



Crowds turned out for Basildon's two big attractions at the weekend—Round Table's donkey Derby and the Laindon publicans' race.

This race has now become one of the customs of the New Town. It starts at the Prince of Wales and finishes—on top of the hill—at the Crown on Langdon Hills.

Over at Laindon Link some 4,500 people were at the donkey races. Our picture on the right shows competitors in a bunch at the start of the Southernhay Stakes, and, above, the Prince of Wales team are going strong along Laindon High Road in the other holiday race.

More pictures and stories on Pages 7 and 14.



STANDARD BUYS THE RECORDER SERIES

JOHN H. BURROWS AND SONS, LTD., publishers of this newspaper, have acquired the "Basildon Recorder" series of newspapers from the Essex Publishing Co., Ltd.

"THE "Recorder" newspapers will be incorporated in the "Basildon, Billericay and Wickford Standard," and the combined publication will be known as the "Standard Recorder." Separate editions will be published in Basildon, Billericay and Wickford. The "Corringham and Stanford Recorder" will cease publication and a special edition of the "Essex and Thurrock Gazette" for this area will start on Friday, April 21st.

FULLER details will be announced later, but the last issue of the present "Recorder" series will be published on April 19th.

THE "Recorder" first appeared—in the Laindon area—in the early 1930's.

AUTOMATIC PHONES WILL BE DELAYED

BILLERICAY TELEPHONE subscribers will have to wait longer than anticipated for the changeover from an antiquated manual telephone exchange to a more up-to-date automatic system.

Reasons? "The changeover at Billericay was originally scheduled to tie in with the changeover at Basildon," a G.P.O. spokesman told the "Standard" this week.

"It was planned that the Basildon transfer would take place immediately prior to the change-over at Billericay, but, because of delays at Basildon, the scheme has had to be reviewed.

"Now we have rearranged our plans so that the new Billericay exchange will open before Basildon, but all this has meant that the completion date has been set back until May 4th."

When the new system does come into operation subscribers will no longer have to pick up the receiver and wait for the operator to answer them. In-

(Continued on Page 2)

OVER 100 PICTURES IN THIS ISSUE

IT'S HATS off to our Process Department! The Easter holiday week is always a difficult period for newspaper production, but this issue contains a record number of over 100 pictures covering events in the urban district during the past week.

Never before has Basildon had an Easter period with so many events for a local paper to cover—weddings, a donkey Derby, publicans' race, church and many social events—and one working day less!

The Process Department, of course, had to deal with the vast number of pictures in our allied papers, but for this paper they made over a hundred blocks from photographs. The result is that today you have a "Basildon, Billericay and Wickford Standard" which is, pictorially, a record.

£87,000 cut

Basildon Urban District Council's estimates of £231,000 for the maintenance and improvement of roads in the coming year have been cut to £144,000 by the County Highways Committee.

Basildon's hot line!

BASILDON Council's recorded telephone service came into operation this week. The Council have installed recording equipment to take phone messages between 5.30 p.m. and 9 a.m., and at the weekend. The service covers all departments, including those at Billericay, and the number to call is Basildon 22266. Begin by giving your name and address, say the Council. The Council's main number remains Basildon 22261.

Grand total now in Round Table's Holiday Home Fund is about £1,400, which they have raised in less than two years.

"We are now well on the way. The cost has not yet been fixed, but we must have two-thirds of the necessary cash," said Donkey Derby organiser Mr. Mike Revell.

They began their project to build a holiday centre for Moat House schoolchildren in 1965. The site in Wickford Memorial Park is owned by Basildon Council and is close to the River Crouch, the whole area being proposed as a summer camp for all children.

The home is designed for educationally sub-normal children who need special tuition to encourage self-confidence.

"We want to create a homely atmosphere for study, but without the pressure of the formal classroom," said Round Table Chairman Mr. Tony Essex. "We hope they will be able to learn about things like decorating and other useful parts of everyday living."

The building (seen in sketch form below), measuring 40ft. x 25ft., will have a main room, kitchen and toilet facilities and bedrooms for 12 children. Architect is Mr. P. Fredericks, A.R.I.B.A.



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RAMSDEN HEATH 720

THIS IS OUR OPINION

Easter lesson for Carnival organisers?

THE WEEKEND gave the best lead so far on how holiday attractions in the New Town should be run—Carnival organisers please note! For there were 4,500 people at the Round Table's donkey Derby. And crowds watched the annual publicans' race through Laindon. These crowds showed that, whatever the cynics may say, there is a big demand for community entertainment. Put things on in a big way and vast numbers come.

But the most striking feature of the weekend was that these two events just seemed to "happen." In neither case had there been months of fuss about lack of support. The arguments—which always seem to dog Basildon's Carnival Association—were absent. Or, if they did exist, they were not paraded in front of the town.

Carnival may say they were the pioneers of the large charity efforts. They may also retort that past failures should be forgotten—and the future holds success. Agreed—Carnival may find that nothing succeeds like success.

But that will need a lot of hard work and behind-the-scenes thinking. This obviously lay behind Easter Monday's shows.

Perhaps this jolt will do Carnival good. They may realise that real money can be made for charity if popular events are put on. And if they fail to learn from the lessons given by others? Then once more Basildon Carnival Association will prove that nothing fails like failure.

First steps to end Runwell controversy

AT LAST THE controversy is over. After arguing about whether to provide a playground or playing field in the parish for the past 12 months or more, Runwell Parish Council have finally taken the first steps towards buying the land to make the project possible.

On Tuesday at the annual parish meeting it was decided to buy up to four acres of newly available land bordering on Church End Lane.

The Council should have been far more positive, however. They should have decided then and there to buy ALL the land.

That members should argue over what sort of recreational amenity to provide is almost ludicrous in view of the infrequency with which suitable land becomes available.

If the Council buy anything less than the full four acres they will be doing a disservice to the people they represent.

The solution is obvious. They must provide a hard surfaced playground—with the swings and roundabouts—and the playing field as well.

With the land costing £200 to £300 an acre, this may seem an expensive pipe dream, but the Council could recover up to 40 per cent of their outlay in grants, according to Vice-Chairman Mr. H. A. Norwood. Surely few parishioners would begrudge the Council providing the balance, even if it meant an extra penny on the rates. They have been crying out for it for long enough.

LIVED 82 YEARS IN BILLERICAY HOUSE WHERE HE WAS BORN

Mr. Samuel George Leeds, who was born at No. 81, High Street, Billericay, and lived there all his life—82 years—becoming one of the town's best-known residents, died at St. Andrew's Hospital.

One of 12 children, he was active until shortly before his death and was still working only 12 years ago running an undertaker's business in Chapel Street, in which he started as a boy apprentice.

His only break with the business was from 1916, the year its owner died, until 1919, when he served with the Army Service Corps and saw action in France, Belgium and Germany.

When he returned to Billericay he restarted the business in its original premises, partnered until 1939 by his late brother, William.

He was also a coach builder and painter, and built and painted vehicles for most tradesmen and farmers in the district.

When he retired he sold his business to Mr. Frank Farrer, and it was transferred to new premises at 33, High Street.

For recreation Mr. Leeds played football and cricket and was also a member of the Reading Rooms billiards and social club and Billericay branch of the Foresters, of which he was Chief Ranger for some 40 years until two years ago. He was buried at Great Burstead churchyard on Wednesday week following a service conducted by the Vicar, Rev. Geoffrey Holley.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Hilda Leeds (87), a son, daughter and four grandchildren.

Barleylands bridge

TO FIND suitable contractors for the reconstruction of the bridge over the River Crouch at Barleylands, Basildon Council are being recommended to waive certain standing orders.

Works Committee Chairman Coun. J. R. Lyon is recommending that tenders be sought only from a selected list of contractors prepared by the Engineer and Surveyor in view of "the specialist nature of the work."

Grass fires down

DAMP weather cut Basildon's Easter grass fires. Last week there were more than 50 grass fires, mostly in the Clay Hill Road and Laindon Link areas, but over the weekend there were only

TYPHOID: PAKISTANI RUMOUR QUASHED

RUMOURS that there was a typhoid suspect in Billericay started when a Pakistani bus conductor collapsed in the town on Wednesday morning.

The conductor was taken to St. Andrew's Hospital for observation, where Hospital Secretary Mr. Pat Brooks later said:

"This man is definitely not suffering from typhoid. I don't understand how the rumour started. At no time was he considered a suspect case."

The "Standard" understands that the conductor returned to his country two weeks ago after visiting Pakistan on holiday.

FARMER CLEARED

A PITSEA farmer was cleared of speeding on Tuesday after the policeman who "booted" him admitted he could not remember the details of the three-and-a-half-months-old offence.

Charles Benjamin Kirkham, of Round Road, Pitsea, denied speeding on the Western Esplanade at Westling in December.

Police motor cyclist P.C. M. J. Radford said he checked the speed of the farmer's car at between 46 and 50 m.p.h. Then, cross-examined by Mr. Rex Wyeth, he admitted: "Quite honestly I cannot recollect this particular speeding case. I deal with so many speedsters."

The motorist told the Court his speed was 28 m.p.h. He checked it after seeing the Police motor cyclist turn out of a side road and follow. "But at no time did he pace me," he claimed. "He was gaining all the time. When he stopped me I thought that maybe one of my rear lights was not working."

Mr. Wyeth suggested the officer had made a genuine mistake.

"One doesn't criticise him for not being able to remember details of this case," he said.

PHONES DELAY

(Continued from Front Page)

stead they will be able to dial for themselves any number falling within an area bounded by Brentwood, Ingalstone, Chelmsford and Wickford.

An operator's assistance will only be required to reach extensions not included in a dialling code list which will be issued to all subscribers.

Work on the new £130,000 installation started in August, 1965. It will have a capacity for 4,300 lines—400 more than the present manual exchange.

The act of changing over from one system to the other will be almost instantaneous. The old exchange has obviously been kept going while the new one is being built and when the time comes it is basically only a matter of changing over a few plugs, which should take less than two minutes.

Hundreds of old instruments have already been changed for modern telephones with dials, and subscribers have been informed what their new telephone numbers will be when the transfer takes place.

At present the number of subscribers using the old exchange totals about 3,700 and the new system will cater for an increase of about 600.

Even so, the G.P.O. envisage a much heavier demand for telephones during the next few years than the new exchange will be able to cope with and already a 2,000 line has been ordered to plug the gap.

The cost of running the new exchange will compare favourably with the expenditure on the apparatus, although the apparatus is more expensive to maintain, the annual salary on staff alone will greatly offset the capital invested.

It will however, be ten years before the new installation shows a profit.

Note: The construction of an automatic exchange at Billericay is yet another step towards introducing the STD system within the area. A main switching centre is to be constructed at Brentwood in 1970 when the change over to STD should be able to be effected.

PLAYLEADERSHIP BARBECUE



PLAYLEADERSHIP SWUNG BACK INTO ACTION THIS WEEK. OUR PICTURE ABOVE SHOWS A BARBECUE AT FRYERNS FIELD, WITH SOME 60 YOUNGSTERS TAKING PART. IT WAS ORGANISED BY PLAYLEADERS MRS. JUNE McLAGHLAN AND MRS. SYLVIA MACNAY.

On Thursday week the first outdoor activity of the year—a sports day—was held. On Monday there will be a parade of Easter bonnets.

On the left, some of the young guests who attended the social arranged by Ramsden Bellhouse Horticultural Society at the Community Centre, Ramsden Bellhouse, on Saturday.



Mr. Ronald Addy, of Sandon Road, Basildon, and Miss Maureen Joyce Penning, of The Frommells, Basildon, were married at Holy Cross Church, Basildon, on Saturday. The bride was given away by her father. (Photo by J. Hearne)



Above: The marriage took place on Saturday at St. Clement's Church, Leigh, between Mr. Michael Cullis, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Cullis, of Bromfords Drive, Wickford, and Miss Jacqueline Hainsworth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hainsworth, of Rayleigh Drive, Leigh. (Photo: John Alexander.)



Above: Mr. Brian Michael Morss, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Morss, of Elizabeth Drive, Wickford, and Miss Wendy Jean Cuttill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cuttill, of Cokerfield Avenue, Southend, were married on Saturday at St. Luke's Church, Southend. (Photo: Regency Studio, Southend)



The wedding of Mr. Alan Curtis, of Manor Park, E.S.2, and Miss Angela Mason, of Falstones, Basildon, was at St. Nicholas' Church, Laindon. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length dress of white lace, embroidered with rhinestones and drop pearls. She wore a rhinestone tiara and carried a bouquet of red roses and lilies of the valley. The bridesmaids wore velvet. The bridesmaids were Miss J. Humphrey, Miss L. Diers and Miss J. Holland. The best man was Mr. R. Holland.



Mr. William Reece Windsor, of Point Road, Canvey Island, was married on March 18th to Miss Christine Ivy Kent, of Beeleigh East, Basildon, at St. Andrew's Church, Basildon. The bride was given away by her father, and her attendants were Kim Richardson and Tracey Williams. The page boy was Master Keiron Pasmore, the bride's nephew.



Costumes 100 years old



Above are the models who appeared in the fashion show given by Grays Co-operative Social Centre on Easter Monday. The two period costumes are 100 years old, and are worn in honour of the centenary of the Grays Co-operative Society as being the first costumes worn by their first customers. The models are all staff or relatives of staff.

★ ★ ★

On the right: Taking time out from their stalls to purchase their raffle tickets are Mr. John Savino and Mr. Anthony Bond, both prospective councillors for the Buttsbury Ward. With them is Mr. Edward Hobbs, prospective Billericay, and selling the raffle tickets is Mrs. Thomas' Thrift Shop, held at Billericay, on Saturday afternoon.



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VETERAN READERS' COLUMN



Fifty-two years on the river with same firm

"IT WAS a good life!" says Mr. W. B. Thurston (seen above), former tugmaster and Freeman of the river. "I started on the river at 14 and I was with the same firm for 52 years!"

Mr. Thurston believes that there will be water transport for many years yet. It is still the cheapest form of transport. When he started work it was on a 120-ton barge, and he soon found what he later taught his sons—that it was no job for a weakling! In those days a working week consisted of 72 hours or more if necessary, and a fully qualified man could hope for a wage packet containing £3 10s.

It was a very proud day for William when he was made captain of a lighter carrying ballast from Erith in Kent, but he was secretly even prouder when his sons—one a chef and one a white-collar worker—came to him and insisted upon being apprenticed by him to the river. He gave them the hardest jobs he could find, to see whether they would change their minds—but they stayed, and they are still there, skippers now in their own right. Two of his grandsons are also skippers.

The river has plenty of hazards for those who work upon it. In wartime these are increased considerably by air-raids, blackouts and all the horrors that a war can bring. Mr. Thurston saw two world wars, both of which brought him many memories.

During the first he can recall the Silvertown explosion, when 200 girls were killed in a factory. He was instrumental in rescuing five men who escaped the explosion, but were flung into the river and were likely to die of drowning.

The Second World War saw him patrolling the river for the Admiralty. He was one of the tugmasters who towed pieces of Mulberry Harbour down to Tibury. It is doubtful whether anyone knew what the pieces would make when assembled. Certainly no one could foresee the important part it would play in the invasion of Europe—but William can look back upon his part in the war effort with pardonable pride.

He believes in looking after the inner man. When in harness he would think nothing of eight pints a day—of tea! "I believe in plenty of food,"

He would attend a meeting, take home his books and reports and have everything added up and tidy before he had his tea.

Now his "head for figures" has taken him into the treasurership of the Basildon No. 1 Senior Citizens, where his wife, Elizabeth, is Chairman. The Thurstons have enjoyed their life together; they have five children, 14 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren; William and his wife are intensely proud of them all.

Like his wife, William believes that life is what you make it. They like Basildon; they have made many friends since they came to live there. They have a strong and thriving old folk's club, but they are on equally good terms with the younger generations. They will most certainly go on making friends as time goes by. Both William and his wife are like that.

They were on parade

AN EASTER parade was held by the members of the Basildon No. 1 Senior Citizens at their weekly meeting on Wednesday. It was won by Mrs. Cole and each member who took part received a small prize.

Mr. Hardy played the piano for the members to dance and sing. It was a great success and very much enjoyed by everyone present. Chairman Mrs. E. Thurston presided and sent the good wishes of every member to their sick colleagues. Mrs. Foster was welcomed back to the Club after illness.

Tea was served by Mr. Chaiting and helpers.

NO. 2 SENIOR CITIZENS
Basildon No. 2 Senior Citizens have elected a new Treasurer, Mr. W. Bundy, in place of Mr. Chaiting who has now been admitted to hospital. They have also elected a new Secretary (Mr. Neuss) as their former Secretary (Mr. W. E. Denham) has left the district. Sick members were sent good wishes and a new member was welcomed. Chairman Mrs. Baker, who presided, announced the club's first outing of the year to Eastbourne and members enjoyed a sing-song, with Mrs. Merday at the piano, and dancing. Tea hostesses were Mrs. Le Bran and helpers, Mrs. Baker thanked the pianist and members who had brought gifts for the table.

BUNS AND A CUPPA
Hot-cross buns with the afternoon cuppa were the

Only three are sick

MR. AND MRS. J. Smith were the judges of the Easter bonnet parade held at the weekly meeting of the Lee Chapel South O.A.P. on Wednesday week.

