

BILLERICAY OBSERVER

TUESDAY JANUARY 3rd, 1961.

EDITOR WYNFORD GRANT. EDITION NUMBER 77. PRICE 1½d.

EDUCATION- PARENTS THREATEN STRIKE ACTION

Unless the South-East Essex Divisional Education Executive take speedy action it looks as if most of the South Green children attending Billericay Primary School will not go to School next Thursday, when the Spring Term starts, nor for a long time afterwards. Their parents will be keeping them away in a protest "strike action".

When South Green residents moved into their new homes on the Tyrrells Road Estate they were told that a School would be provided in South Green for their children to attend. Work did not start on the new School two years ago, but they were patient when their children attended schools in Basildon and Billericay as they knew that their children would eventually be able to attend South Green school.

Then they were informed that only children living in the roads bounded by Hickstars Lane, Kennel Lane, Church Street, and Grange Road would be able to attend the School.

This annoyed the parents and Mr. Featherstone of Tyrrells Road organised a petition asking the Educational Executive to provide a free bus to Billericay Primary School, and also to extend South Green School. Mr. Featherstone and a neighbour visited sixty houses in Tyrrells Road, and adjoining roads, and obtained signatures from all occupiers except one. Mr. Featherstone sent the signatures to the Divisional Executive and is now busy collecting more. No reply has been received from the Divisional Executive (it is now three weeks since the letter was sent off) and a meeting is being arranged to take a decision on the clause in the petition regarding the consideration of "strike action".

Under the new arrangement all the children attending schools at Basildon will attend South Green school if they live on the Passingham Avenue Estate, and the Billericay School, if they live elsewhere in South Green.

CONTINUED PAGE 3.



COUNCIL'S "MISTAKE" LED TO PUBLIC ENQUIRY

A "misunderstanding" on the part of Basildon U.D. Council led to a Public Enquiry at Basildon on Thursday into the application of Mr. A.C. Clarke for the removal of conditions imposed by Basildon U.D. Council on the erection of a poultry house at his home at "Wynfall", Noak Hill Road, Billericay. The conditions state that he must remove the poultry house by the end of 1962.

Mr. Clarke said that he went to the Council Offices in March, 1959 and had asked if it was all right to erect a poultry house, 150' by 24'. He was told that he could go ahead, and he ordered materials. Later on in the month his wife went to the Council Offices with a rough sketch, and she too was told that it was all right to erect the poultry house. Mr. Clarke proceeded with the erection of a poultry house 92' by 24' for battery chickens in his back garden. Then in July he was told that he needed planning permission, and he obtained consent for 3 years. Mr. Clarke stated that if he had known in the first place that he would not be allowed to have a permanent poultry house he would not have wasted his time and money. The total cost had been £3,000, including the cost of the birds, plus his own time - up to 20 hours a week for six months. Regarding complaints about noise or smell, he stated that there was no excessive noise. He denied that there was any great increase in the fly population since the erection of his shed, and also that his manure, which was thinly covered with soil in a field at the rear, 20ft from the boundary fence, was a nuisance and an attraction for flies. He said that he intended to purchase part of the field to cart the manure 400ft away, although this would cost £300 for 3 acres.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3.

ROUND AND ABOUT
by
"WANDERER".

"WANDERER'S" NEW YEAR REVIEW.

Wage robberies, Carnival, Industrial Estate, Vandalism, Museums, Phones, Delegated Planning Functions, Railways and Stations, Council rows, Council move to Basildon, Flats, High Street (many topics), League of Hospital Friends, Central Car Park, Chapel Street, Zebra Crossings, New roads, Public Lighting, Street numbering, Buses, Old People's Welfare Gardens, Press Relations, Fire Services, Lake Meadows, Community Centre, road improvements, Public Footpaths, Rates Offices, Elections, Council Chairmen, Hill House Drive, Public Street Works, Schools, and Queens Park.

These are the many diverse topics I have dealt with this year.

