

# THE LINK

PRECEDED BY THE A. T. FORERUNNER.

The Official Organ of the Humberstone Garden Suburb.

"NOT GREATER WEALTH, BUT SIMPLER PLEASURES."

No. 2.

MAY, 1912.



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## Editorial.

### MAY.

When the French people during that first revolution of theirs reconstructed the Calendar on scientific lines they gave the name of *Floreal*—the "flower month"—to the month that corresponded the nearest to our month of May. Whatever may have been wrong in their method of reckoning time the name of this particular month was certainly appropriate, for the month of May is the month above all others for flowers, the mention of the name bringing up a picture of hedges and trees in bloom, fresh green grass, and Nature well on the way to the full life and vigour of midsummer.

The name is said to come from *Maia*, an old goddess of the Romans, to whom sacrifices were offered on the first of the month, and festivities on or about this date seem to have been fairly common all over the world; May-day and the Maypole being one of the oldest British institutions, but like other old-time customs, not so frequently practised as formerly. This is an age of coal and iron, of hard cast-iron facts, when everything has to be a commercial success, and everything has to be proved by the square and compasses of cold reason, and there is very little room for the merry month and all that it symbolises. Hawthorn blossom with its fragrance is not a commercial asset, it does not pay a sufficient percentage, hence the shelving of these old jollifications. The general tendency is for the population to congregate into closely packed centres and the rural conditions which made the Maypole and the Jack-on-the-Green possible are passing away. But there are signs of a revival, the forces of organised labour throughout the civilised world making May-day their festival day.

But, taking it on its broadest basis, May seems to symbolise the emotional or sentimental side of life, a side likely to be neglected in the rush and hurry of modern competition, when life, to use a modern—very modern—term, is strenuous. When we are in haste for the utilitarian fruit, it is well to be reminded that there is also the beautiful blossom. 'Tis an ill-balanced mind that is all hard fact and reason, and one month of the twelve comes to us—if we will only listen to it, look at it, aye, and smell it—absorb it into our innermost being—comes to us to teach us that man does not live by bread alone, but that fragrance and colour, the gentle breeze and the bright sunshine, have a place and a worthy place, in the economy of life.

Of course the month has its practical side; for instance, the housewife remembers that it is the first of the months with out an "R" in their name, and many things are out of season in these months. It is also the time when editors are inundated with the hyperbolic rhapsodies of the Spring poet; a month when life is worth living and when full advantage may be taken of our Garden Suburb and all it offers, for—"Old Time is still a-flying."

## Items of Interest.

Are we to have a Golf Club? We hear enquiries are being made as to the advisability of establishing one on our Estate.

What a pity the Garden Peas are not yet ready. "Duck and Green Peas" is a very acceptable plate to most people, and there are a large number of "ducks" about. Ask the cricketers.

"Say, Jack, the nightingale has returned to us again this year. I heard it quite plainly the other Friday night." "Garn, Tom, didn't you know that we have commenced a Male Voice Choir."

Mr. Jackson's endeavours on behalf of the funds of THE LINK have been fairly well successful, and we rely upon further encouragement from those whom he has yet to call upon.

Congratulations to Percy Neale, who was selected for the part of "Prince Gruffyd" in the cantata at Moat Road Council School. We understand his singing was very good, especially in the duets with his sweetheart, "The Mountain Rose."

The Estate Council intend holding the Sunday Evening Outdoor Concerts during the summer the same as last year, and Mr. T. Wilford has already arranged for the visit of several well-known Choirs, but up to the present the dates are not definitely fixed. These will be duly announced.

*Preliminary Notice.*—On Saturday, July 6th, Mr. Aston's Amateur Musical and Dramatic Society will be visiting us to oblige us with the operetta entitled "Phyllis."

Fresh Vegetables are scarce,  
Meat Foods are dear.

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## Estate Council.

Now that the winter session is over and we are commencing with the outdoor games, the Council has agreed to follow the rule adopted last summer and make a charge of 6d. each for all residents over school age to cover all the games, and any member introducing a visitor to any game is requested to see that the fee of 1d. is placed in the box which will be permanently fixed on the Skittle Alley; the membership fee may be handed in to any member of the Estate Council or to the secretary, Mr. R. Scott.