First prize went to Mrs. E. Regan, Mrs. R. Rivett was second and Mrs. E. Lockheart third.

Chairman Mr. T. Simpkins announced that only three members were now still on the sick list. Mr. J. Stokes is now able to walk and is at a convalescent home.

Birthday honours were accorded to Mrs. Peters and a hearty welcome was given to a new member.

THURSDAY CLUB
The Serenaders concert party entertained the South Green Thursday Club in the Memorial Hall last week. News was received of Mr. Moore, who has to go into hospital shortly for an operation, and Mr. Steadman, who is at present staying at a convalescence home in Bexhill. Mr. Chinnery presided and Mesdames Betty and Bell were the tea hostesses.

Members of London Hill No. 1 O.A.P. seen at their Easter bonnet parade held at Laidon Community Centre.



Mr. J. Heager (centre), Chairman of Lee Chapel North Darby and Joan Club, seen with the Florestan Entertainers, who visited the Club recently.



Lee Chapel South O.A.P.s held an Easter bonnet competition at their weekly meeting on Wednesday week. It was judged by Mr. and Mrs. Les Smith, and the winners were: 1, Mrs. E. Regan; 2, Mrs. R. Rivett; 3, Mrs. E. Lockheart.

VANCE LADIES

A party of 50 members of the Basildon No. 1 Senior Citizens were held at the meeting on Wednesday. Vance Ladies' Section of the Basildon Community Association, which took the form of an Easter social. Members of the committee provided and served the refreshments and musical entertainment was by Mrs. Frank White with their piano, organ and drums. There was a special grocery raffle for the week, and a competition for decorated Easter eggs. Special thanks went to the pianist, Mrs. Theobald, Mrs. Rigby and Mr. Dobinson.

A CONCERT

A very enjoyable concert by the Bellairs Concert Party entertained the members of the Lee Chapel North Darby and Joan Club at their weekly meeting on Thursday. The programme included songs and monologues, and the members present thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon's entertainment. Musical birthday honours went to Mrs. Warr, led by Mrs. Evans at the piano. It was announced that there would be a visit from the Day Links Concert Party at the end of April. Members brought 25 gifts for the raffle table, and the meeting opened and closed with the singing of the usual hymn.



Prizewinners from Fryerns Playleadership Easter Sports Contest seen after receiving their awards at the Playleadership Hall last week.

Easter gifts



Two of the children of Wickford Congregational Junior Church who distributed Easter gifts to elderly and sick people in the district on Easter Sunday are seen above. They are Carol Rowson (8) and Deborah Hodges, also eight.

Below: Members of Ghyllgrove Ladies' Club are seen with their children at the Easter bonnet competition held at Ghyllgrove Community Centre last week.



Members of Langdon Hills Women's Institute seen at their 43rd birthday party held at the Women's Institute Hall, Laindon.



The decorated cycles competition at the publicans' race was very poorly supported this year, with only three entries. Left to right are Alistair Lowelllyn (11), his twin brother Melvyn and winner Peter Richards (10). Peter lives at the Laindon Hotel, Laindon, and the twins come from Suffolk Road, Laindon.



Billericay Conservatives held their annual thrift shop at the Women's Institute Hall, Billericay, on Saturday. Our picture shows some of the stallholders.



Mr. David Allan Pannell, of London Road, Wickford, was married at St. Martin's Church, Basildon, on Saturday to Miss Rosemary Ann Makings, of Bardfield, Vange. The bride was given away by her father, and wore a full-length gown of white lace, cut into a train. She carried a bouquet of red roses and lilies of the valley. Her bridesmaids were her sister, Miss Jayne Makings; Miss Janet Pannell, bridegroom's sister, and Miss Annela Makings, bride's cousin. They wore dresses of lilac satin, and carried bouquets of white carnations. The best man was Mr. George Wood.

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Machine gun and flick knives in church play

BEAT MUSIC, cheers and exuberant dancing filled St. Martin's Church, Basildon, on Good Friday and Saturday evening. The sounds and sights were all part of the controversial Easter play "A Man Dies." The whole cast of young people lived their way through the two-hour performances.

On Friday all the seats were packed, the aisles filled with chairs, and a large number of people stood at the back. In spite of the cramming, some had to be turned away, writes ROGER BUXTON.

The play, which for a while was banned by the Lord Chamberlain, was inevitably a good box office draw, but Friday's audience took the organisers - Basildon Christian Council - completely by surprise.

RURAL DEAN THRILLED

As well as the 500 or so who saw the play on Friday another 300 watched on Saturday.

"I'm thrilled to bits about it," said Rural Dean Rev. Arthur Dunlop.

Sixty young people from the Southend and District Young Congregationalists put on the play in modern dress of mini-skirts and jeans. In the picture above Stephen (Mark Hughes) comes to a "West Side" story type of death. Flick knives replace stones.

Scaffolding had to be erected to put spotlights and operators 20ft. above the congregation. Projectors were stationed ready to flash special effects on the east wall of the church. A place beside the altar had to be found for the Crowstone Folk Group and the Saints and Sinners, who supplied the folk and beat music.

The Young Congregationalists previously staged "A

Man Dies" in Westcliff last year, watched by a total of 2,000 people at three performances. This year it was produced by Derek Groom and more than half the cast were new to the play.

Shock for Rural Dean

BASILDON Rural Dean Rev. Arthur Dunlop had a shock on Saturday - he found a shot-gun under the altar. Saturday was a day of weddings, but the gun was not left by an irate father. It was just one of the props for the play "A Man Dies," acted in St. Martin's Church at the weekend.

One of the cast had left the weapon in a safe place.

MACHINE-GUN FIRE!

"We were very pleased with the way it went at Basildon. There was a terrific spirit throughout the production, which made it all worth while. It was wonderful, too, the way St. Martin's let us use their church as we liked. The only thing that went wrong was the sound of machine-gun fire. It didn't sound much like it!" said a spokesman for the cast.

The play traces the story of the early Church, setting the scene with Moses leading the exodus from Egypt. It then goes on to the life of Christ and ends with the work of the Disciples.

Stan Diggins had the difficult task of portraying Jesus Christ and carried it off well. Jim Tarrant, as the voice of Christ, was particularly impressive - and frightening - when dealing with the agony of the Crucifixion.

Through it all the singers sang delightfully and it is a pity the songs were too sick for the lyrics to sink in.

All is told in modern terms, with insurance and hire purchase firms standing in for the moneylenders, and modern Pharisees attack Jews, negroes and drug addicts. It was put over with complex effects that were well co-ordinated and lively music.

The strength of the production lay in the collective acting, mime and dancing of the crowd and the whole thing was a complete triumph for the Young Congregationalists and the Basildon Christian Council.

£230 NEEDED

The owner of land required for an access road to the proposed children's playground at Basildon Council, but on conditions which include the Council providing a fence, gates, etc. at a cost of £230. The Council's Recreation Committee Chairman has approved the making of a request to the Finance Committee for a revised loan sanction application for this amount.



With the Last Supper, the second act of "A Man Dies" nears its climax. Christ is played by 22-years-old Stan Diggins.

THE MODERN CHRIST!



The part of Christ was taken by Stan Diggins (22), of Westcliff Congregational Church.

Stole 4s. 11d. under-pants

A 40-YEARS-OLD radio engineer, Anthony Carter, of Great Mistley, Basildon, was found guilty of stealing a 4s. 11d. pair of men's underpants from Littlewoods Town Centre Mall Order Store and fined £5 at Billericay on Tuesday.

Manageress Mrs. Sheila Goldthorpe, of The Greensted, told the Court she noticed him at a counter because he "looked nervous" and then saw he was holding the under-pants behind the bag.

"He was fiddling with the bag and it slipped on one side," she said.

When he left the store without paying, she told floor-walker Mr. Colin Cousins, of Torquay Gardens, Iford, who stopped Carter outside. Said Mr. Cousins: "I told him there was a query about a purchase and he replied: 'Yes, I took them, I admit it.'"

Carter, denying the offence, said he went into Littlewoods to match some buttons. While he was looking for the button counter he picked up the underpants, but there was no assistant around to serve him. He thought he would continue looking for the buttons and pay for all his purchases together.

He could not find buttons, however, and left forgetting he held the under-pants.

He added: "I never attempted to conceal them and once I realised I had them I would have taken them straight back. I would not steal something to the value of 4s. 11d."

He had £9 8s. 10d. on him at the time the Court heard.

Charged with breaking into club

SAID to have been living in temporary lodgings and to be unwanted by his parents, Henry Collins was of no fixed address, was remanded in custody for a week at Billericay on Tuesday when he was charged with breaking into Laldon Country Club with intent to steal.

Det.-Insp. Eric Smith said the occupant of the Club heard a noise, she investigated and alleged she saw Collins in the bar. Police with a dog were called and Collins was arrested.



Four thousand watched donkeys race to help schoolchildren



No Claims Bonus certainly proved to be a very unsteady mount for this young lady in the Whitmore Hurdles race.

CROWDED CONCOURSE of over 4,000 people watched Basildon Round Table's donkey Derby on Easter Monday... and raised an estimated £500 for Round Table's latest charity effort.

Their aim is to build a holiday home for sub-normal children at Moat House School, Basildon. With the Derby profit—about half as much again as last year's races raised—only £200 has to be collected to make the holiday home a reality.

"It looks like a very good result," said Round Tabler Mr. Mike Revell. "Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The tote turned over about £700 and made £150, and we virtually sold out of programmes at 2s. each."

The Derby was lucky with its weather. The organisers had to put up with rain when they put up the stalls. It rained and snowed while they took them down at the end of the day. But between times it stayed fine, and, even sunny.

For most of the four-hour programme there were well over a thousand people in the ground alongside Laindon Link.

A commercial funfair, side-shows and a bar were added attractions.

Cars lined the Link and clogged the Great Knightleys cul-de-sacs closest to the ground.

The last sulky race of the day, the Grand Challenge Plate, gave a win to Town Manager Mr. David Taylor and left Development Corporation Estates Officer, Mr. Peter Russell protesting about an unfair start. "Never mind, it was good fun," he added.

Other sulky event was the Newsboy Chase when photographer Don McPhee repeated the "Basildon Standard's" success of last

year, beating his rival from the "Basildon Recorder" by a length.

Visitors to the course included the Laindon publicans who took part in the wheelchair race from Laindon to Langdon Hills earlier in the day, and the Rector of Dunton, Rev. Frank James, wearing a tricorne hat.

Winners of the South-ernhay trot — Lesley Aveson, 14 years (1st), Pat Cartwright, 13 years (2nd), and 3rd, Graham Dutton (13 years).

UNSCHEDULED TENT FIRE!

WHO set light to the gents' toilets at the Donkey Derby?

Everything went like clockwork at Basildon Round Table's Easter event—except for an unscheduled fire late in the afternoon—which destroyed the inner tent in the gents.

Mr. Peter Toomey, ex-Chairman of Round Table, discovered the blaze. "A good job we were insured," said an organiser.



A different kind of "moke" was seen in the Town Centre during the weekend, advertising the donkey derby. Paul Revell is seen having a free ride with the helm of his sister Susan and father Mr. M. Revell.

In trouble over his "extremely poor" car

When a Police vehicle examiner inspected a car's brakes he found one wheel could be rotated by hand with the brakes on, the other was soaked in brake fluid.

It was impossible for him to inspect the rear linings, however, as the rear wheels could not be removed.

"The vehicle was in an extremely poor condition," Police Insp. T. Naylor told Billericay Justices on Tuesday.

Before the Court was the owner, Colin Thomas Stacey, of Hockley Road, Basildon, who pleaded guilty to using it with defective brakes.

A £7-a-week apprentice television aerial erector, he also admitted using it with defective steering and defective tyres, without a Road Fund licence and L-plates, unaccompanied by a competent supervisor, and failing to notify the licensing authority of a change of ownership.

He was fined £18 with 20s. costs and given 28 days to find the money.

Insp. Naylor said P.C. Holmes saw Stacey driving the car in Hockley Road, Basildon, followed the vehicle and found it 200 yards away, abandoned.

He searched the area, found Stacey nearby and asked him why he had abandoned the vehicle.

"I haven't got any tax for it," said Stacey and subsequently admitted other offences.

When he was told about the faults in his car he commented: "I didn't know it was like that."

He said he had not bothered to tax it because he did not intend to keep it.

REVERSE MEANING

A typographical error reversed the meaning of a statement by Basildon Council leader Councillor Harry Witherington about the Billericay High Street Report in last week's "Standard". The word "not" was accidentally omitted, and the sentence should have read: "It's recommendations must NOT be forced upon them, however," he declared.

TALK ON ANTIQUES

The virtues of furniture made by Tudor and Elizabethan craftsmen in comparison with modern mass-produced furniture were pointed out to Billericay Men's Club at their March meeting at the W.V.S. Centre at St. Andrew's Hospital. Fifty members heard a talk on antiques from Mr. Stacey, who suggested several places of interest for outings.

FILM SHOW

About 40 shippers' representatives from all over South Essex were in Basildon on Wednesday night for a film show organised by Ben Line Steamers. It was held at the Bull's Eye.

CORRECTION

We have been asked to point out that the part of the notice stall barman in Billericay Youth Centre's presentation of Harold Pinter's play "A Night Out at Latham" was played by Robert Raby and not Martin Cozens, as we stated last week.



Tablers C. Graves, P. Toomey and R. Lockett sample the food on the hot-dog stall.



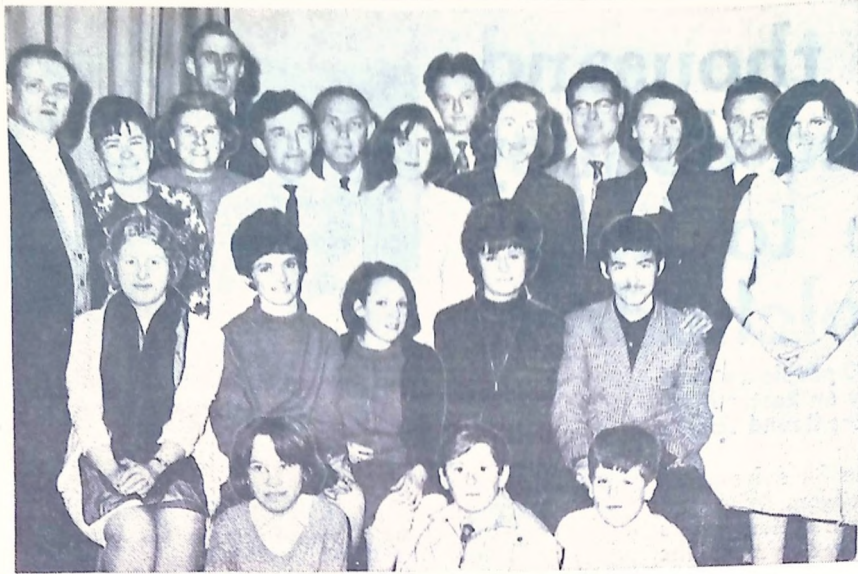
Eighteen-months-old Darren Luker, of Wash Road, Laindon, makes friends with Expansion (by Overspill out of London) before the start of the Grand Challenge Plate race.



Persuading the people of Basildon to buy 4,000 programmes was the task of Mrs. S. Essex and Mrs. G. Wright, but with the help of Mr. Eric Ford, Headmaster of Chalvedon Secondary School, and his seven-years-old son, Richard, they managed it.



Discussing form are Judges and Course Stewards, Mike Revell, Tony Essex, Police Superintendent W. A. Petherick and Peter Russell.



Your cinemas

Century, Pitsea Space-fiction puppet adventure featuring the varied ports of a conventional jet and Thunderbirds. Are you (showing for one week) tells the story of Zart-X, a revolutionary craft designed to take on like a conventional jet and then rocket its way through space. The initial flight is sabotaged, and the villain escapes, but Lady Penelope moves in for the "kill" in her Rolls-Royce "Fab One."

Radion, Laindon "Press For Time" (Monday for six days) stars Norman Wisdom in the type of comedy at which he excels. This time he takes the part of an incredibly inefficient newspaper reporter, but soon realises he has chosen the wrong profession when he finds himself involved in a number of amazing escapades.

Ritz, Billericay Starring Norman Wisdom in another of the knock-about comedies at which he excels. "Press for Time" (Monday for six days) concerns an incredibly inefficient newspaper reporter. He gets himself so mixed up in some amazing escapades that even he realises he has chosen the wrong profession.

It was scenery that took the eye!

THE DRAWBACK about producing a play against a background of excellent scenery is that the audience inevitably expect the acting to live up to it. When the acting turns out to be merely of average standard the general effect is something of an anti-climax, writes TONY BLANDFORD.

This was the case with Basildon Amateur Theatrical Society's second venture behind the footlights on Thursday and Friday.

For the scenery was some of the finest which has been seen on a Basildon stage, and it was so good that it put the actors in the shade.

We were presented with a tasteful drawing room, complete in every detail right down—or should it be up?—to the Regency wallpaper, and a very convincing "marble" fireplace. The right note was struck precisely.

It was a pity that the play—"After My Fashion," by Diana Morgan—did not merit the effort. This rather boring story of the aftermath of a not-very-gripping expedition is not top quality material.

