

BILLERICAY OBSERVER

Tuesday May 9th, 1961.

Number 86.



1½D

© "Billericay Observer".

YES, ALL THE
LOCAL NEWS.

LOCAL SHOPS DAMAGED BY FLOODS

Shops at Morris Avenue, Billericay, on the Walthamstow Borough Council Estate at Outwood Common, were badly damaged by flood water on Thursday Evening, following a severe thunderstorm. Also damaged, though only slightly, were some Old Age Pensioners' Bungalows nearby - the water ran through the bungalows, but only to a slight depth. Billericay Fire Brigade were at the scene for well over a hour, pumping away the flood water.

In an interview with the "Observer" Mrs. Graham of "Grahams' Hardware Store" said that the floods took her and her husband by surprise. They live in a flat above the shop. When Mr. Graham heard the sound of running water he thought that it was the bath water being run. When it persisted he went downstairs and found the shop knee deep of water, covered with burst packets of detergent and disinfectant. He could not open the door to allow the water to drain away until the Fire Brigade had pumped away the water in Morris Avenue, which reached a depth of 5 feet in places, otherwise the shop would have been completely flooded. The Grahams were not insured, and the damage to their stock has been estimated at £40. They have lost custom, because of the smell caused by the floods. Mrs. Graham put some of the blame on clogged drains which, she alleged, had never been cleared.

All the other shops in the parade, except Newman's Newsagents suffered damage by the floods. Adams the Grocers had packets of cornflakes and other foods floating around the shop. Hubbards Radio & T.V. Shop had a television floating on a fridge, and a valuable machine belonging to the butchers was ruined, in addition to packets of sage. Garages at the rear were also flooded, and coal and dustbins floated about at the rear of the shops. On Friday workmen of the Walthamstow Borough Council cleared away the thick deposit of mud and sludge and debris, which was left behind by the flood waters.

An old resident was not surprised when he learned of the damage. He told the "Observer"; "The area where the shops are built is in a hollow, and is a natural drainage area. It has never been used for agriculture, and two years ago it was flooded to such a depth that it could be swam in. When the development of the area was announced we warned the Walthamstow Borough Council about this, but they took no notice".

The Fire Brigade received several other calls for pumping. By the time they had dealt with the floods at Outwood Common, the Divisional Officer decided that the other floods had subsided to such an extent that it was not necessary for the Fire Brigade to attend.

STOP PRESS NEWS.

BUSY FORTNIGHT FOR FIRE BRIGADE.

The past fortnight has been a busy one for Billericay Fire Brigade. Between the 25th of April and the 4th of May they have assisted on several occasions at a fire at the Magna Timber Works, West Thurrock. They have also assisted other Brigades at various fires, and last Thursday they spent some considerable time pumping flood water (see Page 1). On Friday they were assisted by Laindon at a fire at the Car Park now being constructed near the Council Offices. The only damage was to a tar boiler, which was destroyed. However, according to Billericay's Sub-Officer, if the wind had been stronger the Council Offices would have caught on fire.

Last Friday week the Brigade were tested for efficiency, as part of the County Competition. They were called out to the Industrial Estate, where they practised ladder and foam drill, and answered questions on the work of the Fire Brigade.

FOLK PLAYERS LIVE UP TO REPUTATION.

Billericay Folk Players lived up to their good reputation, as holders of the F.C. Jobson Trophy, with their production of "Night Was Our Friend" at the Archer Hall last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

The play, a thriller, concerns a young and attractive wife (played by Joan Hillary) whose husband returns after years of captivity in the Amazon jungle with an obsession to prowl and kill. How she grappled with this situation was played out in many tense and exciting scenes, in which the husband, played by Leslie Haines, distinguished himself with his acting.

Many weeks were spent in rehearsal which the Players likened to a wartime Commando course. The result was well worth the hard work. All the actors were word perfect, and the acting was of a very high standard. The sound effects, lighting, and scenery was excellent - indeed the entire production was faultless. The Folk Players are to be congratulated on their presentation of a difficult play. Although the attendance was fairly high, it is great pity that more people did not go and see this excellent production.

The Folk Players, who have been presenting plays since before the war, have an Autumn Production planned for November.

