

# THE STAFF OF THE IRISH CO-OPERATIVE AGENCY SOCIETY



The staff of the Irish Co-operative Agency Society. Seated (left to right) — Miss M. Curry, Miss G. O'Kelly, Mr. P. F. Ryan (Manager), Miss I. Corbett, Miss T. Hassett. Standing at back — Mr. J. Clifford, Miss M. Madden, Mr. T. Hoare, Miss J. Hogan, Mr. H. GreenSmith, Miss M. O'Brien, Mr. J. Burrows, Miss R. Hayes, Mr. C. Nestor, Miss R. O'Connell, Mr. M. McSweeney, Assistant Manager.

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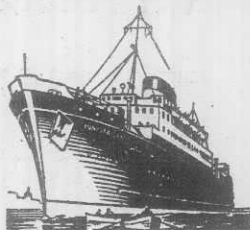
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offers congratulations  
and sincere good wishes to

**IRISH CO-OPERATIVE AGENCY SOCIETY LIMITED**

on the occasion of the opening of their  
fibreboard container factory.

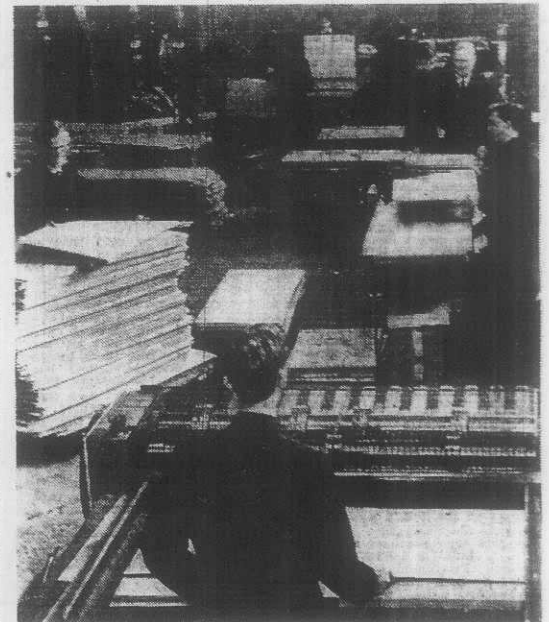
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# IRELAND'S FIRST CO-OPERATIVE FACTORY

A VIEW OF THE NEW FACTORY



IRELAND'S first co-operative factory was opened on the 16th of this month with the new Fibreboard Box Factory at Roxboro' Road, Limerick, operated by the Irish Co-Operative Agency Society, Ltd.

The opening was attended by creamery managers and milk suppliers from all the dairying areas. Among the distinguished guests were Rev. Fr. Creed, Adm. (who performed the blessing ceremony); Ald. G. E. Russell, Mayor of Limerick (who officiated at the opening); Mr. M. J. Keyes, T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs; Capt. D. J. Barry, Secretary, I.C.M.A.; Mr. Owen Biney, Vice-President, I.A.O.S.; Mr. P. Kelly, Asst. Secretary, I.A.O.S.; Mr. C. O'Leary, President, I.C.M.A.; Mr. J. Feely, Deputy President, I.C.M.S.A.; Ald. J. Carew, T.D.; Mr. P. Maguire, Chairman, Limerick Committee of Agriculture; and Mr. C. J. Hanrahan, Manager, Munster and Limerick Bank.

The Irish Co-operative Agency Society was established in 1893, and its first President was Sir Horace Plunkett, the founder and ex-

ceedingly generous patron of the agricultural Co-operative Movement in Ireland.

The Society, for reasons over which it had no control and due mainly to a change in the marketing of Irish butter, went into liquidation in 1932.

In 1952, the Society had paid its creditors 20/- in the £, and the shareholding creameries decided on re-organising the I.C.A.S. It was decided then that the Society act in the capacity of a purchasing Agency for the Creameries and cover a wider field than merely supplying the requirements of the Creameries.

The Society is now offering store requirements—cement, lime, barbed wire, paints, brushes, etc., etc.

