"HELP WANTED FROM EVERY BILLERICAY FAMILY IN GREAT VENTURE".

Appeal from Parish Church Extension Fund.

A circular has been distributed in Billericay recently including an appeal from the Parish Church Extension Fund Committee requesting every family in Billericay to help the Parish Church. The appeal circular states: "In other words this is a challenge to all those in Billericay who are interested in the well-being of our Parish Church to decide in what way they can best help to turn our Parish into a "giving" Parish rather than a "begging" Parish."

It is stated that the Parochial Church Council of Billericay had seized the opportunity which was presented to it of purchasing the house on the immediate south side of the Parish Church with the frontage on the High Street and the rear of the premises backing on to Chapel Street. The main purposes for which this site would be used would be to provide a home for a curate; provide adequate vestries and cloakrooms; and in the not very distant future to provide additional seating accommodation for the Church itself.

"WILL BUSES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN BE WITHDRAWN?"

Many people are wondering whether when the Buttsbury School classrooms are completed and schoolchildren no longer go to Basildon if the services for young children between Billericay and Buttsbury and Mountnessing Road and Buttsbury will be withdrawn. At present services run in the morning and evening.

MR F.J. EALES.

Mr F.J. Eales, of High Street, Billericay, Billericay's last Saddler's and Harness maker died on October 14th at St Andrew's Hospital, aged 87. Mr Eales was a familiar figure in Billericay and was often to be seen sitting outside his house in the High Street. Mr Eales was a native of Billericay, having lived in the same house in which he was born for all his life.

He leaves a widow.

"LOOK OUT FOR PIRATES".

The Post Office, with special detector equipment are looking out in the area for people who are operating television sets without paying licences. The detector equipment detects the set when switched on if it is using either an indoor or outdoor aerial.

RESIDENTS MEETING.

Billericay Residents Association meet on Wednesday October 29th at the W.I. Hall.

C.P.R.E. MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England takes place on Saturday 1st November at the W.I. Hall.

HOSPITAL FRIENDS.

The St Andrews Hospital League of Friends held their Annual General Meeting in the W.I. Hall on Wednesday 22nd of October.

BEAT ALL-TIME RECORD.

Last year was an all-time record for Poppy Day in Billericay. £390-6s-10d. was raised. Billericay British Legion hope to beat that total this year with more people in the town. Collectors have been appealed for.
ROUND AND ABOUT by 'WANDERER'.

The Entrance Examination (or to use the common name) II-plus has caused a great deal of controversy in Essex recently. Is it a good or bad thing? People discuss. I think the present system is the best without doubt. Why?

Firstly and most important it is fairer. The papers are marked by people hundreds of miles away who don't even know your name as all your papers have your number on, not your name. If by some fluke, a clever person fails they get another chance. If any alternative method was used the same standard of fairness would not be maintained.

"Ha ha say the Anti-II-plusists, "but what about pre-examination nerves", "they are unfair." Really, you should get over nervousness by that time.

What do you think?

Effects of Television.

I think that some people watch too much television. When the T.V. is not on they do not know what to do.

It is a great pity that some people cannot make their own amusements. Also interest in the public life of the district is now diminishing in local affairs of the district.

This is a great shame but according to the effects of the television set.

People seem to have lost any initiative and enterprise they had. Instead they stare at a screen for hours on end.

Such is the sad state of affairs which television has brought about.

All for now.

WANDERER

POLITICAL LANDSCAPE.

During the past few weeks a group of British people have become more and more in the news. Throughout the past four years they have become quite famous for their heckling at party conferences etc. Now they have started a stream of correspondence with Lord Hailsham. In these letters from either side has come a torrent of abuse and accusations. And the hecklers have themselves - The League of Empire Loyalists have given interviews to newspapers after newspaper publicising their cause. I can't see much Empire loyalist about them. Their main aim seems to be to interrupt meeting and speeches of every party and to deliver shattering broadsides to the Press about foreign nations, all over the world.

True Empire Loyalists would be justified in their concerns about the Commonwealth. Ideas for improving it, Economic Bank for the Commonwealth etc etc. Believe me, heckling at meeting does not do anybody any good.