Its generous helpings of narrative to fill us in about past history give actors a

but gave a more credible performance than most. In the face of such excellent scenery it seems hyper-critical to draw attention to some details. But people like Lady Starcross emphatically do not serve tea to their guests from an enamel teapot. One feels she could probably afford a complete tea service of one pattern, too! It was a pity to spoil the general picture with these minor omissions.

Others taking part were Freda Hussey (a pity she did not return after the first act), Brian Houser, Jane Rattu, Jean Elliott, Marjorie Sorrell, Lynne Durne, Sandie Osborne and Pamela Spriddell. The picture above shows the cast and stage staff.

KURSAAL SOUTHEND DANCING

BALLROOM SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 7.30 to 11.30 p.m. 5/- HOWARD BAKER AND HIS BAND and THE THEORY

ESTUARY ROOM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 8 to 11 p.m. 4/- HOWARD BAKER AND HIS EMBASSY BAND STRICT TEMPO SESSION

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For further details apply to: S. N. MATTAR, B.A., Pa.Dia. (Ex.Mkt.), F.R.Econ.S. Director of Studies Export Marketing and Sales Training Division.

Jesus Christ, The Same Yesterday and Today and For Ever Do you believe it? We have proved it! — at the Elm Pentecostal Church Hear some more of this man each SUNDAY AT 6.30 P.M. — ALL ARE WELCOME! —

ST. PAUL'S METHODIST CHURCH JUMBLE SALE FRIDAY, APRIL 7 2 p.m. at the Community Hall, Ballards Walk Lee Chapel Hill



Brian Hussey and Jane Rattu in a scene from Basildon Amateur Theatrical Society's production of "After My Fashion" at Woodlands Girls' School.

attractive problem, and not many of the equally boring characters came to life.

Trouble taken over the costumes and hair styles paid off, and Helen Hawes in particular contrived to be exactly as one would expect Lady Starcross to look. She also gave one of the best performances, though a vocal lacked sufficient variety.

Hopping in at short notice to play a leading role, Producer Ted Marchant did not fit too well into the world of films,

DUTY CHEMISTS

BASILDON David James (Southernhay), Ltd., Southend-on-Sea, Basildon, and G. E. Conduit, 68 High Street, Vange, will be duty chemists for week commencing Monday (April 3rd). They will be open each week-night (except Thursday and Saturday) from 6 to 7 p.m. On Sunday David James, Ltd. will be open from 11 a.m. to 12 noon and on Wednesday from 6 to 7 p.m.

BILLERICAY Nix (Chemists), Ltd., 111, High Street, Billericay, will be duty chemist for week commencing Monday (April 3rd). They will be open from 6 to 7 p.m. every week-night (except Thursday, when they will be open from 7 to 8 p.m.). On Sunday they will be open from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

WICKFORD L. A. Garbett, 23, High Street, Wickford, and M. W. Stubbins, 23, High Street, Wickford, are open alternate evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. also on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. (Name of duty chemist noted on the door of both shops).

New curate

A CURATE has been appointed to Pitsea Parish. He will start work there in May. He is Mr. Charles Chelton, who will be ordained on May 21st and will work with the Rector of Pitsea, Rev. Arthur Harvey. "Officially he'll be an assistant curate," said Mr. Harvey. "It seems I'm the Curate as well as the Rector here!"

Camp sale is off

Essex County Council's plan to buy Laindon Camp, Laindon Hills, has fallen through because the owners, the Defence Ministry, have decided they do not want to sell the site. It is due to be preserved as a public park. The Ministry were originally agreed last January to sell the site, but the new and amended plan of Laindon Hills open space.

SISTERHOOD

The weekly meeting of Billericay Sisterhood was held in the Congregational Church on Thursday. Guest speaker was Mrs. G. P. H. Easter hymns were sung by the choir. Miss Anson read the scripture.

RITZ BILLERICAY 235 ONE DAY Sunday, April 2 WILLIAM REYNOLDS AND DA MARTIN THE THING THAT COULDN'T DIE 6.0 8.30 (X) ARTHUR FRANZ JOANNA MOORE MONSTER ON THE CAMPUS Adult Only 4.45 7.10 (X) Monday, April 3 SIX DAYS NORMAN WISDOM PRESS FOR TIME 5.05 8.12 Mat. Sat. 2.0 (U) GUY STOCKWELL CLU GULAGER AND NOW MIGUEL (U) Last Complete Programme 6.45

RADION LAINDON 3150 ONE DAY Sunday, April 2 HIGGEL PATRICK THE INFORMERS 7.0 8.25 (X) Adult Only Mrs. Corday, Ltd. 8.00 GIRLS ON THE LOOSE 8.15 (X) Monday, April 3 SIX DAYS NORMAN WISDOM PRESS FOR TIME 5.05 8.18 Mat. Sat. 2.0 (U) GUY STOCKWELL CLU GULAGER AND NOW MIGUEL (U) Last Complete Programme 6.45

ABC SOUTHEND Tel 44580 COMMENCED THURSDAY, MARCH 30 FOR SEVEN DAYS Doors Open Weekdays 1.15, Comm. 1.30 Sunday 4.0, Comm. 4.30 ROD TAYLOR CATHERINE SPAAC KARL MALDEN MELVIN DOUGLAS RICHARD ONTE MICHAEL RENNIE MERLE OBERON HOTEL Technicolor Week 1.45 5.15 8.35 Sunday 4.55 8.30 (A) STEPHEN FORSYTH ANN SHERMAN IN A COLT'S SHADOW (U) Eastman Colour Week 3.10 7.0 Sunday 6.50 (U)

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CENTURY PITSEA Vange 2206 APRIL 3 WEEK open 1.15 "BREATHKING ENTERTAINMENT" "IT'S GREAT!" THUNDERBIRDS Technicolor at GO PRODUCED BY SYLVIA ANDERSON - DIRECTED BY DAVID LAZARUS - LIMITED ACTIVITY NAMU THE WHALE 1.15 5.55 8.55 1.15 5.55 8.55 SUNDAY, SON OF SPARTACUS APRIL 2 THE YOUNG AND THE BRAVE

BASILDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL MEET YOUR COUNCILLOR RESIDENTS are invited to MEET THEIR COUNCILLORS AT THE FOLLOWING VENUES from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wickford Community Centre Leisdon Community Centre Bardfield County Primary School Former Council Chamber, Billericay Council Offices, Fedderwick, Basildon FRIDAY, APRIL 7 FRIDAY, APRIL 14 DAVID H. TAYLOR, Town Manager

Thurrock Technical College WOODVIEW, GRAYS, ESSEX The following short courses will commence during the SUMMER TERM FLORAL ART — a course of practical instruction in the arrangement of flowers for the home and table decoration. Commencing Thursday, April 6, at 7 p.m. in Room 205 CAKE DECORATION — a course of practical instruction in cake decoration, including flower making. Commencing Friday, April 7, at 7 p.m. in Room 205. Enrolment for either of these classes may be made at the college. Tuition fees: 15 6 Adults, 8 6 Juveniles. Student membership. There are also a few vacancies in the following classes: CONFECTIONERY, COOKERY, LETS ENTERTAIN, SWEET AND SAVOURY, CARE OF HAIR AND SKIN, DRESSMAKING AND TAILORING. Further details obtainable from the Head of Department of Catering and Domestic Arts.

Cans and scrap metal Crucifix upsets the clergy

"Hideous and grotesque"

A COLLECTION of tin cans and scrap metal welded together, painted black and nailed to a rough wooden crucifix has created a stir in Billericay.

"Hideous and grotesque," said one Minister.

Designed and built by art students at Billericay Secondary School, the crucifix, nine feet tall, was commissioned by Billericay Christian Council as the focal point of an open-air united service at Sun Corner on Good Friday.

Ministers who attended and officiated at the service said they were so embarrassed by the sculpture, however, that they attempted to change the arrangements of the service to give less prominence to the crucifix.

HIDEOUS

Commented the Vicar of Billericay: "I thought the figure was hideous. I would have preferred a plain cross."

"While I agree with emphasising the horribleness of the Crucifixion—and it was obviously meant to shock—I don't think the materials used were sufficiently disguised."

"It would be fair to say, however, that if this somewhat grotesque modern sculpture suggested the horror of the Crucifixion to people who looked at it, I think it might have been of some value."

"Artists and sculptors have, until recent years, tended to depict this scene in a pretty-pretty way out of a sense of reverence, and I am not sure if it is a good thing to gloss over the terrifying aspect of the act."

Rev. James Wilkinson, Minister of the Congregational Church, said: "The sculpture wasn't what any of us had in mind, and I personally do not care for modern art."

"But whatever its effect on the aesthetic outlook of the people it has created a talking point, and this in itself is a good thing."

"The startling nature of the work has made people take notice when they might otherwise have passed by and

Below are some of the congregation at the Good Friday service.

thought nothing about Easter."

Methodist Minister Rev. Bernard Holland was reluctant to criticise the art students' efforts. "They obviously tried to convey the starkness and horror of the situation and the fact that I don't think they succeeded is not really relevant."

"What counts is that they have thought about and become involved with Easter, and I think it was a very good thing that young people should have been commissioned to do this work."

Mr. Eric Robinson, head of the school's art department, who supervised work on the crucifix, stressed that it was entirely the students' work and that he had taken no hand in its design or construction.

He explained that he did not entirely approve of the completed work.

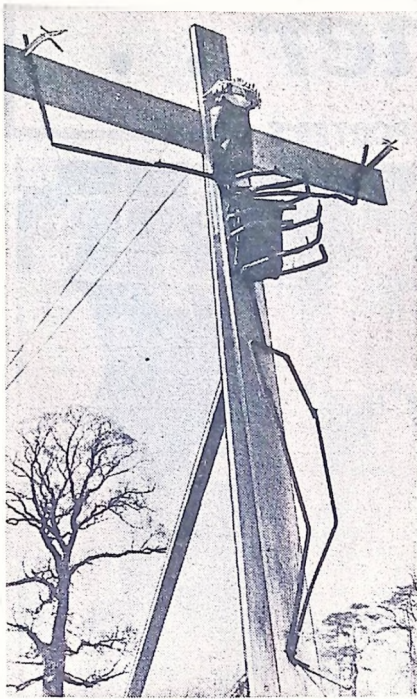
"It is a good and relevant piece of creative art, but I don't think it was dignified enough for the purpose for which it was intended," he said.

UNHAPPY BEHIND L-DRIVER

WICKFORD motorist Henry Sidney Hall blotted his 38-year-old clean driving record on Tuesday when he was fined £7 for speeding on the Arterial Road at Leigh.

Hall, of Nevendon Road, Wickford, drove at 55 miles an hour and was caught in a Police radar speed check set up in the 40 mile limit area.

In a letter he said he was unhappy behind a learner-driver and overtook him.



YOUTH CLUB MEMBER'S DEATH

MISS Susan Tillett, 16-years-old former Secretary of Wyvern Youth Club, was cremated at Corbets Tey, Uppminster, on Wednesday. She died last week after a short illness.

Susan worked in the Treasurer's Department of Basildon Council, where she was a clerk. She was the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Tillett, of Claydon Crescent.

In 1965 she was a founder-member of the Wyvern Club, then called Whitmore Youth Club. "She was very well liked by everyone who met her," said Club Leader Mr. George Wood.

Betting shop plans

PLANS FOR a betting office at 5/7, Market Square, are being opposed by Basildon Council "on the grounds that the location of the premises is not suitable for use as a licensed betting office."

The objection has gone to the Betting and Licensing Committee, who make grants of licences.

DOG KILLED LAMB

HEARING barking in a field where he kept 70 ewes and 35 lambs, Mr. Kenneth Goble, of Snails Hall Farm, Billericay, saw a Dalmation dog worrying one of the ewes.

He chased it off, but found a dead lamb nearby bleeding from wounds.

Billericay Justices were told this on Tuesday when Peter Patis, of Warner Close, Billericay, was summoned for owning a dog which worried sheep.

Traced by Mr. Goble, who followed the dog home, he admitted the offence and also not keeping a dangerous dog under control and was fined £3.

He had since compensated Mr. Goble for the loss of the lamb, the Court heard, and Patis added: "The dog is gone now."

Said Chairman Mrs. Constance Law: "I hope if you ever have another dog you will watch it. Sheep worrying is a great problem, particularly at this time of the year."

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TUESDAY	11.30 to 1.30
WEDNESDAY	11.30 to 1.30
THURSDAY	11.30 to 6.00
FRIDAY	11.30 to 1.30
FRIDAY	1.30 to 10.30
SATURDAY	11.30 to 2.00
SATURDAY	4.30 to 10.30



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I gather . . .

A "STANDARD" REPORTER'S DIARY



They're off to the land of opportunity for all

A DAY OUT FROM ENGLAND TODAY (SATURDAY) ARE THE CORBITT FAMILY FROM MARKHAMS CHASE, LAINDON, WHO LEFT YESTERDAY FROM TILBURY TO EMIGRATE TO NEW ZEALAND.

"Mum," Mrs. Maureen Corbitt (25), is a keen netball player and when she played her last game here a few days previously she was presented with a trophy by her Basildon Checkmates' colleagues. There was also a "goodbye" card signed by them all.

Maureen, her mechanical engineer husband and two children, Mark (2½) and Steven (1), have had their eyes on emigration for many months and finally settled on New Zealand for their "land of opportunity."

Said Maureen: "I think the children will get a much better start in life over there."

He got his "gong"

IT has been a happy Easter time in Malta for Petty Officer George William Haines (33), whose home is at 193, Nether Priors, Basildon.

During divisions at the shore base, H.M.S. Saint Angelo, Commodore M. L. C. Crawford, the Officer Commanding, presented P.O. Haines with his "gong," the long service and good conduct medal for 15 years' loyal and efficient service in the Royal Navy.

George Haines is married and his wife is living out in Malta with him. Mrs. Haines' parents are living in Bournemouth.

P.O. Haines, who has two brothers and a sister, was educated in Basildon and later at Burley Road, Islington, where he spent four years. Afterwards he was employed on clerical work until deciding to join the Navy in November, 1949. George, who arrived in Malta with his wife in September, 1965, is employed with the Fleet Clearance Diving Team at Manoel Island and some of his varied duties include clearance diving, bomb and mine disposal jobs.

He commented: "I joined up because I felt that service life would be a varied and interesting job and I have not been disappointed." He has seen service around

the Mediterranean, Far East and West Indies. George does not go in for sports, but is a keen swimmer and, with his wife, is looking forward to the hot summer months in Malta when they



Petty Officer George Haines, from Basildon, wearing the Long Service and Good Conduct Medals just after the presentation ceremony. Behind him can be seen a heavy destroyer of the U.S. Sixth Fleet now visiting Malta. (Ivor Tilney photo).

will be able to spend a good deal of time swimming and on barbecues around some of the island's beautiful bays. P.O. Haines is expecting to return home from his Malta tour by the end of this year.

A "puff" advert!

A TRACTION engine will puff its way through Billericay High Street on the morning of Saturday, June 3rd. It will be advertising the annual fete of St. Andrew's Hospital League of Friends. And it will be one of many new attractions the Fete Committee are planning for this year. Included in other

new items will be a display of vintage and veteran cars. An A.T.C. band will march through the main street and take part on the fete field at Laindon Road in marching and display work, while there will be all the usual stalls and sideshows. Our aim is to make this annual event bigger and better every year. We have not set a target on how much we want to raise, but all the Committee would be very pleased to beat the all-time record of £1,000 raised a few years ago," said Mr. John Harrison (Committee Chairman).

New Queen's Scout

DISTRICT Commissioner for Scouts Mr. F. Pittock had a busy evening when he visited Basildon Holy Cross Scout Group to make presentations. The most important one was

Mrs. Maureen Corbitt with her Basildon Checkmates colleagues who presented her with a going-away memento before her last match for the team.

to Senior Scout Graham Dossett, who received his Queen's Scout Badge and also his Senior Scout



Graham Dossett, of Holy Cross Senior Scout Troop, who was presented with his Queen's Scout Badge.



For three years Brown Owl in charge of the Wickford Congregational Church Brownie Pack, Mrs. Anne Kilburn (31), of Bruce Grove, Shotgate, has resigned. Mrs. Kilburn has been replaced by a relative newcomer to the area, Mrs. Beryl Humphrey (30), of Swan Lane, Wickford (see picture above). Mrs. Kilburn was a Tawny Owl in Wickford for two years before she was "promoted" and before that she was a Brown Owl at Goodmayes for five years. Mrs. Kilburn, who is also District Guide Secretary for Wickford, told the Standard: "I was very sorry to have to resign as Brown Owl, but things were getting to the stage where I could not cope with both jobs. I will, however, still be able to maintain contact with the Brownie Pack through my work as District Guide Secretary, and I can always give them a helping hand now and again if they need me." A midday assistant at Canewdon Gardens School, Mrs. Humphrey moved to Wickford with her husband, Brian, a bank clerk, 14 months ago. Married for ten years, Brian also has two young children. She was a Brownie and a Guide as a girl, and she became a Tawny Owl for a short while in Walthamstow seven years ago.

Instructor's Badge. Graham, who is 16, has been a Scout for five years and is at present taking his "O" levels at Fryerns Grammar-Technical School. He hopes very much to be accepted as a Police Cadet and has an interview for this shortly. He has always been with Holy Cross Scout Group and is their first Queen's Scout. Graham is one of the Scouts chosen to represent Basildon at the jamboree next year in Idaho.

