

BILLERICAY OBSERVER

TUESDAY MARCH 28th, 1961.

EDITOR WYNFORD GRANT. EDITION NUMBER 83. PRICE 1½d.

Phone Billericay 1927.

BILLERICAY SPORTS CLUB FACED WITH EXTINCTION

The Billericay Town Sports Club, founded as the Billericay Town Football Club in 1890, will slowly die and become extinct within a year or two, unless more support is forthcoming from the people of Billericay. This prophecy was made by Mr. B. H. Jee, Secretary of the Club, in an exclusive interview with the "Observer" during the weekend.

At the moment the Club uses dressing rooms adjoining the Archer Hall, which are in a very bad state of repair, and which the Parish Church want to demolish. Standing on the Archer Hall field, where the Club play, is a brand new wooden pavilion, the result of "years of extremely hard work" and £325 in cash. But at the moment the building is nothing more than a wooden shell - "a white elephant" said Mr. Jee.

The Club need £200 to equip the pavilion. But this is impossible for the Club are running at a loss of £4 a week at present. Why? Said Mr. Jee; "Because of the 'couldn't care less' attitude of the people of Billericay. They couldn't care less whether there was a football club here or not. We have a few kind friends and hard workers, but many of them are losing interest because of the lack of response to their efforts from the local people. Here we have a pavilion large enough to play table tennis and hold club meetings in, yet we can't raise the money to equip it or get anybody to come along. I think it is a disgrace on the town. One goes to Maldon, a far smaller town, and yet their reserves play in the same league as our first team. It's the same with Witham and Heybridge and other towns - some of them have teams in the Essex & Suffolk Border League. Yet here we have a far larger town with a big population and we play their reserves".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2.



ENTRIES FOR ARTS & CRAFTS EXHIBITION UP

A The Arts & Crafts Exhibition (held every two years) at the Mayflower Hall on the 15th and 16th March, sponsored by Billericay Congregational Church was one of the most successful ever. Entries were up by about 40%, the total for the Arts & Crafts Exhibition and Music & Elocution Festival being 765. It was agreed by all the adjudicators that the work was of a very high grade.

The exhibition prizes were presented on the 16th by Mr. J. A. Watford, Chairman of Basildon Civic Arts Society.

The Music & Elocution Festival took place on Saturday the 18th, and the adjudicators spent all day judging the many entries in the 38 classes. The brass quartet competition was contested by eleven quartets.

The prize winners' concert took place at the Mayflower Hall on Saturday the 25th when most of the first prize winners took part. The programme, provided mainly by children of various ages, was well received by the audience of over 200. The prize giving was by Dr. C. H. May, the musical head of the Southend Municipal College and Conductor of the Royal Choral Society, Tunbridge Wells. Dr. May was particularly struck by the quality of the elocution and music items and said that he was amazed by the way in which the young performers took the stage and projected their voices to the end of the hall.

The silver cup presented by the late Dr. J. D. Wells, for the competitor obtaining the highest aggregate of awards in the Exhibition and Festival was tied for by Miss E. Lewiston and Miss M. Wilkinson; it is understood that each will hold it for one year.

MANY TROUBLES OF SPORTS CLUB.
Continued From Page 1.

In addition several windows of the new pavilion have been broken by children firing air guns at them. Commented Mr. Jee "Surely all self-respecting parents should have some control over their children".

A few years ago the Club changed their name from "Football" to "Sports", to allow them to play a wide variety of sports, and attract new members. However, unless more members join soon, it looks as if in a few seasons there will be no football played at Archer Hall Field.

221 INDIVIDUAL ENTRIES FOR SCOUT & CUBS EXHIBITION.

There were 221 individual entries for the Billericay, Wickford & Laindon District Scouts Association Cubs & Scouts Handicrafts Exhibition at the W.I. Hall on Saturday. Six cub packs and scout troops entered.

Shields and certificates were presented by Mrs. N. Symons.

Results:- Cubs 1st. 2nd. Billericay, 193 points, 2nd. 1st. Ramsden & Downham, 81 points, 3rd. 3rd Billericay, 63 points, 4th. 2nd. Wickford, 60 points, 5th. 1st. Wickford, 27 points, and 6th. 4th. Billericay. Scouts:- 1st. 4th Billericay, 94 points, 2nd. 1st. Runwell, 75 points, 3rd. 2nd. Billericay, 66 points, 4th. 3rd. Billericay, 48 points, 5th. 1st Ramsden & Downham, 10 points, 6th., Langdon Hills, 7 points. There were 144 cub, and 77 scout entries.