WATER TOWER SITE ALTERED.

Following a meeting between objectors to the proposed Water Tower in Norsey Wood, local Councillors, representatives from the County Planning Office, and the General Manager and Chief Engineer of the Waterworks Company, and an inspection of the site the Waterworks Company decided to apply for planning permission for a site deeper in the woods, 400 feet from the rear of gardens in Norsey Road. The Council's Finance Committee have given approval in principle to this site, as a matter of urgency, subject to appropriate conditions particularly regarding tree screening and planting, and the design of the tower, and the materials used in its construction. The Committee were of the opinion that there was no other suitable site, and that the site now proposed would afford the greatest amenity protection.

At the hearing the General Manager of the Waterworks Company stated that the Company's existing storage facilities at Billericay would soon be inadequate. It was necessary that a new tower should be erected north of the railway at Billericay, and of six suggested sites, five were unsuitable for one reason or another, and the only one which would fulfill the technical, financial, and practical requirements was the one now being discussed.

Mr. C.D. Knight, representing the County Planning officer, emphasised that Norsey Woods was subject to a Tree Preservation Order. There was no question of any wholesale clearance, or of any other type of development taking place in the area.

Local residents (21 objected) presented a number of objections to the proposal. The area was a beauty spot and they considered that it should not be spoiled by the erection of a Water Tower - particularly so near residential properties - and that it should be possible to find an alternative site, although it was agreed generally that wherever the tower was sited there was bound to be a conflict of interest which must be resolved. If a more suitable site was technically possible, financial consideration should not be the determining factor.

The Chairman of the Council concluded by assuring residents that the Council would give further consideration to the comments and objections they had made.

MUSEUM RE-OPENS FOR SHORT PERIODS.

At a recent meeting of the Governing Body of Billericay's Cater Museum it was decided to inquire into the costs of installing special safeguards - especially in the Period rooms - and in the meantime to withdraw some of the more valuable and tempting exhibits so that the Museum could be re-opened as soon as possible, for short periods only. The Museum was closed a month ago after repeated thefts of exhibits.

The Museum is now open as follows:-

Tuesdays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Thursdays, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturdays, 11 p.m. - 1 p.m., 2.30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

It was resolved not to impose an Age Limit at the moment as this would keep out not only the irresponsible element, but also the far greater number of genuine young people who are really interested and are always welcome at the Museum.

200 OLD PEOPLE VISITED BY WELFARE COMMITTEE - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

At the A.G.M. of Billericay Old People's Welfare Committee, Mrs. Barr, Secretary, said that 200 pensioners were visited at regular intervals. One of the year's biggest advance was the opening of the Rest Room in the High Street for the old folk. A series of events for the more immobile pensioners had been started during the year, and plans were now being discussed for a possible outing to the seaside during the summer. A new pensioners club had been organised in Buttsbury, and a meeting was being held in Sunnymede to try and form a club there.

The Treasurer's Report showed that many generous donations had been made during the year, including £60 from the Billericay Ladies Circle, and £38 from the Business & Professional Women's Club.

Officers elected:-
Chairman, Mr. G. Mephram, Secretary, Mrs. E. Barr, and Treasurer, Mrs. Emery.

INFANT CHILDREN TO HAVE SPECIAL BUS.

Infant children living in the area of South Green bounded by Grange Road, Mill Road, and Southend Road are to have a special bus to take them to school in Billericay for six months, or until temporary classrooms are erected at the new South Green School. The Education Authorities have agreed to this measure after months of campaigning by the South Green Committee of Billericay Residents' Association.

56 SCOUTS IN TROOP - A.G.M. OF 4th.

At the Annual General Meeting of the 4th Billericay Scout Group at the Rising Sun last Friday week the Scoutmaster Bob Jackson reported that there were 56 boys in the troop, and 3 Senior Scouts. Bob-a-Job week raised £87, compared with £88 the year before. The top boy raised £4-9-2d. A week's camp had been held at Wrabness, near Harwich, which had been enjoyed by 27 boys. Various summer camps had been held at weekends at Little Burstead.