At the Annual Estate Council Meeting held in August last, it was suggested that the matter of retiring members be left to the Council to arrange, and as a result of this the question was brought up during the Impromptu Concert held on April 13th, and on taking a vote as to whether there should be a six months' term with an election immediately, or run the Council for a year, it was decided that half the Council retire at once and an election be held.

The retiring members were Messrs. J. S. Wilford, R. Scott, P. Mann, and T. Neal, also Mrs. J. A. Smith. The following gentlemen were nominated for the vacancies: Messrs. J. S. Wilford, R. Scott, P. Mann, T. Neal, S. Beamish, H. Folwell, and W. Neale; Mrs. Dye being the only lady nominated, was returned unopposed.

The election took place on April 27th, and Mr. J. T. Taylor, acting as "Returning Officer," announced the result of the polling from the Assembly Rooms, with the aid of a limelight screen, as follows:—R. Scott, 91; J. S. Wilford, 82; W. Neale, 67; H. Folwell, 59; P. Mann, 47; S. Beamish, 39; T. Neale, 36; the first four were declared duly elected.

At the first meeting of the newly-formed Council Mr. J. S. Wilford was unanimously elected president and Mr. R. Scott secretary for the ensuing period; Mr. W. Winterton to take charge of the Skittles; Mr. W. Neal the Bowling Green; whilst the three ladies, Mrs. Jays, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Dye were requested to act jointly for the Croquet game; Mr. Folwell being elected to THE LINK Committee.

August 17th was the date fixed for the Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Festival, which is open to all residents, and the Council sincerely hope that all will take an interest in this matter, to make it a Gala Day and a grand success.

We also hold out a hearty invitation to everyone upon the Estate to join in all the outdoor games as opportunity offers, and thereby help to make them what they should be, viz., a means of creating a closer bond of fellowship all round.

We have also arranged to enter our children in the "Children's Choral Competition" to be held at Ealing this year, Mr. T. Wilford kindly agreeing to act as conductor, and we hope all parents will assist us by encouraging the children to give regular attendance at the classes.

We have added yet another to our Estate organisations, the new one being "The Garden Suburb Male Voice Choir," the Secretary of which is Mr. W. Neale, and Conductor, Mr. T. Wilford.

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## The Man with the Bag.

### II.

The Man with the Bag is to be congratulated if on making his débüt on the road he has a fund of patience as part of his equipment.

If, like myself, he be of a restless, impatient disposition, he has (to put it very mildly) something to undergo. The test of his patience will have effects—amusing and otherwise.

On one occasion I arrived at a large firm's premises—where I had an appointment—at eight a.m.—more than an hour before the principals, in the hope of getting first turn, knowing that they would be seeing many representatives of various firms that day. Arriving in the doorway in triumph at that early hour, imagine my disappointment to learn that four others were before me, they having been waiting in vain all the previous afternoon. So with others, I waited, and waited, and finally got my interview at a quarter to one. On another occasion I called there by arrangement at nine a.m., and got my interview after four p.m., and instead of catching the train I had hoped to about mid-day, I got away about six at night.

About three weeks ago I had fixed upon a certain train out of a town I was then working, and decided that with ordinary luck, if my one remaining call was not too lengthy, I could just about manage it. So I set off on the car to make my final call. It is a good-sized town, about thirty miles from London, boasting electric cars of its own. That car ride! I was in a hurry; not so the driver and conductor. On one occasion we stopped; the driver left the car for two or three minutes; I wondered what was happening; then he emerged from a shop with a packet of cigarettes in his hand. Just as I thought we should start again, a car travelling in the opposite direction arrived, so we had to wait while the two drivers held a lengthy conversation. At last we got under weigh again, and got into the next road, when the conductor walked through the car and spoke to the driver, who stopped the vehicle while his mate went into a fruit shop, returning presently with some apples.

My interest in this alert and efficient tramway system was nipped in the bud a minute or two later—as we reached my destination.

