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BILLERICAY OBSERVER.
EDITOR WYNFORD P. GRANT.
EDITION NUMBER TWENTY (20).

"The ONLY newspaper published and printed in Billericay".

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

Appeal from Parish Church
Extension Fund.

A circular has been distribu-
ted 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 Paroch-
ial 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 ade-
quate vestries and cloakrooms; and
in the not very distant future to
provide additional seating accom-
modation for the Church itself.

"WILL BUSES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN BE WITHDRAWN?"

Many people are wondering whether
when the Buttsbury School class-
rooms are completed and school-
children no longer go to Basildon
if the services for young children
between Billericay and Buttsbury,
and Mountnessing Road and Butts-
bury will be withdrawn.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 out-
side his house in the High Street.
Mr Eales was a native of Billeri-
cay, having lived in the same hou-
se 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 out-
door aerial.

RESIDENTS MEETING.

Billericay Residents Associa-
tion meet on Wednesday October
29th at the W.I. Hall.

C. P. R. E. MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting
of the Council for the Pre-
servation 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 Bill-
ericay, £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.

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-plusites, "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 again it is due 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

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 newspaper after newspaper publicising their cause. I can't see much of an 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 concern themselves 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 in the Empire Loyalists are carrying on they should find, 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 war-time who attack other countries in speech -es. 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 militarist.

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 northern 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 costal 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 problems of Defence, the Britons were helpless and, after a long struggle, not helped by quarrels among various chieftans, 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 cement ~~works~~, 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 Seigeberht 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 Othona, 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.

EDITORIAL CORNER.

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,

W. Grant
Editor.

'LONGSIGHT'

Do what you can with this, let it go with a BANG!!!!

In memories garden.

How things have changed since about 1898. I refer to such things as that time when youngsters used to build at the corner of a busy street a small ornamental affair consisting of some clinkers, oyster shells and some cockle shells. This was known as a grotto. In the side holes were left and coloured glass inserted in these holes and of course coloured paper decorated the grotto. These little grotto merchants would chant to passers-by, "Please remember the grotto only once a year, sir, and get a halfpenny, even a farthing."

Now in 1958 it seems to me that at the end of August or thereabouts we find Christmas cards and join our Christmas Club, then a week or so join our firework club so, in consequence we start the old 8th November bangs weeks before the noble 5th, if it can be called that. I expect in a few years we shall see in June or July, displayed, join our Xmas club and our firework club. Really the novelty of the thing is killed before the appointed day. What I want to know

(continued in next column)

'LONGSIGHT'.
(continued from preceding column)

is WHO HAS SLIPPED UP?
Not a sign of Join our Easter Eggs Club, not a sign of a Easter Egg and its 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 its good news for the anglers, for they now have a good sporting chance for their 1/- - 6d

O.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; £40-0-0 each. Misprint M not C in Cats.

Man wanted for boring task. Must drill. Apply J. Aike.

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. Wen - 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 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 Queens official residence in Scotland?
3. A man earns ~~4~~¹² a year how much does he earn in a year?

(12 months / 365 day)

FOR THE

GARDENER.

It is my pleasure to introduce to new a new regular feature in the 'Billericay Observer'. The new regular feature is 'For the Gardener'. So many of our readers are very keen gardening enthusiasts that the Editor decided to devote every edition, a column to gardening. In the first single-numbered editions of the 'Observer' gardening was dealt with by "In the Garden". Now at last, in 'For the Gardener', we have a permanent gardening article Garden Advice Service.

All readers of the newspaper can use the Garden Advice Service. Send all your garden queries into us and they will be published in this column with the answers. In the days of "In the Garden" we only had two queries over a period of three months. All queries will be dealt with by the 'Observer' Gardening Expert. We hope we will get lots of Garden Queries, as the readers can learn a lot from them.

This week we will not give any gardening tips, hints or information. Next edition we hope to start off in fine style. Articles in the near future are hoped to include: The Garden In December, Decorations for Christmas From The Garden, and how to improve the garden in the Winter.

Happy Gardening.

LETTERS.

Letters should be sent to I43, Perry Street Billericay. They can be signed with the real name of the writer or 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 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. Marlsham-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 much more part in the programmes. Your article was on the right lines - but too exaggerated. 'Junior'.

Dear Sir,

I wholly disagree with your article. The child's proper place is at home not tramping about T.V. studios. Children should not get too "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 - 6.0. Sport Review and interviews. Tips. Junior Sportsman at work.

TUESDAYS.

4.45-5.20. As before.

5.20 PLAY.

Either acted by adults or children. End 6.0.

WEDNESDAY.

4.45-5.20 As usual.

5.20-6.0. SCOUTING. About scouting. What troops have done. branches of scouting. Cubs. Girl Guides and Brownies. Alternate with 5.20-5.40 Comedy. 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 Skys. discussions etc.

SATURDAY.

4.40-5.15. As usual.

5.15-5.30. Childrens

Show. 5.30-5.55. Cow-

boy Film.

SUNDAY.

4.40-5.15. 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?