

# THE A. T. FORERUNNER.

"NOT GREATER WEALTH, BUT SIMPLER PLEASURES."

No. 2

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History abounds with narratives of sensational incidents which have occurred so unexpectedly in a nation or a community, as to cause quite a flutter to pass through the whole of its members, and every thing else has had to sink into insignificance for the time being. As a simple instance, take the historical Guy Fawkes Plot. The threatened destruction of our Houses of Parliament raised such an enormous sensation that though centuries have elapsed, it has not yet died out, and thousands throughout the country will be commemorating it at the time this **A. T. F.** will be in the hands of its readers.

But a more recent instance might pardonably be cited, in the awful shock which went through this Estate on that memorable Saturday, when in the dusk of the evening, the first number of this paper was slipped through each letter box. And undoubtedly, after it had been perused the premier question that occupied the mind was not as to whether "Dripping" would continue to have a place in the world," but "What is the meaning of this, and who is responsible for it?" The first part of this query we will gladly reply to, but the second part we shall allow you to continue guessing at, without insulting your pride with the offer of a prize.

But putting all levity aside, fellow-members, you may rest assured that they who took upon themselves the commencement of this little publication are very grateful to you for the interest you have shown in it, and for your very kindly criticism of their efforts. It was sent out with fear and trembling as to how their crude attempts would be received, but they feel amply repaid for the labour and expense it involved.

But we must now impress upon all our fellow-members the fact that they themselves are responsible for the growth and continued success of the **A. T. F.** We realized that there existed on the Estate a rich

store of talent and knowledge which must not on any account be allowed to lie dormant. It must be drawn out and used for the benefit of the whole of our community and our only desire was to tap it. The result already has been very gratifying.

"The fact is, that in order to do anything in this world worth doing, we must not stand shivering on the bank, and thinking of the cold and the danger, but jump in and scramble through the best we can. It will not do to be perpetually calculating risks and adjusting nice chances: it did all very well before the flood, when a man could consult his friends upon an intended publication for a hundred and fifty years, and then live to see its success for six or seven centuries afterwards; but at present a man waits and doubts and hesitates and consults his brother and his uncle and his first cousins and his particular friends till one fine day he finds that he is sixty-five years of age—that he has lost so much time in consulting first cousins and particular friends that he has no more time left to follow their advice."

—S. SMITH.

It is noticed that a large amount of time and labour is expended in keeping the borders of our walks trim and neat, also the bowling green well rolled. It is noticed also that youngsters, and especially the elder lads, are often very busy in trying to undo what has been done, and some tenants and their wives have reluctantly to take upon themselves the duties of policemen, minus the uniform, which robs the job of all its terror. It, of course, may be urged upon our ignorance that the green sward, like the toiling million, waxes more lively for being trodden down; if such is the case we have indeed put our foot in it. Nevertheless this is certain, that the young privet edgings upon our borders, and on the borders of the bowling green especially, are suffering severely from encounters with the youngsters, who certainly are too boisterous. Would it be any use to suggest to the Clerk of the Works to put up a gate at the entrance to the bowling green, which would at least be a sign-board to the delinquents to keep out. Another line of wire might also be of advantage, if only put in temporarily. Will all parents please note above lament, and spare not the necessary persuasion.

As the question of a Distributive Society for the Estate is now receiving considerable attention it will be interesting to mention a few advantages obtained by the members of such societies. First we might mention the valuable educational experience derived by members of the committee in the administration of its affairs. The many occasions which arise of sending delegates to Conferences, etc., afford to those sent a grand opportunity of obtaining an insight into the power and wonderful organisation of the movement. Then, besides the "Divi." out of the profits made, almost the first indication of a successful society is the opening of a Library and Reading Room. Classes for students are also formed, and lectures arranged to be given by the recognised leaders of thought and learning. Then could follow the adoption of the Co-op. Societies Assurance Scheme whereby a sum is assured to the next-of-kin on the death of a member, the Society paying the premium. Afterwards, erection and maintenance of small cottages for the free use of its aged members. These are only a few of the many advantages that have been obtained by members of successful societies, and as unsuccessful societies are very few and far between, these should be quite sufficient to induce our fellow-members to give their immediate attention to this most important question. It will be observed that the author of our winning article has written strongly on this point.