NEW LIBRARY "WHEN OPPURTUNITY OCCURS".

In a letter to Mr. G. Birch, Secretary of Billericay Residents' Association the Chief Librarian states that Billericay will have a new, specially-built Library when "the oppurtunity occurs".

The Librarian states that the Library Committee realise that the present Library is inadequate to meet the demands of a town the size of Billericay.

However, even when the new Library is built readers can look forward to little improvement on Saturday mornings. "Even in our new Libraries our staff are overwhelmed", states the Librarian.

Regarding the difficulty of reaching books on the highest shelves the Librarian states that it is impossible to put books lower, because this would reduce the number of books there could be on the Library shelves.

ROUND AND ABOUT
by
"WANDERER".

The news that Billericay Sports Club are in danger of extinction is alarming. A town like Billericay must have a Football Club. Smaller towns have teams in the Southern League. But a well-supported, well-financed football club in Billericay need not belong to the Southern League, just a much higher League than at present. However to join a better League the Club must play better, and encouragement and support would make a great deal of difference. Then better ground facilities are needed. This means that money is needed but other towns have done it so why not Billericay? It's up to YOU! It would be a pity for seventy years of playing tradition to end because of lack of support - but this could easily happen.

The news that Norsey Wood will probably be made part of the Metropolitan Green Belt is good. But a careful watch must be kept on this beautiful area.

There does not seem to be much hope of Billericay having an automatic telephone exchange for a long time yet. Other towns have priority, so all that can be done is to press for work to start at the earliest date possible.

Billericay will have a Library "when the oppurtunity arises". The staff do their best, but the building is totally inadequate, so let us hope that the oppurtunity will arise soon, and that Billericay be given priority on the list of new Libraries to be built. A Community Centre could easily be incorporated into the design of the new Library.

St. Ediths has been almost entirely demolished. Some may regret its going, but its demolition is only part of the many changes taking place in Billericay. I only hope that it will not be replaced by a dreadful hoarding for about a year, joining the "High Street Bomb Sites" Club, and then to be finally replaced by a unsightly block of shops. However no doubt the Consultative Panel on the High Street will examine any plans most carefully before they are passed. At least we must be thankful that we have the Cater Museum where relics and records of old Billericay may be stored for the benefit and interest of future generations.

----- "Wanderer".

TWO BRIGADES ATTEND HOUSE FIRE.

Fire engines from Brentwood and Billericay attended a fire in a house in Fairfield Rise, Billericay on Monday 6th March. A chip pan caught fire, and the fire spread to other parts of the kitchen. About £250 worth of damage was done before the Brigades got the fire under control.

On Wednesday the 15th Billericay Fire Brigade attended a grass fire in Mountmessing Road, Billericay. On Friday the 20th they attended an early morning chimney fire in The Rising, Billericay. In the afternoon the Brigade stood-by at Corringham. On Saturday Afternoon they attended a grass fire on the verges opposite School Road, Billericay. On the 22nd they attended a Chimney Fire in Langham Crescent, and on Thursday they attended a Chimney Fire at Ramsden.

FINDS AT ST. EDITHS.

When St. Ediths was being demolished a pump was discovered and this was given to the Cater Museum.

Then in some hardcore delivered from St. Ediths to Woodside Cottages, Howe Street, Chelmsford a copper canister, containing a broken wine bottle, five loose coins, and a parchment was found. The parchment stated that the house was re-built in 1863, giving the name of the architect, builder, and the owner. The finds were given to the Cater Museum. It was known that the larger part of the building was Victorian, the part nearest St. Ediths Lane is thought to be Georgian.

The Cater Museum will now open from 10.30 to 1 and 2 to 5 from Monday to Friday and from 10.30 to 2 and 2 to 7 on Saturdays. Before the Museum opened later on Tuesdays.

NO HOPE OF FULLY AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE EXCHANGE FOR SEVERAL YEARS.

