

19 AUG 1958

COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS SHOULD BE OPEN TO PRESS AND PUBLIC.

Public Opinion is mounting against the secret conducting of Council Committee meetings and parts of Council meetings. People are beginning to demand that all Council Meetings be open to the Public and Press and that all committee meetings be open at least to the press if not the public. If the affairs of the Council are being conducted in a honest and fair way there is nothing to hide say people. They also state that Parliament is not conducted in secret session so why Council Meetings?

MORE PROTEST ABOUT CYCLING ON PERRY STREET TO THE STATION FOOTPATHS.

Many people are complaining about the excessive number of bicycles on the Perry Street-Station footpaths. Cycling is prohibited on these footpaths. Many cyclists are travelling at excessive speeds along these footpaths and refuse to recognise pedestrians. Many people have narrowly escaped injury. People are demanding for a Police Check on the footpath. It is not so much the cyclists but their dangerous speed and impoliteness that is worrying residents in the area. The alternative route for Cyclists is via Hill House Drive or Beaufort Road.

MACMILLIAN WRITES FOR NEW LOCAL TORY JOURNAL.

Mr Harold Macmillian has written an article entitled "The Right Road for Britain" in the "Tory Times" the new official newspaper of Billericay and Brentwood Conservative Association, of which the first issue has just been published. It is a four-page journal and well supported by advertisers.

REPRIVE FOR 'THE KNOLL'?

People have moved into 'The Knoll', Perry Street a short time ago. 'The Knoll' was erected about forty years ago by the Christie family. The last of the family, Mr Christie died in November and the land is advertised for the erection of houses. The Estate Agents are "rather vague" about the erection of the houses. The Knoll and grounds includes one of the few remaining pieces of countryside in Perry Street.

BILLERICAY SECONDARY SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL.

The site has now been excavated and work will commence shortly. Many money-raising schemes have been planned for the future months by the Billericay Secondary School Parent-Teacher Association.

LIBERAL POLICY PAMPHLET FOR SUPPORTERS IN BILLERICAY AREA.

Billericay constituency Liberals are preparing in co-operation with Liberal Party Headquarters an eight-page pamphlet which will be distributed to every party member and supporter in the constituency. The local Liberal Executive believe that too few Liberals are fully conversant with the party's policy. After reading the pamphlet Liberals should come out of any political argument with flying colours.

ROUND AND ABOUT by
'Wanderer'.

One fact has come to light after the announcement of the Industrial Estate extension scheme. As, in the case of the Public House the public has boiled with indignation over the proposals in the Perry Street area. People have written to the local press and generally made a fuss - quite rightly too. But was there any resident's associations to band them together, to organise a petition and protest to the Council as like the Chantry and Romney Hall Estates' resident's associations? NO. A Resident's Association is needed for the Perry Street are obviously unbanded and unnoticed in such emergencies. The Association - let us call it the Perry Street & District Resident's Association - could be affiliated to the Billericay Resident's Association and the Billericay Group of the Council For The Preservation of Rural England, which would make their views much more effective. They could deal with such emergencies as the Public House and Industrial Estate and also tackle such problems as the Perry Street widening scheme, the question of buses for Perry St or cycling on the footpaths from the Railway Station and Litter in Lake Meadows etc. etc. Of course a meeting would have to be held to get the Association started and a Committee appointed. The Association could have General Meetings twice yearly and Committee Meetings monthly. I for one would certainly welcome a Resident's Association in the area. Of course, the 'Billericay Observer' as with other organisations would give it full support and be its 'voice'. This isn't just foolish wishful thinking. Several people in Billericay are thinking of this seriously. If you have any ideas on the subject or know anyone who has just write to the Editor at our address.

All for now,

Wanderer

THE 'WANDERER' ALWAYS WELCOMES IDEAS
AND COMMENTS ON HIS ARTICLES.

WAS WARDLE RIGHT OR WRONG?
'Billericay Observer'
comment by the 'Sports
Observer'.

