

TUESDAY MAY 12th.

EDITOR WYNFORD P. GRANT. EDITION NUMBER 34. PRICE 1d.

FIGHT TO SAVE CHURCH ROOF

Gt Burstead Church held a Restoration Fund Appeal Week, from May 2nd to 9th in an effort to raise money for use against the ravages of the death watch beetle in the Church roof. Over £5,000 has been raised and another £2,500 is needed.

The church is 800 years and in the churchyard are buried the crew of the first Zeppelin to be shot down on English soil.

On Saturday May 2nd the Vicar, Rev G.R. Holley and some of the parishoners travelled round the Parish with a fine model of the church, and they made door-to-door collections. In the evening there was a concert.

On Saturday May 9th there was an exhibition and lecture in the Church.

POSTMAN IS AWARDED IMPERIAL SERVICE MEDAL.

Mr F. Polley, who has been a postman in Billericay for 34 years, was awarded the Imperial Service Medal at Billericay Post Office on Saturday May 2nd by Mr R.C. Read Head Postmaster of Basildon.

Mr Read said that the medal was not only for long service, but for meritorious service.

EAMON ANDREWS READS "OBSERVER" ON RADIO.

The "Billericay Observer" was on radio on Thursday May 7th in "Town and Country", Home Service. In a recorded interview Patricia Brent asked W.P. Grant (12) questions relating to the finance and production of the newspaper. Eamon Andrews read an excerpt from the "Sports Observer", John Snagg and Frank Phillips also reading excerpts.

LATE NEWS.

Printed and Published by the "Billericay Observer", 143, Perry Street, Billericay, Essex, England.

SCOUTS HOLD FAIR IN AID OF H.Q.

A display by a famous T.V. Circus Act of Dogs & Horses (Rosaire) was a highlight of the Summer Fair, 2nd Billericay Scouts held on the Football Field, Laindon Road, on May 9th with temperatures near 80, to raise money for a new H.Q.

Parents and friends ran stalls, a draw, and a dance in the evening in the effort to obtain a new H.Q., for the group founded about 1941, has been without one for four years, and the fund stands

CONSERVATIVES GAIN CONTROL OF COUNCIL.

EX-LABOUR CHAIRMAN LOSES HIS SEAT.

As a result of the Basildon U.D.C. elections on May 9th the Conservatives now control Basildon Council. They have 15 seats and Labour 13. On the old Council (there is an extra seat) there were 18 Labour and 9 Conservative members. Among the Labour members to lose their seats were Mr H.E. Tanswell, and his wife Mrs Tanswell in Laindon Ward. Mr Tanswell was former Chairman of the Council. The Liberals made an effort to gain seats but were unsuccessful. The 5 seats on Wickford Ward and also on Billericay Ward are now held by Conservatives. Labour have been in power since 1953.

Results in Billericay:-

TESOIRERE	{ Con. }	2,077.
MORLEY.	{ Con. }	2,072.
ROSIER.	{ Lib. }	665.
HAYDEN.	{ Lab. }	606.
PAYNE	{ Lab. }	524.
BROOKS	{ Lib. }	522.

C.P.R.E. OUTING.

The Billericay Group, C.P.R.E. (Council for the Preservation of Rural England) visited Saffron Walden for their Spring outing on May 2nd. They visited the Carnation Nurseries of C. Engleman Ltd where they closely examined the giant Furnaces which keep 12½ acres of Glasshouses at the right temperature. Following tea at the 'Rose & Crown Hotel' and a roam round the town the Group were welcomed at the Church by the vicar who gave a very interesting talk on the building and its history before bringing

Continued on Page 4.

Monday May 11th. Three days. L.C.P. 7.30

James Stewart and Kim Novak star in "VERTIGO" (A). This thrilling tale of suspense tells of an ex-police detective who is asked by a friend to shadow his wife. The friend describes her as a suicidal neurotic and says she has the idea she is possessed by the spirit of her great-grandmother who went insane and took her own life. The detective falls in love with the girl and is shattered when overwhelmed by an attack of acrophobia (fear of heights) which has already caused once before a fatal accident, he is powerless to prevent her from leaping to her death from a church tower. Months later the detective encounters another girl who bears a striking resemblance to the dead woman. A series of suspense-laden incidents follow and the story races to an exciting and surprising climax. Full supporting programme. (4 star).

