

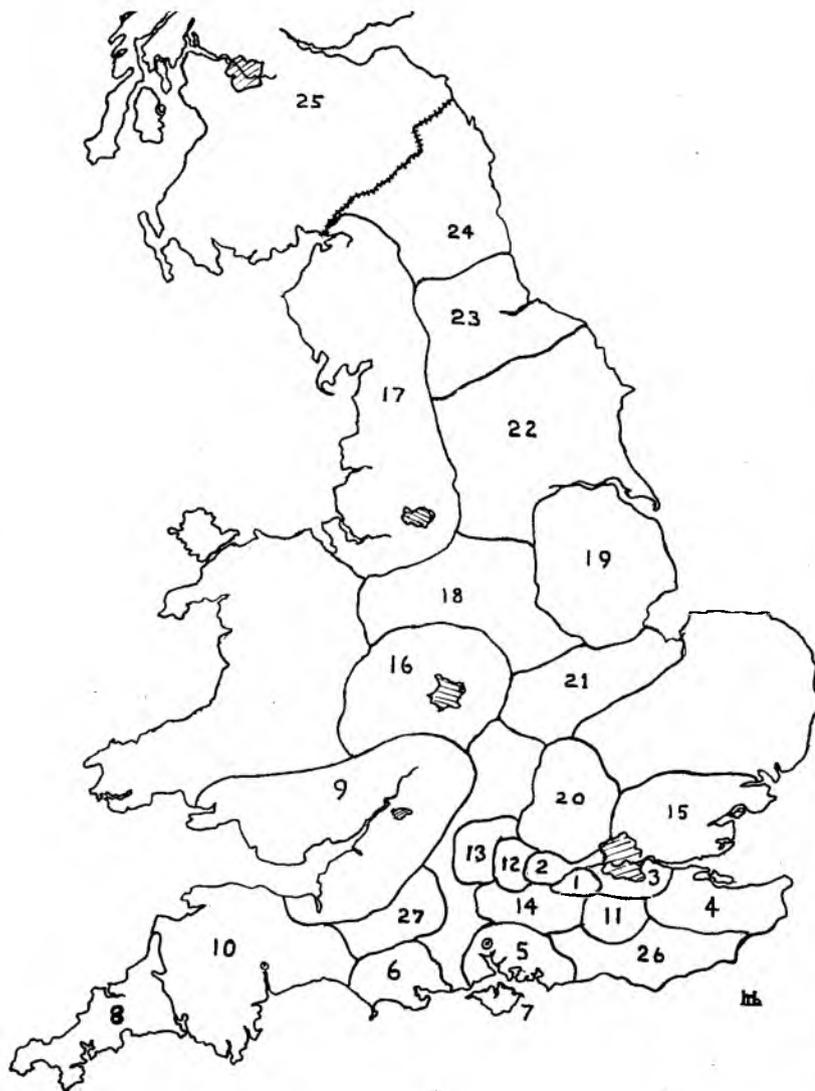
# AND SO THEY GROW

## The Association of Federations has left its infancy

We are now able to publish a map of all known winemaking Federations in the country compiled from the Association of Federations records; it shows the existence of some twenty-six Federations. There are obviously some areas of "No Man's land" but many of these are areas of sparse population but containing numerous individual wine circles and many winemakers. Whilst some areas look small, like Middlesex which has twenty-six member circles, others like the North West have a much larger area and something like seventy member clubs.

The Association apologises for any inconvenience; it has recently circularised all known federations with S.A.E.s for the latest situation but half of them have yet to reply. Could this mean more secretaries have defected? It is hoped to publish another map in the near future showing the density of circles and perhaps have this on display at the "National".

The Association was formed in 1972 from the desire of a number of federations to get together to discuss mutual problems which were outside the scope and resources of the National Association. It was then realised the federation was holding well organised and viable shows which were attended by circle members who would not otherwise have wished to travel to the National. They



### KEY

1. Surrey & North Thames
2. Middlesex.
3. North West Kent.
4. Kent.
5. Mid Southern.
6. Dorset.
7. Isle of Wight.
8. Cornwall (Cornish Wine Circles Association).
9. Wales & West.
10. South West Counties.
11. 23/25.
12. Chilterns and Mid Thames
13. Oxford & South Midlands.
14. Mid Wessex.
15. Essex.
16. Midlands.
17. North West Counties
18. North Midlands.
19. Lincolnshire.
20. Beds. & Herts.
21. West Anglia.
22. Yorkshire.
23. North Yorks. & South Durham.
24. Northumberland.
25. Scottish.
26. Sussex.
27. Somerset.

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were also organising seminars, wine trips and lectures, judging classes and many other subject designed to improve the standards of winemaking, to say nothing of the enjoyment.

Subsequent delegates meetings have been largely concerned with the business of innovation, exchange of ideas, improvement of communication between Federations, and bulk ordering to cut costs. The Association regards itself as in a similar role to the N.A.W.B. Judges and not at variance with the National. In fact a delegate from the National and the N.A.W.B. Judges is invited to all our meetings. The National now recognises the existence of Federations and we have our own Delegate on the National Committee.

The Association is very much a business organisation to further the interests of the Federations. We are not in business to knock the National Committee, nevertheless any constructive opinions expressed will be passed on to the National. The next meeting of the Association of Federations will be held at the Wheatshaf Hotel, Sheldon, Birmingham on Sunday, 29th February, 1976 at 2.00 p.m.

John Toule, chairman



**“Be fair, you knew I was an enthusiastic winemaker before we got wed”**