By the way, the Empire Loyalists are carrying on as they should. I suggest an ardent supporter in Viscount "Monty". His speeches have received a unpopular reception overseas and when the next session of parliament commences the Government will have the rather awkward and embarrassing situation of famous wartime who attack other countries in speeches. I think the best way is to issue a statement to the countries concerned disconnecting the Government from anything said in the speech. However, the right of Free Speech for a British citizen should be emphasised in any such statement. Some of the things said were quite sensible and true but others were not. In any such speeches read and analyse them for yourselves and remember he is a military man.
The History of Billericay.
by H. Richman.
CHAPTER 5.
'SAXONS'.

Because of the troubled times in Italy, the Roman Garrisons in Britain were gradually withdrawn, leaving the northerly part of the country open to the Picts and Scots now that there was no one to guard the famous Hadrian's Wall against their attacks. By 637 A.D. these invaders had reached as far south as London and Kent.

Taking advantage of this, the pirates from overseas began attacking the coastal areas and soon the people of Billericay could see their sails in the estuary of the Crouch, then navigable as far as Wickford, and the smoke from burning homesteads along the heights between Rayleigh and Thundersley, etc.

Without the Roman soldiers to whom they had left their problem of defence, the Britons were helpless and, after a long struggle, not helped by quarrels among various chieftains, they had to give in, the East Saxons founding a kingdom which included Essex and London.

It must have been some years after the destruction of Roman Billericay that a new settlement was started to the south of the overgrown site of the town on the hill, and away from the Ghosts of the two or three Roman cemeteries, the Saxons building a defence on the piece of ground where now is Great Burstead Church. 'Burghstede' means 'Site of the Fort'.

In the seventh century Sebert, King of the East Saxons, is said to have lived at Burghstede, probably on the site of Grange one of the manors introduced by these new inhabitants, and built the first wooden church on the site of the fort.

He also founded the first church in London.

After his death, his sons went back to the old Religion, remembered in the names of several local places like Thurrock and Thundersley, which include the name Thor, and in the days of the week - Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, but at last King Seigebert was baptised, and the Roman missionary Cedd was invited into Essex to preach the True Religion to the people. The church at Great Burstead is said to stand near the site of a cross named after Cedd, as was the Well and Pond, nearby, where these forefathers of ours were baptised. This is still officially Chad's or Cedd's Well, and many places in the County refer to this early Missionary in their names.

Bishop Cedd's headquarters were at Tilbury and Maldon as well as Bradwell, the Roman Othina, so that Billericay which began to grow again near its original site on the high ground must have seen many of the comings and goings of these early Bishops and their followers. A road from Billericay to Maldon, by way of Downham but long since lost, is mentioned in deeds of the 14th Century.

STOP PRESS.
Dear Readers,

At last we have reached the number of twenty editions published. With Edition 20 come a few changes and additions, which I hope will make the "Billericay Observer" much more interesting. Recently, I was looking through the back issues of the "Billericay Observer" and it is surprising how much it has progressed from its early days in February and March of this year. The most notable progress is in the field of news. The "Observer" now attends a very wide range of functions to report and we are sure that this helps in making the newspaper more interesting. We aim to continue to progress in not only the field of news but in other ways as well. At the moment we are planning for the future and it is to be hoped that within a few months the "Observer" will be even further advanced.

Yours Sincerely,

[Signature]

Editor.

'LONGSIGHT'

(continued from preceding column)

is WHO HAS SLIPPED UP?
Not a sign of Join our Easter Eggs Club, not a sign of an Easter Egg and it's now October.

I find out in the last few weeks, the lake has been restocked with a few hundred of Golden Carp, Mirror Carp, Perch, Roach, etc. Anyway it's good news for the anglers, for they now have a good sporting chance for their IZ-6d.

C. A. P. I have seen very large fish taken this past week 1lb or 1lb, some poor fellows have only caught a cold. But there it is, the fish are there.

Happy and Prosperous Fishing.

'Longsight' knows.

P. S. The bakers sales must be up now, for I observe many a good loaf at Lake Meadows park torn to pieces for ground bait, are the fish happy or the swans? I say they are myself.

———

Heard at a football match, made me laugh. Auntie called the referee. Refugee!

STRANGE AD'S

Essex Fireman's Union make cricket bats. They are real hot.

———

For Sale; Persian Cats: £20-0-0 each. Misprint M not C in Cats.

———

Man wanted for boring task. Must drill. Apply J. A. Ke...
CAN YOU DO THESE?