These are extreme instances, maybe, but they are very real to the man who undergoes them, realising, as he does, that time is money.

Then the Knight of the Road has his patience tried occasionally when there is negligence of his needs in the hotel where he may be domiciled; for instance, it was a cold, raw winter's night, scarcely fit to turn a dog out. What more natural for many of us in this particular Liverpool hotel, than to wade deep into animated political discussion. And what more likely—when no wives are about to move the closure—than for us to prolong the debate till the small hours. 12.30 a.m. arrives. Boots enters the room, and lights gases—as it is time to switch off the electric light. Some of us keep it up a little longer; finally, we separate, and each seek our berth. It is a big place—too big, the bedroom section would suggest a barracks. The long passages are very chilly, and I enter my little room, and find the floor is covered with oilcloth, and someone who has been cleaning it has forgotten to replace the rug.

Gentle reader! Have you ever undressed on a frosty night, standing on a towel? And have you performed the reverse operation on a frosty morning, also balancing one foot at a time on a towel. If so, you will sympathise—if not, you will laugh, and excuse me for saying so, but your mirth will be founded on want of knowledge.

You may wonder why I did not ring the bell, and kick up a fuss, but one does not care to arouse sleepers at unearthly hours by bell ringing.

But the climax came next morning at breakfast, when, on asking for my bill, I found that the tariff was raised. I had stayed there some years but this was the last straw. Instead of complaining, I paid up, and have lived happily ever afterwards in Liverpool—at another hotel.

Space—or the lack of it—forbids any further narration of the trivialities of life on the road—for the present. I mention these trials, not to magnify them, or to pretend that they exceed the vexations of other folk, but simply as a matter of interest.

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## REPORTS.

### MONTHLY MEETING.

Three items of interest were discussed at the Monthly Meeting, which was held in the Assembly Room on April 18th. The chair was occupied by the President, and Mr. Gilliver presented the Committee's Report. This dealt with the progress being made on the new part of the Estate, stating, amongst other things, that the third pair of houses now being commenced are being built from the last designs of our late Manager. Members were requested to bring in their pass books to the Office in order that the Secretary may issue Certificates for the paid-up shares. Mr. R. Scott was appointed to attend a conference at Hinckley on April 20th, the subject to be discussed being "Co-operation and the National Insurance Act." The first item to provoke discussion was the motion of Mr. Taylor: "That we send a delegate to Congress"; the *pro* of the argument being that our side of the movement needs bringing to the front, and the *con* being the question of cost, and what distinct advantage would accrue to our Society. The motion was carried by 19 votes to 8, and Mr. Jays being the only nominee, was unanimously elected delegate. The next business was raised by Mr. Headley, who wanted to know if the C.C. would build a school on the Estate. This question was eventually left for enquiries to be made, and a report to be given at our next meeting. The evening was well advanced when Mr. Mason brought up the matter of the "Forerunner" before the meeting, stating that it had been running for eighteen months, and submitting a scheme for altering the name and style of the paper, and hoping to partly pay for the same by means of advertisements. Judging from the speeches made, the interest in our Journal had not at all decreased, various methods of financing being proposed, and in the end Mr. Jackson was deputed to collect voluntary subscriptions towards maintaining the paper.

### HUMBERSTONE AND DISTRICT SUPPLY ASSOCIATION LTD.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above was held in the Assembly Room on Friday, April 26th. Mr. J. T. Taylor presiding over a moderate attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been passed, the Secretary gave the Committee's Report of the past quarter's business. This showed receipts from sale of goods amounting to £473 17s. 3d., as against £371 2s. 5½d. for the previous quarter, an increase of £102 14s. 9½d. The balance profit amounted to £38 12s. 4d., a smaller percentage than last quarter, which was accounted for by the difficulties of the coal supply and the fluctuations in price of other commodities. After paying the usual interest on share capital and depreciating fixed stock, it was decided to devote £7 18s. 6d. to the Provident and Educational Fund, and pay a dividend of 1s. 6d. in the £ on members' trade.