Probably the biggest question in the early part of the year was Lake Meadows. In the face of strong public opinion, backed up by a petition of 1,100 people the Council took action, and defended their action against attacks from Labour Councillors who come from those roads with names like Gobions and Little Pagnel, in Mosaicland. However, when the good weather comes (if it ever does) the motorists will arrive from Dagenham and Chelmsford and will start to park somewhere. And then the Council will have to provide alternative Car Parking in the face of opposition of residents of side roads near the Park. Then when they try to provide alternative Car Parking they'll meet with desperate opposition from residents wherever they go. Nevertheless I support the Council. I feel that the Police should take a firm line on parking in side roads or obstruction of the main road. The only parking space should be for organised games on the hardstand. The park is for the people of Billericay and not Dagenham. Basildon people will soon have their own park (Gloucester Park) provided it isn't consumed by super sports centres, and Olympic swimming pools. At the same time Lake Meadows Park is a Park not a Car Park, and I am glad to see that the Council appreciate this.

Another part of Billericay that has been in the news a lot is the High Street. At one time this year it looked as if it wouldn't be one of the most charming High Streets in Essex but England's leading bomb site. However, I am

"WANDERER'S" NEW YEAR REVIEW.
Continued.

pleased to see that the gaps are gradually filling in, and that no more are appearing.

Another area that has been in the news a lot, certainly in the "Billericay Observer" if not in any other paper is Queens Park. This area seems to have been associated by the paper's readers as a permanent fixture of this column, and the paper's "pet subject". This year, however, Queens Park will be in the news a lot more and not only in the "Billericay Observer". For this year the work on the review of the County Development Plan begins. This will be the most controversial and important event this year, for it will shape the whole future of Billericay - a pleasant dormitory town well planned, and a tribute to modern architecture, or a semi-industrial sprawl a disgrace to architecture. A lot depends on the interest shown by local organisations and the general public, but I feel sure that as in the past few years, Billericay will have a reputation for active interest of the residents in local affairs.

Of course there is the question of the future constitution of the area. It has been hinted by the Council that the Brentwood and Basildon Urban Districts, which at present form the Parliamentary Constituency of Billericay will split to form two separate constituencies - Brentwood, for the Brentwood Urban District, and Billericay for the Basildon Urban District - if there still is a Basildon Urban District. For we may well see a Borough of Basildon including Corringham and Stanford and a Billericay-Wickford Urban District, incorporating rural areas depending on the two townships not in the present Urban District.

Of course there is the everlasting problem of schools. Thanks to a wonderful piece of official bungling and lack of co-ordination with Basildon Council the Divisional Executive discover several roads at South Green they didn't know existed. As a result all their calculations are upset. The schools question has been smouldering for a long time and now it has burst into flames and it serves the Education Committee right if they have a strike on their hands. Perhaps in April when Basildon Council take over we'll get more understanding of local education problems - I hope so!

SOUTH GREEN SCHOOL ROW.
Continued from Page 1.

In an interview with the "Observer" Mr. Featherstone stated that owing to the dangerous journey between Billericay Primary School and South Green parents had to accompany children to and from school in the morning and evening. This meant that all the children under five had to go with the mother. This cost 5/10d a week for the mother, 3/4d a week for children under 5, 1/8 a week for schoolchildren in bus fares. When there were 4 or even 3 children under 11 in the family this was a heavy drain on the family budget. Mothers would not take neighbour's children as they did not want to accept the responsibility of looking after several high-spirited children on the narrow pavements at the bus stops at South Green and Billericay and along the Laindon Road. It was often very difficult for the parents and children to get on the buses, and it sometimes took one hour to travel the 1½ miles. In addition a strain was being placed on the bus service. Mr. Featherstone suggested that one of the buses which used to convey the children to Basildon could operate a school service between Billericay and South Green. Mr. Featherstone also pointed out that if the mother or one of the children under five was ill it was impossible for any children to attend school.

The Billericay Residents' Association are supporting Mr. Featherstone in his campaign.

M.B.E. FOR LOCAL MAGISTRATE.

The Medal of the British Empire has been awarded to Mr. H.S.A. Rother J.P. of Billericay for "public and political service in Billericay". Mr. Rother is Chairman of Billericay Rotary Club, Chairman of Billericay & Brentwood Conservative Association, and a Director of Underwood & Barker, Manufacturing Chemists, on the Industrial Estate.

BELL HILL ACCIDENT.

An accident involving a lorry and trailer occurred on Bell Hill, South Green, near the road's junction with Hickstars Lane, on Friday at lunchtime. The lorry and trailer was going towards Wickford down the steep gradient of Bell Hill (A129) when the trailer, bearing metal sheets, skidded. The lorry swerved and overturned. The driver escaped with minor injuries.

STOP PRESS.

