

# THE A. T. FORERUNNER.

"NOT GREATER WEALTH, BUT SIMPLER PLEASURES."

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The Editor,

"St. Ive's," The Avenue.

The importance of the meeting announced by the Social Service Committee for August 31st, can hardly be exaggerated, for almost the first question asked by thoughtful people when establishing themselves in a permanent home, is what are the facilities for obtaining supplies; and thus on all our Garden Suburbs a shopping centre becomes a necessity to the proper development of the Estate, and no building committee could afford to ignore this essential need, for to do so would jeopardise the success of their scheme. And surely the success of the scheme is of vital importance to each resident, for, from the oldest tenant to the youngest child, we each, whether conscious or unconscious of the fact, have a personal as well as a collective interest in obtaining the best results.

So the shop question is not simply a question of building and letting, but of so letting that the profits accruing from resultant trade, shall, like the profits accruing from the house property on the Estate, benefit the residents individually and collectively by aiding the development of those plans and purposes for a fuller life, which are or should be the aspirations of every Garden Suburb dweller. And it is just this Garden Suburb problem of a fuller life, with the necessary provision for its solution that makes it advisable that we should collectively control the sources of profit that may arise in the course of our development.

There may be some amongst us who question the wisdom of our decision of last year to start a Distributive Society on our own account, instead of seeking the establishment of a branch of the Leicester Co-operative Society. We would commend to such the following considerations:- First, the well known unwillingness of the Leicester Society to establish a branch with a moderate trade. Their policy, we may venture to predict, would be to place a branch near the town boundary to include us, or await our further growth before taking action, in the meantime losing profitable trade to private traders. In the second place suppose they were willing to place a store in our midst, we could not expect to be allowed to control for our own purposes the profit resulting, that of course would be merged into the profit arising from other

branches and utilized in accordance with their usual plans and policy.

The needs peculiar to a Garden Suburb development would have no special interest and could not expect to receive special consideration from the committee of a large town society; they have not our problems to face. Others again may, for economical reasons, think it best to be a part of a large national or town society. Well! bigness is not everything; it does not even always spell success, or stability, or perfection, and the last word in co-operation still remains to be said.

The Garden Suburb movement as represented by Tenant Societies like ours, is a new phase of co-operation, not big yet like its parent, but a healthy growing child nevertheless, and enthusiasm can adopt all that is best of the old ideals and graft them on to the new and the child may grow bigger and better than the parent, ready in turn to give birth to still newer phases of co-operation better and more perfect still. We appeal therefore for the wider outlook. Our interests are mutual. Enthusiasm, confidence, and care will succeed in this new venture, and succeeding, provide further funds for the important Social and Educational work of the Estate Council.

Social organization means many meetings. This is a truism we residents upon Co-partnership Estates soon learn, for each season brings the need for special work suitable to the time and the variety of human characteristics. Every development of our Social and Economical forces means work and sacrifice to be made for the public weal. Happy are we that, though organizations multiply as our Social life develops, and our residents increase in numbers and in diversity of needs, desires, and aspirations, we find always enthusiasts in sufficient numbers ready to serve in any and every capacity.

The time has now arrived according to our resolution, to discuss and form our constitution, for the guidance of our Estate Council, and to elect the members of the council to carry out the work for the forthcoming session.

Clause 2 of the proposed constitution, states the aims and objects of the Council, and how successful the present preliminary committee has been in providing recreation, promoting that goodwill and fellowship stated as the object, is apparent to all. Hurriedly convened, hampered with little or no experience, the committee's work, in this respect, has been a huge success, and this summer, it is certain, will be looked back upon as one during which a great deal has been done

to cement friendships, break down artificial barriers, and help towards the realization of the spirit of the larger family life, we desire so much to foster.

One of our members, at the meeting convened to establish this Estate Council, compared our Estate to a well governed township, pointing out that we had a General Committee concerned with building, sanitation, and the development of our resources from the Estate point of view. Also we were to have a Supply Association, with a Committee entrusted with the care of providing our household commodities, but that the Estate Council should be the body, initiating, supervising, directing and controlling the numerous organizations necessary to fully develop our Educational, Social and Recreative needs, thereby making a complete whole, by supplementing the work of supplying our physical needs, with this organization for taking due care that our mental and social faculties, should be duly encouraged and developed on right lines.