The Wardle affair was the most discussed and controversial for a long time in cricket circles. The question is who was right and who was wrong. Was the Yorkshire Cricket Committee correct in dismissing Wardle? Were Wardle's comments about his fellow players in one of the daily national newspapers fair and correct? And will Wardle's place in the British test match team be retained? As for the first question NO COUNTY CRICKET CLUB CAN AFFORD TO DISMISS A PLAYER OF 'TEST' STANDARD, PARTICULARLY ONE IN THE POSITION OF YORKSHIRE. What a silly move. As for Wardle's comments in the national press they certainly brought Wardle's (and those of other famous cricketers) opinion of the affair to the public. However, Wardle's opinions in the press against Yorkshire were most unfair, apart from those of the Captain. He should be dismissed not Wardle; who ever heard of a football team suddenly making captain of the reserves into the first team captain. Above all the standard of English cricket must be maintained. THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS THE GAME.

Any correspondence should be sent to the Sport's Editor, 143, Perry Street, Billericay.

IT IS HOPED TO
INCLUDE REPORTS OF
BILLERICAY TOWN F.C.
MATCHES IN THE FUTURE.

DUR LORRY STUCK FOR TWO HOURS.

Down vehicles went to side Road, Billericay on St 8th when a flourers' lorry was stuck in mud at the junction with Perry Street, when the lorry delivering flour to a house in the road. The lorry first stuck at about 4 p.m. when it was facing away from Perry Street. There was enough power in the engine to get it to back. When the lorry was being manoeuvred out of side Road traffic waited in queues on both sides of the lorry which blocked Perry Street.

EDITORIAL CORNER.

Dear Readers,
We welcome back our old friend 'Longsight' from his four month holiday. For the benefit of our readers 'Longsight' used to write letters to the 'Observer' regularly on all topics, the 'Observer', funny stories, jokes and riddles. Well now we are proud to announce that 'Longsight' (is NOT the Editor) will regularly write an article in the newspaper for now I really must apologise for our standard of spelling. We are trying to improve. Readers will note that there is not quite so much news as usual. This is because August is the slackest period for news. However we try to make up for it with excellent articles and jokes. There's a whisper from the holiday information department that they have invented a quiz to find you your holiday spot.

Yours Sincerely,

W. P. Grant

EDITOR.

to the boundary fences has been done during my absence and fields in Warwickshire. Yet large gaps are still in need of repair. Damage not this time by anglers but by fools who creep out at night. WHAT FOR? (Police notified) and will give offenders a good for. HELP even a worm will turn. Happy Hunting, always on lookout.

'LONGSIGHT'.

Exclusive to the B. Observer.

I note with increasing dismay the unnecessary, foolish and wanton pulling up of tufts of grass and Bullrushes at the edge of the Lake in Lake Meadows Recreation Ground by some so called anglers. The motive is of course to find worms; In consequence large holes are left, some in fact 6" deep to over 12 inches. These holes are a great danger to small children and elderly people who naturally like to go to the water edge to look into the lake for their own pleasure. These so called anglers utterly disregard the safety and pleasure of residents and visitors to Lake Meadows. Let me hasten to add I

am also a angler so I am not spoilsport or killjoy; just BILLY FAIRPLAY. How easily

for a small child or elderly person to step into one of these holes and break an ankle or injure a limb even to the danger of tripping over and falling into the Lake. I therefore appeal to all decent anglers to try and prevent this silly practice if they see anyone pulling up tufts of grass at the edge of the Lake. (Safety First) All due respects to the parkeepers to do their very best which I know they are doing theirs is a thankless task. Joke. Mrs Longsight. What wife found out worm turned hasn't returned (not for anglers) That's what I did and went to sleep.

AGONY COLUMN.

I note excellent repairs to the boundary fences has been done during my absence and fields in Warwickshire. Yet large gaps are still in need of repair. Damage not this time by anglers but by fools who creep out at night. WHAT FOR? (Police notified) and will give offenders a good for. HELP even a worm will turn. Happy Hunting, always on lookout.

'Longsight'.

FLOUR LORRY STUCK FOR TWO HOURS.

Breakdown vehicles went to Woodside Road, Billericay on August 8th when a flour millers' lorry was stuck in the mud at the junction with Perry Street, when the lorry was delivering flour to a house in the road. The lorry was first stuck at about 4 p.m. when it was facing away from Perry Street. There was not enough power in the engine for it to back. When the lorry was being manouvered out of Woodside Road traffic waited in queues on both sides of the lorry which blocked Perry Street.

