

THE A. T. FORERUNNER.

"NOT GREATER WEALTH, BUT SIMPLER PLEASURES."

No. 12

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The Editor,

"St. Ive's," The Avenue.

The meeting of residents convened on the 7th inst, by the preliminary Council for the two-fold purpose of establishing a constitution and arranging for the election of a new Council was not lacking either in numbers or interest, certainly not in importance. The rules were adopted after slight alterations in the text had been made.

The election arrangements took the form of nominations, which were to be sent in by Saturday, 9th, the same to be published in the notice-case. Eight gentlemen and three ladies were to be voted for in the Institute between 6 and 9 o'clock on Monday, 11th, for which purpose blank voting lists were to be used. This arrangement though a poor substitute for printed ballot papers was improved by numbers being used instead of names.

The subsequent poll, the results of which were not declared till 10-30 o'clock on Monday, 11th, was certainly surprising, and it is sincerely to be hoped that future support of the Council's work on the part of those voting will nullify any impressions gained in some quarters that voters flocked to the polling booth as to a new toy, a variety of the moment.

Nominations consisted of 16 gentlemen and 5 ladies as follows:—Mrs. Jayes, Mrs. J. A. Smith, Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. A. Mann, Messrs. R. Scott, E. Moore, A. Orton, Spencer, P. Mann, Noon, J. S. Wilford, Winterton, H. Bowerman, T. Neal, S. Wilford, H. Murby, Folwell, Diggle, W. Neal, and G. H. Riley. Altogether 123 residents voted and the scene outside the Institute soon after 9 o'clock was indeed animated the whole of the voters evidently had turned up for results. Good humour was rampant when the results were declared and these are as follows:—Mrs. Jayes, 91; Mrs. Ward, 87; Mrs. Smith, 78; Mrs. Harris, 50; Mrs. Mann, 48; Messrs. Winterton, 101; G. H. Riley, 95; T. Wilford, 87; Bowerman, 73; J. S. Wilford, 71; T. Neal, 57; R. Scott, 56; P. Mann, 56; W. Neal, 54; Spencer, 51; Folwell, 49; Murby, 44; Diggle, 44; Noon, 40; Moore, 37; Orton, 30. Mr. Jayes, acting as Returning Officer, spoke a few earnest words, implying satisfaction with the interest taken in the election, and gratification for the spirit shown by those nominated in consenting to stand for such an unknown volume of work. With this the crowd melted away.

The interest taken in these events has its foundations not only in the work to be done, but also, unconsciously perhaps, in the work that has been done by the old Council, and, what is more notable still, in the personalities that composed that Council. The fact that the greater part of the members of that body were new to any kind of social work, and, we can well imagine, felt somewhat awkward in it, only falls into the background when a survey is taken of the work accomplished. The report given by the late secretary, Mr. H. Jackson, at the Annual Meeting is eloquent in this respect. One hundred and ten names have been enrolled for membership in the recreative section. The subscriptions from this source amounting to £2-18-0. Two sacred concerts organized by the Council brought in £1-11-4½; this sum we understand is predestined for a special purpose. This, with a grant of £2-2-0 from the G.C. and a donation of £1-0-0 from the Seed Committee completes the income. Expenses has not been heavy and a balance of £4-13-0 has been handed over to the new Council. Pleasurable holiday programmes had been carried out; nine cricket matches had been played, four won, four lost, and one drawn; fourteen skittle matches had resulted in eleven wins and 3 losses. Thus is shown a very encouraging report.

The new Council, however, has a somewhat different kind of programme to formulate for the dark months. Many of our needs as a social community are obvious and hardly need repeating, such as: a Recreation room, suitable for dancing, Gymnasium, etc., with corresponding organizations. Certain study classes should also meet with support, such as a Gardener's Circle conducted by a specialist; a class in Dramatics, if only in the form of a sketch party; a Science Class, more particularly for the study of physiology; and that which embraces all these, a Library. Let it not be said that a society like ours enlightened with wider views of co-operation, has failed to supply a need for co-education within its own borders. Apart from the cases of books that may be borrowed from certain societies, we are confident that there are many volumes in odd corners of some of our tenant's houses, unnoticed, unread, almost unknown, that, if they could be collected, would be found to be fitted to the needs of some other tenants. This is co-operation.

"Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man; and therefore, if a man write little, he hath need of a great memory; if he confer little, he had need have a present wit; and if he read little, he had need have much cunning, to seem to know that he doth not."—*Bacon*.

An Old Footpath.

BY PENDA.

An old footpath! What visions the phrase brings up—grass and flowers, trees and hedgerows, which the traveller on the dusty highway misses, but which make the path across the fields “so much pleasanter.” And round our old village footpaths are plentiful, most of them relics of the old time before the country was enclosed, and when men took a fairly direct line from place to place although the line was not always quite straight. One of the old paths whilst not in the parish is closely associated with it, and dates from the time when the monks of Leicester and Launde Abbeys used to pass through the village in their journeys between the two abbeys. Let us follow one of these travellers in imagination. Starting from the Abbey of Leicester, he would cross the meadow, and the arm of the Soar that is now the canal by a bridge known as Our Lady’s Bridge, pass along the road that was afterwards Sidney Street and is now the Abbey Park Road, cross Belgrave Road with the town a mile away on the right, looking picturesque enough at that time no doubt, with its walls and gables and towers, but without its present array of tall chimneys. Then he would cross a piece of land then known as the Bishop’s Wood, a smaller portion of which was afterwards the Parish Piece, and a still smaller portion of which is now the Recreation ground. Strange how these public lands diminish! Continuing his way along the flat meadows bordering the Willow Brook (whose willows by the way have all disappeared) he would come some little distance this side of where the railways now run to the common land of Humberstone, with its strips of cultivated ground allotted to each resident and its wide expanse of grazing land where the cottagers had rights of pasturage for their cows and sheep. This extended right up to the village and this point reached, the monk, if he was of the type generally pictured, would be glad to avail himself of the rest and hospitality provided at the house belonging to the Abbey which was situated, according to an old historian “contiguous to the churchyard eastward.” Here, half-a-dozen of his brethren were kept to provide a warm welcome, a cool pint, and a square meal for the members of their Order.

REPORTS.

The Humberstone and District Supply Association.

If a large attendance and great enthusiasm be the keynotes of success, then the future prosperity of the new Distributive Society is assured. A meeting of residents interested in the formation of this society was held on August 31st in the Institute; Mr. J. T. Taylor presided over a good attendance. The secretary of the S.S.C., Mr. Jays, gave a brief but very interesting report of their past work, pointing out that the

aim of the committee had been to provide, on a small scale, a few things so necessary for the comfort of the residents. The effort had met with a fair measure of success, trade being done in grocery, milk, clothing, and coal, to such an extent as warranted the new venture. Catering for visitors in large and small parties had been very profitable during the summer months and with better facilities provided by the new premises the outlook for another year was of the brightest. The report was accepted. The meeting then proceeded to consider the name, seal and rules of the Society. After considerable discussion it was decided that the name should be “The Humberstone and District Supply Association.” The seal recommended by the committee is, in design, typical of a garden-suburb, the foreground represents a Maypole with children dancing and in the background are cottages, this is encircled by the motto taken from the A.T.F. “Not greater wealth but simpler pleasures.” This design is the work of one of the lads resident on the Estate and was unanimously adopted. The rules, as suggested, were passed with very little alteration, the principle of bonus to labour being admitted in the rules, but only to be applied by resolution of a members’ meeting. At the close of the meeting a goodly number gave in their names as members.

A further meeting was held on Sept. 8th, to consider the future policy of the Society, and it was decided that the S.S.C. continue to manage until the end of the first quarter; that they be empowered to advertise for and select a capable working manager; and that efforts be concentrated mainly in running a grocery and provision trade to commence, and adding, as wisdom dictates, other departments in the process of time. The shops will be opened at the earliest possible date.

THE HAMPSTEAD FESTIVAL.

Aug. 26th, 1911, will always be regarded as a red letter day in the lives of our children, for this was the day when with flags and banners flying, we journeyed to the “Greatest City in the World,” “the dream city of boyhood,” not merely to pay a sight-seeing visit, but to take part in the National Co-operative Festival, held on the Garden Suburb at Hampstead.

A Flower Show, Sports, and the Suburb itself was an attraction, but the Musical Festival with the Adult and Junior Choir Contests, with all the associations suggestive of so many previous contests of their predecessors, at the Crystal Palace, was the anticipation of the day; and we were journeying to London to take part in these. A bright and sunny morning welcomed us as we peeped from our beds very, very, early that day. By 7-45 we were lined up at the top of the avenue, our friends ready to give us a hearty send-off, perhaps with some misgivings in their hearts, as to the wisdom of so many of our younger children taking so long a journey for the first time.