Below are some little games which I hope you will find amusing, interesting, and puzzling. To quote the dictionary a puzzle is to entangle, nonplus and to involve in perplexity. Can you do these puzzles?

How many words can you "turn round". e.g. Won - Now, On - No, etc., etc.

How many words can you get from the word Retain? Count 1 point for a 2-letter word, 2 points for a word with three letters, 3 points for a 4-letter word, 4 points for a 5-letter word etc.

Check your score:
Over 50 points - Excellent.
40-50 points - Very Good.
30-40 points - Average.
20-30 points - Below average.
10-20 points - Very Poor.
Under 10 points - Well!!

There are five ships in a race:
VICTORY LONDON QUEEN SEA DOLPHIN,
CAPE TOWN AND ENTERPRISE but they do not finish in that order. From the facts given below place them in the order in which they finish (1, 2, 3, 4, 5).
Victory is behind Sea Dolphin but in front of Enterprise. London Queen is last; Cape Town finishes 150 yards ahead of Sea Dolphin.

2. Now try this one; It needs some very intelligent thinking. Below are some towns and letters. Each town has a letter, which letter belongs to each town?
CHELMSFORD LONDON HULL K S A
LONDON WICKFORD MANCHESTER J P A
MANCHESTER HULL BRISTOL K J Z

I will award a prize to anybody who can get 1 and 2 correct, get 25 "turned words and 25 points in the Word Game and get the General Questions correct.

General
1. What measure is a firkin?
2. What is the Queen's official residence in Scotland?
3. A man earns a £ a year how much does he earn in a month?
LETTERS.
Letters should be sent to I43 Perry Street Billericay. They can be signed with the real name or the writer or with a suitable nom-de-plume.

To the Editor
Billericay Observer.

Dear Sir,

In discussion point you suggested that children participate more in Children's Television. Has it occurred to you that the result would be utter chaos? True, there is room for improvement and you did suggest a few sensible ideas, but you are going TOO FAR.

J.K. Wall.

Ed: I don't think we are.

Dear Sir,

I have put all but praise for your excellent and very sensible article on Children's Television in the last edition. I wholly agree with you. Your proposals would make Children's Television much more interesting than it is at present. You are only too right—a very good article.

T.J. Marsham-Gray.

Dear Sir,

As a frequent watcher of Children's T.V. programmes I have criticism and praise for your article. Firstly, I agree with you that it should be split up. I agree with you about the "Uncle Jim's" but I do think that Cowboy Films ought to stay. Definitely much more Sport. I think this business of Child Interviewers etc. is going a bit too far. However, children should take more part in the programmes. Your article was put to the right lines—but too exaggerated.

"Junior."

Dear Sir,

I wholly disagree with your article. The child's proper place is at home not trespassing about T.V. studios. Children should not get "tad big ideas about themselves. The present programmes are quite satisfactory. The T.V. Studios would be one whole madhouse and so would the programmes be. The competitive games are very good.

"Common Sense."

Dear Sir,

I agree with "Mere Woman". What disgrace will men befit us with next? Already we have lost our shape to Empire Lines and A-lines and we look like an A-Bomb.

"Another Mere Woman."

DISCUSSION POINT.

Last week I discussed Children's T.V. This week I am going to publish a programme schedule.

MONDAYS
4.45-5.20. As programmes now. Under 10s.
5.20 SPORT FOR JUNIOR

TUESDAYS
4.45-5.20. As before.
5.20 PLAY.
Either acted by adults or children.
6.0. Em6.

WEDNESDAY
4.45-5.20. As usual.
5.40-6.0. Pets.

THURSDAYS
4.45-5.20. As usual.
5.20-6.0. YOU.

REPORT.
Junior reporters and interviewers report from all over the country. Discussions.
5.40-6.0. 1st week of month. Stamps. 3rd week. Sketching.

FRIDAY
4.45-5.20. As usual.
5.20-6.0. Various.
Travel. Up in the sky. Discussions, etc.

SATURDAY
4.45-5.15. As usual.
5.15-6.0. Children's Show.
5.30-5.55. Cowboy Film.

SUNDAY
4.45-5.15. As usual.
5.20-6.10. Discussions could be brought forward to Sundays. Religious talk.

Well that is the General Idea. What do you think?