CONSERVATIVES RETAIN BILLERICAY NORTH (Billericay - Wickford area ) BUT LOSE COUNTY BY THREE SEATSONLY FORTY VOTED AT ONE WICKFORD POLLING BOOTH.
The Sociolasts have gained control in Essex County Council by three seats. The Conservatives lost twelve seats.
Mary de Roeper (conservative) was elected for the Billericay North constituency.

Figures:
Mary de Roeper (con) 2,673.
Mr H.J.Perry (soc) 1,992.
Polling was very low, with a total of 4,665, for an area including over 20,000 voters.
At one polling station in Wickford only 40 out of over 1,000 voted.
In the county there were only two Liberal candidates. Many people voted Socialist because the Socialists stated that they would abolish the II - plus.
They will not be able to be fulfilled for at least three years.

BILLERICAY ART CLUB TO HOLD FIRST EXHIBITION.
The Billericay Art club, formed in 1956, now with a steadily increasing membership, are going to hold their first exhibition of members' work. The exhibition will be held at the Civil Defence Headquarters, High Street, Billericay (Burghstead Lodge) from April 24th Thursday until Saturday April 26th, open 9.30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. The exhibition will include watercolours, oils, wood carving and pottery. The art club meets in the Billericay Recreation Rooms every Wednesday Evening.

THE NEWLY FORMED FOOTBALL CLUB HOLDS RUMMAGE SALE FOR FUNDS.
The newly formed football club in Billericay, Norsey Rangers F.C held a Rummage Sale at the Rising Sun Hall, Sun Street, Billericay on Saturday April 12th.

WORK ON SCHOOL EXTENSION PROGRESSING......AT LAST.
Work has now commenced on the planned extension of Puttsbury County Primary School by Wisbey & Sons Ltd of Chelmsford. The school is so badly overcrowded that two classes have to be transported daily to spare classrooms at other schools. The school has to meet the demands of the growing child population of the North Billericay and Buckwyns District.
The first area has many new houses and bungalows being erected in it. Two classrooms are planned at first, but a assembly hall may be built within ten years. The children at present assemble in the dining hall which also serves the purpose of two classrooms. The school was when first constructed meant to be for only a temporary period and for approx. 100 children instead of the present 300.

The Billericay Folk Players present the play Dial "M" for murder at the Archer Memorial Hall, Billericay from Thursday April 17th to Saturday April 19th. One performance nightly at 8.0 (doors are open 7.30 p.m.)
I again state that (first paragraph about fire service, Edition I) the fire service is inadequate for the increasing population. A full-time not a part-time service is needed. The danger time is at night when most of the serious fires occur, due to no person being there to put them out at once. This is proved by the chicken shed fire, details of which were published in the last edition. The fire brigade took thirty minutes to reach the fire, compared with about twenty minutes in the day time. The fire engine is of good standard, being of the London Metropolitan Fire Brigade type, the same applies to the fire escape. Both escape and engine are more than worthy of the total of fires in the District. If you have any opinions on this subject, send them to: Improved Fire Service for Billericay Campaign, (c/o the Billericay Observer) 143, Perry St, Billericay or when the editor collects this paper (or you return it) enclose them in the envelope.

In the latest rate demand sent to Basildon U.D Council ratepayers Salaries and Establishment (council department office expenses) are the highest part of the rate; 2s & 8d. This proves my point in Edition 4 that the council could save on wasteful office expenses. A big chain store is saving £80,000 a year on economising on wasteful office expenses such as doodling pads (over 10 tons of paper saved a year!). Can't the Urban District Council do the same...1......and put down establishment and salaries down to Is 9d in the £? That would be a saving of 11d. Thus, a house of £30 rateable value would have at least 27s 6d off their rate. Under a office economy the rate would undergo the reductions above be reduced to 19s 6d instead of 20s 5d.

All for now,

Wanderer

THE WANDERER WELCOMES
CORRESPONDENCE

"POLITICAL LANDSCAPE.
After we have put out of existence or severely reduced one colonial trouble, more trouble somewhere else colonial occurs. First Kenya, then Malaya, then Cyprus, then Aden, then South Africa. The Mau Mau activities in Kenya have been greatly reduced, in Malaya there is little trouble, in Cyprus unfortunately there is little change in the situation, in Aden there is now hardly any trouble at the time of writing but a fresh outburst is expected, in South Africa there never was any actual terrorism. In a few years or months according to their seriousness, these troubles to a great extent die down with the exception of Cyprus. Britain is not alone with colonial troubles France has them and in a different way Russia and her satellite states. The Cyprus situation is more serious than any other as there are two groups of terrorists, namely, Turkish - Cypriots who favour partition, and the Greek - Cypriots the worst of the two who want the whole island. You may say "Why do we want Cyprus, there are no important industries to us on it and it is very small. The answer is that Cyprus is a important forces base in a very useful, strategic position. Any answers?

Ban H - Bomb march.
This march ended in a riot in which three people were injured and a car ruined and it did not have any effect on the House of Commons. In fact the marchers got themselves cold and miserable for nothing. What is the use of a march?