But we, nothing daunted, followed our leaders carrying the banner (presented to us by a resident) bearing the emblem “Anchor Tenants Garden Suburb, Children’s Choral Society” calling with all the light-

heartedness in the world to all and sundry to "Fall in and follow me."

At last Golder's Green was reached after many bewildering sights amid the rush and traffic of the city, impressing us with the fact of our insignificance, even with so many wee lives trusted to our piloting care. It was now past 12 o'clock and we were due to sing at 2 o'clock. Thoughts flashed through our minds;—what if we should fail; if we should forget the words; who were we going to compete against; and what, it being all over, if we succeeded in gaining a prize, how happy we should be, what a welcome we should get on reaching home. No more time for thoughts (nerves our elder friends call them) the time has arrived and we gaze on a sea of faces, recognising a familiar one here and there. Now we only see our conductor, the signal is given and we sing our test piece.

The following are some comments made by a listener:—"What a small choir, how young they are, and from Leicester, the only Garden Suburb to send a junior choir; well done! I hope they'll succeed."

"Very good! well sung! but they require a little more finish! only been in training a short time! their first attempt! capital!"

"Now they are to sing their selected piece 'I sing because I love to sing.' Splendid! they have entered into the spirit of that. Volume of tone and treatment of piece very good indeed; if the test piece had been sung as well as that I should have given them at least second prize; we'll go and congratulate their conductor."

With spirits raised by such pleasing comments, we made a brief tour round the city: seeing Buckingham Palace, Fleet Street, Trafalgar Square with Nelson's Monument and the National Gallery and other sights, ultimately landing back in Leicester.

So ended our first visit to London: with perseverance on a future visit we shall yet hope to bring home the Shield to decorate the Hall of the Humberstone Garden Suburb.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Schoolroom on Friday Sept. 15th, all the members being present. The chief business was the lighting of the village during the coming winter, the lamps to be lit from September 16th to April. Various accounts were passed, and a 3d. rate was estimated to provide sufficient funds for the coming winter illumination. It was also decided to insure the lamplighter the Council's only employee, under the Workman's Compensation Act. The Clerk announced that he had been in communication with the County authorities, re lectures on gardening by Mr. Wooley, but details of this matter will be announced later. Some correspondence was also read about the obstruction in front of Parish property on the Thurnby Road, and the Clerk was instructed to see the Highway authorities respecting the matter.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST.

On Saturday Sept. 9th, the members of the above Church held their first Anniversary. Tea was partaken of at 5 o'clock to which a goodly number of visitors and friends sat down; and was followed by a meeting in the chapel at 6-30., addressed by Messrs. J. Leavesley, J. W. Black and W. G. Chapman.

On Sunday Evening the Lord's Day School Anniversary was also held. The Chapel was crowded by friends and parents of the scholars who during the meeting under the leadership of Mr. Howard, sang several special hymns, the rendering of which reflected great credit upon their training and delighted their parents. The members also ably sang an anthem "Daughter of Zion." Mr. J. W. Black was the speaker his subject being "Authority" which he dealt with in an impressive manner. A collection was taken in aid of the Leicester Infirmary, a sum of £2 being realised.

ANCHOR TENANTS MEDICAL AID SOCIETY.

BALANCE SHEET for use of Members at Meeting.

RECEIPTS.				CASH ACCOUNT.				EXPENSES.					
				£	s.	d.					£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward from March 18th, 1911	...	...	...	17	15	1½	Deposit withdrawn	...	...	...	1	4	0
Subscriptions	...	...	...	16	2	2½	Accounts paid to Doctors	...	...	...	13	19	6
Member's Cards	...	...	...			3	Accounts paid to Members	...	...	...	19	7½	0
Entrance Fees	...	...	...		2	3	Postage and Stationery	...	...	...			8
Members' share of Doctors' Accounts	...	...	...	4	17	0½	Balance in hand—With Treasurer	...	...	...	22	6	6
Deposit Account	...	...	...		3	0	With Secretary	...	...	...	1	12	3
				£38	19	10½					£38	19	10½

BALANCE SHEET.				BALANCE SHEET.				BALANCE SHEET.					
				£	s.	d.					£	s.	d.
Balance in hand—With Treasurer	...	...	...	22	6	6	Deposit Account	...	...	...	19	0	0
With Secretary	...	...	...	1	12	3	Outstanding Doctors' Accounts	...	...	...	1	2	6
Arrears	...	...	...	1	12	3	Balance	...	...	...	22	7	11
Members' proportion of Outstanding Accounts	...	...	...		9	9					£24	9	5
				£24	9	5					£24	9	5

The ANNUAL MEETING of the above Society will be held in the Institute on MONDAY, Sept. 25th, at 8-30 pm. prompt.