NUMEROUS OBJECTIONS TO POULTRY HOUSE.
Public Enquiry - From Page 1.

Mr. Clarke concluded his case by saying that he had intended originally to give up his job and make the poultry business his full-time job, but because of the uncertain future at present he only worked on it in his spare time.

In answer to questioning Mr. Clarke agreed that there was a public footpath between his garden and the land he intended buying. He denied that 1,300 hens was an excessive number for a poultry shed of his size. He also denied that his extractor fans caused noise and smell and that his shed prevented efficient drainage of nearby gardens.

For Basildon U.D. Council, Mr. A.R. Hughes, Assistant Clerk, said that Mr. Clarke could apply again for planning permission shortly before the expiration of the three years. The site was just under half an acre and in the Metropolitan and local Green Belts. Noak Hill Road was an example of the worst type of ribbon development. When Mr. Clarke and his wife inquired at the Council Offices the officials in question assumed that it was an application for a domestic type of poultry house, such as were common in the Noak Hill Road area. On ordinary planning merits the Council would not have given any permission. However in view of the fact that Mr. Clarke had been misled and incurred expense the Council decided to give him temporary permission so that he could recoup some of the money he had spent.

Mr. Harroway, Public Health Inspector said that he had visited the site with two other Council officials. There was a slight amount of noise, there were not an excessive amount of blowflies, and these could have come from a piggery a little way away, and the manure covering was fairly satisfactory though it needed to be watched. There was no statutory nuisance, but the present method of disposing of the manure would be exhausted in six months.

A fair number of local residents attended the enquiry. Mr. Newey, Solicitor for two objectors, stated that one of his clients had caught 94 flies in one evening. Mr. Wilkinson stated that because of the foul air from the extractor fans he could no longer enjoy his garden. Mrs. Wilkinson said that she had had to dispose of her few chickens because of the foul air - CONTINUED PAGE 4.

EDITOR'S NOTES.

I regret that I cannot accept any more "display" adverts, except for notices of events, for the meantime. I shall still accept Classified Adverts.

"Wanderer" wishes to add something to his "New Year Review" (Page 2). Seeing that I write both columns I couldn't disagree. For the 3rd year running he says; "I hope that all who live in Billericay - Residents and Councillors - will work for a better Billericay in the New Year".

---- The Editor.

LIVE WELL!

1st YEAR HENS WILL ROAST OR BOIL!
ONLY 2/2 lb - CHEAPER THAN SAUSAGES!

PREPARED FOR OVEN!

RABBITS & CHICKENS.

Apply:- "MOSS BANK", WOODSIDE ROAD,
PERRY STREET, BILLERICAY (between
Stores and School).

ORDER YOUR CYRIL LORD CARPETS AND
RUGS
From

MR. A. BAKER, 69, KNIGHTBRIDGE WALK.
(Off Perry St.)

PHONE BILLERICAY 1634.

CALL, WRITE, OR PHONE.

Will fit if required.

SPIRELLA RESIDENT CORSETIERE

MRS W. LENNON

"Danwyn", Beaufort Road, Billericay.

Phone Billericay 1827.

MADE-TO-MEASURE FASHION FOUNDATIONS
AND SWIMSUITS.

My advice on your corsetry problems
is always available without
obligation.

CINEMA DIARY, RITZ CINEMA, CHAPEL ST.,
BILLERICAY. (Not an advert).

Monday January 2nd, 3 Days, Charlie
Drake, Peter Arne in "SANDS OF THE
DESERT" (U). David Ladd in "RAYMIE", (U).
Thursday January 5th, 3 Days, David
Tomlinson, Richard Wattis in "FOLLOW
THAT HORSE", (U). Also "DUST IN THE SUN"
Monday January 9th, 3 Days, Trevor
Howard, Wendy Hiller in "SONS AND
LOVERS" (A). Also "VILLA", (A).
Thursday January 12th, 3 Days, Terry-
Thomas, Hattie Jacques in "MAKE MINE
MINK", (U), plus "RIDE A CROOKED
TRAIL" (U).

PUBLIC ENQUIRY.

Continued From Page 3.

Mr. Hatton, another nearby resident, stated that he had been infested with flies since the house had been erected, despite the wet summer. He had filled a $\frac{1}{4}$ lb jar with flies in a few weeks.

The Inspector then read a letter from the Billericay Residents' Association. The Association felt that the Council had been over generous in giving permission, and that the Minister ought to reduce the period of planning consent so as to end in June 1961.