MORE NEXT WEEK.
CHILD AND BICYCLE from "Save The Child reader".

This is the time of year when many boys and girls are given their first bicycles. The widening of young horizons that comes with possession of a bicycle is a valuable part of training for life, and few who have themselves ridden bicycles as children would wish to deny this freedom to a new generation. But is freedom accompanied by danger. About once in every three days a child cyclist under the age of fifteen is killed somewhere on the roads of Britain, and every day some thirty young readers are injured. The training scheme sponsored by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, the Cyclists' Touring Club, and the National Cyclists' Union and others carried out in various places by schools, road-safety committees, the police and youth organisations are certainly helping to reduce accidents. The government has accepted "in principle" a recent recommendation by the Ministry of Transport's working party on child cyclists that there should be a national scheme on these lines, capable of training about 250,000 children annually. This would be a great advance, and the government should be pressed to set such a scheme on foot. But nothing can lessen the responsibility of parents or relatives to see that children who are given bicycles know how to ride before they take to the busier (correct busier) roads. The sight of a child who can barely ride, turning light-heartedly into main-road traffic is sadly common. The law can do little to make parents more responsible, but schools, parents - teacher associations, and other organisations might help with propaganda and advice.

short story series

THE CONFESSIONS OF A TEA-DRINKER.
Did I tell you about the time I went to Peking? No... not PEAK-IN. That's nosey. Though as a matter of fact you could say it was a nosey affair. You see the Chinese have always been inquisitive. They peer and they poke in everything. Chinese keyholes of course are not shaped like ours. They are horizontal, quite narrow and about two inches long. The view you get through is like looking at a Cinemascope screen. Perhaps you thought the cinemascope screen was an American invention? Not a bit of it, you've guessed it: a man from Peking or (PEAK-IN) as it used to be called thought of it first.

It's because of the shape of the keyholes in China that Chinese people have narrow, staring eyes. You try staring through a horizontal keyhole for hours on end and see how your eyes change. Look at the square shaped eyes of T.V addicts today. But that is not part of my story. I want to talk of the rice growing of China. It all started in Ireland. That is a little known fact but true none the less. In Tipperary it was - or was it Connermara? I forget now. However they grew a lot of rice in the Boggy, Fertile valleys of Western Ireland. One keen rice grower decided to emigrate - he was a missionary or something - and as China was the furthest place he could think of (he had a nagging wife) he went there. He noticed how underfed the Chinese were and thought "What they need is rice", so he wrote home and got a few plants. Soon he had a whole field and people came from miles around to see his rice field.

TURN TO PAGE SEVEN PLEASE.
EDITORIAL CORNER

Billericay Observer, Editorial Offices.

Dear Readers,

Many readers and others have stated that we should make a charge for this journal. The Billericay Observer's policy is to produce a good 'paper free of charge. The Billericay Observer is not entirely devoid of sources of income. Next a word about the new serial story which the Billericay Observer is going to publish. It is a story of not a person, but a town; Billericay, the town we live in. How the Romans built a fort here, how it was once the eighteenth largest town in England, how it sent the largest number of men from a small town to the world-famous ship, "Mayflower", how it played an important part in the history of Britain by being the originator of the Peasants Revolt. Through fame and fortune, poverty and humbleness the story of Billericay is interesting and the Billericay Observer is publishing it's story exclusive from any other newspaper/journal/local/national.

Yours Sincerely,

W. Grant

EDITOR


One of the worst things you can do to your garden in constructing it is to make the garden look smaller. Avoid anything which will make your garden smaller when planning. In fact try to make your garden look larger.

Now a word on the subject of paths. Apart from the paths to the back and front door and other entrances which should be straight make your paths winding and attractive. Paths are a part of the garden as much as lawns, flowers etc. There is nothing worse than straight (or angle), bleak paths in gardens. Special ideas; draw lines like crazy paving in cement/concrete. Use frequently spaced stepping stones. NOTE BY; the Billericay Observer has a garden encyclopedia to consult for garden problem owners.

GARDEN BONFIRES TIP: To get a bonfire going is an art as the garden refuse is seldom dry. Get two bricks invert a large flower pot, on the bricks to make a draught chimney, build the rubbish round, start the fire with paper and the draught created will do the rest.

PUBLIC HOUSE.

No news has yet reached us about the Public House for Perry ST? appeal. Huge drainage ditches are being constructed on the site of the proposed Public House at the corner of Upland Road - Perry Street.

NAME OF NEW HOUSING ESTATE.

The name of the new housing estate, now under construction at the site in fields between Hill House Drive and Buttsbury C.P. School by Floreys of Ilford is the Oakwood Garden Estate. The estate will include houses and bungalows from £2,150.

GARDEN ADVICE.

Send a letter on any aspect or problem of gardening, to Garden Advice Dept, The Billericay Observer, I43, Perry Street, Billericay, Essex. Your letter and our answer will appear in this newspaper.

Ask the Editor for adverts explanatory leaflet now!

THOUSANDTH VISITOR.

