METHODIST CHURCH HOLDS TWO-DAY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.

Part of effort for new Church

Very pleased to see so many children - 2nd day opener.

The Methodist Church held a two-day bazaar on Thursday 29th November and November 29th (Saturday) at their Church in Western Road Billericay as part of an effort for a new Church building in front of the present one. On the first day £185 was raised and £55 after half-an-hour on Saturday.

On Thursday the bazaar was opened by Mrs. A. Harland of Chelmsford.

In the chair on Thursday was Mr. A. C. Wornell of Westcliff who said that he had been a member of a City church for 20 years and when he had came to Billericay he was made perfectly at home. He had helped services at Billericay Methodist Church for six years before retiring to Westcliff.

On Saturday Mr. F. J. Cox of Chelmsford was Chairman.

He said that it was the first time he had visited the Billericay Methodist Church. He said he was pleased to see so many young people at the bazaar, for they were the life-blood of the Church as very few people joined later in life.

The bazaar was opened by Miss Williams of Billericay who stressed the purpose of the bazaar and said she would not like to see the picture of the new church but to see the foundation stone laid.

Continued on Page 4.

C.P.R.E. PLANT NEW TREES.

On Saturday November 29th the Billericay Group of the C.P. R.E. (Council for the Preservation of Rural England) planted some trees in Norsey Meadow fronting the houses in Norsey Close. More trees will be planted on successive Saturdays and will in time shield the houses in Norsey Close from the cold and bleak winds which blow in that direction during the winter months.

Stakes were provided by Mr. E. Layland and two professional gardeners were present.

COLLAPSED IN STORE.

Mr. Fredrick May, 69 years old of 'The Brambles', Queens Park Estate, Billericay collapsed in the newly-extended Queens Park Stores, Perry Street, Billericay on Tuesday December 2nd. He was taken to St. Andrews Hospital and found to be dead.

FOG.

Fog blacked out the Billericay area on Thursday December 4th. Visibility was reduced to about six yards and in some places nil.

A bus carrying Buttsbury school children to Mounthness Road crashed into a lorry. No one was hurt but the bus was damaged.

Children from the grammar and technical schools in Chelmsford were let out one hour early because of the fog.

STOCK, GALLEYWOOD, FORD END and DUNMOW escaped the fog and visibility extended up to two miles.
ROUND AND ABOUT
by the
"WANDERER"

Will you who are hurriedly
flicking the pages to "Longsight's"
sensational column tarry a while
here. At last the "Wanderer" has
something sensational to say.

I say that politics ought to
be forbidden in local government.
Gasp if you like! Its in black and
black. Scream or cheer I've said it.

Seriously, though, WHAT has for
instance a sewage works or a road-
extension or street-naming got to do
with the Central Office or Transport
House? Nothing!

Why do the Council take years
over a simple deal? Why does every-
ting take ages? Why are complaints of
Perry Street muck unobserved? Why are
people's rockeries in the same road
being torn up and verges ruined and
nothing done about it despite compla-
ints? THE ANSWER --- POLITICS!!!!

Say a grant of £100 is needed
for some purpose - say a dangerous
house causing a blind corner to be
knocked down. Party A (the party in
power) proposes that the £100 be paid.
The opposition says "Why?" "That
could be put to better use." The argu-
ment that results means that the house
is not knocked down for two or
three years and as a result there are
some serious accidents.

All these councillors really
care about are their parties and their
place on the Council. I am not an inde-
pendent in national and county politi-
cles but I am an independent in local
politics. Who could go on the Council in
place of the Conservatives, Liberals
and Socialists? People really inter-
rested in the affairs of the locality
such as members of the Local Resi-
dents Associations or organisations like
the C.P.R.E. In this way people with
a great knowledge of local affairs
would be guiding the community.

All for now,
(Please SENSATIONAL
Wanderer)

SPORTS OBSERVER.

WATCH THOSE CITY LADS !!!!!!

I must in these "Sports
Observers" make mention of
every good teams. I name one
that is playing Ist-division
class football. Who? Bradford
City. You may be surprised but
you ought to have seen
them at Southend a few months
ago. Although they only drew I - I our correspondent tells
us that their football is
first class. Reason for low
position? - injuries. However
since they played Southend
they have won every match
including one 7 - 1 win. So
for III div "greats" watch
the boys from Valley Parade.
"Soccer Revolution".