Mr. Pittock also presented a warrant to Mrs. Pauline Steed, the Group's new Cub-Scout Leader, and Scout Ian Steed received his Sportsman's Badge. A presentation of a gift from her Clubs went to Miss Joanne Collins, former Akola of the Cub Pack for two years.

Vandalism

Damage was caused by vandals who broke into Laindon Park Primary School on Tuesday night. Over the Easter holiday two other schools, Nicholas Secondary and Springfield Junior, were broken into but nothing was stolen.

Could make about £100

THE fashion show and midnight matinee staged by Billericay Rotary Club and Billericay Round Table at the Ritz Cinema on Wednesday week could raise £100 for charity. The final result will not be known for some weeks, but this was the "optimistic" estimate of Rotary Club President Rot. Les Kersey.

"About 170 people attended, which was fewer than we had hoped, as we had 150 tickets out, but there could be as many as 70 more tickets which were not used for," he told the Standard.

"At 10s. a ticket, with expenses of only £20 or so, this could leave us with a £100 profit."

If this is the case then the two organisations will share 75s, as 25 per cent of the proceeds have been promised to the Cinema Trades Supplement Fund.

Hoping to win a new lease of life with a chance of name, Basildon Old Time Dancing Club went out of existence this week and became instead Basildon Modern Sequence. "I think the name has been putting people off," said Fryerns Community Centre warden Mr. Fred Newbury. The Club voted in the chance at their annual meeting and are looking forward to signing on some new members. They have met at the Community Centre since 1964, when they outgrew their old headquarters at St. Andrew's Church. But recently membership has fallen off. Membership is about 45 and the attendance about 30. Mr. O. M. Stanley, of Nichol Road, Laindon, is Club Chairman and Mr. T. Connell is Secretary. The Club meet each Thursday at 8 p.m. with Mr. H. G. Johnson from Tilbury as their instructor. He has been with the class for several years. Apart from keeping up with the latest developments in ballroom dancing, the members visit other clubs in South-East Essex.



Stole from Ford stores

GOING TO the stores at Ford, where he was working, Alan Willis showed an identity card in the name of Skinner and on it obtained clothes worth £25. 5d. on 22 terms, said Mr. P. E. Watkins, prosecuting, at Billericay on Tuesday.

Willis, of Yardley, Basildon, pleaded guilty to false pretences and stealing property worth £13 while employed by Ford.

He was fined £35 with £1 costs and ordered to pay £2 a week with three months' imprisonment in default.

Mr. Watkins said that after Willis had received the clothing it was found that Skinner had left the firm about 12 months before.

When Willis was finally traced he admitted having the clothing and said he had been worrying about it "as I felt I wouldn't get away with it, but at the time I thought I would."

He said he had found the identity card amongst some rubbish in the factory.

At his home further property belonging to the firm was found, said Mr. Watkins.

"I am very sorry I have done this. At the time I was in financial difficulty," Willis told the Court.

Parking delay angers the tradesmen

A SUGGESTION aimed at increasing space available to shoppers in Wickford car parks has been rejected by Basildon Council's Works Committee to the Study Group which the Council are to set up to investigate car parking problems throughout the district.

And, as the Study Group will not be formed until after the Council's annual meeting in May, members of Wickford Chamber of Trade, who made the suggestion, are angry about it.

They want the Council to close at least one of the town's car parks at certain times in the morning to keep out rail commuters, who, they say, clog the parks with their vehicles all day.

The Council, judging from the Works Committee's decision to "note" the suggestion, seem "to be kicking it around a bit" in the eyes of Chamber President Mr. Donald Hall.

"This is not a new suggestion," he pointed out. "We put it to the Council last year, if not the year before, and at that time they said they had no power to do it,

but would seek the power. Now they have left it in abeyance again."

He added that the Chamber would have liked to see the Council take some action before May.

"As people are not supposed to leave their vehicles in the parks for longer than eight hours, the commuter parkers are breaking the law and they should be stopped," he said.

"It is particularly annoying as British Rail have provided a car park now and it not being fully used."

Footpath petition

RAMSDEN Crays Residents' Association have petitioned Basildon Council for a footpath in London Road between Crays Hill County Primary School and Oak Avenue.

Proposals were in hand for certain improvements, the Engineer and Surveyor (Mr. S. A. Wadsworth) told the Works Committee.

He said that a section from Oak Avenue to Weston's Stores had been included in the estimates for county roads for 1967-68.

The remainder had been accepted in principle by the Ministry of Transport and the County Council, and a scheme would be prepared and the necessary land acquired.

CONCRETE WAS SOLD PRIVATELY

MAKING DELIVERIES of concrete from one firm to another, Peter Hayward, of Southend Road, Wickford, sold some privately to a man working for the firm to which it was being delivered.

At a Rochford Court on Wednesday, Hayward (29) pleaded guilty to stealing six cubic yards of concrete worth £25 8s. 6d., and David Alan Ellis (25), of London Road, Rayleigh, pleaded guilty to receiving it knowing it was stolen.

In a statement Hayward said Ellis gave him £5 10s. for the concrete and Ellis in his statement said he wanted the concrete urgently to make up paths round the caravan in which he lived.

Both men were fined £40.

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Neighbours save burning house

PROMPT ACTION by neighbours saved 115, Great Gregorie-Basildon home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cummins—from extensive fire damage on Saturday night.

A woman walking by saw smoke pour from a bedroom window. She knocked on the door, but the tenants had gone out for the evening.

So she knocked-up Mr. Robert Wheatley next door. His father-in-law, Mr. George Spicer, phoned the fire brigade while he inspected the house.

"The smoke was so thick that I could not get in," 28-years-old Mr. Wheatley said. "It was filling the house."

"My main concern was for my two young children—you don't know how quickly these things spread."

Firemen broke in and found the fire had started with an electrical fault in the refrigerator.

This was in a storage room at the back of the house. Because the door to this room was shut, the flames were held back.

The firemen arrived before the door burned down and damage was confined to this room.

Policeman marries licensee's daughter

POLICE CONSTABLE John Albert Gaut, stationed at Laindon Traffic Department, whose parents live at Waterhouse Moor, Harlow, was married on Tuesday at the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Billericay, to Miss Pauline Mary Savigear, daughter of Mrs. Elsie Savigear, licensee of The Chequers Inn, High Street, Billericay, and the late Mr. Bernard Savigear.

Father Geoffrey Pye, parish priest, conducted the service, and the bride was given away by Mr. Ernest Chapman, her brother-in-law. She wore a white satin dress with quipure lace bodice and satin train. She had a long lace veil with lilies of the valley and rose head-dress. Her bouquet was of mixed freesias.

A colleague of the bridegroom, P.C. Derek Foster, stationed at Brentwood, was best man.

Her bridesmaids, Misses Frances Savigear (sister), Gillian Shipton (friend) and Karen Phillips (friend), wore full-length dresses of turquoise wild silk in the Empire line. They had white doral head-dresses and carried posies of freesias.



(Photo by John Kimber)

ATTENDING EVANGELICAL CONGRESS

TWO of the thousand delegates who will attend the 1967 National Evangelical Anglican Congress will be from Basildon. They are Mrs. Arthur Harvey, Rector of Pitsea, and Rev. Keith Wood, of St. Andrew's, Basildon.

The Congress is at Keele University, Staffs, and will be opened by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

"We want to policy for the Law Church for the next 25 years," explained Mr. Harvey.

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30/11 to 40/11

Three fittings in Brown Smooth Side, Boys 9 to 5 1/2. Also infants sizes.

SUNITA
27/11 to 37/11

Three fittings in Brown, Red or White Smooth Side. Also Blue. Girls 8 to 5 1/2.

SUNBAR
27/11 to 37/11

Choice of fittings in Brown, Red or White Smooth Side Girls 8 to 5 1/2.

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MARKET SQUARE BASILDON

FACTORY GOSSIP



Basildon Community Centre from Wednesday to Saturday, April 14th and 15th. It tells the story of the regulars in a small pub and how they join forces to investigate a murder.

Warehouse Manager Fred Tokelley plays their leader, Jon Harris, and one of the 'Players' earliest members - Moley Wright - takes the part of Ivy, the barmaid.

"We've been very lucky with scenery," said Mr. Trayner. "We have been lent all the fittings - genuine bar furniture - by Walsby's." Mr. Trayner himself has been actively interested in drama for the past 15 years. He lives in Gaynesford and has worked for the firm for ten years.

"If this production goes well I hope we'll put on a revue kind of show later in the year," he said. "I think we could do well in Basildon - so far it has no normal theatre of any kind."

Motor Show zoomed

TWICE as many people went to Carreras Motor Club's second motor show as last to the one they ran last October. "In spite of having 400 left-over ice-creams we count it as a very successful day," said organiser Mr. Brian Beauland.

HERE'S GOOD QUALITY!



Basildon Council Chairman Coun. Baron Burn and his wife take a close look at tobacco leaves on their visit to Carreras. Production Manager Mr. L. E. Breffitt looks on.

Getting on for 2,000 people saw the used car show, at which South Essex Motors, Holmes and Smith and SMAC joined forces to show their best used cars in stock.

An equally big attraction was the two-session fashion parade put on by Grays Co-operative.

Celebrating their centenary, the Co-operative Society marked the occasion by adding a century-old wedding dress to their parade of women's, children's and men's fashions. The models - all local - were mainly from the store - Shirley and Glenda Jennings, Linda Williams, Patricia Lane, Janet Stephen, Kathy Shead, Lynnette and Graham Pott and Tony Bradshaw. Commerce was Mr. W. Verdoes. Police operating a visagometer checked on 12 motorists' eyesight and advised 23 to visit their opticians. "We learned quite a few things from the day," said Mr. Beauland. "In October we'll be running our second mini-motor show to coincide with Earls Court. We'll certainly invest in a play area with a qualified nurse for the children. And we have several other ideas to make it bigger and better." Mr. A. Williams, of Carreras quality control, won the prize turkey.

A HECTIC WEEK FOR HIM!

A FACTORY GOSSIP team called at Norton Buckets, Ltd., of Ramsden Heath, last Thursday in time to wish Mr. Bruce Norton, son of the managing director, many happy returns on his 21st birthday.

And as if a 21st birthday were not enough in one week, Mr. Norton was also married on Saturday to Miss Glensy Pictou, of Upminster.

"This is quite a hectic week one way and another," he told the "Standard," "but that's the way I like it. In fact, I planned it this way in advance. There are not many people who can say they were 21 and got married in the same week.

"It does not feel any different being 21, but I am looking forward to getting married. I think marriage is a fine institution and I feel that far too many people run it down."

A member of Wickford Round Table, Mr. Norton is at present on a fortnight's honeymoon with his wife in the South of France.

He joined his father's firm after leaving St. John's School, Billericay, about three years ago, and now he is responsible for buying most of the materials the company needs to manufacture their internationally-known mechanically-operated buckets. He is seen above in the jaws of a giant excavator bucket his firm have made.

His only other interest, outside his work, is motoring. He is an Advanced Motorist and a member of Billericay Motor Club, and he often drives his Vauxhall Viva in local rallies.

Factory move out

NULFLOOR—who occupy the oldest New Town factory in Basildon—move out this weekend. They have amalgamated with another firm and are joining them at Portismouth. Most of the staff have been offered jobs there.

Marconi are taking over the factory. "We open at Portsmouth on

Monday as the Nulfloor division of a new company called Flexible Abrasives Ltd., part of the English Abrasives Corporation," said a Nulfloor spokesman. "Our Managing Director, Mr. Tobias, will be a Director of the new company." Nulfloor came to Basildon from Hackney 14 years ago. Theirs was the first New Town factory on which building work began.

Staff has been run down from 50 to 30, about ten of whom are going to Portis-



Mr. B. Tobias of Nulfloor.

mouth. "We are trying to find the remainder jobs in Basildon," said the spokesman.

Makers of floor sanding machines, dressing and sharpening, Nulfloor will move straight into a new factory extension. They have trade customers all over Britain and have been recently concentrating on do-it-yourself hire centres.

Works Manager Mr. H. W. Folkard is leaving the company.

A Marconi Press officer told a reporter: "We will be moving our cloud stream television division into the old Nulfloor factory. This will bring it all together under one roof at Basildon."

They expect to move in during April.

Their first production

ALL set to stage their first production since the factory moved to Basildon are the Yardley Players.

About seven years old, the Players have not put on a show for two years, but—in London—were regularly producing two shows a year. "We had the use of the Little Theatre at Ilford," said Producer Mr. Tom Trayner. "We built up quite a following there."

In Basildon they believe they have a fair chance of repeating their success. "We have managed to find a cast of 17 for our first production here," said Mr. Trayner. "They are a fair cross-section of the factory and they include several experienced actors."

The comedy-thriller "Saloon Bar" will be staged at

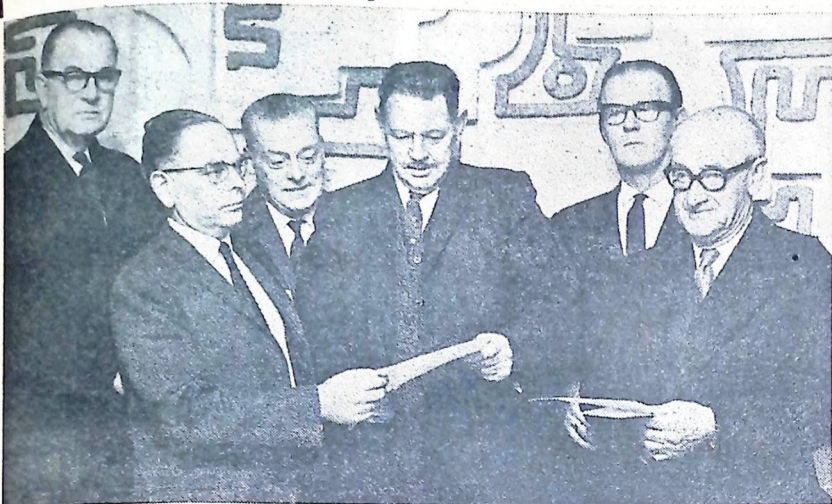


At Carreras, Ltd., motor show on Easter Monday the radio-controlled car proved very popular.



Rehearsing for their first Basildon production, the Yardley Players.

★ After County Council seats ★



Will Pitsea provide toughest contest?

WITH LITTLE chance of a change in the controlling party, excitement over the County Council elections on April 15th is not going to create much of a fever. Only the fact that the election is on a Saturday instead of a Thursday is likely to take the poll above last year's record low of 20.6 per cent in Basildon urban district.

It is two years since the last County election, a year less than usual because of the London boundary alterations. Of the 76 County seats the Conservatives at present hold 47. In addition, there are 25 aldermen.

The eight local seats are equally divided between Tories and Socialists, with the Conservatives holding Billericay, Langdon Hills, Ramsden and Wickford, and Labour in charge at Central Fryerns, Laindon and Pitsea. There has been little material change in electorate in these divisions in 1965.

Most marginal of the seats is Pitsea, where sitting Labour County Councillor John Elderton seeks re-election, and hopes to increase his 746-620 lead. Langdon Hills and Laindon provide the only other possible doubts.

Nominations closed at noon on Thursday, showing a straight fight in all wards except Ramsden, where a Liberal complicates the issue. Sitting councillors seek re-election in six wards, but both parties present newcomers at Billericay and Langdon Hills.

Candidates are as follows (with asterisk showing sitting councillor):

- BILLERICAY:** Mr. Robert Chaplin (builder), Borsley Cross Fryerns (sh.), Mr. Edward Hobbs (retired bank executive), Stock Road, Billericay (Cons.).
- CENTRAL:** Mr. Thomas Featherstone (printing designer), Church Road, Vaage (Cons.); Mr. Robert Payne (retired), Chantry Way, Billericay (Lab.).
- FYERN'S:** Mr. Joseph Buck, Ivy (retiree), Mid J. Colne, Lane (sh. proprietor), Wrynsbury Drive, Laindon (Cons.).
- LAINDON:** Mr. Desmond Skane (electronic wireman), Little Lullamby, Basildon (Cons.); Mrs. Violet Palmer (housewife), Great Knightleys, Basildon (Lab.).
- LANGDON HILLS:** Mr. C. O. Lynch (medical technician), Jermyns, Basildon (Lab.); Mr. C. W. Uggatt (Economist), Jermyns Way, Kingswood (Cons.).
- PITSEA:** Mr. John Elderton (civil servant), Long Ridgway (Lab.); Mr. Howard Pemberton (retired civil servant), High

Road, Pitsea (Cons.).

RAMSDEN: Mr. D. G. Grutehfield (insurance clerk), South Ridge, Billericay (Lib.); Mr. Ken Tyson (design engineer), Friars Close, Basildon (Lab.); Mr. William Redbond (retired local government officer), Nook Hill Close, Billericay (Cons.).

WICKFORD: Mr. Ernest Gibson (G.P.O. technician), Knightbridge Walk, Billericay (Lab.); Mr. Fred Hodgson (building contractor's company director), White Lodge, Battlesbridge (Cons.).

Basildon Council point out that there are many changes in polling stations and district boundaries since the last election. Please note the polling station shown on any election address you receive, they advise.

Widow (62) in Court

"I JUST don't know what made me do it. It was an impulse. I have never done it before," 62-years-old widow Hilda Vansten, of Rectory Road, Basildon, told Marlborough Street Court last week when she admitted stealing a cardigan worth 24s. from Messrs. C. and A. Modes' store in Oxford Street.

