

EDITOR, WYNFORD GRANT.
BILLERICAY OBSERVER.

NO. 8.

SOMETHING OF INTEREST FOR EVERYONE.

Thursday
May 8th.

COUNCILLOR MARCHANT J.P. BASILDON COUNCIL CHAIRMAN RESIGNS FROM POST AND SOCIALIST PARTY. CONSERVATIVE LEADER MOST SURPRISED. Coun E.A. Marchant of Vowler Road, Langdon Hills has resigned from the

Socialist Party and his chairmanship because the Socialists have put up a former communist as candidate for a ward in the forthcoming Basildon U.D. Council Elections on May 16th. A by-election will be held in Council Marchants' ward. Coun Marchant will remain chairman of the council officially until May 22nd.

Coun Marchant stated: "Recently, following the blood-bath in Hungary, a number of people who hitherto had appeared to admire the totalitarian methods of a foreign power resigned from their own party and joined the Labour party. Some of them, perhaps all of them, may have suffered the pangs of disillusionment and are genuine converts to democratic Socialism, but, of course, the public are entitled to question the certainty of this, at least until the expiration of a fairly lengthy probation period". The candidate is a post-Hungary candidate.

CHIMNEY FIRE.

There was a chimney fire at a house at the rear of Billericay Police Station on Monday April 28th. The Billericay Fire Brigade did not attend. Smoke swirled round Sun Corner and the police station. A crowd of people gathered.

NEW ROAD NAME PLATES. Atridge Chase and Knightsbridge Walk, Billericay have new road name plates.

SCOUTS HOLD JUMBLE SALE.

4th Billericay scouts held a jumble sale at the Rising Sun Hall, Sun Street, Billericay on Saturday April 26th. Admission was three pence. About forty people attended. Hats, shoes and various other articles of clothing were on sale. There were refreshments. 66

THREE-CORNERED FIGHT IN BASILDON COUNCIL ELECTIONS, BILLERICAY-BUTTSBURY WARD.

There will be a three-cornered fight in the Billericay-Buttsbury ward in the forthcoming Basildon Council elections. There are at present 15 Socialists and 11 Conservatives on the council. Candidate for Billericay-Buttsbury ward: Mr H.P. Davies, Conservative of Noak Hill Road, Billericay. Company director. Mr Hayden, Socialist of 37, School Road, Billericay. Maintenance Engineer. Mr A. Bishop, Liberal, 123, High Street, Billericay. Clerk.

TRAINS TERMINATE AT STRATFORD BECAUSE OF TRACK RENEWAL.

On Sunday April 27th trains terminated at Stratford owing to track renewal between Liverpool Street and Stratford. Trains going to London affected were trains in the period 8.45 to 3.45. There were similar times in the opposite direction.

ART CLUB EXHIBITION.

Billericay Art Club's exhibition, held at Burghstead Lodge from Thursday April 24th to Saturday April 26th was a fair success. Doors were open from 10.0a.m to 9.30p.m. There were oil and water-colour paintings, pottery and wood carvings. Visitors were handed a list with details of title, media and artist. The Billericay Art club welcomes new members. Meetings held at Billericay Recreation Rooms, High Street regularly. This was their first exhibition.

ROUND AND ABOUT by "Wanderer".

The "Wanderer" writes regularly in the Billericay Mirror, companion journal to the Billericay Observer. Liskeard's (a large town in Cornwall) librarian has banned three national daily newspapers the "Daily Express", "Daily Herald" and the "Daily Mail" because they "often publicise the event that breaks the generally accepted standards and rules of society". He has chosen the wrong newspapers I say. Are the "Daily Sketch" and "Daily Mirror" better newspapers than say the "Daily Express"? The three newspapers mentioned have circulated in millions of British homes for many years without doing any harm to Britain. The librarian has only banned them for a three months "trial period" from the town's library reading room. Below are some facts and figures relating to newspapers: The figures show the reading age of the Daily Express etc and their truthfulness per cent.

Daily Express	I2	85%
Daily Mail	I2	80%
Daily Herald	I2	45%

What is the best newspaper to read? Should you buy a newspaper which informs you instead of entertaining you? Have you any opinions? Write us a letter about it.

Are people making use of British Railways special excursions, such as circular tours, evening cheap returns etc? They never seem to.

Billericay have got some competition at last in the Norsey Rangers F.C. About time too!