In his report the Secretary, Mr. D. Christian said that it was very discouraging when the hard work of the Committee was not backed up by the parents. Referring to the retiring Cubmistress Mrs. Hodger, who was leaving the district and had been with the Group since its inception, Mr. Christian stated that she was of a calibre rarely found these days. Mrs. Hodger was presented with a cut glass crystal water set.

Mr. Benewith, Chairman, stated that the number of parents present was most encouraging.

Officers elected:-
Mr. Benewith, Chairman, Mr. Christian, Secretary, Mr. Bullinger, Treasurer.

"DISASTOROUS YEAR" FOR SPORTS CLUB.

Speaking at the Annual General Meeting of the Billericay Town Sports Club at the Crown Hotel on Thursday, Mr. B. H. Jee, Secretary, said that the past year had been disastrous. If the next season was not to be the same, members would have to make a united effort. Both teams had finished second from bottom of their respective divisions of the Chelmsford & Mid-Essex League and had been relegated. A total of 68 competitive games had been played, and of these 13 had been won, 6 drawn, and 49 lost. On the bright side the Essex Playing Fields Association had given the Club a £50 grant, which would enable them to install the minimum of lighting and toilet facilities in their new pavilion. Owing to the expense players would have to launder their own kit next season.

It was decided to increase the annual subscription to a guinea and to disband the Selection Committee and the Entertainment Committee. It was also decided that both teams should compete in the Chelmsford & Mid-Essex League and three Cups each.

Officers elected; President, Mr. Potter, Chairman, Mr. W. Dyball, Secretary, Mr. Jee, Treasurer Mr. Derrick, and Assistant Secretary, Mr. Storey.

EDITORIAL.

Editor:- Wynford P. Grant.

Editorial Offices:-

"Billericay Observer",
143, Perry Street,
Billericay,
Essex.

Phone:- Billericay 1927.

The "Observer" has now purchased a rebuilt typewriter to replace the old one, which broke down. For the past few months the "Observer" has had the use of a typewriter belonging to Mr. Hillyard of Cromwell Avenue. I extend my grateful thanks for this loan.

Two more improvements have been made this time. I have numbered all pages at the bottom, and I have inserted a note on the front page reserving the copyright.

Are you between 11 and 19? If so, have you entered the "Observer" Mystery Story Competition to be judged by Cliff Richard and Miss M.V. Woodgate, Novelist? Prizes are £3 and two of £1. Entry forms may be obtained at the office on production of a copy of the "Billericay Observer" or the coupon printed below.

ENTRY FORM COUPON 2

---- The Editor.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Forthcoming Events In Billericay.

Thursday 25th May:- Basildon Council A.G.M., 6.50 p.m., at Timberlog Lane Secondary School, Basildon.

Saturday June 3rd:- Hospital Fete, Archer Hall Field.

WOMEN'S CO-OP GUILD.

24th April was "Reports Afternoon", including Mrs. Morrison on Mental Health. On the 1st of May a speaker from the District Committee, Mrs. Davies spoke on the wide range of commodities covered by the London Co-op "Dry Goods" Department.

THE BILLERICAY WOMEN'S CO-OP GUILD
MEETS IN THE CO-OP HALL, HIGH STREET
ON MONDAYS 2.30 to 4.15 p.m. ALL
TRADING MEMBERS WELCOME.

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

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.

LIVE WELL!

1st YEAR HENS WILL ROAST OR BOIL!

ONLY 2/2d per lb.

CHEAPER THAN SAUSAGES!

PREPARED FOR THE OVEN FREE!

Also ---- RABBITS FOR PETS

---- NEW LAID EGGS

Apply:- "MOSS BANK", WOODSIDE ROAD,
PERRY STREET, BILLERICAY. (Between
Queens Park and School).

GOODSPEEDS.

1, CHAPEL STREET
(Opposite War Memorial).

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.

INSURANCES ARRANGED.

MRS. J. MORRIS

"Norrock", Stock Road, Billericay.

ALL CLASSES.

Fire -- Accident -- Life -- Marine.

.....
ADVERTISMENT RATES from the Editor.

Page 4.

FOR THE OLD FOLK

Billericay O.A.P. - 26th April Meeting.