Vansten, of previous good character, had an income made up of her retirement pension and 30s. per week which she earned by playing the piano at a dancing school, the Court heard. She was fined £5.

Easter accidents

ONLY EIGHT accidents were reported to the Police in the Basildon Division over the Easter holiday. Three people were seriously injured and six slightly injured.

American visitors

RAMSDEN Health Women's Institute opened their doors to husbands and friends when they held their second annual open evening.

It took the form of a chess-and-wine social at which the Institute entertained Lieut. Col. Roy Crane from the U.S.A.F. Base at Wethersfield and members of the Base Officers' Wives' Club.

Mrs. Jones, the wife of a U.S.A.F. commanding officer, was the speaker, describing life in America as she saw it, and recounting many amusing incidents which arose from the language difficulties she encountered when she went there as a G.I. bride 20 years ago.

Afterwards members' questions were answered by Lieut. Col. Crane, Dr. and Mrs. Smith and Mrs. F. Otto.

A competition to find who could tear the longest strip from a sheet of newspaper was won by Dr. Smith, and his wife also won a prize. The meeting closed with an invitation to members to lunch at the Officers' Wives' Club and tour the base in the near future.

CARRYING a cross, 350 people marched through Basildon Town Centre on Good Friday, Roman Catholics and Anglicans joined in the procession.

It was led by Father Kenneth Green and the Rural Dean, Rev. Arthur Dunlop. Starting at Holy Trinity, the cross was taken via Town Square to the Anglican church of St. Martin's.

Tory candidates for County Council, Messrs. E. Hobbs, F. Hodgson, D. Savage, W. Redbond, T. Featherstone and H. Pembroke, handed in their nomination papers on Wednesday.

M.O.W. help!

IN GREAT need of drivers for their Meals-on-Wheels service van are Wickford W.R.V.S. and this week they issued a call for assistance.

Meals organiser Mrs. Hilda Joslin, of London Road, Wickford, told the "Standard" that she had only two drivers. "We could do with double that number or more. We like them to do one spell every fortnight. Then no one is tied," she said.

LEADER SHORTAGE HITS THE CHILDREN

WAYS ST. MARTIN'S Church, Town Centre, can look outward and help the community were outlined to the annual church meeting on Tuesday by Rural Dean Rev. Arthur Dunlop.

"The church has to serve the New Town and not just its members," he stressed. "It cannot be inward looking."

One important scheme recently started — and based on St. Martin's — is the Marriage Guidance Council. Also a branch of the Samaritans hope to set up a Basildon bureau in the near future. This will be aimed at reducing the suicide rate.

Mr. Dunlop also told the 40-strong meeting about a help-your-neighbour idea.

But the meeting also heard about a problem which the many church groups are "thriving" the children's organisation have been hit by a setback. There is an acute shortage of adult leaders.

Church Secretary Mr. David Williams said many children were on a waiting list. Until more adult help comes they will not be able to join the uniformed youth groups.

Officers elected were: Mr. Frank Stokes and Mr. Leonard Simpson (Church Wardens); Mr. F. Blakemore (Deputy Warden); Mr. Green (Treasurer), and Mr. D. Williams (Secretary). Mr. Dunlop, the Rector, is always Chairman of the Committee.

TOP TOWN AGAIN

THE TOP TOWN Tournament originally sponsored by Basildon Council, then dropped, is on again. And Billericay Carnival Association have taken the initiative and aim to see that it goes ahead.

The Association Chairman, Mr. Dick Ashton, told his Executive Committee at their March meeting that a meeting had been arranged between Billericay, Wickford and Basildon Carnival Associations. Basildon had not been represented, but those present had agreed to form a committee of three members from each Association.

Museum Governors

Mrs. C. Gunter, J.P., and Miss M. M. Corcoran have been appointed as new members on the governing body of the Cister Museum, Billericay.

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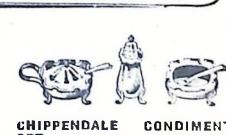
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PLAYGROUND DANGER UPSETS PARENTS

About nine months ago a patch of tarmac began breaking up in Pitsea Infants' School playground. It has still not been repaired, in spite of repeated demands to Basildon Council, and now extends over a six square area, 6in. deep in some places.

It is notorious that this is taking so long to repair, Chairman of Managers, Rev. Arthur Harvey, who himself has two children at Pitsea School, told a reporter: "The parents are rightly concerned about this potential danger. It is more by luck than judgment that there has not been an accident."

"This has come up at several managers' meetings and we have asked for the small repair to be done. I have personally contacted the Education Office about it."

"All that has been done is that a barrow-load of loose tarmac was thrown into the hole. There has been no attempt to do the job properly in spite of the fact that other holes in the driveway leading up to the playground have been notched. It looks like some kind of red tane barrier."

PUB CRAWL WITH A DIFFERENCE!



THE FORTUNE OF WAR TEAM WORE AUTHENTIC SOMERSET SMOCKS.

Soccer players helped in victory of the Crown!

the Laindon Hotel, the Crown team had overtaken them, downed the necessary pints of ale and streaked for home.

For George Edwards, the Crown's landlord, this was his first publicans' race.

He is the President of the Priors Athletic Football

They're off! The start of the race, at the Prince of Wales.

Club, so he had little difficulty in finding a team of "pushers and pullers"—the just picked the hottest young men in the Club. Their athletic training obviously stood them in excellent stead—of the four teams they were the least obviously fatigued at the finishing line.

It was the first time of entry

also for the Fortune of War, landlord, Mike Stewart. Mr. Stewart at 10 stone was the lightest of the four contestants, but despite this his chariot shed a wheel along the route, and the entire team had to walk to the Laindon Hotel, where they managed to borrow another wheel-chair.

The Fortune of War had imported some genuine smocks and gaiters from the cider county, Somerset, for the race. The costume of the Laindon Hotel's landlord, Bob Richards, who weighs 14 stone, was the traditional "Toby Jug" complete with tricorne hat, emerald green frock coat and crimson breeches, to say nothing of the elegant white stockings that displayed his well-turned calves to perfection!

The Licensee's Cup was presented to Mr. Edwards, surely the largest Willie Winkie ever, in long white nightgown and cap, by Basildon's Head Postmaster, Mr. R. C. Read, who afterwards presented tankards to his team. The pulling teams were: Fortune of War—J. and O. Donovan, B. Young and R. Stone; Prince of Wales—R. Watson, L. Onea, R. Minns and T. Beatty; Crown—B. Howe, S. Godfrey, T. Collings and T. Higgs, and Laindon Hotel—D. Higgs, H. Roe, G. Taylor and R. Darke.

BREATHLESS AND streaming with perspiration, despite the bitter winds, 16 good men and true panted up the steep gradient of Crown Hill, Langdon Hills, on Easter Monday towing and pushing four hefty local landlords in wheelchairs, writes LIZ WALL. They were cheered on to see hemmed it in so victoriously by a highhearted crowd of holidaymakers, and the loud-whoose view of the annual publicans' race was better than ever this year, since the road at the Crown has been widened and split into a dual carriageway. The race, which commenced at the Prince of Wales, got off to a confused start. It should

have been preceded by a Police car—but the sight-seeers hemmed it in so thoroughly that it was unable to proceed, and the loud-speaker appeals from the Police sergeant fell on deaf ears! At the first port of call, the Fortune of War, the 17st. landlord of the Prince of Wales, resplendent in mini-skirt and scarlet tights, was leading, but by the time they reached



After the presentation of the trophies—the victorious Crown Hotel team with Head Postmaster Mr. R. C. Read, who presented the prizes. Below: At the Laindon Hotel a group of charming ladies in Easter bonnets were waiting to pull the pints for the contestants.



The Laindon Hotel team: Mr. B. Richards' Toby Jug costume has just returned from Italy.



Part of the large crowd who watched the finish at the Crown Hotel, Langdon Hills.



Children entertain the ladies



Members of the "Ladies' Get-together" Club seen at Luncies Road Scout Hall on Tuesday when they were entertained by the Popular School of Dancing.

People flocked to Easter services

CHURCHES THROUGHOUT Billericay and Wickford were packed to capacity at practically all services during Easter week.

In some cases congregations overflowed into the aisles and churchyards, and it is probable that more people attended services this year than ever. At Billericay Roman Catholic Church Father Geoffrey Pyle reported his best-ever attended Vigil Mass, and English was used in the Liturgy for the first time.

Communicant numbers at Billericay Parish Church were slightly down on last year's totals, however, and the Vicar, Rev. David Greaves, thought this was probably due to the fact that "more people seem to be going on holiday at Easter these days." But, he said, all his other services were extremely well attended.

Billericay Baptist Minister Rev. P. S. Bragg exclaimed that it had been "a splendid Easter." He said he was doubly pleased because a gift day during the week had raised £119 4s. for the Church Building Fund.

Rev. Bernard Holland, Minister of Billericay Methodist Church, also told of capacity congregations and crowded pews.

At Wickford, the Rector, Rev. Frederick France, said that both he and his Assistant Parish Curate, Rev. Peter Goldthorpe, were very pleased at the turnout.

"Both St. Catherine's and St. Andrew's were packed out at nearly every service," he said.

At the Family Festival service at Wickford Congregational Church children brought over 100 gifts of eggs and flowers, which were later distributed to the town's old people.

The morning service also included an Easter play written and produced by Mrs. Kathleen Hurvey, of Athelstan Gardens. Concluded Wickford Roman Catholic Minister Father Bernard Collins: "The church was brimming at every service. It must have been a record Easter."

Terrific

A RECORD Easter in the New Town churches. This was the picture all over Basildon on Sunday as crowds converged on the churches. "Terrific," was the word

Blamed her bronchitis for her shoplifting

A 43-YEARS-OLD Wickford housewife, who admitted stealing articles worth £1 4s. 6d. from the town's Fine Fare store, blamed an attack of bronchitis for the offence at Billericay on Tuesday.

"It left me very depressed and I just did not know what I was doing," said Francis Kingham, of Alma Close, who also asked for two similar offences to be taken into consideration.

Mr. J. Chipperfield, prosecuting, said she was seen placing a tin of beef in a holdall and she left without paying for it. Other articles in the charge were subsequently found in the holdall.

He added that she had £5 8s. 8d. in her possession at the time. Kingham was fined £10.

Stole £120 ingots he made in tea breaks

A MAN who told the Police he had made tin ingots at work by scooping the metal into a rusty meat tin while his work-mates were at tea break appeared at Billericay on Tuesday and pleaded guilty to stealing tin worth £120 belonging to Spong and Co., Ltd., at Basildon.

He was James Phillips, of The Greenstead, Basildon, a man of previously good character, and he was conditionally discharged for 12 months.

The tin ingots were found in his car after he was stopped when leaving a scrap metal dealers in the Metropolitan area. He admitted he had made them at work, said Mr. P. K. Watkins, prosecuting.

Phillips said he needed some extra money as he was in debt. "I realise I have been foolish and I am sorry it has happened," he added.

Rural Dean Rev. Arthur Dunlop said: "Attendances were better than ever before at our three churches. It is the best Easter we have ever had." Mr. Dunlop's three churches cover most Anglicans living in Laindon and the west part of Basildon. St. Nicholas, on the hill above Lee Chapel North—was full-up. St. Martin's, Town Centre, was also full. Holy Cross at Fryerns reported 60 people at its main morning service.

The scene was the same at Pitsa. Rector Rev. Arthur Harvey commented: "It is a very good Easter. We were up by 50 per cent on last year in the number of communicants—150."

"Very good indeed," said Rev. Eric Ford, Rector of Bowers Gifford. "More than last year." And the Methodists were cheerful too. Said Rev. William Holden, Minister of Trinity at Vange: "We had very good numbers. We don't count heads, but the church was full."

As ever, it was the Roman Catholics who provided mammoth figures. In the Town Centre a total of 1,000 went to Holy Trinity on Easter day. Father Kenneth Green told a reporter there were over 300 at each of the three services—the Midnight Vigil, Mass and Chanted Mass.

RUGMAKING TALK Lampshade and rugmaking were demonstrated and talked about by Mrs. Wyatt, of Hutton, at Billericay British Legion Women's Section meeting on Tuesday week in the Rose Hall. She was thanked by Mrs. Thorne. Mrs. Cornwell presided and it was stated that 14 members would be attending the Eastern Area social at Great Yarmouth in May. Mrs. Bartlett was appointed delegate to the Group "D" meeting at Stock. The hostesses were Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Bonham.

AUGUST CAMP The Scout Troop attached to Wickford Congregational Church will have their summer camp at Danbury in August.



Wickford Winemakers' Circle held a party at the Wickford Community Centre on Thursday week. Among the guests were Mrs. P. J. Farmer, from Thorpe Bay, and Mrs. R. E. Dadds, from Prittlewell, both members of the Circle, showing the trophies they won at the recently-held Bournemouth Food and Wine Competition.

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3 RADFORD WAY BILLERICAY

CHILDREN'S PAGE

KAREN WON A SAFETY POSTER PRIZE



THIS PRETTY LITTLE GIRL IS KAREN BUTLER. SHE LIVES IN WHITMORE WAY, BASILDON, AND ATTENDS SPRINGFIELD INFANTS' SCHOOL.

A few months ago, while she was still six (she is now seven), she entered the poster painting competition which was run by the Essex Road Safety Organisation. Much to her surprise and delight she was awarded the under-eight award, and on Tuesday morning Coun. Lyons, of the Basildon Council Road Safety Committee, and Mr. Owen Davies, whom you all know, I am sure, went along to the school to present her prize.

Coun. Lyons congratulated all the children who entered the competition, and hoped that they all thought as much now about road safety as they did when they were making their posters. Karen's prize was some savings stamps on a very

pretty card, which she will be able to save until she has thought what she wants to buy with them. Perhaps she will buy a new paint box and make some more posters? Or maybe she will save the money in her Post Office book.

Karen's prize was some savings stamps on a very

AUNTIE LIZ.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Many happy returns of the day to the following Happy Pals:—

Doreen Town, Somerset Gardens, Pitsea, 8 on March 31st; Kerion Passmore, The Gore, Basildon, 6; Michael Lucy, The Post Office, Dry Street, Langdon Hills, 6, and Lee Drage, of Little Lullaway, Basildon, 2, all on April 1st (but I'm sure none of you were April fools!); Susan Williams, of Tinklerside, Basildon, 8, on April 2nd; Mark Drage, of Little Lullaway, Basildon, 4, on the 3rd; Barry Davis, of Mistley Path, Basildon, 9, on the 4th; and Dawn O'Loughlin, of Markham's Chase, Basildon, 12, on the 5th.

A very happy birthday to you all.

AUNTIE LIZ.

Thank you!

I HAD A letter today from one of our Happy Pals who signs herself "Leslie." I think this must be Leslie Morsley, of Falstones, Basildon, and, although she spells her name the boys' way, she is a girl all right — I met her when she and her friends went carol-singing last Christmas!

She tells me she was very lucky with her birthday presents, which included a lovely transistor radio from her parents and a pair of red velvet and gold slippers.

Leslie writes a beautiful clear hand and has decorated her letter with little red flowers. Even the envelope had a carefully drawn flower on its flap.

Thank you, Leslie — I did enjoy hearing from you, and I am glad you had such a nice birthday.

Love from AUNTIE LIZ.

Secret message

VWJ ZIG GIICBFA
VIWTWVE PI PNJ
FJWP PJWD ? B PNBFC
BPFA IJ IM PNJ ZJUB

Help the Nursery Knight to fight litter-louts



HELLO, HAPPY PALS,

Easter is now behind us, but you still have a few days of your Easter holidays left, haven't you? Days to fill more or less as you please, with games, and fun, and meeting friends.

I'd like to introduce you to a new friend, whom you will be seeing on posters and transfers on litter-bins and rubbish-baskets all over the country. No doubt when you go back to school you will be hearing about him there, too.

He has been dreamed up by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and they call him A very well-known poster artist has drawn him, astride a rocking horse, picking up pieces of litter on his lance. Of course, this is not the reason the knights of old had lances — they used to carry them as part of their armour, and they were used in battle.

Now, the Nursery Knight is leading a special "tilt," or charge, against the litter scatterers in the country.

It's so very easy to throw away chocolate wrappers, lolly sticks and any other old rubbish we don't want but there is a proper place for it, and that is a rubbish bin. It looks terrible, thrown about all over the place, don't you think? Besides, it can be dangerous.

It doesn't seem so at the time — but that

lemonade bottle that you dropped and smashed has splintered into a dozen sharp-edged pieces, and any one of those could cut someone else's foot. It could be yours. The curved surface could act as a burning glass, refocusing the rays of the sun till it starts a grass fire. It might set alight a farmer's hayrick, worth far more pocket money than you or I are likely to have in one go.

A piece of paper in itself is an innocent thing — but I have had the misfortune to tread on a wet piece and skid and fall. Now I freely admit that I have always been notorious for falling over, or into, or off, or through, anything within range; but I do assure you that it hurts when you land! And I know that many of our old folk find it equally easy to slip on a wet sur-

face, and perhaps break a bone in doing so.

I'm sure all my kind-hearted Happy Pals would hate to think they had caused an accident to anyone by throwing their rubbish where it could be dangerous. I would hate to think that I, myself, had done such a thing.

