

Notes and Comments

NEWS ON CONFERENCES

The BAHS holds three conferences a year. The first is its annual residential Spring Conference held at a different location each year in early April. The second is a one-day conference on a local history theme on a Saturday in September, again at a different location each year. There is good news about last September's conference held in Birmingham; initially it looked as though it would have to be cancelled because of insufficient support. However, as a result of the persistence of the organizer, Richard Hoyle, in encouraging a late rally in registrations, a number of members were able to enjoy an exciting programme of papers on Midlands agriculture in the eighteenth century. Members of the society who feel they would like to attend a conference at this time of the year, and can suggest either local themes and venues, or strategies, which they believe would tap an existing market and draw in a significant audience are invited to contact the Autumn Conference organizer, Richard Hoyle of the University of Central Lancashire at his home address, 37 Lower Bank Road, Fulwood, Preston PR2 4NS. This year's conference will be held in Winchester in conjunction with the Hampshire Record Office on the theme of medieval Hampshire. Bethanie Afton will be conference secretary and the date of the meeting is Saturday 28 October. The final conference is also a one-day conference which is held at the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, University of London on the first Saturday in December. For the last six years this conference has been organized by Peter Dewey from Royal Holloway College, University of London, Egham. Peter is now taking a well earned rest after six successful conferences, and for 1995 he will be handing over to John Broad of Whitelands College, University of North London. John has arranged a conference for Saturday 2 December on the theme of 'Farming and the Farm'. Speakers will be Susanna Wade Martins, Christopher Thornton, Tony Phillips, and Colum Giles. Susanna Wade Martins's latest book *Farms and Fields* has just been published by Batsford in their 'Know the Landscape' series.

Looking ahead to 1996 the Spring Conference then will be held at Roehampton, Surrey. The local organizer is Peter Edwards, Department of History, Roehampton Institute of Higher Education, Digby Stuart College, Roehampton Hill, London SW15 5PH. Peter has already arranged a number of speakers whose papers will include, Peter Atkins on the geography of food production, Dorian Gerhold on local landownership patterns, a sym-

posium featuring Sylvia Seeliger, Judy Gielgud and Wendy Thwaites on women in agriculture, Malcolm Thick on market gardening and Terry Gourvish on the brewing industry. As an added attraction, after the papers the conference will also involve a field trip to Young's Brewery at Wandsworth on the final Wednesday morning! The dates that you should keep free in your 1996 diary are Monday 1 April to Wednesday 3 April, and further details can be obtained either from Dr Edwards or the BAHS Secretary. The 1997 Spring Conference will be held at the University of Portsmouth from Monday 6 to Wednesday 8 April and Dr John Chapman, University of Portsmouth, Buckingham Building, Lion Terrace, Portsmouth, PO1 3HE, will be the local organizer.

CALL FOR CONFERENCES PAPERS

The society is always glad to hear from those willing to offer papers at conferences. If you have one to offer you can either contact one of the conference organizers, or the BAHS Secretary who acts as an overall conference co-ordinator. You should supply a title for your paper and some details, preferably in the form of a short synopsis, together with an indication of which conference(s) you will be available to deliver it to. The addresses of the organizers of the forthcoming conference are given above. The BAHS Secretary is Dr Richard Perren who can be contacted at the Department of History and Economic History, Taylor Building, University of Aberdeen, Old Aberdeen AB9 2UB, Fax 0224 272300.

REQUESTS FOR HELP

As part of our service to readers Notes and Comments now includes a section under this heading. This is designed for all members of the BAHS, but particularly those who are not attached to an academic institution. We hope this will provide assistance for two types of problem. Firstly, those thinking of carrying out research and who have chosen a topic, but are not too sure where to begin, or want to know who else has worked on that particular subject. And secondly, those who are well into a project but need further information to fill in gaps, or require advice on methodology. From time to time we have published lists of research in progress, but as there are intervals of some time between their appearance it is hoped this spot will fill the gap where someone wants information in the short term. This service is open to all members and if you feel it might be of some help to yourself, you are urged to send your name and address, along

with your request, to the Secretary of the BAHS, Dr Richard Perren, Department of History and Economic History, Taylor Building, University of Aberdeen, Old Aberdeen, AB9 2UB.

A REQUEST FOR HELP

John Smedley is currently working on some seveneenth-century Cornish farm accounts. To further this research he wishes to compile a comprehensive

bibliography of material on the agrarian history of Cornwall. He is particularly interested in farming practices and agricultural techniques, as well as the history of all social classes within the Cornish countryside and the position of farmers as leaders within the local community. He would like anyone who feels they can help with references and information to contact him. Mr Smedley lives at 6 Treventon Rise, St Columb, Cornwall TR9 5AY, Tel 0637-880004.

Notes on Contributors

J A CHARTRES is professor and chairman of the School of Business & Economic Studies, University of Leeds. He is a former secretary of BAHS, and was editor of the *Review*, 1984-94. He has written on transport, domestic trade, and agrarian markets in early modern England, and contributed to volumes V and VI of *The Agrarian History of England and Wales*.

LINDA CRUST was born at Goxhill, Lincolnshire. After settling in Leicestershire, where she married, raised a family and trained as an English teacher, she returned to Lincolnshire. There, abetted by many farming relatives, she became engrossed in local and agrarian history. In the mid-1980s she discovered the Paddison diaries in the Lincolnshire Archives Office and has subsequently concentrated on their analysis.

NORMA LANDAU is a professor in the History Department at the University of California at Davis. She has published *The Justices of Peace 1679-1760*, as well as articles in *Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research*, *Historical Journal*, *Albion*, *Continuity and Change*, and *Eighteenth-Century Studies*. She is now working on two projects: one on the regulation of

migration in early modern England; and one on the justices of eighteenth-century Middlesex.

DR E H HUNT has taught economic and social history at the London School of Economics since 1969 and has published extensively on various aspects of British labour history, including the agricultural labourers. S J PAM teaches history at Queens' School, Bushey, where he is deputy headmaster. He is completing a PhD thesis on Essex agriculture between 1850 and 1914, the source of much of the original research for the present article. Both are Essex men.

JOHN SHEAIL is a senior principal officer and head of the Environmental Management Section of the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology (Natural Environment Research Council, at Monks Wood, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire). He is Visiting Professor of Geography in the Loughborough University of Technology. He has published books and papers on the historical ecology of British wildlife, the emergence of policies for managing the natural environment, and the history of the environmental sciences.