EDITORIAL CORNER.

Dear Readers,

We welcome back our old friend 'Longsight' from his four month long holiday. For the benefit of our new readers 'Longsight' used to write letters to the 'Observer' regularly on local topics, the 'Observer' funny letters, jokes and riddles. Well now we are proud to announce that 'Longsight' (he is NOT the Editor) will regularly write an article in the newspaper for us. Now I really must apologise for our standard of spelling. We are trying to improve. Readers will note that there is not quite so much news as usual. This is because August is the slackest period for news. However we try to make up for it with excellent articles and stories. There's a whisper from the holiday information department that they have invented a quiz to find you your ideal holiday spot.

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AGONY COLUMN.

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FOR BETTER OR WORSE.

Part 4.

The story so far: Bill and Tony run their own radio station in the village of Little Bigglesworth. They are accused by Major Burt of Little Bigglesworth Grange of interrupting his 'Archers' with their own programmes. This due to a technical fault which they corrected. However, Major Burt calls for the Law in the person of P.C. 22 of Little Bigglesworth. P.C. 22, after interviewing Tony and Bill dismisses Major Burt's claim. Bill had said "Well, that's the trouble with Major Burt over".....

It was three days after the conflict with Major Burt and Tony was reading down the programmes for the evening. 6.45 Music On Records & Melody Time 7.0 Communications about the Station, programmes etc. 7.10 "The Dove doth sing" at Great Bigglesworth Community Hall by the Bigglesworthonians Players. 8.35 The World Around Us. 9.10 Your Dog - Boxers. 9.40 Summary and Close Down. Little did Tony and Bill know that one of the programmes was going to advertise the name of Little Bigglesworth throughout the World and cause worried faces at Whitehall.

In the morning Tony and Bill went into the Little Bigglesworth Post Office, before starting work on their fathers' farms. Mrs Brigg said "Major Burt was in here a few minutes ago and he said that your programme about boxers last night was specially against his boxers and that the police had refused to help him so he was going to take the law into his own hands and attack the Radio Station with some of his friends" "He won't" said Tony and left the shop.

Tony and Bill were strolling down the road at lunch time when they met Jasper the village gossip of innumerable age. From the depths behind his white whiskers he said "Ey be up at e gander in aull manner of contraptions; ey be aubobile and ey come by e noon autoobus and ey have weepsons, peeckacces and gauns and ey keeck me gurd and sez summat aboout attaacckong yon rapio zation so be ee warraned". End of scene lower curtain with Jasper disappearing down hill.

Throughout the afternoon the youths Tony and Bill saw a procession of veteran cars, old lorrys and 'aull manner of contraptions' up to Little Bigglesworth Grange. Tony and Bill were broadcasting the first programme of the evening when Bill looked out of the window and yelled to Tony "Look" and he pointed to the strangest sight the Parish Of Little Bigglesworth had seen.

NEXT EDITION: THE ATTACK!

IN THE GARDEN.

Probably most of our readers have read in the national press about kits costing £1 with which you can grow miniature trees in three or four weeks. The kits are manufactured by a firm called Miniature Forests Inc of Manchester. A certain national newspaper has rejected these "American-style" advertisements. And quite rightly too because the Botany Department of Manchester University say that it takes at least five years and very expert care before these miniature trees resemble real ones. In fact people are and have been tricked. So we warn our readers not to buy any of these kits - BEWARE!

Gardening by our
Gardening Expert.

For Garden Advice contact our Gardening Expert.

POLITICAL LANDSCAPE.
SOCIALIST POLICY
ON SCHOOLS.

As I write this article I have beside me a copy of a Socialist-Co-op magazine with an article entitled "Our Children's Schools" and also an article which is the report of the Co-op-Socialist Education Working Party. Already I have written to the Editor of the magazine about the articles and have recieved no reply. The report and article attacks the Entrance Examination, the Grammer School, private schools, class structure and money privileges; the articles advocate the Comprehensive School, Higher Leaving Age and more Welfare Centres.

