

Fred was also expected to deposit with the society twenty pounds from which he would be paid interest of five pounds per annum. The capital was to provide security in the case of wilful neglect or default.

Fred and Elizabeth moved into the premises located on the High Street in Bodicote. It was a large and imposing brick building in the heart of the village, surrounded by iron-stone cottages typical of the area.

Fred and Elizabeth remained childless and then on 14th February 1906 Elizabeth died; they had been married for nineteen years. In June 1907, fifteen months later, Fred remarried. His new bride was Phoebe Whitehead from Harbury – at thirty-one she was ten years younger than Fred. Seven months later their daughter Caroline Phoebe Elizabeth was born. Affectionately known as Lizzie, she was to be Fred's only child.

In March 1927 Fred and his Co-op Store featured on the front page of *The Banbury Co-operative Bulletin*, standing in his white apron outside his shop. The editorial explained why:

*The Picture on the front cover is from a recent photo of Bodicote Stores. Mr F. Baylis 'holds the ribbon' for length of service among the present Branch Managers. The length is 35 years and the branch has been established 40 years. Every resident in Bodicote should be a member. Service, no order too small, no trouble too great to meet a customer's needs. Surely that is the Branch motto.*

On April 6th 1931 Lizzie married Stanley Thompson, a pharmacist, in the Wesleyan Chapel in Marlborough Road, Banbury and in 1937 Lizzie gave birth to a son, Peter, in the Co-op House. Peter would follow his father's footsteps and become a pharmacist also. In the *Wheatsheaf*, as the *Banbury Co-operative Bulletin* was now called, appeared a small thank-you from Mr and Mrs F. Baylis. Entitled 'Easter Monday Wedding' it thanked the caterer Mr Tidley and named the two most high-ranking guests Mr and Mrs W.H. Lickorish and Mr and Mrs Cooke.

Fred was a staunch Methodist, as many people in Bodicote were at that time. His Co-op supplied the children's temperance organisation called 'The Bodicote Band of Hope', an organisation within the Methodist Church. There exists a receipt signed by Fred on May 12th 1931 for supplying bread, cakes, butter, tea and paste, to the Band of Hope; he was also able to hire out a tea urn for a penny-halfpenny.