There was an excellent attendance. With regard to sick members it appeared that Mr. Ramage was improving; Mr. Maxwell was not so well and had been taken to hospital again; Mr. Hall and Mr. Roberts were also ill. Mrs. Rowe was welcomed back after absence through illness. A new member - Mrs. Wharton - was welcomed. Members entertained themselves. Those taking part were Mrs. August Snr., Mrs. Fee, Mr. Riches, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Newell, and Mr. Wharton. Mrs. Pierce, assisted by Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Riches played the piano.

Billericay O.A.P. - 3rd May Meeting.

It was announced with regret that an old member, Mr. Maxwell, had died. A minute's silence was observed. Mr. Hall was a little better, as was Mr. Emery. Mrs. Roberts was not so well. Mrs. Candler was welcomed back after absence through illness. Mrs. Brock, a new member, was welcomed. The Secretary announced that a Jumble Sale would be held at the Branch on the 10th May, open to the public, and starting at 4.30 p.m. The Branch's Concert Party entertained.

Buttsbury Monday Club - 1st May Meeting.

30 people had an enjoyable evening at Buttsbury School watching slides of the Obermanergau Passion Play, shown by Mrs. Bartlett. New members are welcome at the weekly meeting at Buttsbury School.

Sunnymede:- Meeting to form Sunnymede O.A.P. at the School, Meadow Way, on 29th May, at 7 p.m. Organised by Old People's Welfare Committee.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO BOOK YOUR SUMMER CRUISE OR HOLIDAY ABROAD

Write or telephone NOW to:-

FRED HUNTER LIMITED

87, Bishopgate,
LONDON, E.C.2.

AVENUE 5524
or BILLERICAY 1457.

WILLIAM J. MASH C.M.B.H.I. HOROLOGIST

ESTABLISHED 1920.

CONTRACTOR TO ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL AND VARIOUS MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES.
ALSO HOSPITALS.

REPAIRS TO WATCHES AND CLOCKS.

"Wychfield", First Avenue, Frithwood Lane, Billericay.
Phone Billericay 1587.

CHRIST CHURCH, PERRY STREET.

Services:- Sunday May 14th, Holy
Communion, 9.30 a.m. Sunday May
21st, Matins, 9.30 a.m., Sundat
School Service, 10.30 a.m.

Young Wives Fellowship:- May 9th,
8 p.m., Social. May 23rd, 2.15 p.m.
"Bring & Play your Own Record".

Page 5.

"SPORTS OBSERVER".

Charity Cup:- About 100 people watched the final of Billericay Charity Cup at Archer Hall Field last Saturday week. The Cup was won by the Billericay works team Wernick Wanderers who beat Wickford 4-1.

Angling Club:- 21 people attended the Annual General Meeting of the re-formed Billericay Angling Club on Friday. The Secretary, Mr. E. Keen, reported that several competitions and an outing to Ipswich had been organised in the past year. The Club now had its own water, which was being re-stocked at a cost of £14. Subscription was fixed at £1-5-0d. Officials elected:- Mr. Jee, Chairman, Mr. E. Keen, Secretary. Anybody interested in joining should phone Mr. Jee at Wickford 2630.

Cricket:- A match played between St. Johns Sports Association and Don Watt's XI (including Essex County players) at Willowbrook, Stock Road last Sunday week was stopped by rain after 1½ hours of play. Don Watt's XI had scored 85 for 2 by this time. Willowbrook was opened last year, and facilities for Rugby, Hockey, and Athletics are available. Tennis courts are under construction and a Baseball Display by the U.S.A.F. Wethersfield is planned.

FOR SALE.

GARDENERS! Wire Frames 1" Mesh, 4ft x 2ft 6", on solid Wood Frames. Bargain - 2/6d each or 9 for a £1. Also FREE Chicken Manure. Clean ½ CWT Bags supplied at 3d. Please collect. Apply "Mossbank", Woodside Road, Perry Street, Billericay.

THE "OBSERVER" CINEMA GUIDE, RITZ CINEMA, CHAPEL STREET, BILLERICAY.

Monday May 8th (3 Days):- Elizabeth Taylor, Montgomery Clift in "SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER" (X).