Let us deal with the Entrance Examination. Now I have been in for this Exam about six-months ago and I think it is the fairest method - and the best age- for selecting children for the various types of schooling which will suit them best. As for Private Schools anybody has a right to send their child to them if they want to. The Grammer School is part of our national heritage. To destroy them would destroy part of our history. As for the Comprehensive School teachers are teaching different standards of education. As for Higher Leaving Age I say that by the time you are sixteen you are ready for work-in fact for work in the holidays by thirteen or twelve. The Welfare Centres are a good thing up to a point but they can be too much of a good thing.

Socialist Paper Admits Defeat.
A Sunday Newspaper which is run by the same proprietors as the 'Daily Herald' and which is almost the 'Sunday Socialist' newspaper has published an article stating that nothing short of a wonder will win the Socialist the next General Election. Well, well!

ANOTHER 'POLITICAL LANDSCAPE'
ARTICLE IN THE NEXT EDITION.

REACH FOR THE SKY.

This article is concerned with "reaching for the sky". Reaching for it in the way of Aeroplanes, Sputniks and Rockets. Last week there were two serious air chashes and many other less serious ones. 99 people died when a K.L.M. Aeroplane exploded in mid-air over the Atlantic. Another 23 died in a crash in America. In other air crashes people died. In all about 130 people died in Air Crashes last week. Something is wrong with the 'planes that is certain and I say they are too big.

Taxi...

to the Moon.

In a few hundred years you might be able to say that. However we will have to wait another month before we will know if Space Travel is for the present possible.

I will award a prize to any person who can score more points than me in the word game below. You can use the letters over and over again as long as the letter is in the word but if there is only one of those letters then you can use them no more than once. The word is:

DANGEROUS.

You count your points as below;

- 2 letter word - 1 point.
- 3 letter word - 2 points.
- 4 letter word - 3 points.
- 5 letter word - 4 points.
- 6 letter word - 5 points.
- 7 letter word - 6 points.
- 8 letter word - 7 points.

I scored thirty-six points. Send your list of words with points total to the Competitions Dept at our offices or give your list to the Editor. BUT

PLEASE
HAVE
A

GO!
Win a prize.

LETTERS.

Letters intended for publication should be marked LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION and sent to 143, Perry Street, Billericay, Essex.

To the Editor,
'Billericay Observer'.

Dear Sir,

I agree with your article on the Socialists new plan to handicap industry. The next thing the Socialists will think of will probably be numbered registration plates for us like cars and other methods to bring '1984' to life.

'Freedom'.

ED: Yes.

Dear Sir,

May I draw your attention to the steady falling of the number of Moorhens, Swans and Wild Life etc in Lake Meadows. There are now only 2 swans, 2 cygnets and about thirty to forty moorhen on the Lake. I suggest that this is caused by the number of visitors to Lake Meadows. While I do not grudge anybody the use of the beautiful open space we have I have seen on several occasions visitors annoying the Wild Fowl. Also I think the advertisements advertising Lake Meadows in Stock Road by the road entrance to Lake Meadows should be removed.

D.K. Williams.

ED: As a point of interest - and I am serious - there don't seem to be many fish in Lake Meadows as there was. There are very few fish caught of late and there are about 50 people a day fishing there which means that the fish are dwindling very rapidly and I think that the Lake ought to be restocked.

Dear Sir,

What a lot of unneeded Butchers and Grocers shops we have got in Billericay. We have got 7 butchers and a lot of grocers. Let's have some other types of shops.

'Housewife'.

ED: What other types of shops?

Dear Sir,

The articles in the 'Billericay Observer' are always changing. The only regular articles are Round And About by Wander, Editorial Corner and Political Landscape. Once there was 'In the Garden' and 'Do You Know?' but they have both disappeared from the scene.

'Puzzled'.

Ed: 'In the Garden' appears from time to time. 'Do You Know?' has ended.

Dear Sir,

As a new reader of the 'Billericay Observer' I wish to make a few comments. First of all I think you ought to make a charge of at least 1d. I read your articles with interest and I am very satisfied with the standard of them. I have never seen a 300-yard long queue of people in Lake Meadows. The reporting is fair and the setting-out good but your spelling.

'New Reader'.

Ed: We hope to clear up the matter of a charge for good soon. The 'Wanderer' apologises for the "300 yard long queue" statement.