So shall we all make a real effort to put our litter in a safe place — like the dustbin, or a rubbish basket, and not leave it lying about?

Especially could we try not to throw bits and pieces into ornamental ponds, like the one in the Town Square?

The poor council men seem to do nothing else but clean out the pool, and disentangle all sorts of old junk from the filter — and no sooner have they finished but there is yet ANOTHER sweet paper or cigarette carton floating on the surface!

Let's all help the Nursery Knight and tilt against the litter louts!

Love from AUNTIE LIZ.

DUMBELLE ...

by Bernard Richman



Cars and television instruments of the devil?

WHEN VICAR FEELS LIKE CURSING THEM!

THERE ARE times when the Vicar of Billericay, Rev. David Greaves, feels like cursing all cars and television sets as "the instruments of the devil" his parishioners heard at their annual meeting at the Archer Hall on Thursday.

For Mr. Greaves often believes that these, more than anything else, keep people away from special services.

"Then I realise that one cannot really blame things of all," he added, "for cars can be left in the garage or better still, loaded with neighbours and driven to church, and television sets can be switched off."

"Perhaps what we really need is a bit more Catholic discipline," he said.

He was referring to the "hair banding" of parishioners who attended special services at the Parish Church over Easter compared with the hundreds of people who poured into the nearby Roman Catholic Church.

The Vicar revealed that he was hurt by this contrast.

Another grave disappointment, he went on, was that, despite repeated offers on his behalf, tree will offerings at the Parish Church had fallen, while at Christ Church there had been an increase of almost 100 per cent.

"I am sorry to sound a bit hot under the collar about this, but I am," he said, "I feel that we have forfeited by default a potential year's income and I can only hope that this year will see something done about it."

The Vicar's report was not all gloom, however.

The year had been good in parts, but bad in others, he said.

There had been some signs of real spiritual growth and development, and an illustration of this was an increase, though slight, of missionary interests. He was also delighted with the growing ecumenical spirit in the town which found expression in the work of Billericay and the financial state of the parish.

While still demanding every effort, it was very much better than he had expected a year ago and he particularly commended the members of the church on their splendid achievement in their first full year in their new building.

"In many cases where a daughter church is built the parish church is to accept that it will be necessary to subsidise it for five years," he said.

"In our parish this has not been necessary as they have paid their way and also been able to transfer a substantial sum from their Building Fund to their Building Fund."

Christ Church Treasurer Mr. Colin Gosham revealed a balance of £11,115, with £200 transferred to the Building Fund, in five years and had been paid into the fund and this left only £2,300.

The Parochial Council have disclosed a credit of £246 8s. and the Church House Account a credit of £297.

Profit on the magazine was £166 and Editor Mr. David Greaves said this compared with a loss of £263 on the previous year. The extra revenue from increased advertising rates and persistent canvassing for advertising had been a still 1,350, but he added: "We are not complacent about this and we hope to increase it in the coming year."

The Archer Memorial Hall Account presented by Mr. Michael Chapman showed a profit of £224 17s. which included the capital contribution of £77 11s. There was also credit of £1,000 in hand amounting to £2,000.

The profit had been achieved largely because there were repairs to pay for than last year, but letting fees had also been £1,000 and had increased an additional £220.

ELECTORAL ROLL

In his report, Secretary Mr. David Greaves stated that there were 204 people on the electoral roll, 114 women and 90 men, which was a decrease of 10.

He added that he was disappointed with the fact that he was unable to get more people to contribute to the fund for the church. He said that the church council were

Mr. Greaves, Mr. R. W. A. Kibb, Mr. F. Amos, Mr. G. F. Amos, Mr. J. Lamb, Mr. J. F. Kinch and Mr. S. F. Jarman, and Mr. Jarman, Mr. R. Jarman and Mrs. J. Jarman were elected as representatives. At the Vestry meeting Mr. Steve Shipton was elected People's Warden and the Vicar appointed as his Warden Commander James Jenks, who took over in a temporary capacity last year following the departure of Mr. Jack Baucher.

Mr. Baucher and his wife Elizabeth, now living at Earl Colne, attended the meeting for presentations which the Vicar described as tangible recognition of their great services to the Parish.

He presented Mr. Baucher with a Bible and for Mrs. Baucher there was a bouquet and a silver Mothers' Union badge from Mothers' Union Enrolling Member Mrs. Mavis Beale.

Mr. Jack Cooper and Mr. John Warrick were reappointed as deputy wardens.

High Street meeting

ON THURSDAY Basildon Council circulated every property in Billericay High Street informing occupiers of the public meeting called on Wednesday April 5th, at the Archer Hall at 8.15 p.m. to publicise the revolutionary High Street Report.

The report, together with artists' impressions and drawings will be on display in the hall from 30 a.m.

"The purpose of the exhibition and meeting," state the Council in their circular, "is to test public reaction, and the Council emphasises that at this stage they are not committed to the acceptance of any of the recommendations."

As there are considerable variations in the scale and nature of the work, it will inevitably take some time to get under way and immediate results cannot be expected.

A review of the exterior layout of standard pattern Police houses is also planned. It is probable that future buildings will be in short terraces, with garages grouped.

New houses of the latest standard are either under construction or about to be started, in a number of places in Essex.

Locally, these include six at Billericay, two at Wickford, and 18 at Basildon. A further 49 new houses are programmed for the County in the next financial year, commencing April 1st.

When the windmill blew down at Ramsden Bellhouse

IN DOWNHAM Road, Ramsden Heath, are several relics of old Ramsden Bellhouse. In 1872 a church school was built to accommodate 80 children, but in 1890 the average attendance was 50. The old school building has been converted into two villas named Eton and Harrow.

Almost opposite the school stood the old black windmill. Richard Hamilton the miller was also a shoemaker in 1863. It was blown down on July 1, 1874. There was a sudden shift of wind as the mill was working.

A small timber dove cot which is possibly 200 years old. A dove or pigeon cot was once an important part of a farm as the birds were a welcome addition to the larder in winter time.

NEW LOOK FOR OLDER POLICE HOUSES

AN EXTENSIVE programme to modernise older Police houses and to build new ones is being planned.

In a circular bulletin the Chief Constable of Essex says the Police Committee have accepted the need to modernise older Police houses and bring them up to a standard comparable with those currently being built.

As there are considerable variations in the scale and nature of the work, it will inevitably take some time to get under way and immediate results cannot be expected.

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In 1812 Chittams was sold to William Tooke for £2,875 15s. 6d. Some of the field names are quaintly descriptive: Dovehouse Piece, Barn Field, Barnfield, Hawthorn Field, Stoney Hills and Round Mill Field.

In 1825 Chittams is described as having 50 acres of pasture and woodland, 5 or 6 acres of which were planted with "thriving growing timber" with valuable and unlimited pasture for sheep and other cattle on Ramsden Heath (Ramsden Heath was enclosed sometimes in the 1600's). The house and about 20 acres were occupied by Thomas Gabbett at a rent of £20. The remainder was occupied by Mr. Voice at £20 per annum subject to reduction to £16 when corn at Chelmsford market was under £15 per load.

The name probably comes from the Chittam family who lived in Ramsden Bellhouse in the late 18th Century.

MAGAZINE ON SCHOOLS WELCOMED

BILLERICAY and District Association for the Advancement of State Education's new monthly magazine, "Local Schools," has been welcomed in education circles.

The April Issue, the second, has comments from Basildon Education Officer Mr. E. A. Dixon and Dr. Donald Shave, Principal of Brentwood College of Education.

Says Mr. Dixon: "This seems interesting and worthwhile extension of the work of your Association and I hope the venture will be well supported by parents."

Dr. Shave said: "I find it most interesting and I am sure it will be most useful in disseminating information about the work of the schools."

And Mr. David Bungay, Chief Education Officer of Essex, has given the Association permission to reproduce an item on the role of the psychologist, from an official magazine and has suggested that future copies of "Local Schools" be sent to the editor of that magazine and to himself.

Through-the-window thief

AFTER smashing rear windows with a brick, a thief entered two houses at Stock late on Monday night and got away with property worth just over £100.

The rilder got into the home of Mr. Kenneth Lilley in Mill Lane by scrambling through the actual hole made by the brick in a large window and stole a suit and gold watch of the total value of £48.

Property worth £57, including a pair of binoculars and a gold watch, were stolen from Mr. F. R. Brine's house in Mill Road, the thief gaining entry by opening a window after breaking a pane of glass.

DEATH-WATCH BEETLE AND WOODWORM AT HOLY CROSS CHURCH

HEAVY BILL FOR CONGREGATION

HOLY CROSS Church, Fryerns, faces a heavy bill to combat death-watch beetle and woodworm. The pulpit—and some other furniture—have been removed from the medieval church.

But in his report of the building to the annual church meeting, Church Warden Mr. George White emphasised that services would not be affected by the condition of the church.

He and Mr. Arthur Robert Hughes were elected Church Wardens at the meeting on Wednesday.

The Rector, Rev. Arthur Dunlop, in an address said the success of a church should never be judged only on the number of people attending. Other facets of church work were equally important—such as enthusiasm for beliefs and the capacity to convince others.

BRIGHT FUTURE

He felt that the future for Holy Cross looked brighter than for some time, but in order to preserve the wonderful historical heritage of Holy Cross more help was needed.

Mr. Dunlop finished by thanking his Curate, Rev. Brian Buxton, for his sterling work in the Parish since June.

Called off!

ONLY FOUR members and a reporter turned up to Ghyllgrove Association's Thursday meeting. As there was no quorum the meeting was called off.

EASTER SOCIAL

Billericay 18-Pits Group went swinging into Easter with their social last week at the Crown Hotel, for over 100 members. Members agree that its formation has filled the social gap that has existed in Billericay for some time.

Will be Queen's representative

BILLERICAY M.P. Mr. Eric Moonman has accepted an invitation to serve as the Queen's representative on the Imperial College of Science and Technology governing body.

The appointment is for four years from June 1st, 1967.

First Mr. Moonman knew of the invitation was when he received a letter from the Privy Council Office stating that a vacancy would shortly arise among the Crown nominees on the governing body and pointing out that the Lord President of the Council would be pleased to submit his name to the Queen in Council.

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WHERE'S BASILDON?



Susan Greengrass and Deborah Burton search for England, and perhaps Basildon, on the globe!



IT'S TIME FOR A STORY!



Story time, with Mrs. Harvey. There is always a story after afternoon play.

The Pitsea school where they are happily busy

"WE SEE to it that life isn't long enough to get into mischief!" says Miss I. Whenn, temporary Headmistress of Pitsea Infants' School, with a quiet twinkle, writes LIZ WALL.

Comparatively small in numbers, the 160 children who attend the little school give the impression of being happily busy.

Separated from the junior school in 1948, the infants' school now has five classes. There are seven teachers, two of whom will be leaving the school shortly.

Although the building is of the older type, the equipment is good and the teaching methods are modern. The gymnastic equipment is excellent and includes climbing ropes, balancing forms, ladders and a commando scramble net, all designed to use up the incredible amount of energy that small bodies appear to generate. The confidence with which the children tackle the equipment shows clearly that they are no strangers to it.

Michelle Blythe and Wendy Bates are weighing. At present it is play—but later they will learn a valuable lesson from it.

One of the six classrooms is used as the Practical Numbers Room. Small groups of children come here in turns to work with the numerous aids to arithmetic.

As these children are all under seven, arithmetic appears at first glance to be play; but the little boys playing skittles have to add their own scores, helped by the teacher; the small girls playing shop in the corner must know what to charge and how much change to give, even though the money is only cardboard. There are scales to weigh things, beads, counters and other small objects to be counted, and two plastic clocks to help the children to tell the time.

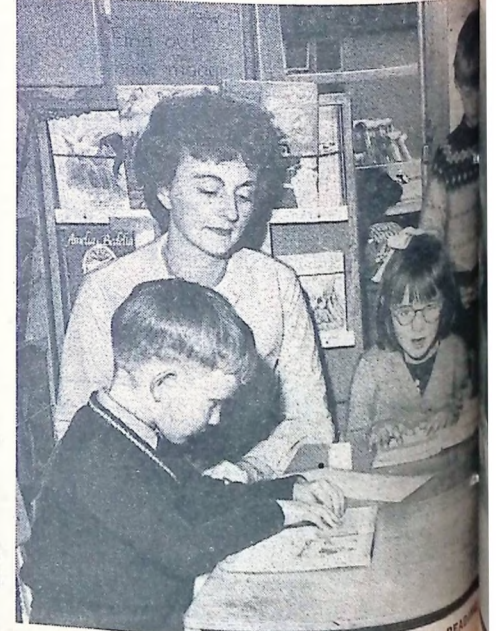
Other useful aids to a child's learning are a felt cat, with a ribbon round its neck, and a cardboard shoe, with a real lace. The sooner a new pupil can tie his or her shoelaces, the more time the staff can spend in teaching more academic subjects. As one teacher said, when you have forty or so children in a class, even half of them unable to tie shoelaces or cope with buttons means that the rest must wait while they are helped. When we visited the school, just before the Easter break, the children were

eagerly anticipating the holiday. Every class had made some form of container for Easter eggs; and most of the children had made Easter cards to take home to mother. The top class had made some attractive and original Easter ducks, which rocked on cardboard rockers. Another class had made nests and Easter baskets.

The ingenuity with which the staff make use of or-



Threading beads is a way of learning to count, and to select colours.



HELPING THE CHILDREN WITH THEIR READING

Almost Commando training!



OPTICAL NUMBERS ROOM ALL KINDS OF THINGS CAN BE FIGURED AND MEASURED. THE CHILDREN TAKE IT IN TURNS FOR SESSIONS HERE.

HEADMISTRESS



Headmistress Miss I. Whenn.

objects work is the child a most with the try and of egg- produced edible Pitsea Infants' School is

one of the few in a wide area to have its own sandpit. The children consider it a great privilege to be able to play here.

They also take it in turns to care for the large

Made 'Cape' Basildon



Unlike the girls, whose geometrical shapes became creatures, the boys of Mrs. Spriggs' class made an impressive and imaginative model. They have named it "Cape Basildon," and brought their own toy cars and other equipment to "dress" the model. Seen with it are Peter Fowler, John Nunn, John Sweetenham and Stephen Little.

They're well balanced!



Alan Jones and Nigel McKenzie balance on the ladder. The children have regular tuition on the gymnastic apparatus.

white rabbit that lives close to the sandpit.

Next term Pitsea Infants' School will start work in earnest on rehearsals for the Music Festival, which will be held at Timberlog School later on. Unfortunately Miss Whenn will not be there when this occurs, but no doubt she will wish her former pupils well.



MAUREEN SMITH IS A POSSIBLE FUTURE GYMNAST. SHE HAS A SPLENDID SENSE OF BALANCE AND TIMING, AND CAN USE ALL THE APPARATUS, INCLUDING THE COMMANDO NET IN THE BACKGROUND.

TIME TO CHECK UP!



MRS. COUSINS, WHO TAKES THE TOP CLASS, IS ALSO DEPUTY HEAD. SHE IS SEEN CHECKING THE WORK OF SOME OF THE CHILDREN, WHO HAVE BEEN DRAWING THINGS TO SCALE.



THE RECEPTION CLASS WAS BADLY DEPLETED BY MEASLES WHEN WE VISITED THEM. THOSE THAT WERE LEFT ARE BUSY CUTTING OUT AND STICKING PAPER NESTS FOR THEIR EASTER EGGS.

NG TO READ



JUDD, OF CLASS 3.

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Tenders are invited for the right to provide a mobile refreshment service on the Basildon Golf Course shortly to be opened.
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DAVID H. TAYLOR,
Town Manager and Clerk of the Council



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TORIES CHASTISED FOR BEING TOO CRITICAL

-Mr. Bernard Braine ticked them off!

THE PROCESS of change that will bring back a Conservative Government has begun, Billericay Constituency Conservative Association were told at their annual meeting at the Archer Memorial Hall, Billericay, on Tuesday week.

"As the gap between Socialist promises and Socialist performance widens, so, increasingly, is the country turning to us," said guest speaker Mr. Bernard Braine, M.P. for South-East Essex.

He was chastising members for being over-critical of their party in Opposition.

"Members have been demanding that we bring down the Government, that we cut Harold Wilson down to size," he said. "The trouble is that they forget that we lost two General Elections in a row and that the Government have a very substantial majority in the House."

"Provided they hang together, they are there for the next four years and there is nothing we can do about it. We could win all the arguments on the floor of the House, but we will always lose in the Division Lobbies."

"And when people are critical of Ted Heath and the Conservative Front Bench, it is often forgotten that the last time we were in opposition, after a far greater defeat in 1945, it was at least three years before the tide began to turn."

"It was only when people began to feel and understand the fallacies and dangers of Socialism that there was a perceptible movement towards us."

In his view the process of change had started earlier in the lifetime of the present Government than it did in the period of the Attlee Government after the war.

Publicity

Mr. Braine also warned members not to draw comfort from the publicity given to Labour Party Members.

"It is what goes on behind the scenes that is important and Socialists do more than just dream of Socialism," he said.

He believed there was a danger that the country would slide into Socialism without being aware of what was happening. "Mr. Richard Crossman has said that the Government are advancing to

wards a fully-planned Socialist economy. His compulsory control of wages and salaries is part of the same plan as steel nationalisation.