Thursday May 11th (3 Days):- Kenneth Moore, Shirley Ann Field in "MAN IN THE MOON" (U). Also "ZOO BABY" (U).

Monday May 15th (3 Days):- "THE VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED" (A). Also "MOGAMBO" (A).

Thursday May 18th (3 Days):- The latest St. Trinians film "PURE HELL" (U). Also "SKI TROOP" (U).

LOCAL ELECTIONS ON SATURDAY.

The Basildon Council Elections take place on Saturday (May 13th). About one-third of the seats on the Council will be contested, and in the Billericay Ward one of the five seats will be contested. At present the Conservatives have 16 Councillors and Labour 12. Candidates in Billericay are:-

Cllr. W. H. Davies J.P., Conservative of Perry Street, Billericay, Director of a firm of building suppliers, first elected in 1953.

Mrs. Clare Gibbs, Labour, of The Rising, Sunnymede, Billericay.

Mr. Rosier, Liberal, of Norsey Road, Billericay, an Insurance Official.

Mr. H. E. Wilkins, Residents' Assn. of Mountnessing Road, Billericay, a Chartered Surveyor.

Voting 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. Poll was 50.11%

MATTHEWS
25/27 HIGH STREET
OVER 200 LINES OF
CONFECTIONERY
IN STOCK

"NEILSONS" ICE CREAM"

QUEENS PARK STORES

SPAR GROCERS
111 PERRY STREET
BILLERICAY

DAILY DELIVERY SERVICE
PHONE BILLERICAY 527

OFFERS PUBLISHED IN THE LAST ISSUE ARE
STILL AVAILABLE UNTIL MAY 13th, 1961.

OFFERS AVAILABLE FROM MAY 15th UNTIL MAY 27th.

HEINZ SALAD CREAM -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/6d to 1/3d.
HEINZ SPAGHETTI -----	SAVE 2d, REDUCED FROM 1/1d to 11d.
HEINZ SANDWICH SPREAD -----	SAVE 1½d, REDUCED FROM 1/3d to 1/1½d.
HEINZ VEGETABLE SALAD -----	SAVE 1d, REDUCED FROM 1/- to 11d.
HEINZ POTATO SALAD -----	SAVE 1d, REDUCED FROM 1/- to 11d.
PRIMULA CHEESE SPREAD -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/3d to 1/-.
JAP. MANDARIN ORANGES -----	SAVE 2d, REDUCED FROM 1/5d to 1/3d.
CARNATION PINK SALMON -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 2/6d to 2/3d.
KEMPS WYNA -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/1d to 10d.
SLICED PEACHES, 16 oz. -----	SAVE 3d, REDUCED FROM 1/9d to 1/6d.
31b S.R. FLOUR -----	SAVE 4d, REDUCED FROM 1/10d to 1/6d.
31b PLAIN FLOUR -----	SAVE 4d, REDUCED FROM 1/10d to 1/6d.
11b S.R. FLOUR -----	SAVE 1d, REDUCED FROM 8d to 7d.
11b PLAIN FLOUR -----	SAVE 1d, REDUCED FROM 8d to 7d.

.....

ALSO ON SALE AT QUEENS PARK STORES:-

CIGARETTES

CONFECTIONERY

GREENGROCERY

TOBACCO

CHEMISTS SUNDRIES

FROZEN FOODS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

If you use a nom-de-plume please give your full name and address for office purposes. We try to give all points of view a hearing - letters published do not necessarily express the paper's policy. We regret that owing to lack of space it is not always possible to print letters in the first issue after they have been received.

TEENAGE READER WRITES.

Dear Sir, ---- I recently moved to Billericay and have found myself deeply perturbed by the apparent lack of thriving social organisations in the town.

I myself am a teenager, but feel drawn to complain not about teenage clubs, but about the social activities for couples in the age group of twenty-five to forty-five years. My own parents find they have spare time in which they might enjoy themselves by belonging to a thriving club, but apparently there are no organisations of varied interests for them to join, or they are not widely enough publicised.

The teenagers and older people are catered for to a certain extent, but at sometime it is usual to mix with one's own generation, and although both of my parents enjoy the company of the more aged members of the community, they both feel the need for communion with people of their own age group.

