claims when decisions were made with regard to the formation of the Central Housing Advisory Committee.

With regard to Scotland, we are much indebted to Mr. J. C. M. Guy, M.P., who moved two amendments on behalf of the Society during the Report Stage of the Housing (Scotland) Bill. The Secretary of State for Scotland gave an assurance that he would give favourable consideration to our claims at the appropriate time, stating in particular that proposals for the employment of women managers by Housing Management Commissions would receive most sympathetic consideration.

Housing
(Scotland) Act,
1935.

The thanks of the Society are once more due to many members for their assistance in various directions.

Voluntary
Help.

M. E. MARSHALL,
Chairman of Council.

Finance

The Society's expenses during the year have increased by approximately £190, a figure which is out of all proportion to any additional income. A few items such as Moving Expenses, Expenses of Appointment of Secretary, will not, presumably, recur annually, but the great bulk of the increase is due to the steadily growing work of the office. It has only been by the strictest economy—and this has involved limiting activities which are essential for the proper development of the Society's work—that any balance has been brought forward this year.

The Capital Account has been augmented by ten £1 shares in the Bethnal Green and East London Housing Association which have been left to the Society by the late Mrs. Tait who was a valued member of the Association of Women House Property Managers and of this Society for a number of years.

Other welcome donations received during the year include the following:—

Miss Thrupp—Donation
Miss Cochrane—Donation
Miss Gold—Donation of Speaker's Fee
Miss Hort—Donation of Speaker's Fee
Miss Taylor—Donation of Speaker's Fee
and anonymous donors.

The Society has again to thank a number of members who have not claimed their travelling expenses.

A Bursary Fund has now been started with the sum of £55 which is made up of two grants returned by students and a donation which was specially earmarked for this purpose. It is hoped that this Bursary Scheme may be developed in the near future.

J. DARLING,
Honorary Treasurer,
4th October, 1935.

PAMPHLET