Gardening Notes.

Apples and pears should be gathered as soon as the pips are brown and placed in a dry cellar; or a cold room on a northern aspect will make a capital storeroom. Straw should not be used because it gives the fruit a peculiar musty flavour. Ventilation is very necessary except in very frosty weather. It is a good plan to cover the fruit over with brown paper so as to exclude light, or the fruit may shrivel.

Prick out cabbage plants as soon as they can be handled into a bed three or four inches apart, they will then make sturdy plants for the final planting next month.

Now is the best time to plant bulbs such as Snowdrops, Crocus, Daffodils, Narcissus, and all others for spring-flowering.

Gather onions and see that they are well dried before storing away.

Earth up late celery and give a good watering one day before the operation because the roots will get very little more moisture before the plants are ready for getting up.

While the soil is still warm and in good condition we may propagate all such plants as Violas, Pansies, Penstemons, Snapdragons, Calceolaries, Privet golden and green, and many other varieties of herbaceous plants by taking off young shoots and inserting them in good loam with a sprinkle of silver sand.

If Carnations are not yet layered they should be taken in hand at once.

WAITING FOR WINTER.

What honey in the year's last flowers can hide,
These little yellow butterflies may know:
With falling leaves they waver to and fro,
Or on the swinging tops of asters ride.
But I am weary of the summer's pride,
And sick September's simulated show;
Why do the colder winds delay to blow
And bring the pleasant hours that we abide;
To curtained alcoves and sweet household talks,
Or sweeter silence by our flickering Lamps,
Returning late from Autumn evening walks
Upon the frosty hills, while reddening Mars
Hangs low between the withered mullein stalks,
And upward throngs the host of winter stars;

—Henry A. Beers.

SATURDAY EVENING CONCERTS

Arranged by the Estate Council.

October 8th,—Mr. Wadeson and Party.

„ 15th,—Open Night.

„ 22nd,—Mr. Riley and Party.

„ 29th,—Dance.

Letters to the Editor.

CORRESPONDENCE INVITED.

Letters to the Editor need not be signed. Writer's name and address, on a separate slip, must accompany letters, but will not be published unless required. Will correspondents and others please write on one side of the paper only.

“MY FIRST COUNCIL MEETING,”

To the Editor,

Dear Sir,—“Tonight at 8 o'clock, if you are at liberty,” that was the verbal message I received on the night of my first Estate Council Meeting and although of course I had been expecting a call, I was somewhat surprised at the abruptness. Still, it was a cheery “shall you be alright,” and of course I was alright. Well, the time came and I accordingly turned up at the Institute to find some of my co-workers already present, others followed quickly, and we immediately proceeded to attach ourselves to the good work which our friends had been doing previously. Now, of course, the business of an estate like ours must of necessity be of a very varied character, and although we hope the outcome of our work will give great pleasure in one way or another, to all the residents, both old and young, we have to start in all things to be successful with a sound business-like policy. Accordingly we elected our chairman who immediately asked for a secretary, then when these initial steps had been taken we went one further and proceeded to express ourselves on the possibilities of what we might do this coming winter, and to tell you my opinion there is no reason at all why we should not be able to do a great deal. Of course some things would seem to be a long time moving before we could see them as perfect as we hope to, but then as thoughts began to transmit themselves into words I myself was in agreement with the expression of opinion that, one good thing at a time and that done well, was the thing required by all our members. So as I warmed to the work through my mind, I chilled to the bone through my body, and as we were breaking up I was pleased to hear someone remark “Shall we have a fire next week?”

VERITAS.

Humberstone and District Supply Association.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The business of the above society will commence on
Saturday, September 30th.

If you have not already joined, do so now, and begin at the beginning.

We shall make it our duty to study your requirements and supply them.