A few minutes thought will show us how large a view of the work this is to take.

To be concerned with the Soul of the movement is to take part in the development of the real character of our citizens, present, future and prospective. This is, indeed, a great work, calling for our best efforts to discover the right men and women, most suited by temperament and training to the most important office, with a real and burning desire on their part to unselfishly serve in the capacity for which they are most suited.

Space forbids or it would be well to elaborate upon the essentials of the work that lie before this Council in the immediate future. Mentally, Socially, Morally, we must be the better for their work.

The task of moulding the character and disposition of the next generation is theirs: what a glorious opportunity! what a field of Service!

No meeting can possibly excel in importance the coming Estate Council Meeting. If we are any judges of the signs of the times, they surely show that its importance will be recognized, its Ideals established and its opportunities seized by all our Tenants eager to take part in its service.

## "An Appreciation."

By A STRANGER.

To one who has been long in city pent,  
'Tis very sweet to look into the fair  
And open face of heaven—to breathe a prayer  
Full in the smile of the blue firmament.

It was with such feelings as the poet Keats here expresses that I made the acquaintance of the Hum-berstone Garden Suburb. Mine was only a brief visit, yet I realized that one can get the above experience and still be within reach of home comforts, swift travel, and the other advantages which proximity to a large town gives, or is supposed to give.

One most pleasing feature of the settlement which impressed me was the real neighbourliness, the good

fellowship. I stood at my host's front door and was not prevented by some stupid fence of brick and iron from enjoying the beautiful vista of form and colour provided by all the gardens on the road. I felt it was all mine to enjoy. In the street where I live I am just getting to know the people across the road after 4 years residence. They, living in a bigger house evidently appreciated the fact, but though I have always been friendly with their children and spoken to them as they played about, the adults have only of late condescended to know me, and this because we have joined the same tennis club so that they could scarcely help it! I cannot imagine such an experience at the Garden Suburb.

Yes, that absence of brick walls was fine in another way. I sit at the table at home and look out of the window at bricks and chimney pots. At Hum-berstone one's eye looked across to tree-covered hills with a grey church spire nestling in their midst.

One feels that to enjoy such extended horizons is good for men and women who are trying to see into the "beyond" in all that makes their life; building for to-morrow and for a future generation.

That last word suggests the children. One was struck with their happy, healthy look. It is to be hoped that they will be able soon to get on the spot the best of education, to interest themselves in their own little garden plots, to get out into the country—so blessedly near—and study nature's wonders in wood and pond and hedgerow, to develop their capacities for artistic handicraft and music, not forgetting a love of order, a reverence for all that is great and good, a tender sympathy and spirit of helpfulness, qualities which are so sadly lacking in many of the youths and maidens in our crowded city life.

I am greatly in debt to the friends who gave me not only much pleasure in seeing, but set my thoughts at work in new channels. I feel better for breathing an air untainted by any whiff of the landlord!

E.G.A. (Notts).

## REPORTS.

### MONTHLY MEETING.

The Monthly meeting held on July 20th, was quite up to the average attendance. Mr. E. T. Groome presided. Mr. Jays gave the Committee's report, which showed satisfactory progress in all directions. Sixty-three houses are now tenanted, the shops are nearing completion and the other houses on this part of the estate are in course of erection. Turning to Demonstration of July 1st, he stated that it was a success, and thanked the helpers. We had good reports in the papers and the financial results are fairly good. Four new members all intending tenants have been made during past month. Mr. Wilford reported progress re the new rates and after some discussion the scheme was adopted. He also gave a report of the Annual meeting of the Leicester District Co-operative Association at Huncote on July 15th, when he was

elected to represent the Anchor Tenants on that body. Mr. Jackson dealt with the report of the social side of the Estate, stating that the ladies had formed a cricket team, and that we expected one or two choirs and St. Andrew's Orchestra to entertain us in the near future. Some suggestions were made for the winter's work of Estate Council.