The election of three members to serve on Committee resulted in the re-election of the retiring members, Messrs. E. W. Harris, W. Mason, and W. H. Keywood, without opposition.

It was announced that the committee were arranging to cater for parties visiting the Estate during the summer, and desired the co-operation of the members, in order to make this branch of business as successful as possible.

### HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF THE ESTATE COUNCIL.

This was held on Thursday, May 16th, 1912, with Mr. J. S. Wilford in the chair.

The President gave in detail the result of our winter's work, after which Mr. R. Scott read the balance sheet, upon which as an Estate we are to be congratulated.

When the recommendation was brought forward by Mr. Wilford, on behalf of the Council, that Rule 3 be altered so as to bring the annual meeting together with the election forward to April, an amendment was moved by Mr. J. T. Taylor and seconded that there be half-yearly meetings and half-yearly elections. After some discussion the amendment on being put to the vote was carried, so that the next election will take place in August.

Discussions were then carried on in regard to several matters, and the meeting was closed after Mr. Keywood had moved a vote of thanks to the Estate Council, which was seconded by Mr. Headley.

### CRICKET CLUB.

The above Club has now been successfully launched upon its career as a standing organisation, although the results up to date have not been quite as gratifying as we should like. However, we have the enthusiasm which is necessary for the success of all such organisations, and this will certainly go a long way towards the ultimate success of our venture. Our committee is composed of gentlemen who are ready at any moment to do all they can to improve the Club, and we have been very fortunate in the fact that several well-known gentlemen have joined us as honorary members, amongst them Messrs. Chas. Bennion, J. S. Paine, J. T. Taylor, and others. Residents upon the Estate have also come forward in goodly numbers as honorary members, and we take this opportunity of thanking them one and all.

On the occasion of the visit of Friar Lane C.C. we had an interesting ceremony performed by Mr. Ald. Flint, of Leicester, who very kindly visited us to open up the new playing ground which has been prepared by the G.C. Mr. Beamish, as chairman, made a few very appropriate remarks and introduced Mr. Flint, who opened by remarking that it was doubly interesting to him to be with us that day, as he was Vice-President of Friar Lane C.C.

Mr. S. Wilford ably moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Flint, which was seconded by Mr. Meekins in his usual jovial manner, and we then proceeded to the ground, and having arranged the field, the batsmen went to the wickets and Mr. Flint bowled the first ball amid loud applause!

At this point we would also express our thanks to Mr. Duffin who is so kindly acting as our Umpire, and also marking out the wickets each Saturday.

Up to date we have played four games, three of which have been lost and the other unfinished owing to rain. We have a good series of matches fixed up for the season, only two of which are away from home.

During Whitsuntide we have quite a programme of cricket. On Saturday, May 25th, we meet Needlegate Adult School; on Whit Monday, at 10 a.m., the Estate boys will be opposed by the boys from Eggington Street, Leicester; then on Whit Tuesday afternoon we engage Belgrave Hall C.C., of which team our captain and one of our committee were one-time members; on the Saturday following we have F. J. Palfreyman and Co.'s C.C. visiting us.

H. FOLWELL.

### MALE VOICE CHOIR.

It is pleasing to report that so many members of our Estate attended the meeting for the formation of a Male Voice Choir. The suggestion evidently met with approval, and we now have a goodly number on our books with Mr. T. Wilford as conductor and Mr. W. Neal as secretary.

As a Choir we cannot at present profess to be classical, but with such enthusiasm as is shown in the practices we are bound to be successful. Our desire is that all residents who have an hour to spare shall come along and join us.

Our practices are held every Friday evening, at 8.30 in the Assembly Room, and although at the outset the pretty music we are learning seemed very difficult, we are getting along splendidly now and thoroughly enjoy the recreation.

The Secretary will be pleased to give full information to any male residents desirous of joining us.

The Avenue.

W. NEALE.

### PROVISION OF SANATORIA UNDER THE INSURANCE ACT.

The Insurance Act says that County Councils and Borough Councils may either, individually or jointly, provide Sanatoria for their districts, and the Government will contribute four-fifths of the cost of the buildings, and pay 1s. 3d. per head of all insured persons for the maintenance. In view of this, it is interesting to know what steps are being taken by our own authorities in this direction.