"Harold Wilson is, in fact, a man who is achieving Socialism in his time far more rapidly than Attlee ever dared to do," he added.

"Far from criticising him, the Left Wing of the Labour Party should be singing his praises. They should be standing on the roof tops singing 'The Red Flag' at the tops of their voices."

Residents may form their own limited company

FED UP with constant delays by Basildon Council in giving a decision on making up their road, Tylers Avenue, Billericay, people have now received the Council Works Committee's approval in principle to form their own limited company to get the work done.

They will engage a contractor to carry out the work, but details of cost per household and other ancillary matters have yet to be worked out on a solid basis.

The residents have a committee set up and now the Council have given them the green light they will go ahead with their plans.

The form-your-own-company idea is thought to be the first of its kind in the County, if not in the country.

Charity Week

Ramsden Bellhouse Community Association Management Committee have decided that the proceeds of this year's Charity Week will be donated to the local Fibrosis Research Foundation Trust.

Safe cyclists get badges

NEARLY 100 pupils at Buttsbury Junior School, Billericay have received certificates and badges under the junior school cycle training scheme.

All the children attended five instructional classes at the school, conducted by P.C. R. D. Snow, Brentwood Traffic and Road Safety Officer, and P.C. A. Watkins.

After a test on the road the children (listed below) were considered worthy of receiving a certificate and a badge supplied by Basildon Road Safety Committee.

- Clare Lindridge, Raymond Moseley, Gillian Jackson, Russell Palmer, Josephine Piercy, David Smith, Karen Taylor, Wayne Warwick, Heather Bond, Helen Brooks, Garry Brown, Stephen Fleming, Keith Gordon, Gillian Gray, Susan Dal, Sandra Holligan, Ian Austin, Margaret Aylett, Nigel Barber, David Barr, Kevin Bell, Andrew Benson, Deborah Beyerman, Lindsey Bunn, Christine Brothers, Neil Bull, Susan Campbell, Louise Ceall, Icm Chester, Susan Collins, Lesia Constable, Jeffrey Coombs,

Wounding : Youths held on bail

CHARGED on remand at Billericay on Tuesday with feloniously wounding Mr. John Hillsley at Pitsea on Good Friday, Harold Mills, of Church End Lane, Runwell, and Daniel Parker, of Donald Thorn Close, Wickford, were further remanded until April 11th.

They were allowed bail in their own recognisances of £50 each and a £50 surety each.

Det.-Insp. Eric Smith alleged that about 3.15 p.m. on Friday the two youths went to see a young girl's father and as a result there was a fight in which the father sustained injuries, which at that time were believed to be a fractured skull.

He was taken to hospital, but was released on Monday, but his health was such that he would be unable to appear at Court for at least a fortnight.

FOUR DIE SUDDENLY

FOUR PEOPLE died suddenly in Basildon over the Easter holiday.

They were Mrs. Doris Roberts (65), of Pattiswick Square; Mr. Peter Wellum (38), of Cattawade End; Mr. Albert Sheldon (62), of Gay Bowers; and Mr. Thomas Edwards (52), of Whitmore Way.

Easter bride

MARRIED AT Billericay Congregational Church on Easter Saturday were Mr. Peter Thomas Dowles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Dowles, of Grangewood Street, East Ham, and Miss Shirley Rosalind Dodge, daughter of Mrs. Renee Dodge, of Bootham Road, Billericay, and the late Mr. John Dodge.

The bride was given away by her uncle, Mr. Lesley Dodge, and wore a full-length satin dress edged with guipure lace and a satin cap head-dress.

She carried a bouquet of multi-coloured freesias.

AN INSULT TO BUTTSBURY

"BUTTSBURY has recently been subjected to just about the most outstanding example of poor taste and lack of imagination on the part of the local authorities."

This is stated in Buttsbury Residents' Association's April bulletin. They state: "A large and extremely vivid directional sign bearing the legend, 'To Billericay Sewerage Treatment Works' was erected right in the heart of a pleasant residential area."

"The effect on house-holders in the immediate vicinity of this sign can well be imagined, especially as anyone with only the minimum sense of smell could be in no doubt whatever of the location of the works in question within a radius of at least a mile."

"Needless to say we have written to Basildon Council and requested the removal of this sign on the grounds that it is extremely objectionable and totally unnecessary."

LOST HIS TEMPER AT WARDEN

AFTER LEAVING his car on a meter while he went to get some sixpences, Graham Peter Ridley lost his temper when he returned to find a traffic warden booking him.

The loss of temper cost Ridley of Gay Bowers, Basildon, £2 at Southend on Tuesday when he admitted using obscene language in a public place.

He told the warden that all wardens thought about was making bad relations with the public, the Court heard.

Bridesmaid was her sister, Miss Maureen Dodge, and Mr. Laurence Davis, a friend of the groom, was best man. Rev. J. S. Wilkinson conducted the service.



BRIDES of the WEEK



Miss Linda Wheeler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Wheeler, of Stratford Gardens, Stanford-le-Hope, was married at St. Margaret's Church, Stanford, on Saturday, to Mr. Victor Ford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bishop, of Bower Lane, Basildon. (Photo Derek R. Beal)



The officiating clergyman at Saturday's wedding at Ramsden Bellhouse Parish Church of Mr. Bruce Norton, of Church Road, Ramsden Heath, to Miss Gloria Pickett, of Aveley Road, Ummister, was Rev. A. G. Munson—who married the bridegroom's parents 28 years ago. The bride was given away by her father and was attended by her cousin, Miss Lorraine Lawman, and Miss Elizabeth Muddle, the bridegroom's cochild. The best man was Master Alan Lawman, another cousin of the bride, and the best man was Mr. David Jolly, a friend. (Picture by Stan Caldwell)



Rev. A. Dunlon (Rural Dean) conducted the wedding at St. Martin's Church, Basildon, on Saturday, of Mr. William Chisholm Hicks, of Falstones, Basildon, and Miss Frances Ann Summerhayes, of Lenz Lynderswood, Basildon. The bride was given away by her father, and wore a gown of Nottingham lace over white satin, with a matching bolero. Her veil was bouffant style, and she carried pink roses, white carnations and white freesia. The bridesmaids were Miss Eileen Hicks (bridegroom's sister) and Miss Galeish Simmons (niece). Best man was Mr. Barry Simmons (brother-in-law of the bride). For their honeymoon the newlyweds are touring the South Coast. (Picture by Charlesworth)



The wedding took place on Saturday at Holy Cross Church, Basildon, of Mr. Timothy Gaver-Smith, of Natal, South Africa, and Miss Norma Miles, of Curline Tye, Basildon. The bride was given away by her father and wore a gown of white crystal satin and white lace. With it she wore a bouffant head-dress to hold her bouffant veil, and carried a bouquet of white flowers. Her bridesmaid was Miss Penelope Newton, and the best man was Mr. Michael Ellard. The couple are spending their honeymoon in Majorca. (Picture by J. Hearne)



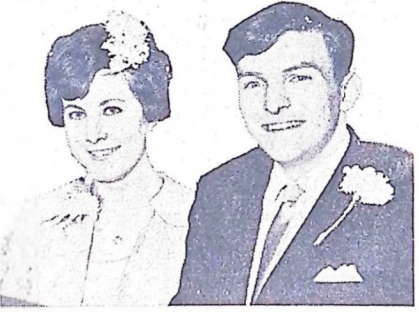
Mr. Alan Clarke, of Clay Hill Road, Basildon, and Miss Barbara Anderson, of Glebe Road, Wickford, were married at St. Catherine's Church, Wickford, on Saturday. The bride was given away by her father and was attended by her father and her cousins, the Misses Anna Verity, Christine Anderson and Wendy Anderson. Miss Carole Clarke (sister of the bridegroom) acted as Jayne Walker (cousin of the bridegroom). The best man was Mr. Thomas Clarke (bridegroom's brother). (Picture by Stan Caldwell)



Mr. Norman James John Leavor, of Footscray Lane, Sidcup, was married to Miss Jennifer Mary Bell, of Westminster Green, Basildon, at St. Martin's Church, Basildon, on Saturday. The bride, given away by her father, had her cousin, Miss Marianne Jane Bell, as her bridesmaid, and best man was the bridegroom's brother, Mr. Brian Leavor. The bride wore a full-length gown of white crepe, trimmed with lace on bodice and sleeves. (Picture by Derek Durey)



Miss Linda Carole Walker, of Great Mistley, Vange, was married at All Saints' Church, Vange, on Saturday, to Mr. John Arnold Becher, of Uster Avenue, Shoeburyness. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length gown of embossed velvet, with a pillbox hat and a short net veil. She carried a small bouquet of pink roses and lilies of the valley. She was attended by her sister, Miss Susan Walker, and Miss Lesley Wood, daughter of a friend. They wore long dresses of turquoise embossed velvet and carried white prayer books. The best man was Mr. Leslie Wood. (Picture by L. A. Woodward)



St. Margaret's Church, Bowers Gifford, was the scene on Monday of the wedding of Mr. John Robert Scott Neal, of East Street, Rochford, and Miss Bridget Ann Bright, of London Road, Bowers Gifford. The bride was given away by her father, and wore a knee-length dress of navy blue, with a lace coat. She had a small figured head-dress trimmed with pearls and carried a white Bible. She was attended by Miss Gillian Bright, her sister, who wore a short yellow dress with a boater-type hat. She carried a nosey of crane hyacinths and primroses. Best man was Mr. Gary Mills. (Picture by J. P. Dove)



Above are Mr. Terence Henry Rothery, of Elizabeth Drive, Wickford, and the former Miss Angela Margaret Sneller, of Swallow Dale, Basildon, after their wedding at All Saints', Vange, on Saturday. (Picture by Derek R. Beal)

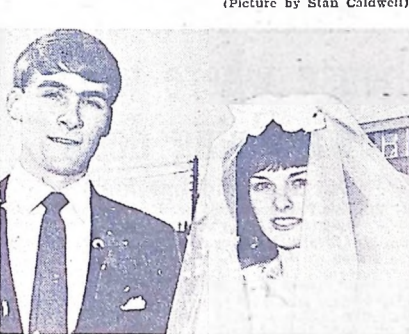


Married at St. Mary's Church, Great Burstead, on Saturday were Mr. Eric Arthur Proctor, of Wainwood, Billericay, and Miss Veronica Christine West, of Hockley Road, Basildon. The bride, given away by her father, wore a lace dress in Spanish style and her bridesmaids were Erica Nash, Elizabeth Susan and Jenny Malvern. Miss Suzanne Palmer and Davina Tellis. Mr. Donald Proctor was best man. (Picture by Florides Photographical)

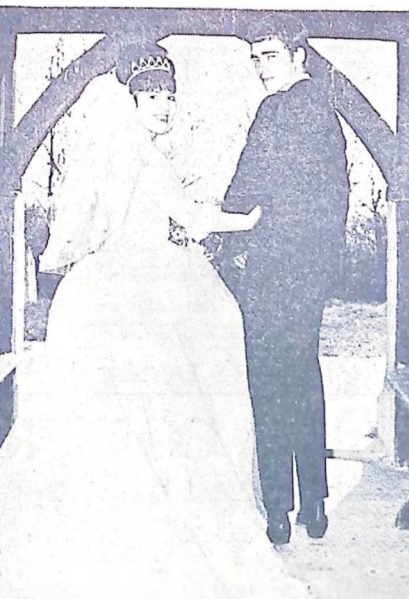
Stepping out to happiness!



The wedding took place on Saturday at St. Catherine's Church, Wickford, of Mr. Derek Alan Penfold, of Kentview Road, Vange, and Miss Jacqueline Ann English, of Newendon Road, Wickford. The service was conducted by Rev. F. C. V. Franco. The bride was given away by her father, and wore a full-length gown of white satin brocade, a pearl head-dress held her veil and she carried a bouquet of gold rosebuds. Her bridesmaids were the Misses Christine Moore and Angela English, both nieces of the bride. They wore dresses of green brocade, and carried gold freesia. The best man was the bridegroom's brother, Mr. David Penfold. The couple are spending their honeymoon in London and the South Coast. (Picture by Stan Caldwell)



Mr. John Cox, of Harlow, and Miss Angela Ruth Fenwick, of Hinchiffe Road, Wickford, were married at the Methodist Church, Wickford, by Rev. B. Cameron. The bride was given away by her father and her bridesmaids were the Misses Tina Budd (bride's cousin), Linda Jennings (bride's cousin) and Elaine Cox (bridegroom's sister). The best man was Master Andrew Cox (bridegroom's cousin). Best man was Mr. Roger Hudson. (Picture by J. Hearne)



A Pitsea couple married at All Saints' Church, Vange, on Saturday were Mr. Thomas William Sullivan, of Delhi Road and Miss Jennifer May Wilson, of Little Charlton. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length dress of spotted net over tulle, a crystal tiara head-dress with a bouffant veil trimmed with daisies. She carried pink carnations and lilies of the valley. The bridesmaids were Miss Mandy Orwood, bride's niece; Miss Aileen Sullivan, bride's sister, who wore dresses of lemon and pink satin tulle with coronets of flowers. They carried bouquets of anemones and freesia. Mr. Keith Dunno was best man. (Picture by Florides Photographical)



Mr. Glassborow in his gunsmith's workshop... "I lifted the gun, and let blast..."

Hunt for intruder shot by gunsmith

A NIGHT intruder suffering from gunshot wounds is still on the run after he was fired at by 73-years-old Billericay gunsmith Mr. William Glassborow on Friday week.

After the shooting Police found bloodstains on a wall at Mr. Glassborow's home in Coxes Farm Road. They think the intruder may be badly hurt, and hospitals for miles around have been warned to be on the look-out for him.

Mr. Glassborow said he was awake in bed when he saw a shadow flit across the lawn. Straightaway he snatched up the old .410 shot-gun that has lain beside his bed for years and went downstairs.

"I quietly opened the back door and started stalking the man," he told a reporter. "Then I saw him 30 yards away, running. I lifted the gun and let blast a cartridge at him."

"I know I caught him because he lurched forward as the shot peppered him, but he managed to make it back to his car outside and drive away."

Later, Police said they thought Mr. Glassborow had marked the man responsible for an outbreak of housebreaking in the area. There have been at least six local housebreakings in the last week.

The spokesman added: "No action is being taken against Mr. Glassborow. If an intruder enters property and the tenant or owner believes his property or life could be in danger, he is allowed by law to take reasonable steps to protect himself."

Youths stole from house where woman was lying dead

But they did not know!

AN ELDERLY woman lay dead while four youths broke into her bungalow in Victoria Crescent, Laindon, but they were unaware that she was there, it was stated at Billericay on Tuesday.

"I have not the slightest doubt that is correct," said Mr. P. K. Watkins, prosecuting, when the youths, all from Laindon, admitted breaking into the bungalow and stealing property, including a wrist watch and money from the gas and electricity meters.

They were Alan Billington (16) and Bernard Basket (16), both of Devonshire Road, and Michael Leonard (18) and Stephen Leonard (18), both of Home Mend. Billington also admitted breaking into and stealing from Laindon High Road Secondary School.

He had previous convictions and asked for similar offences to be considered, and was sent to the Essex Quarter Sessions, in custody, for sentence.

He told the Court he was only getting £2 10s a week from the labour. He committed the offences to pay his mother for his keep and because his Alsatian dog cost him 15s a week.

Said the Chairman (Mr. H. E. Dunnicliffe): "I have never heard such arrogant effrontery in all my life... it is bordering on insolence."

"Basket was sent to an approved school. The Leonard's were put on probation for three years each. Mr. Watkins said that Billington, in a statement,

admitted he broke into the bungalow and let the others, except Michael Leonard, who stayed outside into the premises. He said he had gone into a bedroom, but could not see anybody. The other youths had made similar statements, said Mr. Watkins.

Art Club exhibition

BILLERICAY ART Club are staging their annual exhibition at 111, High Street, Billericay, from April 15th to the 22nd and not, as stated last week, the Camera Club.

So far 130 paintings have been submitted. "We can, needless to say, have only a limited number of exhibits in the space we have, but we are also having a few items of pottery, wood carving and sculpture," Mrs. O. A. Tarrant (Club Secretary) told the "Standard."

The exhibition will be open daily from 10.30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and admission will be free.

HIGH TIDE AT SOUTHEND

Flowers in parentheses indicate height of water above datum.

	a.m.	p.m.
Fri.	4.49 (17.5)	5.16 (16.8)
Sat.	5.36 (16.8)	6.3 (15.6)
Sun.	6.34 (15.6)	7.2 (14.5)
Mon.	7.53 (14.7)	8.24 (13.8)
Tue.	8.32 (14.6)	10.1 (13.9)
Wd.	10.53 (15.3)	11.13 (14.7)
Ths.	11.51 (16.1)	—
Fri.	12.3 (15.5)	12.34 (16.6)

(April 7th) Tidal predictions supplied by Liverpool Observatory and Tidal Institute (copyright reserved).

Vehicles stolen

Two vehicles were reported stolen from Basildon on Thursday. One was a moped stolen from Felsen Station between 8.30 a.m. and 11 p.m. It belongs to Mr. Jones, of Tarpey, Bessent. The other vehicle was a Ford van, the property of Mr. Fisher, of High Road, Laindon, stolen from the car park at Basildon Bowl during the morning.

COMMON MARKET BLUFF?

