

THE A. T. FORERUNNER.

"NOT GREATER WEALTH, BUT SIMPLER PLEASURES."

No. 1

OCTOBER, 1910.

The "A. T. Forerunner" is published monthly.

All Communications should be addressed not later than the 25th of each month to

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The remarkable advance made during the last few years in the laying out of Garden Cities and Garden Suburbs, serves to prove again that it is impossible for the world to stand still. And what better proof of progress in this direction is required than the development of the "ANCHOR TENANTS" Estate? Three years ago land was purchased by a small society of working men, at the back of a truly rustic village, and to-day there is an attractive little township so planned out that as it increases in size it so increases in beauty as to occasion surprise and win the admiration of all visitors. As the surroundings are healthy to the body, so its institutions must be healthy to the mind. It has founded a Social Service Stores, a Medical Society, Debating and Choral Classes; and other recreative Societies will be commenced this winter.

Now, as a matter of course, arises the necessity for some means of keeping the tenants in touch with each other by recording the doings of these different institutions; giving interesting information where possible, and where desirable, of airing the different opinions on matters connected with the Estate. Hence the publication of this, the first issue of the **A. T. F.**

The past summer has provided us with every natural means for making the existence of our Garden Suburb more widely known. The fact has been manifest in the constant influx of visitors during weekends: each Saturday providing accommodation for parties out for enjoyment; each Sunday ending in a destination being found for numbers of aimless Sunday evening strollers. By the way, it may not be too late in the year to suggest to the Secretary as a fruitful source of propaganda that he issue invitations to

Branch Secretaries of Trade Unions in the town, who often gather numbers of their members together for visits to the Power Station, Gas Works, and similar institutions to pay us a visit.

The winter however will soon be here, and it should not be allowed to have the same effect upon us, in this respect, as it does upon nature generally—Stagnation. No doubt all the tenants can testify to the remarks of friends and acquaintances, when contemplating the "miles from nowhere" place called the Garden City. The comment invariably runs 'Oh, yes, its O K. in the summer, but what about the winter?' After which the tenant addressed assumes a brave demeanor which usually fails to convince. But fancy being snowed up in England—for more than an hour. It is for this class of critic that we might find means of attraction during the winter months.

"No scene is continually and untiringly loved, but one rich by joyful human labour; smooth in field; fair in garden; full in orchard; trim, sweet and frequent in homestead; ringing with voices of vivid existence. No air is sweet that is silent; it is only sweet when full of low currents of under-sound—triplets or birds, and murmur and chirp of insects, and deep toned words of men, and wayward trebles of childhood."

Ruskin—"Unto this last."

How gratifying it is to find neighbouring Societies are showing keen interest and full confidence in the ultimate success of the A. T. The Kettering Co-operative Boot and Shoe Society, Ltd. have invested £100 as share capital. The Secretary's interview with the Committee must have given every satisfaction as cheque was received within three days of same. Then again, the Committee of the Leicester Distributive Society, Ltd. have decided to recommend at the next Quarterly Meeting of members, the investment of £200 as share capital. This of course means another £300 share capital besides, as the "Co-partnership Tenants" have duly redeemed their promise that for every £100 share capital obtained by the A. T. they would invest a further £100.

AUTUMN.

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
 Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun,
 Conspiring with him how to load and bless
 With fruit, the vines which round the thatch-
 eaves run,
 To bend with apples the moss'd cottage trees,
 And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core.

—Keats.

In such mellow numbers does our poet fondle these fast dying days of the year. Days when the rapturous song of the lark is no longer heard rising upwards. When rises only the blue smoke from in the gardens, publishing the bounteous yield of mother-earth. Days when even man cannot vie with Nature in producing glitter of gold; days when all vegetation glows with resplendent harmonious hues. See those old chestnuts spread in even contour of form, they have accomplished something, they have borne fruit, and now, how lovely in their declining days. Alas! how many poor human souls have borne fruit, have accomplished the work that was intended of them, have passed into a glorious, golden gliding of their later years? These are the days of peace; no more the scorching summer heat, nor lusty activity of spring, not yet the fierce bite of winter, storm-clad, ice-bound, rushing tempests, hail, rain, snow, sleet.

Often in our peaceful Sunday walks along the pathways of our wooded lanes we find ourselves treading softly, silently on a carpet, unique in texture, of nature's own spreading; as if it were spread that no harsh sound should disturb the peace of the dying year; a carpet of leaves; and here and there we shall notice detached by the eddying of the soft south wind, numbers, coppered and golden, whirled round in a circle, chasing each other in a mournful dance, as they would dance a dirge in memory of the May-pole loved of days long past.

These are the days whose mornings, of all the year, are most beautiful and you who read these words may feel specially blessed at being placed in such happy association with nature, because of the days spent in the town where nature is not, but only sordid artificiality where we see too often "the weariness, the fever, and the fret, where men sit and hear each other groan."