When are we going to get a pedestrian crossing in the High Street? Now I have to wait almost three minutes to get safely across the road. In Billericay you will see posters saying; cross by the zebra". What zebra crossing? There isn't one.

Yours Sincerely,

Wanderer

THE "WANDERER" WELCOMES LETTERS.

POLITICAL LANDSCAPE.

The silly chairman of Saint Pancras Labour Party wants to fly a red flag on the town hall on Labour's day and give the town workers a holiday which they don't want. If the Conservatives gave Westminster council workers a holiday on their day and flew the U.S.A flag from the town hall there would be an uproar. And supposing the Liberals on a Liberal controlled council gave their town workers a holiday on their day and flew a cloth flag picture of Jo Grimmond from the town hall; there would be an uproar. Conservative and moderate Labour were so disgusted that they did not go to the council meeting to vote on the issue. So the red flag will fly from St Pancras town hall in the heart of England! Now that silly chairman suggests that the Queen be evicted from Buckingham Palace, royalty's traditional home for centuries and one of the great sights of London and in her place come 200 slum dwellers. Now Malta has gone mad spurred on as usual by a Communist-Socialist trouble maker. What trouble will Moscow cause next? First they try to povertise us by closing Suez through Nasser and they are now erecting gun posts in Yemen. One bright spot is the success of negotiations with W. Germany. It is important that Britain keeps good relations with W. Germany. The tourist in France now has a good chance of seeing the changing of the French government. Why are governments in France always failing? The answer is too many political parties, governments have to rely on coalitions. Socialists are split into separate parties, radical, moderate left etc. These splits usually differ on only one thing. For the good of France unite.

3. TALK ON CHURCHES.

The Council for the Presevation of Rural England (Billericay group) held a talk on Essex Churches on May 5th at the Women's Institute Hall, Billericay. The talk was illustrated and admission was free. The talk commenced at 8.p.m. There was a silver collection. Proceeds went to the "Friends of Essex Churches". B.O. reporter.

COUNCILLOR MARCHANT RESIGNATION.
ANOTHER SOCIALIST COUNCILLOR RESIGNS
Councillor Bardott of Lee Chapel Ward, Basildon U.D. Council has resigned his seat over Councillor Marchant. He has resigned because of "Counc Marchants forced resignation. The series of resignations will be a serious setback for the Socialists in the forthcoming local council elections.

with queues stretching right up Lake Avenue. Over forty people were queuing for ices at the kiosk. There were long queues for childrens and adults boats. Amusements had the best day so far this year.

THE HAUNTED GARAGE by H. E. Bates.

Episode 4.

Final by special request of the Editor.

There it was again....another shriek, another thud, then silence. It was more than the Editor could stand. So he sat. It was a tortoise!

In the still of the night the noise of the tortoise crawling along had frightened him. One little wrinkled up leg would be dragged along with its lit tle toe nail scraping the concrete floor making a squealing noise then thud!.....as it collapsed unable to sustain the weight of the shell it carried around. The Editor felt very silly indeed and crept home to bed. And that was that.

The other sixteen episodes will not appear as the Editor has disposed of my services.

Anyone want to buy a haunted garage?

H. E. Bates.

THE END A ARROW NEWSPAPER GROUP PRESENTATION.

NEXT EDITION

A NEW SPECIAL INTERESTING ILLUSTRATED FEATURE SERIES

Watch Out For It In The

BILLERICAY OBSERVER

AN ARROW NEWSPAPER GROUP

PRESENTATION.

JUMBLE SALE.

Billericay Mothers Union held a jumble sale at the Archer Memorial Hall on Monday May 5th at 2.0. Admission was 2d and there were refreshments.

LETTERS.

PLEASE SEND US LETTERS ON ITEMS-OF-THE-MOMENT, aspects of the B. Observer etc.

CROWDS FLOCK TO LAKE MEADOWS ON SUNDAY MAY 4th IN WARM WEATHER.

by 'on the spot' reporter. Over 8,000 people flocked into Lake Meadows on Sunday afternoon. There were over 2,000 cars parked. There were queues of up to fourteen cars waiting to be admitted to the park

JUMBLE SALE.

A jumble sale was held at the Mayflower Hall, Chapel Street, Billericay on Monday April 28th. The sale commenced at 2.30p.m.

THE BILLERICAY MIRROR.

Arrow Newspaper Group Announcement.

The Arrow Newspaper Group, owing to unforeseen difficulties regret to announce that the "Billericay Mirror" will not be published.