## Items of Interest.

Thanks to Mr. Riley and friends for the splendid concert given on Saturday Evening, Oct. 22nd. The boy 'Kubelik' astonished the audience.

The friend anxious lest the **A. T. F.** would degenerate (?) into a religious pamphlet can rest assured that his fears are groundless: and to the friend who complained that the Church of Christ was mentioned incidentally we would say 'Patience, brother, patience.'

In the next development of the Estate, the G. C. ought to consider a Swimming Bath. Certainly it is a "pond"-derous question.

May we point out to the ladies attending to take part in the open debate on "Women's Suffrage" on Nov. 11th., the undesirability of more than four speaking at once. A word to the wise is sufficient. The rumour as to the impossibility of securing a chairman as yet, with the necessary courage to keep the ladies in order, we treat with the contempt it deserves.

No! you are wrong. We assert without fear of contradiction that the mixture of earth and moisture you occasionally find in Keyham Lane, although it may affect the leather somewhat, will not affect the iron in your boots. As to whether you should use hob-nails or protectors we are not prepared to advise.

## REPORTS.

### MONTHLY MEETING.

Two matters of special interest transpired at the Monthly Meeting held on the Oct. 19th. One arose through the Secretary reporting the G. C.'s decision to erect shops and offices; it was, of course, to be left to the members to decide how they should be used. After some discussion it was decided to call a Special Meeting of all adult residents. The other matter, Mr. Mann introduced by venturing the opinion that it was high-time the Institute was let free of charge to the various organizations under the Society's banner; that the Society was not sufficiently alive to the social and educational side of its activities. Concerning this it was urged by other speakers that the Society had no funds for the purpose suggested, and another member pointed out that profits could be made out of the proposed shops which could be used for this purpose. In reply to a member the Secretary stated that steps were being taken to persuade the postal authorities into recognising the necessity for an evening delivery. Mr. Mann gave notice to move at the next meeting "That all permanent improvements made to property in future shall be charged into the rent."

NOTE.— Thursday, the 10th, at 8 p.m. has been fixed for the Special Meeting mentioned above. Ladies kindly attend.

### DEBATING SOCIETY.

On Friday, Oct. 14th, Mr. Law gave a paper on "What is the cause of the grave unrest in Trade, and can it be justified?" Mr. Law must be complimented on his introduction, which shewed that he had studied the matter very deeply. Domestic industry had changed to factory industry, meaning large factories and large capital anticipating demands and requiring large profits. Taking 30 years at 30/- per week as average figures for a working man, it only shows a profit of 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ % on his life's labour, which in other words is his capital, whereas the ordinary capitalist would require more than this as interest alone and a good profit on his business besides.

On Friday, Oct. 28th, Mr. S. Wilford introduced the subject of "Poor Law Administration." A very comprehensive paper and one that included figures taken from different authorities including the Local Government Board. On Jan. 1st of this year there were 942,000 people under Poor Law relief, of which 100,000 were able-bodied persons. Since 1850 the cost of relief had risen from 1/9 to 2/8 outdoor, and from 6/5 to 11/3 indoor. Mr. Wilford recommended certain compulsory powers to be given to the authorities, Both the Minority and Majority Reports of the Royal Commission were considered, and Messrs. Jayes, Gilliver and Law took part in the debate.

We have awarded the Prize of 5/- offered in our last number to the writer of the following.

### THE FUTURE POSSIBILITIES OF THE ANCHOR TENANTS AS A SOCIAL COMMUNITY.

I can imagine some Anchor Tenant of a 100 years hence, taking out a copy of your first issue from the place where his treasures are kept, and reading the paragraph inviting articles on "The Future Possibilities of the A. T. as a Social Community," proceeding to appraise the value of the efforts, made by us the first Anchor Tenants in the direction of developing our common interests.