Following complaints to the Telephone Committee about the phone service in the area, Mr. G. Birch, Secretary of Billericay Residents' Association was shown over Billericay Telephone Exchange. He was told that more operating positions were being built to improve the service. However, there is no hope of Billericay being a fully automatic exchange for several years, as other towns have priority.

NORSEY WOODS - PROPOSAL TO MAKE IT PART OF METROPOLITAN GREEN BELT.

In a letter to Mr. G. Birch, Secretary of Billericay Residents' Association the Area Planning Officer states that when the County Plan is reviewed it is not intended to change its use, but only to make it part of the official Metropolitan Green Belt. However, this proposal is by no means final, should there be any question of development the Residents' would have a chance to state their case.

MEETING ON PENSIONERS CLUB FOR BUTTSBURY.

A meeting was held at Buttsbury Primary School last night on the question of forming a Pensioners Club in Buttsbury. Several pensioners have asked whether a Club could be started in the Buttsbury area, and the meeting was arranged to assess whether there would be sufficient support for such a club. It is hoped to form a Committee from those present at the meeting. Mr. Moore and Mr. Riches, Secretaries of the two existing Pensioners Clubs in Billericay hope to attend to help and advise.

Depending on the support for the Perry Street meeting a similar meeting will be held in Sunnymede in about two months time, in order to try and form a club to serve the Sunnymede and Outwood Common areas.

The Old Peoples Welfare Committee took a party of 24 pensioners to see "The Merry Widow" at the Archer Hall recently. It is hoped to arrange 4 or 5 such outings a year for housebound pensioners. These pensioners have to be collected by car, and in order not to exhaust the reserves of car drivers, new volunteers to do this work are required. All those interested should contact Mrs. Beryl Barr, Secretary at 273, Mountmessing Road, Billericay or phone Billericay 522.

SUCCESS OF OPERA.

The Billericay Amateur Operatic Society successfully produced "The Merry Widow" at the Archer Hall, Billericay on Wednesday the 15th, Thursday the 16th, Friday the 17th, and Saturday the 18th of April. The opera was fairly well supported, the costumes were extremely colourful, and the standard and quality of the music very good.

EDITOR'S NOTES.

This issue is yet another 10-page one. Issues of this size look like becoming a regular feature.

The "Observer" phone has now been installed. The number - Billericay 1927. Phone your news and small ads (6d for 30 words) to this number.

Rough plans are now being drawn up for the "Observer's" 1961 Billericay Carnival entry. This year a float will be entered (Readers may remember that last year we entered the "tableaux on foot" class and won 3rd prize). Incidentally, entry forms may be obtained from the "Observer" office.

Sales outside the station doubled last time.

For the third issue running there is a letter on Page 8. All letters giving your views on any topic of interest are always welcome. And please try and get all adverts, news, and letters in by the Saturday before the publication Tuesday or earlier if possible - it does help.

----- The Editor.

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THE BILLERICAY WOMEN'S CO-OP GUILD
MEETS ON MONDAYS IN THE CO-OP HALL,
HIGH STREET, FROM 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.
ALL TRADING CO-OP MEMBERS WELCOME.

BILLERICAY FLORAL ARRANGEMENT GROUP.

"A Breath Of Spring"
Lecturer, Mrs. Brown of Shoeburyness.
W.I. Hall on Wednesday April 5th, at
7.45 p.m.
Members arrangement - "Approach of
Spring".
Members, 2/-, Non-members, 2/6d.

The "Billericay Observer" is Printed
& Published by the "Billericay
Observer Press", 143, Perry Street,
Billericay, Essex. Phone Billericay
1927.

STOP PRESS NEWS.

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CALLING ALL YOUNG READERS!

Watch out in the next
"Billericay Observer" for details of
a Competition for young readers, with
money prizes.

JUNIOR C.P.R.E.

At the first Annual General
Meeting of the now officially formed
Junior Section of Billericay Council
for the Preservation of Rural England a
talk was given by Mr. Schofield on
"Footpaths Of Billericay". Mr. A. Jubb,
Chairman, stated that he thought the
meeting marked the beginning of a new
era in the life of the C.P.R.E. in
Billericay.

Plans for the future were
discussed and Mr. W. P. Grant reported on
progress of links with Billericay in
the U.S.A.