These are the mornings oft-times under a sunshine most brilliant, when the mists gather in the hollows of the fields, as they gather in the eyes of sorrowing humanity; the year is dying, the mists gather in the hollows and spread over the hillocks, as though dame Nature mindful of her fading beauty, would veil herself from the too searching glances of the sun.

These are the days whose shortening days bid us drink of their fulness; hours to linger in, as a child delights to linger over the last chocolate, to scrape up the last deliciousness of the honey pot. Days which surely and silently give place to the encroaching night; and the night, in nature's beneficent compensation, hangs up all her finest fairy lamps, all her clustered constellations for our study and admiration.

Yes, Autumn has its beauties; beauties that are full of a sad-souled melancholy, beauties particularly her own. Spring indeed is enchantment, as with the freshness of the maiden innocent of her coming loveliness: but Autumn has a serene loveliness, as of a noble woman, glorious in a serenity earned through something accomplished in her passage through the capricious summer of life.

Items of Interest.

Rumour has it that the A.T. are not to enjoy alone all the pleasures of this beautiful district, but that men of wealth are shewing some anxiety to become our neighbours.

We understand that the General Committee has already passed plans for shops and offices; but we are not certain as to whether a public clock is contemplated.

We must congratulate the Urban Council on the satisfactory manner in which they are meeting our desires in respect to the improvement in Keyham Lane, and our thanks are due to the gentlemen who supported the scheme.

And now we would suggest to those responsible a further improvement by the cutting of the hedge at the turning. It is a dangerous corner, to the children especially.

No—we are convinced that the tenant in question has no desire whatever to be classed amongst the "upper ten" although we understand he is the fortunate possessor of an up-to-date motor carriage.

We have been informed that the Social Service Committee intend during the coming winter to charge rd. for admission to the Concerts. We do not think the tenants will have any objection to this small charge, for it is unreasonable to expect friends to induce artistes to give their services without making some arrangements for their comfort in coming and going from the Estate, and this involves expense. The S. S. Committee Programme of Concerts for this month will be found in the last column.

We offer a Prize of 5/- for the article which in our opinion best expresses from the numerous stand-points "The Future Possibilities of the A. T. as a Social Community." Length not to exceed 750 words. Papers to be in not later than October 25th.

REPORTS.

MONTHLY MEETING.

The September Monthly Meeting was held in the Institute on Thursday, the 15th. Mr. Groome presided, and there was only a meagre attendance probably owing to the inclement weather, which doubtless prevented town members from attending. After the usual formal business had been disposed of, and the Secretary had reported the success of his visit to the Kettering Co-operative Boot and Shoe Society, the Delegates to the Leicester District Association, whose Annual Meeting was held upon the estate, were called upon to give their report. Mr. Jayes in the course of his remarks, mentioned the fact that several of the Delegates expressed their admiration and full approval of our scheme. Mr. W. Neal concurred and the thanks of the Meeting were voted our delegates. Mr. Beamish was then asked to report upon the progress of the newly established Fire Brigade: he mentioned that the Superintendent of Messrs. Faire Bros.' Brigade had been up, and kindly set the Committee right on some important points. He also desired the names of any members who wished to join.

CHORAL SOCIETY.

The Choral Society, under the baton of Mr. T. Wilford, gave a concert on Sunday, Sep. the 11th, at the invitation of the North Evington Women's Adult School, in their room situate in Asfordby St., which we believe was much appreciated. The President of the School in some closing remarks pleaded for the formation of a Women's School in the 'colony': ladies please note.

ADULT SCHOOL MEETINGS.

Invitations given on two occasions by the Humberstone Adult School, resulted in West Humberstone and Carley Street paying us a visit. Both meetings were held in the open upon the Bowling Green, and both were well attended. The programme of the first meeting included selections by the A. T. Choral Society, and songs by Messrs. Riley and Rowlett. The speakers were Mr. W. Taylor and Mr. J. Jayes.

Carley Street brought along with them their President, Mr. Dixon, who delivered an address on 'Trees.' Mrs. Purdy and Mr. Philpott rendered creditable solos.

BAND OF HOPE

The first meeting of the Winter session was held on Wednesday, September 7th, when under the Chairmanship of Mr. Warner, a fruit banquet was given. The following week Mr. Beamish presided, and Mr. Eagle, of the Band of Hope Union, gave an address on "The Miner's Lamp." On the 21st a singing contest was arranged, Mr. Howard consenting to judge; some fine attempts were made by both boys and girls, eventually May Hern and Sydney Wilford carried off the coveted distinctions.

MEDICAL AID SOCIETY.