In such event, we are all I hope ambitious enough to desire that it may with truth, be said concerning us, that not only did we build a Garden Suburb where we and ours might enjoy the pure air, the song of the birds, the fragrance of the flowers, and the beauty of field and hedgerow, but also did what we could to make life brighter, happier and more joyous, than heretofore. For we may be well assured that posterity will praise or blame us, not because we came out of the town, and built better houses with larger garden plots attached than town conditions afforded, but according to the efforts put forth, in the direction of training able-bodied pure-souled, noble-minded, well educated men and women.

But in stating that, let me not be understood to belittle one jot, the great work accomplished, after much thought, anxiety and labour, by the men to whose efforts we are indebted for the community we enjoy; for it is that accomplished work of theirs that provides us with the clue for the best development of our social interests. By Co-operation our Estate has been founded; by Co-operation our common interests will be best served.

Efforts towards this have been made by the Social Service Committee, who have supplied seeds and trees and some household necessities, and who should, why not, in the future supply most household necessities, and considering the meagre resources at their command, and the difficulties in their path, these have been very praise-worthy efforts. That Committee has spent many hours and much thought, in endeavouring to supply certain needs, and devise certain pleasures, among the latter being catering for holiday seasons, Saturday Evening Concerts and Lectures, and the training of the young folks. For which service they have hitherto been rewarded by much criticism and no pay, pay however they did not expect, but seeing that the community profits by their efforts it might perhaps be less lavish with its criticism, and it occurs to me, seeing that the profits they make are shared by the community in some form or other, that it would not be unwise to increase the volume of their business and thus extend the measure of their usefulness in organizing the social life of our beautiful estate. For it is of vast importance. Life would be dull indeed were

it wholly monopolised by business; recreation and amusement are quite needful and legitimate desires, and surely among future possibilities one must number facilities for cricket and football, an estate library, study circles, debating and choral society, and other agencies for the social well-being, all of which might in time be financed by some portion of the profits from co-operation in the supply of necessities, sale of surplus and I might add, profit accruing from catering for parties who from time to time visit the Estate; and last, but by no means least, the training of the children is important.

A modern prophet, who like ancient prophets will be better understood and appreciated by other generations than his own, has said: "There is no wealth but life. Life, including all its power of love, of joy, and of admiration. That country is richest which nourishes the greatest number of noble and happy human beings, that man is richest who, having developed the functions of his own life to the utmost, has also the widest helpful influence, both personal and by means of his possessions over the lives of others."

Do we not feel the truth of the statement, and have we not all to deplore the fact that life is poorer, because stress of circumstances and lack of opportunity, has hindered its full development for us. Then let us determine that we owe it to ourselves and the generations of Anchor Tenants who shall follow on, that neither cause shall hinder the development of any bright intellect or special ability that may become apparent in our young folks, and that all of them if possible shall enter life's battle better equipped than were we. It will be possible to do much in this direction by continuing, as we have begun along the lines of co-operation and mutual helpfulness, and so we may develop that truest of all wealth, perfected life in such abundance as to leave our mark upon the future. And my Anchor Tenant of 100 years hence, shall have cause to say with pride "Our father built this city, and this rich social heritage, with its opportunities for social development, and for service is the result of their thoughtfulness and of their sacrifice."

"FORWARD."

### CHURCH OF CHRIST.

The opening services in connection with the new Meeting House just finished for the Church of Christ, took place on Saturday and Sunday, the 28th and 29th. Upwards of 200 visitors and friends sat down to a pleasant tea, and took part in a meeting in the evening. Mr. J. North presided and several speakers addressed the meeting. A financial statement was given, which enabled many to appreciate the creditable manner in which the business of building the Meeting House was carried out, from the point of view of funds. The meetings on Sunday were all that could be desired. Mr. James Leavesley, that veteran of the Leicester Churches, who has the love and respect of so many of its members, addressed the morning meeting, and in the evening Mr. H. Johnson of Birmingham, preached the gospel of Christ. The Church at Humberstone has every reason to feel congratulated and enthused by such an inspiring rally as the occasion has produced.

## Gardening Notes.

Now that the 5th of November will soon be with us again it should be a good reminder to all gardeners that every bit of rubbish should be gathered together and burned.