Mr. Smith, another resident living nearby, stated that he had to keep all the windows and doors shut at mealtimes, owing to the increase in the fly population, since the erection of the shed. As for the noise from the fans it was a continuous whine. One went to bed with it in one's ears and one woke up to it. Apart from the foul air, Mr. Clarke had bonfires 2 or 3 times a week, and one had the smell of burning flesh. If Mr. Clarke had Foul Pest he would suffer from the smell of the rotting chickens.

Mr. Clarke said that he had bonfires only a few times a month. On questioning Mr. Smith admitted that he kept about thirty chickens for purely domestic purposes.

Mr. Cooper, another nearby resident complained of the smell and compared the noise to that of an aeroplane.

Mr. Newey, Solicitor for the two objectors, said that while he could sympathise with Mr. Clarke it was partly his fault. He thought it was wrong that because the Council made a mistake that local residents should have to suffer from noise, smell, and flies.

Mrs. Williams said that the building was an eyesore and that the equipment used caused interference on her radio.

Mr. Burnham stated that if the building was allowed to stay for good it would depreciate the value of his property.

The Inspector of the Minister of Housing & Local Government, Mr. G. Marfleet-Brown B.A. visited the site after the enquiry. The Minister's decision will be published in the "Billericay Observer".

BUS STRIKE - No buses ran in the Billericay area on Bank Holiday 27th December when bus crews staged a token strike against the E.N. refusal to let them have a day off in lieu of the holiday, plus overtime pay.

W I N T E R S U N S H I N E

Regular Service from SOUTHAMPTON to MADERIA, TENERIFFE, LAS PALMAS, and CASABLANCA (with occasional calls at Lisbon and Tangier).

by S.S. "A R K A D I A" (20,260 tons).

Sailing from SOUTHAMPTON, 18th December, 1960, and thence every twelve or thirteen days until the 8th of April, 1961.

ROUND VOYAGE FARES FROM £75.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION HELD AT ALL PORTS FOR IMMEDIATE OFFER.

Apply:- FRED HUNTER LIMITED, 87, BISHOPGATE, LONDON, E.C.2. or
phone AVENUE 5524 or BILLERICAY 1457.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY:-

JOHN E. KIMBER

67, HIGH STREET,

BILLERICAY.

Phone:- 1035.

A RECORD OF EVERY OCCASION

PORTRAITS
CHILD STUDIES
SOCIAL FUNCTIONS
WEDDINGS, PASSPORTS
COMMERCIAL ENQUIRIES INVITED

BILLERICAY O.A.P.'s CHRISTMAS PARTY.

The Annual Christmas Party of Billericay O.A.P.'s was held at the Rose Hall on December 21st. Sick Members were wished a speedy recovery. Birthday honours were accorded Mrs. Sipritt, Mrs. Lee, and Mr. Plumridge. The Secretary thanked Mrs. Grant for her kindness in making the Paper Hats for all the Members. He also thanked Mr. Matthews of the High Street for presenting the Branch with the cash from a sale of Postcards and Books. Also for the gifts of sweets for prizes. One of the highlights of the afternoon was a Gift of Groceries from the Branch to Mr. & Mrs. Johnson on the occasion of their Golden Wedding. This was presented to them by Mrs. Gunter, Vice-President who spoke of the wonderful work they had done for the Branch over the years and hoped that they would continue to be associated with the Branch for many years to come. Mrs. Charlesworth, a Member, presented them with a bunch of flowers. A very entertaining afternoon was spent with Games, "Old Tyme" dancing and community singing. A vote of thanks was extended to Mrs. York and Mrs. Casson who volunteered to act as tea hostesses for the afternoon. Every Member was presented with a gift of Tea and Sugar from the Branch. The Meeting ended with a Carol Service and all linking hands and singing "Auld Lang Syne". There was no meeting on 28th December.

CHRIST CHURCH, PERRY STREET.

Services:- January 8th, Family Matins, 9.30 a.m. January 15th, Holy Communion, 9.30 a.m.

Young Wives Fellowship:- 3rd January, 2.15 p.m., talk by Rev. Swallow. 17th January, A.G.M., 8 p.m.

G O O D S P E E D S

1, CHAPEL STREET.
(Opposite War Memorial)

WET, DRIED, & FRIED
FISH CATERER.