Visitor number, 1,000 to the Road Safety Exhibition has received a prize. The Road Safety Exhibition was held by Basildon U.D. Road Safety Organisation recently in Billericay. Winner was W. Grant, Editor of the Billericay Observer.
LETTERS.

Dear Editor,

If you are not a Conservative I will eat your hat. You are biassed and prejudiced and side-bound. You entice the moderate comments made by Liberals and Socialists. I would suggest you adapt a more moderate tone and be a little more tolerant to the views and opinions of others.

Ed; Socialist or Liberal or at least Anti-Conservative would be proper than "Moderate". Oh, Mr Moderate there is no need to warm the oven for your hat. (If you did have to eat would you prefer it fried or boiled? Le Boiled Hats?)

Dear Sir,

Political Landscape was well written again. The "H" Bomb test suspension by Russia may well be a propaganda move, but it is a move. What are we doing or the U.S.A? Don't you think the latest move by N.A.T.O. to provide atomic weapons to West Europe is a aggressive step?

Worried.

Ed; there is now evidence to support a theory that the Russian "H" Bomb tests were suspended as a result of some great diaster. You did not mention that tests could be carried out in secret. Europe needs certain "A" & "H" weapons to DEFEND their countries.

PRIZE LETTER.

Dear Sir,

A good bit of reporting on the dreadful fire in Woodside Road. Your "On the Spot" reporter must have been awake all night waiting for the Fire Brigade to arrive. Heavy Sleeper.

Ed; the fire engine bents woke me at 5p.m. As there was snow on the ground I did not interview (by special methods) until II. a.m.

Dear Sir,

How about some other readers writing a few letters?

"Writers Cramped".

Ed; Yes, it is about time some other readers sent in some letters.

Give the letters to the Editor when he collects this newspaper or send them by post or hand to W. Grant, Editor, Billericay Observer, I43, Perry Street, Billericay, Essex.

Dear Sir,

I am enclosing a list of your spelling mistakes. I am afraid that you will have to enlarge your dictionary.

Old Borstallion.

My Present dictionary is quite adequate... Ed.

Dear Sir,

Please may I correct you. The fish that was caught in Lake Meadows was caught in 1919 by a Mr Hornsnell not Parnell.

J. Smith, Esq.

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No ideas for letters? Here are some;

Politics, Pensions, II-Plus Buses for Perry Street?

Arrow Newspapers Group Announcement.

There has been some delay in the publication of this edition. The Arrow Newspapers Group is not responsible for this, as the delay was due to circumstances over which the Arrow Newspaper Group had no control.
Dear Sir,

The nest that "Observant" noticed was affected by the Rent Act. As a matter of fact it has already been erected. "More Observant".

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAKE MEADOWS BY-NOTES.</th>
<th>RUMMAGE SALE.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New seats have been erected by the side of the Lake.</td>
<td>Billericay and Brentwood Conservative Association, Billericay branch held a rummage sale at the Rose Hall, Chapel Street, Billericay on Saturday March 19th.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A swan is nesting on one of the Lake's islands. Boats nearing the island are attacked by another swan.</td>
<td>The sale commenced at 2.30 p.m. and there was an admission fee of twopence. Various goods were on sale.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Miniature Golf in Lake Meadows is not yet open due to springs on the slopes on which the Miniature Golf is situated.</td>
<td>HOUSEHOLD GOODS OF WELL-KNOWN PERRY STREET HOUSE UP FOR AUCTION.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auctioneers are Thain &amp; Richardson of 44 High Street, Brentwood. Catoulouges (threepence) are obtainable from the above address.</td>
<td>The Knoll, 173, Perry Street, Billericay. Household effects and goods will be sold on Thursday May 8th. The house is the home of the late Mr. G. M. Christie, who died last November. Mr. Christie was a prominent local figure and has lived in the area for over forty years.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

PEOPLE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GOOD WEATHER.

People in the S.E. Essex area made advantage of the warm weather on Sunday April 20th by visiting Lake Meadows park for the afternoon. There were long queues for childrens' and adults' boats. There were about 200 cars and visitors numbering almost 1,000. All forms of amusement were doing a very good trade.

WATER MAINS BURST.

A water mains burst, near the footpath from Perry Street to the Station caused a disturbance of water supply in the Perry Street area. Southend Waterworks Company worked on the burst until late in the evening.

BILLERICAY.

Just a fortnight ago I came to Billericay from Birmingham. I was shown around by "Wanderer." The first thing I was shown was Lake Meadows Recreation Ground, with its natural dug-out lake and modern cafetiere. The High Street has eight pubs and about six churches. You go to church then come out and go into a pub. The less religious people of course go straight into the pub. There are a few quaint houses in the High Street. One of these, I noticed, is falling to pieces, in contrast there is a Woolworth's self service store. I agree with O.A.P. when he says Perry Street is very rough and I think you could do with a bus.

A Birminghamer.

Ed; the lake in Lake Meadows is partly natural. It was constructed by a gang of men, directed by a prominent Billericay citizen during a period of unemployment in Billericay in 1860. There was before the construction of the Lake a series of springs, bogs and pools and small lakes on the site. One side of the Lake has, a short time ago been reinforced as a guard against erosion.
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