At the meeting (held in the
Cater Museum on Saturday) Mr. A. Jubb
was re-elected Chairman and Miss. P.
Rodger was re-elected Secretary.
Stephen Cheshire was elected Vice-
Chairman and W. P. Grant Assistant
Secretary.

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

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BILLERICAY O.A.P.'s.

15th March.

93 attended. It was reported that Mr. Ramage was about the same; Mr. Hall was a little better; Mrs. J. Clarke was very ill with Fibrositis. All were wished a speedy recovery. Mrs. Newell, Mrs. M. Horne, Mrs. Bertram, and Mrs. Walters were welcomed back after absence through illness. Two new members were welcomed. Birthday honours were accorded Mrs. Darling who was 90. She is a regular attender at the meeting, comes from Ramsden, and has been a member since shortly after the Branch was started. The Secretary stated that the amount collected at the Branch on Poppy Day was £1/10/2d. The "Oddettes" Concert Party entertained.

22nd March.

92 attended. Sick members were all wished a speedy recovery; Mr. Ramage was a little better; Mrs. J. Clarke, Mrs. F. Gray, and Mr. Hall were all a little better. Mrs. F. Smith returned after being away sick. A new member, Mr. W. G. Hill, was welcomed. Entertainment was provided by the "Irving Versatiles" from Burnham-on-Crouch, with Ballads, Short Stories, Songs, and Farmyard Impressions. An enjoyable afternoon was spent. Tea hostesses for both meetings were Mesdames Bradley, Collins, Cayser, and Purnell.

CHRIST CHURCH, PERRY STREET.

Services:- Good Friday, Holy Communion, 9.30 a.m. Easter Sunday, Family Service, 11 a.m. April 9th, Family Matins, 9.30 a.m.

Young Wives Fellowship:- March 28th, 2 to 3 p.m., Easter Talk. April 11th, 8 to 9 p.m.

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THE LAST ISSUE OF THE "BILLERICAY OBSERVER" SOLD EARLY, AND MANY WERE DISAPPOINTED. SO MAKE SURE OF YOUR COPY BY BUYING IT EARLY! FOR ONLY 1½d YOU GET THE BEST LOCAL NEWS SERVICE, AND NOT MIXED UP AMONG COUNTY NEWS. IN THE APRIL 11th ISSUE THE POPULAR "BILLERICAY IN THE PAST" SERIES STARTS AGAIN, SO BUY EARLY AND MAKE SURE OF YOUR COPY!

"SPORTS OBSERVER".

Billericay Town Sports Club News:-
Football Results:-

Saturday March 18th:-

The 1st XI lost away to Springfield
1-4 in CMEP.

The 2nd XI drew away with E.C.C.
Staff 2-2 in CME2.

The first team are third from bottom
in CMEP, the second team fifth from
bottom in CME2.

CMEP - Chelmsford & Mid-Essex League,
Premier Division.

CME2 - Chelmsford & Mid-Essex League,
Second Division.

CINEMA DIARY, RITZ CINEMA, CHAPEL STREET
BILLERICAY.

Monday March 27th, 3 Days, Alan Ladd,
Sidney Poitier in "ALL THE YOUNG MEN"
(A). Also Gina Lollobrigida in "ANNA
OF BROOKLYN" (U).

Thursday March 30th, 3 Days, Jimmy
Edwards, Arthur Howard in "BOTTOMS UP",
(U). Also "TWO GUNS AND A BADGE", (U).
Good Friday programme starts 5.30.

Monday April 3rd, 3 Days, Sophia Loren,
Peter Sellers in "THE MILLIONAIRESS"
(U) also "VALLEY OF THE REDWOODS" (U).
Matinee on Easter Monday.

Thursday April 6th, 3 Days, a Larkin
film, Peggy Mount, David Kossoff in "IN
FOR TROUBLE" (U).

Sunday Programmes also.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Forthcoming Events In Billericay.

Sunday 16th April, Tyelands Riding
Club Hunter Trials, Park Hill Wood,
Herongate.

Thursday 13th, Council Meeting,
Timberlog Lane Secondary School,
Basildon, 6.50 p.m.

NEWS OF THE LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

Ladies Keep Fit Group.