Established 35 years.

EXPERT FISH FRYER.

SMOKED HADDOCK A SPECIALITY.

FROZEN FOODS STOCKED.

OPEN ON FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
UNTIL 9.0 p.m.

Phone -- Billericay 280.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE
"BILLERICAY OBSERVER"
WILL APPEAR ON

Tuesday January 17th.

FULL OF LOCAL NEWS & ARTICLES
ONLY 1½d. FROM MOST LOCAL
NEWSAGENTS.

"SPORTS OBSERVER".

Billericay Town Sports Club:-

December 24th; 1st X1 lost away to Writtle 2-7 (CMEP).
Boxing Day; 2nd X1 lost at home to Writtle Res. 0-1 (CME2).
December 31st; 1st X1 beat Writtle at home 5-1.(CMEP).
2nd X1 lost away to Gt.Totham 0-4 (CME2).
1st X1 are 2nd from bottom in CMEP.
2nd X1 are 8th in CME2.
CMP = Chelmsford & Mid-Essex League, Premier Division.
CME2 = Chelmsford & Mid-Essex League, 2nd Division.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS AT HOSPITAL.

St.Andrews Hospital
League of Friends gave a present to all staff on duty and all patients on Christmas Day.

Two mothers of babies
born on Christmas Day were presented with silver spoons.

DISABLED CLUB PARTY.

The Billericay Red Cross Disabled Club held their Christmas Party at the Rose Hall on December 19th.Over 40 members,helpers,and friends were present.Miss M.Thacker, Essex Red Cross Branch Welfare Officer cut the iced Christmas Cake.A table decoration - "Christmas Carnival Queen" - complete with sweets and crackers was given by Mrs.Grant. Billericay Red Cross Cadets entertained with carols.Mrs.H. Powell was the pianist.

JUNCTION IN "APALLING MESS".

Buttsbury Residents Association are complaining to the Council about the "apalling mess" at Gooseberry Green road junction.

CONSTITUTION OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The Urban District Council anticipate assuming responsibility for the Education Service on a delegated basis from the County Council on 1st April next,and it is proposed to appoint a Committee for Education which will be responsible for the bulk of functions to be delegated.

The new Committee will be set up in March in time to deal with the handing over the functions to the Council by the present Divisional Executive at Rayleigh.The Committee will consist of 19 Members,13 of whom will be Urban District Councillors, 2 will be nominated by the County Council,2 will be selected from members of the teaching profession, and 2 will be persons to be appointed by the Council with special experience in Education residing in the Urban District and acquainted with its educational conditions and needs.

The Council are most anxious tthat the two persons should be people who,in their opinion,are best suited to the task,and they are now able to receive nominations from organisations or applications from individuals for service on the new Committee.

The necessary forms are obtainable from the Clerk of the Council,88,Town Square,Basildon to whom they should be returned by Wednesday 8th February,which is the closing date for the receipt of nominations.

DEATH OF FORMER COUNCILLOR.

The death is announced of Mr.J.Toomey of Langdon Hills,local Councillor from 1936 to 1947 and a Vice-Chairman in 1946/7.

MATTHEWS

25/27 HIGH STREET

A RANGE OF OVER 200 LINES
OF CONFECTIONERY - GIFT
BOXES FOR ALL OCCASIONS

"NEILSONS" ICE CREAM

QUEENS PARK

STORES

SPAR GROCERS

111 PERRY STREET

BILLERICAY

DAILY DELIVERY SERVICE

PHONE BILLERICAY 527.

SPAR JANUARY SALE

NOTHING OVER 1/-

SAVE 3½d - CROSSE & BLACKWELL
1/3 TOMATO SOUP, 11½d.

SAVE 2½d - 10½d PHIPPS PEAS,
FOR 8d.

SAVE 2d - 1/- O.K. SAUCE FOR
ONLY 10d.

SAVE 3d - 1/3 DAIRYLEA CHEESE
FOR ONLY 1/-.

SAVE 1½d - 10½d GLENRYCK PILCHARDS
FOR ONLY 9d.

SAVE 2d - 1/- Consort whole
CARROTS FOR ONLY 10d.

THESE CUT PRICES ARE AVAILABLE
FROM 2nd to 21st JANUARY, 1961.

SAVE 3d - 1/3 BRANDS PASTES
(CHICKEN & HAM)
(SALMON & SHRIMP)
FOR ONLY 1/-.

