

9 DEC 1958

"The only newspaper published and printed in Billericay".

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 27th and Saturday 28th of 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 E. Charnall 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 come to Billericay he was made perfectly at home. He had attended 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 Mountnessing 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 for 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 everything take ages? Why are complaints of Perry Street muck unobserved? Why are peoples rockerys in the same road being torn up and verges ruined and nothing done about it despite complaints? 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 oppisition says "Why?" "That could be put to better use". The argument 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 partys and their place on the Council. I am not an independent in national and county politics but I am an independent in local

Who could go on the Council in place of the Conservatives, Liberals and Socialists? People really interested in the affairs of the locality such as members of the Local Residents 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,

(YOUR SENSATIONAL)

Wanderer

SPORTS OBSERVER.

WATCH THOSE CITY LADS !!!!!

I must in these "Sports Observers" make mention of very 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 1 - I our correspondent tells us that their football is first class. Reason for low position? 4 injurys. 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 Northen clubs decided to form their own combination for their reserves they caused a revolution among the non-leaugers. The Southern Leauge formed two divisions. Teams left Midland, Athenian, Cheshire and every other leauge good enough to join this new leauge. Next year more will. As a result the Kent Leauge is ending at the end of the season. In the north there is no such leauge unfortunately and clubs are playing in leauges below the souths standard and suffering as a result. I think that a leauge for top non-leaugers should be formed until a title like Northern England Leauge.

The question is also to be discussed that "Will all football leauge reserve teams leave leauges 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 H. 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 (C.P.R.E.) see that change is guided, old relics preserved, trees replaced and planted and the countryside kept free of left litter and that development 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 C.P.R.E. has about 250 members (handouts about the C.P.R.E. from the Editor) and always welcomes new ones. The C.P.R.E. was formed nationally in 1927 and in Billericay in 1937.

The C.P.R.E. 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 C.P.R.E. 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 nought but dust, No 3, Chapel Street has been restored, a new War Memorial has been erected in which the C.P.R.E. 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 chesnut 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 rearingly funny which prove that singing is NOT everything today.

METHIODIST CHURCH BAZAAR.

Continued from Page I.

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 Whisken, 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 opener, they were; 1st Mrs Rilstone; 2nd, Mrs Reed; 3rd, Mrs Galyer.

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

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, Harker-Chief 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 shall know 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! Really we have lost quite a number of shillings.

Yours Sincerely,

M. Grant
Editor.

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

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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? We are now going over a great period of what I call "Welfariation". The II - plus is regarded as cruel, the deerhunt who a few years ago nobody criticised (Mind you I am not for the deerhunt) Llouts 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 Lake-side is to be covered with hard core and made up a little higher, at least we all will 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 as 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, never the less it is unnecessary to keep the road in such a state.

STOP PRESS.

I understand that through police intervention ~~on~~ the disgusting condition of Perry Street, mentioned above

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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 ones 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 convenience (excuse the cheap pun) 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 pupil's worthy effort and asked the boy if he had previously drew a sketch or plan for the egg stand. The boy replied "Oh no 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 permed?) in a well known Ladies

More Agony - Next Column.

Hairdressers or or Hair Stylists or Hair Artist as some call themselves the particular one is situated in High Street, Billericay. WE KNOW!

No greater love hath a man, for his wife, that he waits and freezes, while she bakes and sneezes.

Such is Life,

Happy Hunting,

Your Old Pal,

P.S.

Stop Press,

Of the BBO

Simply - "LONGSIGHT".

LETTERS.

Dear Sir,

In your issue of Nov 26th you stated that it was impossible to forecast correctly football results. I maintain there is a percentage of skill.

Pools Forecast.

Ed; Yes, but only a very small insignificant and undescive percentage.

Dear Sir,

In your last issue I hurried to the "Stop Press" in the hope of finding exciting Late News but got an editorial notice about printing. If I don't get that I get a blank puece of paper. Why have a "Stop Press"? And why call it "Stop Press" - presumably it doesn't stop the editors typewriter. Why not Late News?

J.K.Wall.

Ed; The printing mistake was Late News which is not always exciting. A space is kept for a note of the Late News in fascimile. "Stop Press" is the traditional proper newspaper term.