This group recently held their
4th Annual General Meeting at which
Mrs. Bass, the teacher, presented Mrs. R.
Rantzen the retiring Chairman with a
travelling clock from the members
with thanks for all the work she had
done since starting the class. The
Secretary reported that the class
would be entering a float in the
Carnival, as well as running a stall
and giving a demonstration.

There are vacancies for the
Housewives morning class at the W.I.
Hall on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Contact
Mrs. Knowles, 9a, The Rising, Sunnymede.

Women's Co-op Guild.

At the Billericay Women's
Co-op Guild meeting on Monday 20th
March reports from Mrs. Maydon and Mrs.
Higgins on conferences which discussed
the Crowther Report on Education and
the Groombridge Report on Co-op
Auxillaries were heard.

Tyelands Riding Club Hunter Trials.

Every weekend for the last
month about a dozen or more members
and friends of Tyelands Riding Club
have gone to Park Hill Wood, Herongate
to prepare their Annual Hunter Trial
Course. The Hunter Trials will be held
on Sunday April 16th at 11 a.m.
Members of many riding clubs in Essex
will be competing.

If you would like to see news of your
organisation in this column contact
the Editor or phone Billericay 1927.

MATTHEWS
25/27 HIGH STREET

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12 oz. JARS COUNTRY MARKET SLICED KEETROOT -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/3d to 1/-.
2½s COUNTRY MARKET CALIF SLICED PEACHES -----	SAVE 5d, REDUCED FROM 2/11d to 2/6d.
E.1. COUNTRY MARKET GARDEN PEAS -----	SAVE 2½d, REDUCED FROM 1/3½d to 1/-d.
A.1. COUNTRY MARKET GOLDEN PLUMS -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/4½d to 1/-d.
1½s MARTINUS TUNA FISH -----	SAVE 4½d, REDUCED FROM 1/9d to 1/4½d.
6oz MOLLY CREAM -----	SAVE 3½d, REDUCED FROM 1/2d to 10½d.
1½s PEEK FREANS ASSORTED -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/4½d to 1/1½d.
12oz TULIP LUNCHEON MEAT -----	SAVE 6d, REDUCED FROM 2/6d to 2/-.
SUNCRUSH ORANGE -----	SAVE 11d, REDUCED FROM 3/3d to 2/2d.

OFFERS AVAILABLE APRIL 4th-15th.

1½s JACOBS CREAM CRACKERS -----	SAVE 2d, REDUCED FROM 1/- to 10d.
ARMOUR STAR CHEESE -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 10½d to 7½d.
LARGE HEINZ SALAD CREAM -----	SAVE 4d, REDUCED FROM 2/1d to 1/9d.
VAN SMIRREN DRESSED CRAB -----	SAVE 2½d, REDUCED FROM 1/4½d to 1/2d.
NEW MILITARY PICKLE -----	SAVE 6d, REDUCED FROM 1/11d to 1/5d.
GLENRYCK PILCHARDS -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/5d to 1/2d.
GOLD REEF PINE SLICES -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/5d to 1/2d.
WALLABY BUTTER -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/5d to 1/2d.
SPAR GARDEN PEAS -----	SAVE 2d, REDUCED FROM 1/1d to 11d.
SPAR FLOUR S.R. -----	SAVE 5d, REDUCED FROM 1/10d to 1/5d.
SPAR FLOUR PLAIN -----	SAVE 5d, REDUCED FROM 1/10d to 1/5d.

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THROUGH THE POST.

Letters from "Observer" readers.

CYCLING ON FOOTPATHS.

Dear Sir,

Recently when walking along Long Meadow Path (between Perry Street and the Station) three cyclists, cycling at a dangerous speed under the circumstances, at the darkest part of this path, hit my mother and myself bruising mother's leg, and my arm, from which mother suffered with shock for about a week. The cyclist's first reaction was of an aggressive nature, until he realised how serious this accident was. It was fortunate, if one can use such a word, that it happened to us at that moment, as a young couple with a pushchair were walking towards us and, of course, the cyclists.

Personally, if I ever see or meet any cyclists on that footpath again, especially at night (their excuse was "We didn't see you in the dark") as a warning I shall take whatever action occurs necessary to meet at the time.