A Conference was held at the Castle on Monday, May 13th, 1912. Representatives of the County Council, Borough Council, Rutland County Council, and the District Councils were present, when certain information was given to them, and suggestions made for joint action.

It was mentioned that in a memorandum recently issued by the Commissioners it was thought that as a beginning, beds in Sanatoria should be provided equal to one bed for each 5,000 of the population. This would mean fifty beds for the population of Leicestershire, forty-six for the Borough of Leicester, and four for the County of Rutland. At the cost of £120 a bed, the Local Authorities would have to find £2,500, or about one halfpenny rate for buildings. For maintenance the 1s. 3d. per head of the insured population would provide sufficient funds, and it was thought enable the authorities to deal with about an equal number of uninsured consumptives.

It was pointed out that by co-operation the authorities could build, maintain, and administer considerably cheaper than each authority dealing with this matter separately, and that Sanatoria would be provided, if not by the authorities, by the Health Commissioners, the provision of such buildings in the Act being not only a may, but a must.

Another point was, that should the County Council decide to provide, they could levy a rate for this purpose, which would be levied over the whole county. Thus it would be distinctly to the disadvantage of any authority to hold aloof with a view to providing for their own cases in other ways.

But by far the most important part of the problem lies not in the Sanatorium alone but in those measures which could be taken to attack the scourge of consumption in its earlier stages.

The Local Government Board have recently issued an order dealing with this, which aims at the provision of (1) Early notification of the disease; (2) Dispensaries for treatment in its early stages; (3) Small Cottage Hospitals where patients could be kept for a short time, under the supervision of experts to watch the symptoms before deciding whether they should be treated in a Sanatorium or otherwise.

The suggestion before the Conference was, that the staff of doctors, nurses, and trained sanitary inspectors (with additions) already engaged by the County Council for their School work, should undertake this work; and it was thought it could be done by the establishment of four or five dispensaries, at a cost of £1 per thousand of the population, to each Local Authority, and this again by co-operation would be done more efficiently, and cheaper, than by each authority acting separately.

The Borough representatives, for very good reasons, thought their Council would decide to provide for their own patients. This being so, of course a far less ambitious scheme of buildings would be sufficient for the Leicestershire and Rutland County Councils. It was decided that a further meeting be called to prepare a scheme, and submit to the various Local Authorities for their sanction. That this work must be taken in hand quickly and seriously I think will be agreed, when both the Medical Officers of Health, Dr. Robinson, of the County Council, and our friend Dr. Millard, of the Borough, were able to state that more deaths occur each year in their respective areas from this disease than from all other zymotic diseases, averaging, I believe, in each area nearly three hundred deaths a year. These figures represent but a tithe of the misery and suffering endured by patients and friends. Now it is thought possible that a real attempt can be made by attacking this complaint in its earlier stages to eradicate it from our midst. It was stated most emphatically that in the early stages it is but very slightly infectious, and has a good chance of being cured if scientifically attacked at this point. It is in the later stage that it is most infectious, and this is the time when no case should be dealt with in other than properly equipped Sanatoria.

J. S. WILFORD.

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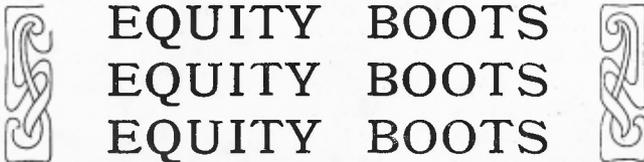
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The Total Sales for the past year amount to £13,273, an increase £2,359 over the previous year.

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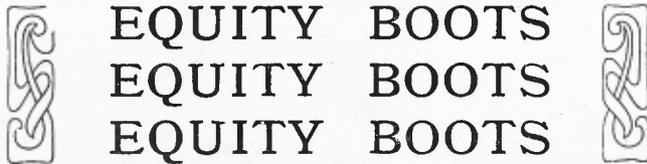
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