By present indications, all the Co-operative Creameries in this country will be shareholders in the very near future, as they realise the usefulness of a Co-operative Society of this type, in which they can have a big voice in the administration, and the main aim of which is to give service to the Co-operative Movement on a non-profit making basis.

importers of top quality Swedish boxboard materials and within the coming week will be importing over 400 tons of Fibreboard. This, as may be appreciated, enables them to claim to be by far the largest importers of materials for Fibreboard boxes in this country at present. In the not too distant future, they are confident of being able to supply the requirements of Creameries of 23-lb. Roll Cartons, and the Fibreboard Factory, at this stage, looks like being 100 per cent. successful. Combined cost of build- ings and machinery could be estimated at £25,000. Orders of Fibreboard boxes on hands for the coming season exceeds half a million and these will be manufactured in good time

wholesale drapery, warehousemen, importers, exporters, manufacturers

**ASSISTANT MANAGER**  
**MR. M. McSWEENEY**  
Mr. M. McSweeney, a native of Farranfor, Co. Kerry, and past pupil of G.B.S., Tralee, did a course in Creamery Management in U.C.C. and qualified in March, 1946. He became Branch Manager to Piltown G.A. and D.S., Ltd., in 1946, and three years later was appointed Assistant Manager by Glenmore Co-operative Creamery Society. In 1954, Mr. McSweeney was appointed Assistant Manager by Irish Co-operative Agency Society, Ltd.

for the Creameries' requirements. The Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers' Association, having advanced the capital by way of loan, are playing a conspicuous part in cutting down the cost of production to the producer and the relations between the Irish Co-operative Agency Society Ltd., the Irish Creamery Managers' Association and the Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers' Association are extremely cordial, and should play a vital part in the future in safeguarding the interests of the Co-operative Movement.

**LARGEST IMPORTERS**  
Through the years, the Society was one of the largest

**THE COMMITTEE OF IRISH CO-OP. AGENCY SOCIETY, LTD.**

**MR. R. M. CLERY** (President)—Extensive farmer and supplier to Ardpatrick Creamery, member of Committee of E. E. G.B.S. Ltd.; member of Limerick Co. Council for over thirty years, and member of various committees attached to Limerick Co. Council at different periods: member of Agricultural Wages Board, Limerick; and Chairman of Greybridge G.B.S., Ltd., Co. Limerick; Deputy President, Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers' Assoc.; producers' representative on Milk Costing Committee; and member of L.C.M.S.A. on Agricultural Production Council.

**MR. J. CONWAY** (Vice-President)—General Manager and Secretary of Kilkenny G.B.S. Ltd., Co. Kerry. This Society carries on a large and varied business, including two Creameries, feeding stuffs and millings, eggs and poultry, saw-milling. Operations too extensive to detail. Turnover in Kilkenny increased from £5,000 to a quarter of a million in 1954. Turnover in 1955 was £250,000.

**MR. D. J. RYAN**—Manager, Limerick G.B.S. Ltd., Co. Limerick. Mr. Ryan's late father was founder and first Manager of this old established Society. Limerick G.B.S. does a very extensive business in the production of cream and butter, and also handles all store goods, including a large bakery and confectionary trade. Turnover now exceeds £250,000 per annum.

**MR. F. RYAN**—Chairman, Abbeydorney G.B.S. Ltd., Co. Kerry; member of Committee of I.A.O.S.; represents Creameries on Joint Labour Committee, established by Labour Court; ex-member Kerry Co. Council.

**MR. A. O'CONNOR** B.Sc., Manager, Bohernabreena G.A. and D.S., Ltd., Co. Cork. The Store Department handles hardware, manures, seeds, millings, grain drying and manufacturers' animal feeding stuffs. Introduced in 1953, the first Pilot scheme in this country. This intensive advisory service is run in conjunction with Cork Committee of Agriculture and affords unique facilities for suppliers of Bohernabreena. Already very satisfactory results have been achieved in an all-round increase of production by the farmers in that area. A modern granary was completed last year, which provides for drying and storage of home-grown grain (barley and oats).

**MR. J. CONWAY**—Chairman, Muckalee G.B.S. Ltd., Co. Kilkenny; ex-Chairman of Kilkenny Committee of Glenwilliam G.B.S. Ltd., Co. Limerick; ex-member Kilkenny Co. Council.

**MR. J. LANIGAN**—Manager, Drombane G.B.S., Ltd., Co. Tipperary. Progressive Society with two branches and handling store goods and also millings. Mr. Lanigan has been Manager there for the past 22 years and his predecessor, Mr. H. Ryan, was one of the pioneers and most prominent figures of the Co-operative Movement in its earliest days.

**MR. T. J. McDONNELL**—Member of Committee of Glenwilliam G.B.S. Ltd., Co. Limerick; ex-member of Limerick County Council; Committee member of Ballynarry G.B.S. Ltd., Co. Limerick.

I am, yours faithfully,  
(Signed) HORACE PLUNKETT.

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Cumberland Warehouse Limited wish every success to the Irish Co-operative Agency Society, Limited, on the opening of their fibreboard factory on January 16.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE Irish Co-Operative Agency Society Ltd.

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