If any new arrangements are to be made in the herbaceous borders there is no better time than the present month to do it in. Also the planting and re-planting of ornamental and fruit trees and bulbs which are intended for spring decoration should be done as soon as possible.

Pruning if intended to be done in the Autumn, should be pushed along at once, because this should never be done while frost is in the wood. Better leave it till March.

If land is infested with grubs or slugs of any description give a dressing of crith lime at the rate of one bushel to the rod, digging it well in, and leaving as rough as possible, so that winter frosts may pulverize and sweeten the land.

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### NOVEMBER.

No sun, no moon,  
 No morn, no noon,  
 No dawn, no dusk, no proper time of day ;  
 No sky, no earthly view,  
 No distance looking blue,  
 No road, no street, no "t'other side of the way ;"  
 No end to any row,  
 No indications where the crescents go ;  
 No top to any steeples,  
 No recognitions of familiar people,  
 No courtesies for showing 'em—  
 No knowing 'em :  
 No travelling at all, no locomotion,  
 No inkling of the way no notion ;  
 "No go" by land or ocean ;  
 No mail, no post,  
 No news from any foreign coast ;  
 No park, no king, no afternoon gentility,  
 No company, no nobility ;  
 No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,  
 No comfortable feel in any member :  
 No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees ;  
 No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds,  
 November !

A. WARWICK.

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## Saturday Evening Concerts.

THE SOCIAL SERVICE COMMITTEE  
 have arranged the following :

Nov. 5th—Mr. Bosworth & Party.      Nov. 19th—Sanvey Gate Choir  
 Nov. 12th—Mr. Tipping & Party.      Nov. 26th—Open Night.

## Letters to the Editor.

CORRESPONDENCE INVITED.

**Letters to the Editor need not be signed. Writers name and address must accompany letters, but will not be published unless required.**

ARE FRUIT AND FLOWER SHOWS PROFITABLE  
 TO THE EXHIBITOR ?

Dear Sir,

Rusticus doubts whether with all the prize money received exhibitors have reaped a financial success. Yes! undoubtedly, yes! because in growing produce for exhibition they cultivate the soil to the highest perfection of their ability. They grow the finest variety of seed obtainable, then, with but a little extra trouble in attending to the plants they realize much extra produce from their plots and, note, with such fine quality they are able to select perfect specimens for exhibition purposes.

"Note," says Rusticus, "the necessary care, and the numberless hours of extra labour involved." Yes, but the extra joy, and the numberless hours of extra pleasure spent in watching the growth and development of the plants; and the great study of plant-life in trying experiments with this vegetable and that flower, all going towards helping to develop our lives in a happier association with nature—a something the ordinary gardener don't bother to see. One thing I want to impress on Rusticus, it takes no more room to grow the best than the worst. I am of the opinion that it would be better for the A. T. if there were more exhibitors. There would not be so many rubbish heaps of gardens, because exhibitors have to cultivate their gardens or failure is certain. Speaking of surplus produce grown on the estate, I am waiting for some of the tenants who have given a more careful study of the question than I have done.

Yours truly, SUPER.

THURNBY,

Dear Sir,—Although not a tenant of the A. T. Suburb, I have read with pleasure the letter by Rusticus, who confesses his grave doubts as to whether growing flowers, fruits and vegetables for exhibition is a financial success. I firmly coincide with his remarks and there are very few people who would not agree with him from his standpoint. I feel, however, quite convinced in my own mind that the main points have been overlooked; for instance, I consider the duty of every member should be to keep his garden in such order as to be a credit to himself and his fellow neighbours. This point should be taken very much into consideration, because to do this he must arrange his garden to the best advantage by giving proper space to allow for the development of his produce. Now all this goes a long way towards helping him to become successful at the local Shows. In my opinion it is good policy to endeavour to produce from the garden the finest quality that can be attained; in so doing he would find himself acquiring more love and enthusiasm for his garden, which would develop a knowledge of practical gardening that neither literature nor lectures can possibly give. Wishing your A. T. F. every success.

Yours sincerely, T. ROWLETT.