Thursday May 14th. Three days.

Jerry Lewis stars in a amusing musical comedy, "ROCK-A-BYE BABY", (U), which tells the story of Clayton Poole small town bachelor, who suddenly becomes the World's busiest baby sitter. Also "LINKS OF JUSTICE" (U). (4 star).

Sunday May 17th.

"BIG HOUSE, U.S.A.", (A), and "ROOBER'S ROOST" (U). (1 star).

Monday May 18th. Three days.

A grand, all-U, cartoon programme telling the story of "GULLIVER'S TRAVELS" on cartoon and "HOPPITY GOES TO TOWN". (3 star).

Thursday May 21st. Three days.

Bernard Bresslaw and Michael Medwin star in "I ONLY ASKED" (U). The army game boys from 1939, find things a bit different in the Middle Eastern trouble-spot of Darawa where they have been sent to keep law and order. Sir Redvers is rudely shaken when he reveals this "crack regiment". The film relates what happens and a lot does happen. (4 star).

Sunday May 24th.

"THE TROUBLE SHOOTER" and "THE NAKED STREET". (A). (1 star)
CHRIST CHURCH, PERRY ST.

YOUNG WIVES FELLOWSHIP:-

TUESDAY AFTERNOON 12th MAY 2oc.

CHURCH SERVICES.

Communion; 1st Sunday in month, 9.30 a.m. Evensong; 3.30 p.m., except first Sunday in month.

LEAFLETS ETC DUPLICATED AND DELIVERED. ALL DUPLICATING WORK BY THE "BILLERICAY OBSERVER".

ROUND AND ABOUT by "WANDERER".

It is now becoming fairly obvious that the present library building is totally inadequate for a growing population. The collection of books is very inadequate and the reference room far too small. The library staff do their best but that cannot override poor accommodation.

There was a suggestion and talk that when the Council move out of their offices in Billericay, to move to Basildon in about ten months time that the Council Chamber building and possibly Health Dept be taken over for a library.

The idea that the Library take over the Council Offices is an excellent one, but the building suggested will have to be rebuilt inside before it can be used as a library.

But the cost would be justified, for residents of Billericay would have a wider scope of the treasures of literature at their disposal.

I am informed on the highest authority that Kitts have purchased Wests, the corn chandlers, and will operate it as a corn chandlers.

Who was the bright, intelligent thing at the Council who ordered grass seed to be put on verges in Perry Street? The seed can be seen on path, runway and verges, that is what the birds have not eaten. Very little will grow, what a waste of the ratepayers' money. Why not do the job properly?

The old residents, at the time of the present bus-or-not for Perry St controversy argue about the bus that used to go down Perry St. So I decided to ask Ha/Rl. He informed that Tom's bus from Stock went into Billericay via Perry St. The reason for the older residents not knowing about it is explained by the fact that the bus stopped running about 1932. Then Perry St must have been half its present width, and although there was not much traffic, what there was must have been dangerous-horses for example. So why can't one be run today?

In the "Billericay Observer" of the 11th November last year it was reported that a Residents meeting British Railways representatives stated that it was hoped to start on modernisation of Billericay Station in 1959. How long will we have to wait? - "WANDERER".

STORY OF BILLERICAY. by Ha/Rl.

CHAPTER 18.

In this, the final article of the present series your editor has suggested that the story of the period from 1832 to the present day be the subject. As this is a little too much, under the circumstances it seems better to say a little about the Spitty family and 'Hurlocks' instead.

These Spittys, who lived in Billericay for over a hundred years were originally Cattle-drovers from Y Spitty Yotwith in Wales who made money in various ways and eventually owned large areas of land in this part of the country. They married into the Bayly family of Swanscombe, Kent, and into that of the Tyrells of Herongate and Billericay, whose last representative Sir John Tyrell, Bart., is remembered by his initials carved on the N. Wall of the present Council Chamber and Registrar's office which was built under his leadership, in 1830 as a Corn Exchange, Town Hall and Grammar School to replace the ancient Market House nearer the Church.