EDITORIAL CORNER.

Editorial Corner,
143, Perry Street.

Dear Readers,

I hope you will enter for the competition in the competition supplement, as we have worked hard in preparing it. You may not know some of the answers, but neither do other people. There is a good ballpoint pen as a prize.

An idea the "Billericay Observer" hopes to carry out is the reporting of council meetings, nothing is definite yet but we hope to.

Yours Sincerely,

W. Grant
EDITOR.

PONY GOES TO SCHOOL!

On Wednesday April 30th "Champion", the pony went to school. He broke loose from his home in Mill Hill Drive, Perry Street, Billericay and made for Buttsbury C.P. School where he was tied to a tree with plenty of grass to eat and water to drink. The pony was the property of Andrew Elley a pupil at the school. The pony remained at the school until after 3.30.

GRASS FIRES.

There has been an outbreak of grass fires during the hot weather in this area. Billericay and Laindon fire brigade being called out 2 to 3 times a day.
B.O. Reporter

IN THE GARDEN.

The Garden in May.

The flower garden now demands close attention if fine plants are to develop. All annuals will be in vigorous growth, any weaklings can be sacrificed; allow plenty of space for growing; tie up sappy shoots; watch out for insects; loosen soil round stems; and where buds are showing pick off any showing blight. The herbaceous border is in vigorous growth and some weaker shoots can be sacrificed particularly the Michaelmas daisies; the flowering will be all the stronger. In the vegetable garden runner beans can be put in, putting in the stakes at the same time, deeply enough to stand high winds. Sow vegetable marrow and cucumber in warm spots. Seedlings of these raised earlier can be planted out if covered at nights to protect from frost, pots will do. Succession sowings of vegetables, roots and the lighter green stuff, as lettuce, can be made. Next year's perennials, wallflower, forget-me-nots, sweet-william and so on can now be sown and until mid-June as well as biennials. Don't neglect the spraying of fruit trees. Spring-flowering shrubs can be pruned when the blossom has died down. Manure fruit trees.

GARDEN ADVICE

Send me a letter at Garden Advice, Billericay Observer, 143, Perry St, Billericay, Essex by post or hand you have. Your letter and our reply will appear in this newspaper.

PETE

The fete in aid of ST Andrews Hospital League of Friends will be held on Saturday June 7th in the Archer Hall Field, Laindon Road, Billericay.

STOP PRESS.

MINOR REPAIR WORK STARTED ON PERRY STREET.

"Delighted".

Ed; I trust you will find more news in this edition.

Dear Sir,

I must say that the "Haunted Garage" is my favourite serial story. I hope it runs for many more editions.

Yours Etc.

Ed; we have had to for reasons of space and unpopularity dispose of any further instalments of the "Haunted Garage". WE would be very delighted to receive other contributions from Mr Bates and we are very sorry that we had to end his serial so shortly.

Dear Sir,

What a lot of fuss there is about this II-plus business. What I want to know is eleven plus what. To put it another way - how many beans make five.

Mathematician.

Ed; II-Plus is a shortened name for Entrance Examination for admittance to Selective Secondary Schools.

'Longsight'.

Q. Why did the owl howl? A. Because the woodpecker would peck her

Q. Why did the garden fence? A. Because it saw the window box.

Q. Why did the cake walk? Because it saw the Turkey Trot.

Q. Why did the fly fly? Because the Spider spied her.

Give names of birds to the following questions:

1. The bird that is a JOKE?

2. The bird that is a letter of the alphabet?

3. The bird that means to hoodwink?

4. The bird that means to grumble?

5. The bird that is very rapid.

6. The bird that is a thief.

ANSWERS NEXT EDITION.

The following letters and those on page 7 are from readers who have not until this edition contributed. This does NOT apply to the first letter.

To the Wanderer,

Sir,

I assume you call yourself 'Wanderer' because you keep wandering off the point. In your article you talk of economising and reducing the rates in one breath - and of increasing the Fire Service and thus increasing the rates in the next. Make up your mind "Wanderer".

"Stay At Home".

Wanderer; I was talking of reducing wasteful rate methods; the fire service is not wasteful.

Dear Sir,

I must say that I obtain more news and pleasure from your journal than any other I read. Your reporting is good, your articles interesting, your stories amusing. Keep up the good work!

"Satisfied".

ED; thank you!