When some Northern clubs
decided to form their own
combination for their res-
erves they caused a revolu-
tion among the non-leaguers.
The Northern League formed
two divisions. Teams left
Midland, Athenian, Cheshire
and every other league good
enough to join this new lea-
auge. Next year more will as
a result the Kent League is
ending at the end of the
season. In the north there
is no such league unfortu-
nately and clubs are playing
in leagues below the souths
standard and suffering as a
result. I think that a league
for top non-leaguers should
be formed until a title l-
like Northern England Leauge.
The question is also to
discussed that "Will all
football league reserve
teams leave leagues with
first teams in" and "Would
this be a good or bad thing
?".

I hope to discuss this
wide and varied subject in
this column in the new
year.
HISTORY OF BILLERICAY.

Owing to the indisposition of R. Richman the History of Billericay cannot be published in this issue. Mr. Richman hopes that the series will be resumed in the next issue and I am sure all our readers will join me in wishing him a very speedy recovery.

THE CHANGING FACE OF BILLERICAY.

Anyone who has lived in Billericay during the past two years will have noticed many changes. New shops, houses pulled down, an electric train service, new housing estates. It would be a very sorrowful day if all our trees were lost or some new development sprung up unchecked, if we lost our scenic country. The Billericay Group of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England (CPRE) see that change is guided, old relics preserved, trees replanted and planted and the countryside kept free of left litter and that developing of the countryside is kept under control. It advises the Local Council on matters concerning the countryside and generally makes its point.

In Billericay the CPRE has about 250 members (handouts about the CPRE, from the Editor) and always welcomes new ones. The CPRE was formed nationally in 1927 and in Billericay in 1937.

The CPRE is a very important organisation for without it one wonders what our countryside would now be like.

Change is bound and has got to come and the CPRE does not oppose it but guides it.

Let us take a look at Billericay and the change in the last few years. In the High Street has been the greatest centre of change. Hurlocks is now ought but dust, No. 3 Chapel Street has been restored, a new War Memorial has been erected in which the CPRE took no small part there are many changes too numerous to mention. In the environs large new estates have sprung up.

I have one or two things to say which I think would be good suggestions for the guiding of change in Billericay:

(a) Owners of houses on the new estates should be encouraged to replace the hundreds of chestnut fences without a break which are one of the worst things on a Estate with hedges trees (preferably coniferous), or at least flowers and climbing plants trailing up the fence or a few trees.

(b) The horrible corrugated iron fence round the site of Hurlocks be taken down and replaced with something less hideous.

(c) An official notice board for organisations in the town to be erected which anybody could use. This would prevent having bills scattered all over the town. Also members of the public who wanted to see what was on and the Press could go straight to the board. Similar boards could be erected at Chantry/Sunnymede, Perry Street, Tye Common, South Green and the Bursteads so that people working all day and living in those areas could be informed about the activities of the town.

Billericay has always changed, will change and will continue to.

AN EXPERIMENT.

When Oh boy! or any programme on T.V. with a singer turn off the sound. Why? The contortions they go through are raaringly funny which prove that singing is NOT everything today.
METHODIST CHURCH BAZAAR.
Continued from Page 1.

In an interview with our reporter a spokesman for the Methodist Church at Billericay said that it was hoped that in the next year the foundation stone of the new Church would be laid. The spokesman said that help would be given from the national Methodist Church committee that dealt with building churches but the Billericay Methodist Church had to raise their side as quickly as possible. He said that the approximate cost for the construction of the new church would be about £15,000.

In the evening on Saturday there was a concert. The musical half included the novelty instrumentalist John Kettle.

The comedy half was presented by the W.I. drama group and was a medieval play "Apple Pie Order". Cast was Stella Drury, Margaret Schofield, Jean Whiskin, Peggy Reed, Shirley Vespey, Ray Drury, Amy Shipton, Freda Cheshire and Stage and Production Manager; Helen Francis.

There was a Cake Competition and the winners were presented with their prizes on Saturday by the organiser, they were: 1st Mrs Kilstone; 2nd; Mrs Reed; 3rd; Mrs Galyer.

A bouquet was presented to Miss Williams on Saturday by Selina Williams and a buttonhole by Robert Whiskin.

Various openers opened the different stalls on Thursday and on Saturday representing Methodist Church organisations from South Green, Abberton, Harold Hill, Wickford, C of E, Congregational Young Wives, Sunnymede, Southend, Brentwood, Upminster, Harold Wood and Romford.

Stalls were Sewing, Men's, Knitting, Toilet Goods, Baby Goods, Guild Pantry, Cakes and Sweets, Bran Tub, Hankerchief Lady.

STOP PRESS.

EDITORIAL CORNER.
Editorial Offices,
143 Perry Street.

Unfortunately Mr H. Richman is indisposed. However, I am sure that you will agree with me when I say we have found a very suitable and good replacement. As you will have probably read already Mr Richman hopes to continue his series in the next issue, our Christmas one, out on the day before Christmas Eve. In this issue there will be some special features.

