

## The late Mr. Fred Baylis.

On Wednesday, August 7th, there passed from us one of the most respected co-operators in this district, in the person of Fred Baylis, formerly Bodicote branch manager.



The late Fred Baylis.

He gave in his active days service to the society's members of the very best. He always put the branch manager's point of view clearly and fairly, and his heart and thought were to the end in the society's affairs. He retired some two years ago, but did not live long to enjoy retirement. As a matter of fact

his retirement was accompanied by very indifferent health.

During his illness I usually called weekly to see him.

Always generous, always welcome, always quietly and happily discursive, I shall long revere his memory. How he revelled in reminiscence! Before trade union recognition he told of taking a load of offals to a branch, returning to town and delivering bread, and then taking the horses to turn out in the Chacombe fields—a long day's work. He never grudged time and ever gave of his best.

He will be missed, and his memory will be long treasured among us.

W. H. LICKORISH.



Phoebe continued to live in the Co-op house until her own death in 1946; she was 70. She and Fred are buried in Bodicote cemetery.

Bodicote Co-op continued to serve the people of Bodicote until the mid 1980's when it finally closed. It is now a private residence, but also, in the tradition of the building, is used as an interior designer's place of business.

### Sources.

www.nhc.org.uk : North Camden Housing Co-op, 'A Co-operative history'.

www.historyhome.co.uk: The Rochdale Pioneers.

Manchester Co-operative Archive: The Banbury Co-operative Industrial Society.

International Co-operative Information Centre: A Short History of the UK Co-operative Movement.

My grateful thanks to Diane Thompson of Bloxham Museum, who generously allowed me access to her family archives.