### AUGUST MONTHLY MEETING.

Some forty of the sixty odd tenants of the Estate were present at the Monthly meeting in the Institute on the 17th August. Mr. E. T. Groome presided, and Mr. Wilford in the course of his report gave an account of the progress of the shops, and a description of the method of lighting and heating by Cox's air gas. Mr. Jackson gave the report of Estate Council: the holiday programme had been carried out satisfactorily, the collections at the Sunday evening concerts realized 31/-, and a sovereign had been received from the seed committee's profits towards Council's expenses. Several questions were asked respecting the Festival at Hamstead on August 26th, and also re orders for fruit trees during the coming autumn; it being decided to form a party to visit the Abbey Nurseries as soon as possible.

### Holiday Notes.

Owing to so many of our number being away from home the official programme for the holiday entertainment was limited to mixed cricket and skittle matches on Bank Holiday Monday.

The ladies suffered badly in the Cricket Match owing to one of their opponents being ambidextrous to a slogging degree. The score—we whisper it—was 40 against the ladies.

They made up for it in the skittles however, winning three legs out of four. This is only another proof the wonderful benefits of Garden City life. It was really surprising that such a number of our usually staid ladies, s-t-a-i-d if you please, could manipulate a skittle ball to the discomfiture of their fish-out-of-water opponents. Why, even the writer, a mere man—sprained his wrist the first time he threw the ball, he has consequently never thrown one since.

Officialdom however does not do all things, for on Tuesday some busy-bodies were running about getting volunteers for entertaining with song and recitation etc. a crowd who could keep awake till the hour the fairies dance. Thus eventually a concert commencing at 9.30 did not complete its programme till midnight. Twenty-four artists took part and were rewarded with bouquets of flowers for ladies, and bouquets without flowers for gentlemen.

An unusual type of sport also occasioned some fun on the Tuesday, for, we understand, three Fern-risers went a fishing with two friends. One early riser broke his spade delving for bait for the fishing fleet. The crew consisted of an Admiral, Skipper, Mate and Trawl-hawler, and they weren't downhearted.

When the even was come, it was announced for the benefit of expectant palates that the catch had been left in the village to be cooked, and visions of a Fern-rise feast were fast flitting forward. The eventful moment arrived and one of the Fern-Rise monster dinner-dishes, such as is used for the Christmas Turkey, was carefully manipulated with its burden to the scene of operations. Oh! most delicate of palates; brightest of eyes; most fastidious of tongues and clamorous of appetites, what more could you desire; a dish for a lord, beautifully embellished with asparagus and—er—fulness of time. One roach, or was it a salmon; one perch, or may be we're mistaken, a halibut and one minnow with aspirations to pike-land. Well-done Fern-Risers, enthusiastic stalwarts of Angle-land, may you ever claim victory over your erring enemies.

### Items of Interest.

A Skittle match arranged between the A.T.'s and Messrs. Leeson's employees was played on Saturday, 19th, and resulted in a win for the visitors of 3 legs to 2.

It is pleasing to note the interest which some of our fellow-tenants have taken in regard to inducing parties to visit us for various purposes.

Specially does the above refer to Skittle and Cricket parties, and it is expected next year that there will be keen competition for fixture dates.

It may interest many to know that our fellow-tenant and contributor, Mr. R. Law has just completed his third week at Oxford University where he has been studying, along with others of the local branch of the Worker's Educational Association.

It is surprising to learn that the new gas-plant in the possession of the Society did not gain the first prize at the flower show; its unique feature being, that its odoriferous and fiery petals—or rather, to be correct, petrol—possesses the property of luminosity in darkness, and there is no information to hand of any other plant in the district with like virtues.

The attendance of all adult residents is desired at the Annual meeting of the Estate Council to be held on Thursday, 14th September, at 8 o'clock.

The Anniversary Services in connection with the Lord's Day School of the Church of Christ will be held on Sunday, September 10th. The children will sing special pieces at the evening service, and Mr. J. W. Black is expected to address the gathering. A cordial invitation is extended to parents and others.