Major Thomas Jenner Spitty of the Essex Rifles, the last member of the family, lived in his younger days at 'Hill House', Stock Road, moving into 'Hurlocks', apparently after his mother's death. Married he was in 1881 Deputy Lieutenant of Essex. As such, he is said to have spent much time in the Belvidere or Look-out on the roof of his house watching for invaders in the Thames Estuary which could be clearly seen from here. It has also been stated that he used this vantage point to watch the workmen on his various farms and the progress of his best known memorial - The Billericay Lake - which he caused to be dug in the Meadows of Hill House Farm during a period of depression after one of the wars in the late 19th. century.

Major Spitty took advantage of the seven springs on this farm for the purpose of the Lake, and it is said that he originally intended it to be in the shape of a '8' but started it the wrong way round.

He was somewhat of an Astronomer, and as an Archaeologist was responsible, with his friend Mr. Sparvel-Bayly of 'Burghstead Lodge' for the discovery of many Roman and Iron Age relics in the Stock Road and Norsey Wood area, most of which can be seen in the Colchester Castle Museum, together with the Spitty Carriage dating from about 1820. This was the first vehicle to cross the new Stock Road bridge in 1885, thus linking the old Stage Coach days with the modern ones of Railways.

The Major founded the Reading (now Recreation) Rooms in 1864, and is also recorded as entertaining the children of the Board Schools, Laindon Road, after its official opening, at his own cost.

He died in 1898, and his widow a few years later, both being commemorated by a Window erected by Dr. F. Carter in Gt Burstead Church. There is also a memorial in the Parish Church to Major Spitty against the pew which he used to occupy every Sunday.

NEWMAN'S

(Near Woolworths, High Street, down turning side of County Cleaners)

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N.B; It is decided, so as to be in keeping to call the Tudor building which will house Newman's "THE WOOLPACK". Newman's will be keeping up a tradition with wool, for when the wool trade was at its height No 3. was connected with it as a dwelling of a wealthy wool merchant.

EDITOR'S NOTES.

We hope shortly to go on sale in the newsagents. Some shops already take "Observers" however.

As soon as we get spare we aim to use money to buy some more new equipment this time so that we can do shading.

Any reader who wishes to see our collection of about 25 wonderful Press photos of the Ob at work, and our book of press cuttings just let me know.

This will be the last instalment of the 'Story of Billericay' as Ha/Ri is very busy with Museum and High Street book. It is hoped that he will be able to resume a new series concerning the history of Billericay in the late autumn.

Yours Sincerely,
W. P. Grant
EDITOR.

SCOUT FAIR. Continued from Page I.
at present at apx. £360.

A model of the proposed new H.Q. (which it is estimated will cost £1,500) made by Mr Hamilton Maclean and his 15-year old son Ian was on view. It is proposed that parents and boys will do some of the labour in building the H.Q.

At present, the "Observer" was told there is no definite site for the H.Q., owing to difficulty in obtaining a suitable one and Town and Country planning, although they have several offers of ground.

Mr G.C.A. Taylor opened the fair. Speaking of the Scout Movement he said that an organisation of that kind would never keep going for 50 years as the Scout Movement had done if it had not lived up to its own high ideals. He said that he was informed if another £200 were raised the National Headquarters would pay the rest, towards the new H.Q., which the growing scout movement in the town needed.

A bouquet was presented to Mrs Taylor by Robert Munday, aged 9.

C.P.R.E. Continued from Page I.
the treasures of Solid Gold and Gold Plate from the Safe for the visitors to examine. Afterwards the members mounted in parties of eight, and by narrow spiral stairs in a pillar to the Roof Loft. The return home was by a roundabout route through Ugley Green and Henham last year's "Best Kept Village".

"JANUS" REPORTING.

The question of the "Lords Day Observance Laws" need altering if not repealing. Co-operation is more Christian than Compulsion. It may be more Christian like to do a kindly deed and play Cricket rather than to go to Church in the spirit of Insuring that One's own Soul is to be saved and never mind what happens to others. I have seen a woman come out of a place of worship passing a crying child who had fallen down without a glance. And again, the man seen thrashing the dog after returning from Sunday Religious Observance. It adds up to the logical conclusion, that regular attendance for corporate worship in the wrong spirit is likely to be less Christian like than to show compassion. But it is always good to ponder on the right course. The Editor of this paper has explained his filing system to me. He may have strong Christian principles without realizing the same. For Gods first law is "Order" and he strives to obtain that.

There would be less Teddy Boy trouble and delinquents would prove the best Christians if they could have true Values presented in simple sincerity. Later I hope to give my comments on dancing in all aspects including Rock'n Roll.