SAVE 2d - 1/- Jacobs Cream
CRACKERS, FOR ONLY 10d.

SAVE 4d - 1/4d BROBAT FOR
ONLY 1/-.

SAVE 2d - 7d PHIPPS PEAS
FOR ONLY 5d.

SAVE 2½d - 1/1d H.P. BAKED
BEANS FOR ONLY 10½d.

SAVE 1½d - 8d H.P. BAKED
BEANS FOR ONLY 6½d.

SPAR'S JANUARY SALE LASTS
FROM 2nd to 21st January, 1961.

BILLERICAY IN THE PAST

by W.P.G.
No.12

THE FIRST ZEPPELIN TO CRASH ON LAND IN ENGLAND.

Slightly more modern history this time - the story of how the first Zeppelin to crash on land in England came to earth in Billericay.

Zeppelin raids were made frequently on the coasts of East and South England and on London. On the night of 23rd-24th September 1916 a concentrated attack was made on Britain by eleven or twelve Zeppelins of a large and powerful type. Despite the number and their size all they did was to wander aimlessly over Eastern England, inflicting very little damage.

Apparently the L-32 Airship which came down at Billericay was one making for London. It reached London at about midnight, and was soon picked up by the searchlights and damaged by anti-aircraft fire in the East London Area. It proceeded towards the Chelmsford Area, and although it was running slowly and the engine was making a "wheezy" sound to quote an observer, it was not fatally damaged.

Then two anti-aircraft guns in the Essex Area started to fire at the Zeppelin, which concealed itself behind a large cloud. The gunfire ceased and was replaced by tiny flashes at a great height. These flashes were in fact shells from an aeroplane which was attacking the wounded Zeppelin.

Shortly afterwards a lurid red glow filled the sky and all London and Essex cheered as they observed that the source of the glow was a Zeppelin - the L32 - falling slowly horizontally. The time was now 1.20 a.m. As it fell it blazed furiously and it is said that one could read a newspaper within a distance of twenty miles, and the night was lit up for sixty miles.

The airship fell very deliberately and by stages. At certain points the fall appeared to be arrested, and the airship remained almost stationary, blazing furiously. Then something would fall out of the bottom and the airship would move more quickly until its fall was arrested once more. This was repeated several times before the whole blazing mass finally came down to earth. Ten minutes later another Zeppelin - L33 - was destroyed, but the L-32 was the first to catch fire and reach the ground.

The Zeppelin fell about 1 mile south of the High Street near South Green. The actual spot was in the fields off Jacksons Lane between Snails Hall and Gatwick House. The Zeppelin was about 250 yards by 25 yards, and had trailed its burnt-out framework across three meadows, breaking down the hedges, its tail being impaled by a young oak, which can still be seen today. Fortunately the only building near was an old barn and the bombs had been thrown out in a vain attempt to lighten and save the airship.

The first people on the scene were the cottagers. Next were the Police and Billericay Fire Brigade. The Brigade pumped water on the remains of the airship, from a nearby pond, in case anybody have survived the conflagration. Of the crew of 22, 21 had died either in the Airship before the crash, or had jumped out in an attempt to escape and had killed themselves; one had survived the crash, but died shortly afterwards. All the bodies were put in the Barn, which gained it the name of Dead Man's Barn, and were afterwards buried in Great Burstead Church, where the memorial to them can be seen today.

As a result of the crash Billericay was the subject of a nine day's wonder.

From East London and elsewhere within 30 miles the crowds thronged the roads to Billericay on the Sunday the roads were "as on Epsom or Derby Day". Thousands of soldiers formed a close ring round the airship while the crowd many times larger looked on from round the outside. The side roads were crowded with "motors", the cottage gardens were stacked with cycles much to the profit of the occupants. The local tradesmen were in attendance, and so were the hot dog vendors etc. And throughout the day the crowd continued to grow until it reached extraordinary proportions.

Many of the crowd busied themselves in searching the fields for souvenirs, wandering regardless of the farmer's crops. Tiny flakes of aluminium scaled off the ship's framework, and burned fragments of cloth from the vessel's ballonnet were easily come by. Such objects were found two miles from the airship showing how it drifted after it became ignited. A plane for lowering or raising the airship in the air was found half-a-mile away. Vendors sold various pieces of aluminium, and a aluminium locker is in Billericay's Cater Museum