The Medical Aid Society held their Annual Meeting in the Institute on Monday, September 19th. The attendance was not so good as could have been desired considering the importance of the meeting. Mr. Jayes, the President, was in the chair. The Secretary, Mr. Purdy, presented his reports and balance sheet, and the same was considered satisfactory, showing a continued increase in the number of members. The Officers were all unanimously re-elected. An application for membership having been received from an elderly person by the Committee, they desired an expression of opinion as to the necessity of an age limit. A resolution was moved fixing the age at 60 years, but after considerable discussion it was decided there should be no age limit.

The Institute.

The advance of winter necessitates further consideration as to whether the accommodation of the present Institute is nearly sufficient for the growing needs of the members; and more especially for the comfort of those friends who have been so generous in the past and doubtless will again tender their services for our recreation and entertainment. We should therefore like to ask if the General Committee have as yet given instructions for the preparation of plans, should they be necessary, for increasing the present building; and as the Church of Christ will shortly be entering the new Meeting House now nearing completion, this will liberate the Institute another evening also. There seems a desire for it to be used as frequently as possible, as a means for social intercourse.

The Debating Society.

The first Meeting of the above Society was held in the Institute on September 16th. The subject which was opened by Mr. Jayes, who took the negative view, was "Is War Justifiable?" Mr. S. Beamish presided over a good attendance, and a most interesting debate ensued. Mr. Jayes took a most decided stand against justification for war on any ground, and Mr. Law pleaded justification on the grounds that industry and commerce would not have been in their present cosmopolitan state had history been devoid of war. Other speakers followed, mostly taking the negative side.

On Friday, September 30th, Mr. Harrot led a debate on "Is Osborne Right?" taking the affirmative side. Mr. Beamish was in the chair, and a goodly number attended. In the course of his introduction Mr. Harrot contended that the basis of Trade-Unionism did not admit of party considerations, and he took the side of Osborne mainly on that ground. For Osborne, as a person, he had not the slightest sympathy, being convinced that he was only a tool in the hands of a party. He, the speaker, went on to plead for the sore-neglected rights of the minority, pointing out that Trade-Unionists were composed of all shades of political opinion, and it could not justifiably be expected of them to be compelled to pay for a member or party with whose views they disagreed. He held as an alternative to the reversal of the Osborne Judgment, the scheme for State Payment of Members.

Mr. Cliffe, the first to reply, argued the point that the majority shall rule, as an understood law, and that candidates for trade-union membership should be aware of the rule when joining. Mr. Law pointed out that the trade-union basis had not altered; what had altered were the methods, which must move according to economic progress. While the old strike method was played out, the newer weapon of political power was proving far preferable. Mr. Jayes pleaded the strictly moral side of the question, arguing that the minority must be morally prepared to sink their individual self-ness when the weight of opinion is against them, until such time as they can convince the majority to join them. Mr. Taylor advocated withdrawal from his Union of any member who could not agree to pay the parliamentary levy; he thought there was full freedom of action in this respect. Other speakers strongly protested there was no freedom of action, that men were compelled to join their Unions or be boycotted by their fellows. Mr. Harrot replied and so ended the debate. On a vote being taken the majority decided that Osborne was wrong. The meeting closed after a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Harrot.

Letters to the Editor.

CORRESPONDENCE INVITED.

ARE FRUIT AND FLOWER SHOWS PROFITABLE TO THE EXHIBITOR?

To the Editor,

Dear Sir,—Whilst congratulating our friends upon the honours obtained by them at the local Fruit and Flower Shows, I must confess my very grave doubts as to whether, with all the prize money received, the same have been a financial success to them. Note the necessary care and the numberless hours of extra labour involved, to say nothing of the cost of getting their exhibits to Shows, and time lost in staging, etc. Of course, if our friends compete in these Shows from the pure love of producing and exhibiting perfect specimens of fruit and flowers, financial considerations do not weigh; but looking at it from the standpoint of a desire to add to the uncertain income derived from their ordinary occupations, one would think that stuff grown ordinarily would pay far better. Probably by joint action another year a ready market could be found for all surplus produce grown upon the Estate. Perhaps the Social Service Committee and the gardeners themselves will express their views on the matter.

Yours truly, RUSTICUS.

THE SURVIVOR.

When the last day is ended,
And the nights are through;
When the last sun is buried
In its grave of blue;

When the stars are snuffed like candles,
And the seas no longer fret;
When the winds unlearn their cunning,
And the storms forget;

When the last lip is palsied,
And the last prayer said;
Love shall reign immortal
While the worlds lie dead!

Frederick Laurence Knowles.

Saturday Evening Concerts.

THE SOCIAL SERVICE COMMITTEE
have arranged the following:

October 1st.—CHORAL SOCIETY.

„ 8th.—LECTURE by Mr. DIXON. Subject: "Trees I see every day and yet know them not."

„ 15th.—Mr. RILEY AND PARTY.

„ 22nd.—OPEN NIGHT.

„ 29th.—MERRY CADETS.