It would help if more adequate warning boards were erected, and offenders prosecuted. J. Collen, Moat Edge Gardens, Billericay. Editor; This footpath is the only direct route to Perry Street and I think to be fair cyclists going at reasonable speeds during the day should be allowed to use the path. However, action should be taken against those who race through at night - remember, there is no proper lighting - or travel at excessive speeds during the day, especially those who knock people over! A £1 fine would deter those likely to travel at dangerous speeds. After all it is a footpath.

THESE LETTERS ARE BOGUS.

Dear Sir,

Chain letters, involving National Savings Stamps, are again widespread in this area. These letters are bogus. They have nothing to do with the National Savings Movement or Lloyds Bank.

Your readers can help in ending this web of deceit by destroying any such letters on sight.

A. Hatt, Secretary, Basildon Local Savings Committee, Council Offices, 88, Town Square, Basildon.

THROUGH THE POST.

More letters from "Ob" readers.

The Editor,
Dear Sir,

I feel I would like to write to congratulate you on your effort in the publication of the "Billericay Observer". Naturally our friends and neighbours are most interested in the local news etc. and we wish you every success in the future.

We think it would be a wonderful boost for your sales if it would be all in order and possible to include the T.V. programmes in advance fortnightly or otherwise. This would save unnecessary expense and be very welcome, even if your low price would have to be increased a little.

----- "Regular Reader".
Editor; No doubt this would be a boost for my sales, but these programmes are the copyright of the B.B.C. and the I.T.V. If they allowed one paper to do this sort of thing one would get 2d sheets springing up containing just the T.V. and Radio programmes.

SOUTH GREEN BUS -- NO MOVE.

Following complaints by the Billericay Residents' Assn. and local residents the Education Committee agreed to provide a bus for children aged 5 to 7 from South Green going to Billericay School. A request for a bus for older children has met with no response yet.

RESIDENTS MEETING.

Among the various matters dealt with at last night's Buttsbury Residents' Assn. A.G.M. were a progress report on work, improvements, and correspondence regarding Buttsbury School, the lowering of the subscription from 2/6d to 3/6d for 2, a report on the Car Park spur road at the Industrial Site, the organisation of membership drives, and relations with other Residents' Associations.

BASILDON COUNCIL TO TAKE OVER HEALTH FROM SATURDAY.

The Minister of Health has now formally approved the Delegation Scheme of Health & Welfare Functions to Basildon U.D. Council. The scheme will take effect as from Saturday April 1st. The new Health Committee has been appointed.

RESIDENTS WIN CESSPOOL VICTORY.

Following complaints by residents of First and Second Avenues, Billericay regarding cesspools which have not been emptied since last July (see Page 9 last issue) the Council have emptied some cesspools in First Avenue. However, the Council say that part of First Avenue and Second Avenue are too waterlogged for their vehicles to get down.

The frontagers have had a meeting with Billericay Residents' Association who have agreed to support them.

The frontagers have received a reply from the Minister of Housing & Local Government who states that the Council can carry out urgent repairs, but they need not do anything. A definite date for the make-up of the two streets cannot be given as first the Tye Common Sewerage Scheme has to be completed. The Council are treating the Scheme as a matter of urgency.

The various people who signed the petition will now be asked for their views as to what action the frontagers will take next. Meanwhile all the frontagers in both roads are paying 2/6d a week to a repair fund run by the frontagers.

PETITION TO BE PRESENTED TO M.P.

The petition organised by Billericay Labour Party, protesting against the proposed increases in the Health Charges, and signed by 500 people at a booth in the High Street recently is to be presented to Mr. K. Gardner Q.C., M.P., Conservative Member of Parliament for Billericay. The petition was to have been presented to Mr. Gardner at the House of Commons on Wednesday, but Mr. Gardner is ill in bed with influenza. As a result the petition may not be presented to him until after the Easter Recess, for the organisers are determined to present the petition personally.

COUNTY ELECTIONS IN APRIL.

The County Council Elections are to be held next month. The Tory candidate for Billericay North (Billericay & Wickford) is to be County Councillor Mrs. Coker, who at present represents the ward. At the moment the County Council is in Labour control - by 3 seats. Result of 1959 by-election Coker (Con.) 2,013, Payne (Lab.) 1,145. Conservative majority 878. By-election caused by illness of Mary de Roeper shortly after her election.

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WINES FOR ALL OCCASIONS

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a choice wine from the
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CYPRELLO 8/6
a wine of quality but
slightly dry.