We don't seem much nearer getting a duplicator than two months ago. However the Editor assures his readers it will be purchased before Easter.

The Editor is keeping an account this month to see how much we lose on what so that will show how much to charge when the time comes. However, his plans have gone haywire. A tremendous amount was spent on November 29th towards the newspaper and we should have enough stock to see us through the month. A reader gave a donation (our only source of income on November 30th and thus we emerged into December with 6d in the kitty and no loss as there were no accounts of the money lost before so our account reads 6d profit!

Yours Sincerely,
[Signature]
Editor.

A Christmas Bazaar was held at the South Green Memorial Hall on December 5th in aid of the hall's extension fund.
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[Signature]

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A Christmas Bazaar was held at the South Green Memorial Hall on December 6th in aid of the hall's extension fund.
POLITICAL LANDSCAPE.

Picking up your Sunday Press you would have read that there had been a riot at a R.A.F. Rocket Launching base between R.A.F. men, security officers and workmen and supporters of Anti Nuclear Bomb and Rocket Committee. They got some rough treatment and thank goodness too, I am not criticising their purpose but the methods they use. Remember Aldermaston? A car was overturned. Now they invade a R.A.F. base. By doing this they do more harm than good to their cause for officials refuse to negotiate with them. At the moment the various organisations to do with this subject are behaving like a lot of silly, stupid hooligans.

II - plus.

About ten years ago nobody condemned the II - plus, hardly anybody the deerhunt etc. Why are we now going over a great period of what I call "Welfarisation". The II - plus is regarded as cruel, the deerhunter who a few years ago nobody criticised (Mind you I am not for the deerhunt) Loouts who go around beating people up and robbing are not sent to jail as it would be too cruel but are sent to psychologists. Family life revolves around the T.V. set and the Saturday expedition to the town shopping centre etc. But to get back to the II - plus. The Socialists have made this a political issue. The Conservative plan is constructive and GOOD. It allows a chance for the late-developers. Berlin,

This is a very difficult question but I think we have taken the right course. Russia must not be allowed to form a so-called "free city" of Berlin. The Russians kept their share of Germany while the Western powers let the Germans have their own rule so why shouldn't we keep a small part of Germany in Berlin? Of course the Russians say that East Germany is ruled by the Germans (Yes, German communists) and is just as free as West Germany but the increasing flow of refugees from East to West disproves this.

I am delighted to learn that the worm diggers or otherwise known as grass pullers will soon have no grass to pull up by the edge of the Lake in the Park, because all that part of the walk along the Lakeside is to be covered with hard core and made up a little higher, at least we will all be able to stroll that way without dodging mud, puddles and holes. Perhaps our notes about this particular walk in a recent issue of the Billerica Observer has born fruit, lets hope so, but really I would not know.

Perry Street,

Or should it be called, the Mud Flats, what a shocking state it is or was to be sure, even the road has been widened by heavy lorries, by two or three feet cutting into the grass verges. I know of one instance where people had their double gates broken, I am afraid one day I shall find a lorry in my front garden. I suppose one must not grumble, as I have been given to understand that this pipe laying is to prevent so much as possible flooding, so really we cannot have it both ways its either mud or floods annually or this sticky mess for the time being, the less it is unnecessary to keep the road in such a state.

STOP PRESS.

I understand that through police intervention the disgusting condition of Perry Street, mentioned above, Continued on Page 6
a mechanical road sweeper was sent on Saturday 29th November to clear up some of the mess (sludge), so everything comes to those who wait, just long enough.

Toilets.

As the one and only toilet I know of is off the beaten track namely Chapel Street and is like the Black Hole of Calcutta day or night and one has to grope one's way in and out, also it is the playground of some youths, being situated where it is, naturally it does not come under very much supervision. I therefore suggest a far more convenient position should be adopted or could be built say at the spare piece of land close to Western Road where Colliers Coaches are parked, you will see that in this position this toilet would be in a much better position for shoppers, people coming from the Railway Station and would also be in a position for better supervision.

Schoolboy howler.

A certain schoolboy fond of carpentry, made a wooden egg stand to hold eggs. He proudly showed his achievement to his schoolteacher who promptly praised this pupils worthy effort and asked the boy if he had previously drew a sketch or plan for the egg stand. The boy replied, "Oh sir I made it out of me own head and I would have made one for you sir only I didn't have no wood left.

Deserted?

Why hubby left home? Miss understood, Mrs didn't! Devotion.

Who was the gallant hubby who waited in the cold wet street one hour for his darling wife while she had her hair baked? (Or is it perm ed?) in a well known Ladies More Agony - Next Column.