I appeal to all members of the community to use their constructive abilities to boost not only the town, but more important, the spirit of the town. - Jacqueline Robb (Aged 15) Dukes Farm Road, Billericay.

P.S.: - I have only recently discovered your newsheet, and to date find it the most lively thing in Billericay. Long life to your pen!

NORSEY WOOD & PRESS.

Dear Sir, ---- In your last issue "Wanderer" implies that because the Press were not asked to attend a meeting about the proposed erection of a Water Tower in Norsey Road, the Council were in some way acting improperly. The Council wish emphatically to refute this suggestion. Although there is no statutory obligation to give any notice of a planning application of this nature, the Council took the special step of advertising the proposal to give local residents an opportunity of expressing their views and objections.

CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN.

NORSEY WOOD AND PRESS - Continued.

Numerous representations were in fact received, and the Council took the further step of organising a meeting between the persons making the representations, the Southend Waterworks Company, and representatives of the County Planning Authority so that there could be an explanation of the Company's proposals and an exchange of views. The press were not invited to the meeting because it was regarded as quite an informal one, to encourage the free expression of views. The members of the press who inquired about the meeting were informed that a Press Statement would be issued, and this has been done -- A.Hatt, Clerk of Basildon Council, Council Offices, 88, Town Square, Basildon.

Editor; The article was not intended to criticise the handling of the public relations side of the dispute. But, surely none of the speakers had any need to be frightened of press coverage on such an important matter. Also, the Council would have saved time and expense, as they would have not had to issue a Press Statement.

HILL HOUSE DRIVE.

Dear Sir, ---- In various articles in your last issue you convey an impression that is quite wrong regarding this road ("Road Was Nearly Built The Wrong Way" etc.) The facts are that before proposals for the making up of the roadway were finalised the line of the carriageway was amended to meet the wishes of the frontagers. The drawings issued to the contractors showed the amended line of carriageway, and it is not true that the wrong drawings were issued. It is a fact that formwork was fixed wrongly for a short distance - but this setting out had not been approved by the Council, and without this approval constructional work could not begin. There was no question of this Council or their officers authorising construction of the carriageway on the wrong line, or of any additional cost falling on ratepayers or frontagers - A.Hatt, Clerk of Basildon Council, Basildon. Editor; Mr. Bird, who organised a Press Conference on the road, stated that he was not making any comment for the time being, over the weekend.

"THE WOOLPACK"

HIGH STREET, BILLERICAY, ESSEX (Rear of the Church).

For

WOOL (Reserved), SIRDAR, WENDY, LEE TARGET, PATON & BALDWIN, EMU, MUNROSPUN, PENGUIN, HAYFIELD, VYSYLKA, TEMPLETONS, LADYSHIP, POODLE etc. Unbranded from 1/- per oz.

HABERDASHERY - Sylkos, trimmings, lace, ribbons, elastic, hair grips, nets, slides, rick-rack etc.

DRESSMAKERS' ACCESSORIES - Zips, Vogue and Practical patterns, vilene, buckram, buttons, belts, backing, petersham, webbing, press fasteners. Needles and oil in stock.

Vyella, Clydella, and Dayella in stock.

Kayser Bondor stockings, including black, also slightly imperfects.

Bereli bras, roll ons, and Teenform bras.

BABIES - Binki and Kintal pants, nappies, nighties, vests, petts, frocks, shoes, mittens etc.

CLARKE'S EMBROIDERY THREADS, soft embroidery, Fresca and tapestry wools, Penelope fire screens, Binca canvas, transferred canvas, scatter cushions, chair backs, tray cloths etc.

Rug wool and rug canvas.

AGENTS FOR ACHILLE SERRE, DYERS & CLEANERS - CASH'S NAME SLIPS.

USEFUL GIFTS - SHOPPING AND WORK BASKETS.

Please ask if what you require is not on show. Phone:- Billericay 1757.

J.E.MORRIS WINE MERCHANTS

63, HIGH STREET, BILLERICAY. Tel. 73.

WINES FOR ALL OCCASIONS
SPECIALLY NOTE -

S H E R R I E S.

SOUTH AFRICAN 9/6
a sweet full bodied wine.