### Social Service Committee.

#### IMPORTANT.

A meeting of the residents will be held in the Institute, on Thursday, August 31st, at 8 p.m.

BUSINESS:—To adopt rules for and form the new Distributive Society.

And to take into consideration its policy.

## Gardening Notes.

The dry weather has caused the watering cans to take a prominent position in the garden, thus making very hard work. The most economical methods should be resorted to. The best way to keep the garden moist and in good condition is to give a copious watering one night, and a good hoeing or raking over the next. This should be repeated once a week while dry weather lasts.

Giant Rocca Onion seed may be sown on land that has been deeply dug and a fair amount of manure worked in. A good sprinkle of woodash and soot should be given on top of the seed, then tread firm.

A good supply of early greens may be had by sowing one penny-worth of Dobbies White model turnips; sow broadcast and rake lightly in.

Continue summer pruning and thin out fruit where crop is heavy.

Give ferns and all window plants weak soot water twice a week.

Cut away all old wood that has fruited on blackcurrants and raspberries, also any weak shoots that may be found having only the sturdy wood of this year's growth for next season's fruiting.

Gooseberry trees may have all branches taken away that touch the soil also any that are too close together. —T.R.

## To the Ocean.

Roll on thou deep and dark blue ocean—roll!  
Ten thousand fleets sweep over thee in vain;  
Man marks the earth with ruin—his control  
Stops with the shore; upon the watery plain  
The wrecks are all thy deed,

Thy shores are empires, changed in all save thee—  
Assyria, Greece, Rome, Carthage what are they?  
Thy waters washed them power while they were free,  
And many a tyrant since; their shores obey  
The stranger, slave or savage; their decay  
Has dried up realms to deserts: not so thou;—  
Unchangeable save to thy wild waves' play,  
Time writes no wrinkle on thine azure brow:  
Such as creation's dawn beheld, thou rollest now.

Thou glorious mirror, where the Almighty's form  
Glasses itself in tempests; in all time,—  
Calm or convulsed, in breeze, or gale, or storm,  
Icing the pole, or in the torrid clime  
Dark heaving—boundless endless and sublime,  
The image of eternity, the throne  
Of the invisible; even from out thy slime  
The monsters of the deep are made; each zone  
Obey thee; thou goest forth dread, fathomless, alone.  
BYRON.

## Proposed Constitution of Estate Council.

1. This Council shall be called the "Anchor Tenants Garden Suburb Social Recreative and Educational Council."
2. The aim and object of the Council shall be to afford to its members facilities for social intercourse, recreation, mutual helpfulness, and improvement in all that tends to goodwill and fellowship.
3. The Council shall be elected annually at a General Meeting, which shall be held in the month of August, it shall consist of eleven members (three of whom shall be ladies) who shall elect their own Chairman and Secretary. Five members shall constitute a quorum.
4. The Council shall have the right to fill any vacancy that may occur during the year without calling a General Meeting.
5. The Council shall present to the members an Annual Report and Balance Sheet at the Annual Meeting.
6. The Council shall have power to call a General Meeting whenever such a meeting shall appear to be necessary.
7. Any ten members shall have power to have a General Meeting called provided two weeks notice of the business to be considered is given to the Secretary of the Council.
8. The foregoing rules are subject to alteration from time to time as the Members may direct at General Meeting, subject to Seven Days Notice being given to Secretary of proposed alteration.

Anchor Tenant gardeners have again shown themselves worthy at the Flower Shows, with results as follows:—

Mr. M. FREEMAN,

Abbey Park Show :- 1 first, and 2 second prizes  
Thurnby :- 3 firsts, 2 seconds, 4 thirds, also  
second for garden.

Mr. J. ROWLETT,

Abbey Park Show :- 1 first, 1 second, 1 third,  
1 fourth.

Thurnby :- 8 firsts, 6 seconds, 3 thirds, also  
first for garden.

Mr. T. ROWLETT, our Garden Notes' contributor  
Thurnby :- 5 firsts and 5 seconds.

Mr. W. GILLIVER,

Thurnby :- 9 prizes

Mr. G. HERN,

Thurnby :- 1 first.