

In order to show the growth of this movement of village correspondents, we give here the following figures for the village correspondents attached to the "Central Peasant Newspaper" ("Krestianskaya Gazeta"). In 1924 this newspaper had 400 village correspondents, in 1925 it had 2,598, in 1926 it had 6,350 and in 1927 the figures had grown to 10,200.

The growing membership of those various associations which exist to mobilise public support for the measures of the State, is also important for the development of the peasant co-operative sense.

The voluntary associations formed in the towns at the initiative of the workers are extending their activity and influence more and more by recruiting broad masses of the peasantry.

Apart from the two such associations mentioned in diagrams Nos. 94 and 95, there exist a whole series of such associations in the Soviet Union.

The Red Aid groups (Mopr) are very numerous and powerful (On the last July 1927 the Mopr had 710,000 members in the villages of the Soviet Union), this is also true of the "Friends of the Wireless" and "Friends of the Children" organisations.

Apart from the collection of funds all these organisations carry on a cultural educational activity aiming to draw the attention of the masses to the particular questions of social and political life with which the organisations concern themselves.

With regard to the Society for the Struggle against Illiteracy,

there are no exact figures for the number of peasant members. The society of the Friends of the Airforce and the Chemical Industry (Aviachim) is of very great practical significance for the peasants. The society carries on a widespread activity for the chemical destruction of the various pests, using aeroplanes to spread chemicals over the lands and forests etc. The society also runs special experimental lands to demonstrate the advantage of the application of chemical fertilisers.

In the period before the revolution, the peasant woman was particularly backward, but the revolution gave her equal rights with the men. In order to make this equality real, to increase the political activity of the peasant women and to increase her participation in public life, the women's delegate meetings were called into being. These delegate meetings were formed first of all in the towns for the working women and afterwards they were formed in the countryside also.

Diagram No. 97 shows the total number of peasant women delegates according to the various years and their procentual relations to the total number of women's delegates.

The diagram shows an absolute growth of the number of delegates and an increasing percentage of peasant women delegates amongst the total number of women delegates (peasant women, working women, wives of workers, women clerks etc.).

These delegate meetings are a special sort of organisation. They participate in the treatment of the practical question of the work of soviet construction. They take part in the work of