MORE

LETTERS ON

PAGE 7

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Sir,

Querulous.

Dear Sir,

"Robin Hood".

Sir,

"Disgusted."

Dear Sir,

Mystified

Dear Editor,

Very Disappointing.

Sir

Yours etc.

Dear Sir,

TURN OVER

LETTERS.....Continued.

Dear Sir,

May I congratulate you on your story series "THE CONFESSIONS OF A TEA-DRINKER". A very good story. I hope it will continue for some time.

"Coffee Abstainer".

Ed; I think it is very good.

Dear Sir,

I think the "Haunted Garage" is too young for readers. Let's have some interesting features or one of the Classics in weekly instalments instead.

"Oxford Old-Boy".

Dear Sir,

The "Haunted Garage" after a good first episode has been spoiled. I no longer enjoy it.

"Annoyed".

Ed; we regret owing to unpopular response that we will have to withdraw the "Haunted Garage".

Dear Sir,

Following the resignation of Councillor Marchant I hope your readers will have the fact that the Labour Party is unstable firmly impressed on their minds. The resignation of Councillor Marchant proves that the Socialists are unstable and unloayl.

I wish "Moderate" would eat his hat. We would then be rid of for a few months of one of Britain's citizens who don't vote. They grumble and yet don't act like responsible citizens in voting.

Yours Etc,

"Extreme Rightist"

Dear Sir,

Can't you do something to stop visitors from other towns to Lake Meadows Recreation Ground stop throwing litter in the Recreation Ground and footpath to the Station, spoiling the place.

"Keep Britain Tidy".

Ed; the Basildon U.D. Council should put some litter bins up. There are only two in the whole of Lake Meadows, at least ten new litter bins and three on the footpath to the Station. Then there would be no excuse for throwing litter and a £5 penalty could be imposed on litter-throwers.

Dear Sir,

Please may I correct John Smith Esq. The fish that was caught in Lake Meadows was caught by the late J. Howe Esq not HORNSNELL or PARSNELL.

Yours Sincerely,

"Watchful".

Ed; the mentioned fish is displayed in the window of Hornsnell (near the Church), fruiterers and Fishmongers of High Street, Billericay and the fish was caught by the late J. Howe Esq in The Lake, Billericay in 1919.

Sir,

I must congratulate you on the attractive, well-designed, interesting envelopes in which the Billericay Observer is delivered. I hope they will continue.

"Billericay Observer Reader".

Ed; finance note, the envelopes cost 5 for 4½d.

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MORE LETTERS.

Dear Mr Editor,

it has been said,

that Bodicea fought her last battle against the Romans in the Billericay area, and at Burstead where she clapped a snake

that the mill on Mill Hill was where the flour was ground for the world-famous "Mayflower I".

that Essex wheat was such an excellent quality that there used to be a large trade with Russia for seeding purposes.

that Billericay used to be the centre of a large wool trade with London merchants.

that rumor has it, that we may expect to see work commence on the making up, and improving of Perry Street

Perhaps the Wanderer may find some item of interest for research in the above.

These typewriters, mine also like yours make mistakes.

Congratulations, and best wishes. Querimus.

Ed; Basildon U.D. Council have announced recently that schemes for the highway improvement of Perry Street will be prepared shortly.

B.O. EXCLUSIVE. CONFESSIONS OF A TEA-DRINKER NO. 3. B.O. EXCLUSIVE

The story this week is set in darkest Africa. They had just run out of candles. That is not surprising for the pygmies used to prefer to eat them rather than light them. So in the darkest season (at night time that is) they just could not see to get around. You would think in these circumstances they would therefore get ALONG!

But not so rather surprisingly in fact they are abnormally short-pygmyes in fact. Even so the story I want to recount concerns the HOTTENOTS. The climate on the equator is very hot and very humid and is often referred to as equatorial. Sometimes also it is called tropical but that really refers to the region around the tropics. The tropic of CANCER and the tropic of CAPRICORN. The HOTTENOTS of course do not live near either. For they are misnamed. Years ago a nomadic tramping the Sahara searching for oases came across another nomadic people also searching for oases. The one were a large people, the other almost pygmy. The first were often called High TOPS because their heads were so far above the ground. But High Tops so on became HOPS and because the weather was so very warm this was changed to HOTS.

Whereas the small pygmies right from the start were known as the TOTS.

Together they became known as the HOTS AND TOTS.

And so they are known to this very name.....the HOTTENTOTS!