OLYMPUS 9/-
a choice wine from the
vine yards of Cyprus.

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.

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

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

SPANISH GRAVES 6/6

SPANISH SAUTERNE 6/6

SPANISH BURGUNDY 6/6

BORDEAUX ROUGE 7/-

ENTRE DER MERS 7/-

BORDEAUX BLANC 7/-

CHATEAU HAUT BOUSCAT 8/6

"BILLERICAY IN THE PAST".

by the Editor. Series 2. No.3.

Banking In Billericay.

Today Billericay has three banks, and a fourth is shortly to open, but for long periods in the history of the town no bank existed.

A banknote exists today issued by the "Billericay Bank" with the monogram C & B on it. For one year only, in 1809, the "Billericay Bank" owned by George Crisp and Joseph Butler is mentioned in the "Post Office Directory". Apparently, the bank drew on a firm of merchants in London.

Between 1812 and 1814 the Rochford Hundred & Billericay Bank - Harvey & Co. - operated a Branch in Billericay. Then in 1814 the business went bankrupt. In 1814 another bank opened in Billericay - Finchman & Co. - an offshoot of the Epping & Ongar Bank. The Bank went bankrupt in 1816.

In 1825 Sparrow & Co., the Essex Bank of Braintree and Chelmsford, opened a branch in Billericay, but this was closed following the financial crisis of 1826.

For many years there was no Bank in Billericay. Then in 1857 Sparrow Tufnell & Co. put an agent, Henry Collin, in charge of their affairs in Billericay. He was followed by John Jefferies in 1868. The sites of the earlier banks are not known, but Sparrow Tufnell & Co. had their branch at the Old Bank House, now Vere's. The old strongroom door still exists - the strongroom could only be reached from the upper floor. In 1896 Sparrow Tufnell & Co. were absorbed by Barclays Bank. Later the branch was moved to a Georgian house on the site of the present building. In 1956 this was slowly demolished so as not to interfere with trade, and this resulted in the strange spectacle of a house half-modern, half-old. There was never more than one bank in the town at any one time until Lloyds Bank opened in 1953.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING.

At the Mayflower Hall on April 25th Mr. H. J. Knightbridge M.B.E., Church Secretary reported considerable progress in most fields of Church activity and good attendances at Sunday Services, particularly in the morning. Deacons elected; Miss M. Jiot, Mr. G. F. Emery, Mr. A. De Val, Mr. S. Rosdall and Mr. W. Taylor.

ROUND AND ABOUT

by
"WANDERER".

On Saturday the Basildon Council Elections take place. Last year 1 out of every 2 electors voted and this was a record poll! Many people grumble about the local Councillors, but when their opportunity to select a Councillor comes, they don't vote. Decisions taken about Billericay in the next year will mould the town's future for years to come, so it is especially important that all electors should make the effort to vote. Billericay is a marginal ward, and nobody can predict with any accuracy whether the Conservative or Resident candidate will be elected. There are four candidates altogether, so voters will have a choice of a wide range of views on how our town should be run. Don't forget to vote on May 13th!

When the Outwood Common Estate was being planned Walthamstow Borough Council ignored the warnings of residents regarding the Greenway/Morris Avenue area. Now shops and bungalows have been flooded. If the Walthamstow Council have to build on a natural drainage area, then they should make better provisions for storm water drainage.

If the proposed Water Tower is built in Norsey Woods, then it will be adequately screened by surrounding trees. I think that the site now chosen is the best possible - if the Water Tower had been on open ground or nearer residential properties then obviously far more offence would have been caused.

The work done in the past year by the Billericay Old People's Welfare Committee for the old folk of the area is wonderful. They deserve hearty congratulations. By the way, more helpers are required for the Rest Room on Friday mornings particularly. Anyone interested in helping out should contact the Secretary, Mrs. Barr, phone Billericay 522.

The 4th Billericay Scout Group also deserve congratulations for their work for the young folk of the area.

While of the subject of facilities for teenagers in the town it is a great pity that organisations like the Billericay Youth Centre do not operate in the holidays. Half the value of such centres is lost, if they are not operating for a part of the year when they are most needed.

----- "Wanderer".