Also quality wines spirit and liquers in stock.

Glasses on loan for social occasions.

Agents for eight brewers. Daily delivery service.

D I N N E R W I N E S.

SPANISH GRAVES 6/6

SPANISH SAUTERNE 6/6

SPANISH BURGUNDY 6/6

ENTRE DER MERS 7/-

CHATEAU HAUT BOUSCAT 8/6

It is impossible to display our complete stock in our windows so we cordially invite you to come in without obligation to buy.

ELECTIONS SHOCK.

Late News - Monday.

A joint statement by the Chairmen of the Billericay Residents' Association and the Buttsbury Residents' Association at the Buttsbury A.G.M. tonight gave the news which many residents have waited and hoped for; the Residents are to put up an Independent Residents Association candidate to fight the Billericay Ward in the May Council Elections.

The candidate is Mr. H. E. Wilkins A.R.I.C.S.M.R.S.H., a chartered Surveyor who has been unanimously elected by both associations as their joint candidate.

As last year a special Joint Committee of local Residents Associations has been formed to organise the election campaign. The Chairman is Mr. Ireland, the Vice-President of the Essex Federation of Ratepayers and Residents Association.

The entry of Mr. Wilkins into the election field, brings the number of candidates up to four.

The Conservative candidate is Cllr. W. H. Davies J.P., present Council Chairman and a past Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Cllr. Davies has been a Councillor for Billericay since 1953. At the A.G.M. of the Billericay Conservative Association Cllr. Davies appealed to the Residents not to enter the election field, in case they split the Conservative vote.

The Labour candidate is Mrs. Clare Gibbs.

The Liberal is Mr. Rosier, who stood as Liberal last year.

Polling day is May 13th and no doubt this will be one of the most hard fought elections in Billericay ever. The Residents will be trying to gain a foothold in the Council and the Conservatives will be fighting hard to keep their Council Chairman in a marginal seat, which was a few years ago their safest. The real battle will be between the Conservatives and Residents, but the Labour and Liberal party machines will be trying to get as many votes as possible.

Last year:- Phelps (Con). 1,892, Quirk (Con). 1,888, Dodd (R.A.) 1,617, Wilkins (R.A.) 1,529, Hayden (Lab.) 551, Brooks (Lib.) 518, Rosier (Lib.) 504, Walker (Lab.) 471.

NEWS FROM THE U.S.

The last two copies of the "Billericay News" - our sister paper in our sister town in the U.S. - illustrate the contrast in life in the two towns.

In the issue of March 2nd there are political adverts for the town elections. Emphasis is placed on "Home Owner, Taxpayer, Family Man" in many of these adverts. The elections are held to elect various town officials. Some of the adverts are blunt by English standards i.e. "His opponents 25 years record as a former Selectman is blank. He helped keep industry out. Keep him out of the Selectman's office". There is other news. The headline story tells of a proposal to convert the town's 71 acre lake - Nuttings Lake - into a bathing and boating centre. At present the lake is infested with weed, an eyesore, and a menace to public health, which could deteriorate into a swamp.

There is also news of a Fire Department rescue of a cat from a tree - little difference there!

The next issue carries an alarming story that the tax rate for the town (equivalent to our rates) might reach 109 dollars for every 1,000 dollar property valuation.

This issue also includes cards of thanks for support from the successful - and a few unsuccessful - town election candidates.

In the advertisements is a large advertisement appealing to people to support the plan for a Motel in Billericay. The advert reads "Chelmsford has a Motel! Lexington has two Motels! Bedford has two Motels! We must have a Motel".

The Fire Department are reported as having one or two calls - one to look at broken pipes.

The "Observer" has written again to the "Billericay News" asking for details of life there. Would you like to correspond with somebody there? Let me know.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.

Holidays

18) AVOID TRAFFIC JAMS. Caravan to let. Wednesday to Wednesday. April to September, TINTAGEL, Cornwall. 4-berth. Electric Light. Hot water. Flush toilet. Good view. C. F. Cumings, 10, Lion Lane, Billericay

FOR SALE.

19) FREE Chicken Manure. Clean Bags supplied at 3d. Please collect. "Mossbank", Woodside Road, Perry Street, Billericay.