'Euthansia' means legalised Killing! Various doctors have made confessions of having complied with their patient's plea for Mercy Killing. This is not in conformity with Christianity. It is shocking to hear of members of the medical profession seeking to bring in an Act to legalise Painless Killing. Formerly a Medical Student was taught to give encouragement to his Patients, for as long as life remained, so also must hope remain! For miracles of recovery still happen, when it seems quite impossible. And if such practices were sanctioned, there are many more ways of ending life apart from the lethal drug dose. In other countries such things are done by doctors and surgeons but they are rarely Christians. The Patient cannot suffer beyond endurance. God has promised that he will provide the strength. Stretcher cases with limbs shot off in War, did not realize that a limb had gone. I felt acute agony to have to witness this horror and would probably have fainted

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COMMENT.

Nation-wide sympathy and protests were raised by the hanging of Marwood. Sympathy was poured on him and his family.

The sympathy should go TO THE RELATIONS OF THE DEAD POLICEMAN AND THE GIRL HE WAS GOING TO MARRY.

Mr Butler was right to give no reprieve to Marwood.

What kind of country is it where a policeman cannot carry out his duty in safety?

If we do not reintroduce hanging, murders of children, old people, young girls will STEADILY INCREASE as they have been doing ever since the repealing of hanging in most cases. Action must be taken.

And when you feel like sympathising with a murderer about hanging think of the child or old lady he murdered brutally and the HORROR HE CAUSED.

Death is a SEVERE penalty but murderers have been lenient on other people, and it is not right that they should get so-called "LIFE IMPRISONMENT", WHICH IS IN FACT ABOUT 14 YEARS IMPRISONMENT.

However there are cases where there are reasons for an appeal, which may succeed. It is too much responsibility for one man, the Home Secretary. I suggest a Committee of 11, which would take a vote.

Any Offers?

Anybody want to buy a red flag? The Red Flag will certainly not fly from St. Pancras Town Hall next May Day, and perhaps for many more, for the Council is now Tory controlled. Thank goodness! No more demonstrations putting a strain on the overworked, understaffed police force.

Oxford University have decided to end Latin as a "must" in the Entrance Exam. An alternative is German or Russian. I think this is a good decision. True, Latin helps with the other languages but so does German. I do not think that there is any need for the extensive teaching of Latin anymore. Many intelligent youngsters have failed to get into University because of Latin, and I think the removal of Latin will benefit the country as a whole. Now, let us hope Cambridge follows the lead of Oxford.

Almost every day one reads of bank and sub-post office robberies. Surely it is not beyond modern science to invent some gadget which would catch robbers. It seems that most of the Police Force is occupied in controlling traffic. To catch crooks etc should be the only job of the Police Force. The taking of car numbers, etc should be left to Traffic Police, organised on a national scale and with aircraft and patrols.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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CIRCULATION 140.

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WHEN IN TOWN CALL AT MATTHEW'S CAFE 25, HIGH ST FOR A GOOD CUP OF TEA 3^d OR COFFEE 5^d SNACKS ALWAYS READY.

"JANUS" REPORTING. Continued from Page 4, Column 2.

if I had not been told that I might be punished for cowardice. So! Shame to the People who seek the cowards death at the price of Professional Atheistic conduct.

Greatness lies in having the courage to live or die at God's decree.

SICKNESS PREVENTIVE HINTS, by "JANUS".

For those spots prevalent in the Spring eat some Cytras fruit daily. Either pineapple, grape fruit or lemon juice in hot water without sugar. Drink the water from Vegetables boiled with only a tiny pinch of soda bi-carb in the water. Eat raw salads of grated vegetables, as many as possible. For an Aperient - Net salines or fruit salts! But any senna preparation i.e. syrup or senna-tea. When bathing or washing use a good soap such as Imperial leather or a medicated one with a hard loofer to stimulate the pores. Not a rubber sponge! Use parsley, Chives or onions and pearl barley to make a vegetable soup. Put plenty of grated raw carrot in when serving, eat only brown bread for a few days.

FOR THE GARDENER - Greenhouses.

The cold house is the cheapest to run and is the most suitable for the small garden. This is a glorified frame maintaining a temprature of about 50 deg. with say - a motor radiator lamp. In a not large greenhouse of this kind, with much better and earlier results than outside.

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