"BRITAIN'S proposed entry into the Common Market may be nothing more than a 'Wilson-type' gigantic bluff," Coun. Rodney Smith told Basildon Young Conservatives last week. It had always been understood that Mr. Wilson, particularly when in opposition was strongly against joining.

"I don't think there are any grounds for us to believe he has had a change of heart," said Coun. Smith. "In going through the motions of a willingness to join, he will exonerate himself if De Gaulle once again slams the door. I can see him now, coming forward one night on TV with one of his 'candid and honest' themes pointing to the fact that he had done everything in his power, but was robbed at the whim of the French President — his judgment may be wrong."

"The French, after all, may want us in for the only obstacle in the way of us signing the Treaty of Rome, as far as France is concerned, is their view that the pound sterling should not be one of the world's reserved currencies and emphasis should be on gold, which France has been stock-piling in recent years."

FELL FROM LADDER A young man fell from a step ladder at Standard Telephones, Basildon, on Thursday. Mr. H. T. Gessinger, aged 50, slipped and where he was taken to St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay, where he was found to have a broken hip. His condition was described by the hospital on Friday as serious.

New house offer was a mistake!

A PRE-EASTER present for an expectant mother and her Basildon bus conductor husband was the allocation of a new house by Basildon Development Corporation. But a day before they were due to pick up the keys the Corporation came up with a "We've made a mistake" bombshell. This week the Corporation admitted their error, but stated: "We will put this right shortly; certainly before the new baby arrives."

The mistake—"A perfectly natural one," said Corporation General Manager Mr. R. D. G. Boniface—arose because of a series of name coincidences. On their housing waiting list the Corporation had two turners—one a Mr. John Turner, whose wife is living in a one-room flatlet at the end of the terrace in The Fagons, Basildon, and the other a Mr. Joseph Turner, of Forest Gate.

The wives of both men have a Christian name, Rosalind. Mr. Boniface denied this week that medical certificates backing the house application of the unlucky Harlesdon couple had been inadvertently attached to the other Turner application.

"We see from the certificate that Mrs. Turner is expecting her second child in May," said "and we will see that she has new accommodation before then."

"This is an unfortunate error and we regret any distress it may have caused."

Have planners failed miserably?

Basildon's missing amenities

HAVE THE PLANNERS OF THE BASILDON NEW TOWN FAILED MISERABLY IN PROVIDING THE AMENITIES THAT SHOULD ACCOMPANY A TOWN OF THIS SIZE? BASILDON COUNCILLOR K. E. TYSON THINKS THAT THEY HAVE.

He came to the New Town early in 1960 and has witnessed the growth of the Town Centre, several large estates and the extension of industry to the No. 2 Industrial Site. He feels that whereas meagre attempts have been made to increase the social life of the town, the major portion of the work in this direction is still to come.

In a letter to the "Basildon Standard," Coun. Tyson states: "At a Library Advisory Panel meeting recently I was informed by an official of the Essex County Council that Basildon could have had a large central library a year ago. The difficulty was that the Basildon Development Corporation could not make up their minds about the choice of site. What has happened to the cinema we used to hear so much about? The site is still there in South-ernhay. Each time I have asked the Corporation that all forms of pressure on those people who can give consent to new amenities fails."

He goes on to say that if it were not for the community associations and other voluntary bodies who do so much to provide some form of entertainment, the town would be completely stripped of communal society altogether.

"I would make just one

comment to the planners," says Coun. Tyson. "You can't plug people into the mains like television sets! People with different ideas and needs require a wide range of amenities and entertainment... let's see some action!"

He married bridegroom's parents

THE OFFICIATING clergyman at Saturday's wedding of Mr. Bruce Norton to Miss Glenys Pickett was Rev. A. G. Munson — who married the bridegroom's parents 28 years ago.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. V. G. Norton, of Church Road, Ramsden Heath. His bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Pickett, of Aveley Road, Upminster. They were married at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Ramsden Heath.

The bride was given away by her father, and wore a full-length gown of white brocade with a train and a full-length veil. She carried a bouquet of roses, lilies of the valley and freesias.

She was attended by her cousin, Miss Lorraine Law-Made, the bridegroom's god-child, who wore a dress of pink crepe. The page boy was Master Alan Lortman, another cousin of the bride, and the best man was Mr. David Jolly, a friend.

The couple are spending their honeymoon in the South of France.

ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

ONE MINISTER'S EASTER MESSAGE

THIS CORNER IS A LIKELY BLACK SPOT

THE CORNER of Whitmore Way and Ghyllgrove was described as a "potential black-spot" by a Basildon Congregationalist Minister at his Easter morning service.

Over 50 people heard the Minister, Rev. Reg Williams, say he was amazed there has been no accident at the corner. "It is the most dangerous corner in Basildon," he said.

"The danger is," said Mr. Williams, "that some drivers, knowing Ghyllgrove is not a through road, will become careless about taking the turning."

"They may not signal — and a stranger to the area could overtake, thinking Ghyllgrove is a through road. It is surprising how many do think this. Four people

have overshot the corner and asked me for directions on one day."

He called for a No Through Road sign on Ghyllgrove and also an extension of the verge to show that through traffic must turn and use Whitmore Way.

"So far events have not vindicated my view," Mr. Williams added. "But they will."

STARTLING NEWS FOR MOTORISTS £1 Tyre vouchers flooding the area may be worth as much as £4

AN OFFER is being made by Basildon Tyre Services, Essex, to allow 25% off the retail price of each tyre purchased before Budget Day against the production of ANY £1 tyre voucher.

This means a saving of 27/6 even on a small Mini tyre, while in the upper bracket it would cut the price of a Rolls-Royce tyre by £4. Fitting is free and there is no

restriction on makes supplied.

Should you not be in possession of one of these £1 vouchers, simply cut out this announcement, it will be equally acceptable.

Basildon Tyre Services are in Cranes Close, Basildon, on the No. 1 Industrial Estate, Cranes Close. Is first right up Cranes Farm Road from East Mayne (the old Timberlog Lane) on telephone Basildon 20537/8.

Round the dart boards

THROUGH TO THE SEMI-FINALS OF CENTRAL LEAGUE

THE FOUR players through to the semi-finals of the Basildon Central Darts League's individual tournament are D. Bignell (Castle Mayne), D. Price (Plough and Tractor), M. David (Double Six) and S. Bracey (Gun).

These were the ones to get through when the quarter-finals were played last week. D. Bignell beat B. Scott (Crane) 2-0, D. Price beat W. Olden (Winged) 2-0, M. David (Winged) beat G. Butcher (Marconi) 2-0 and S. Bracey beat B. Marshall (Castle Mayne) 2-0.

Thrilling ride-off for title

SNEAKING THROUGH on the last bond in at two-man ride-off, Ian Sewell (Tottenham) won the Basildon Cycle Speedway Easter championship in a 20-hat meeting on Sunday.

Winston Club in the lead

WITH FOUR games to go, the Winston Club have taken over as leaders of the Laindon and District Darts League.

Table with 4 columns: Player, Points, Wins, Losses. Lists players like Winstanley, C.C., etc.

Vital goal

Jimmy Fratt, former Southend centre-forward now helping Torquay in their bid for promotion from the Third Division, scored the only goal of the match on Easter Monday when Torquay entertained Swindon.

Good run

Brentford took their run of unbeaten League games to 11 on Monday when they drew 1-1 at home to Newport County.

Basildon golf notes

THE TEAM for the Thames Board Mills, starting under their 35-10 deficit at Target Golf, have been settling in for practice and have now challenged the Basildon team of Preedy, Coker, Harris and...

Another target golf match is also arranged for this time with a team from Chelmsford Club and a team to represent Basildon has still to be selected.

The Golfing Society's Michot competition is held up until two of the quarter-final matches are played. One of these is between Stan Shead and Jack Hull and the winner will play Norman Coker in the semi-final.

Thirty-one members have entered the Society's Toby competition. This competition involves the players playing six matches and scoring two points for a win and one for a draw.

The Bull's Eye competition this year will be a foursome as follows: Preliminaries - A. Henbest and S. Shead v R. Donald and P. Lucas; H. Schwarz and P. Burdon v C. Thompson and G. Ginn.

First Round - D. Martin and F. Palmer v H. McGill and N. Coker; Lawrence and R. Hull v D. Kingling and T. Harris; G. Tipping and R. Newell v A. Hull and A. Hart; E. Preedy and F. Shiman v R. Hoskins and E. Doe; C. Geeson and R. Newman v W. Perry and J. Bedford; D. Browne and R. Brown v P. McNamara and H. Beverley; W. Perry and A. N. Other v R. Bottomley and W. Jennings.

The Golf Club have been promised another four trophies. One from Hford's is for an 18-hole stableford competition, one from S.E.M. for a Yardley's for a boys competition. The other trophy, the Gary Flayer Trophy to be presented by W. Moore, is for a knock-out singles competition for the eight qualifiers in a stroke competition.



Happy boys of St. Teresa's Roman Catholic School, Basildon, with their awards for winning the Small Schools' Soccer League this season. They received the cup and plaques from Mr. J. R. Wiggins (left) last week. On the right is Mr. W. Cotter (sports master).

In action all night at Basildon Bowl Day off for Billericay Rugby Club

DAVE BEVAN rolled a 652 series in the Double Five tenpin bowls league on Tuesday night. This is only nine pins short of the qualification for joining Ambassador's Record Holders' Club. He had games of 167, 246 and 239.

The record at the Basildon centre is still the 722 rolled by Ken Stubbs three years ago—a one-time British record.

Tonight (Saturday) sees a through-the-night tenpin bowling session at Basildon. Three moonlight bowls are run yearly by the Eleventh Frame Club. Public bowling ceases at 11 o'clock tonight.

Then about 150 club members will take over the lanes until seven o'clock on Sunday morning. There will be a hit for breakfast.

On the league scene, Lathol have finished their winter games and announced final placings this week. Division

TOLD AT short notice that Uppminster Rugby Club could not raise teams for Saturday's matches, Billericay Rugby Club were unable to arrange other fixtures in time.

Instead, the 20 members who turned up were divided into two evenly balanced teams by Jim Warrilow (1st XV) and Chris Glover (Captain 2nd XV) for a practice match.

The ground was as hard as concrete and tackling was a hazardous affair, but the game was quite fast and open and one or two players performed well and with enthusiasm.

David Watkins (centre three-quarter) showed himself able to run straight and fast and Tim Anspeak (wing three-quarter) had a good game in defence, tackling and kicking very well.

All in all it was a useful workout. Press Officer Steve Russell told the "Standard". The only disappointment was that too many members stayed away when they heard there was only to be a practice match.

Today the Billericay 1st XV play a Southend Rugby Club match. The team will be selected from Ryman, Anspeak, Ball, Lutkin, Blackburn, Shipton, Hunt, Bisset, Vowles, Hutchinson, Dowsett, Warrilow, Thorne, R. Brown, Childs, Reed, Fell and Webb.

HOCKEY

Busy Easter for Ladies

BASILDON LADIES' Hockey Club played in the Women's Hockey Festival at Southend over Easter. They took part in seven matches against clubs from as far as the Midlands and the North of England.

On Good Friday Basildon played a match against Westcliff and had a convincing 2-0 victory, with Pat Gredeley scoring both goals.

In an even game on Saturday morning with Clacton, Basildon drew 1-1. Their opponents when Monica Munro netted the only goal. She collected a pass from the right wing and sent the ball into the net.

Basildon suffered their first defeat of the Festival against Winchmore Hill, who showed their superior stickwork and greater experience by scoring four goals. Basildon were unable to reply.

Neither did they score in the match with Hinchley, the result being a goalless draw.

On Monday, Basildon were out of their depth when playing the Nottingham Outlaws, who played with a novel combination of only four forwards. They defeated Basildon 1-1.

Basildon's goal came from young Patricia from the right wing, who took the ball into the circle and cracked home a beautiful shot.

On the last day of the Festival Basildon lost to Billericay 4-0. Billericay played a lively game of controlled attack and the Basildon defence crumbled. Their forwards lacked the nunch of the opposition.

In the afternoon game with Bedford Casuals Basildon emerged victorious when right-winger Marion Love broke free on the half-way line, took the ball past two defenders, rounded the outstanding goalkeeper, and finished off the attack with a scum into the back of the net.

In all Basildon played seven matches winning three, losing three and drawing the other game. Most of the club's first team players played the match on the Festival and they were pleased to welcome several guest players.

The Borough Combination will meet the Southend and District League at Roots Hall on Tuesday, April 18th (7.30 p.m.).

The Borough Combination will meet the Walton Cup final at the Sign round on Monday, April 10th.



The President of Eastern National (Basildon) cricket team, Mr. K. Cox (left), receives the South-Eastern Trophy from Mr. A. E. Joyce, Chairman of Southdown Coaches, Bognor, cricket section. The trophy will be played for annually between the two companies.

TROPHY FOR CRICKETING BUSMEN

A MAGNIFICENT TROPHY was handed over to Basildon National Cricket Club last week. Called the South Eastern Trophy, it was brought from Bognor Road by representatives of Southdown Motor Services' cricket section.

The matches will be played each year between the two groups to decide the destiny of the trophy.

It was handed over by the Bognor cricket section chairman, Mr. A. E. Joyce, to Mr. K. Cox, President of the Basildon cricket section.



The White Hart, Billericay, held their house darts championships on Saturday evening. Picture shows (left to right) runner-up Mr. R. Wilson, champion Mr. B. Wood, Darts Club Secretary Mr. A. W. Leach and mine host Mrs. C. Jennings.

Tournaments

Tournaments have now started up again after a lull during the past few weeks. The Ambassadors sent a team to play Vic Coulson, Dave Buckley and Laurie Ramsey...

Against Leyton's to three bowlers, the New Towners had a 57-0 start on the handicaps and they won by six points to two.

Appearing perturbed at having bowled so well and lost, Leytonstone slumped in the second game and a 512 game from the Ambassadors gave them a 100 plus victory.

The final game was closely fought throughout and despite bowling a 510 game and winning by 30 pins scratch, the handicaps scores saw the Ambassadors 27 pins behind but match winners by six points to two.

Coulson rolled a 559 series. Buckley 549 and Ramsay 542 in the Ambassadors' 1640 total.

Inter-League game

The Borough Combination will meet the Southend and District League at Roots Hall on Tuesday, April 18th (7.30 p.m.).

Walton Cup

The Borough Combination will meet the Walton Cup final at the Sign round on Monday, April 10th.

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1964 FIAT 1500, radio, sliding roof, automatic, leather, £450

1963 AUSTON Healy, hard-top, in excellent condition £255

1962 HILLMAN De Luxe, A. 1. £245

1961 MORRIS Mini £245

1961 HILLMAN Husky, reconditioned engine, new tyres, yellow, £245

1961 FORD Anglia, 1000, two owners, 25,000 miles from new £235

1958 AUSTIN A30 Cambridge, good condition, leather, £195

1958 Vauxhall Corsa, 1000, 25,000 miles, new radio, 9000 car £145

1957 VAUXHALL Astra, 1000, 25,000 miles, new radio, 9000 car £145

1957 AUSTIN A35 Saloon, two doors, 27,000 miles, since new, must be seen, bargain £135

1958 FORD Anglia 1000, 25,000 miles, since new, must be seen, bargain £135

1955 MORRIS Oxford, 25,000 miles, since new, private use £100

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1964 FORD 7-cwt Van, reliable £225

1963 SEAMASTER 77H, Cabin, motor, many extras, £235

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M.G. Magnette, 1958 model, installed green, in perfect tone, £175. M.O.T. Phone North Bay Reef 482.

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1964 VOLKSWAGEN, one owner, smoke blue, low mileage, immaculate	£425
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1963 HILLMAN Super Minx, duo-tone, immaculate	£405
1962 CONSUL 375 De Luxe, two-tone, disc brakes	£330
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(Continued on Page 31)

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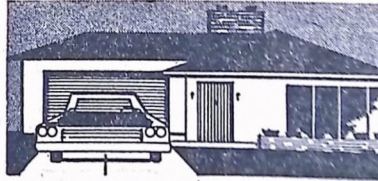
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No. 30 in the series of articles entitled "A HOME OF YOUR OWN" which appears weekly in this newspaper

WE LIVE in a highly mechanised technological age where a good deal of the challenge has been processed out of our lives. It is a fact that there are few areas left where endeavour is required but there is still one avenue open to most young people where a struggle is necessary to achieve a worthwhile objective plus an added bonus. The objective is a home of one's own and this series has been designed to stress two very important points — one that buying your own home is not easy and two that the result of your successful effort is immensely satisfactory. The bonus is security together with a most attractive investment which pays big dividends immediately and in the future.

Those who have been regularly following the series will find that I have not been able to cover all the ground and several questions remain unanswered. This is inevitable where space is limited although I am prepared to answer any letters. I hope, however, that certain patterns have emerged and the guide lines have been laid. These I will now briefly attempt to summarise.

There is one absolute golden rule which I have tried to weave into a thread running right through the entire series. It is — "If you don't know — don't guess — ask." There are experts — some requiring a fee, some not — all very anxious to help and advise you. Building society managers, solicitors, surveyors, woodworm and dry rot specialists, builders and developers, architects, insurance brokers, Citizens Advice Bureau, local and national newspapers, but most of all the estate agents are all formidably arrayed just



on the other hand if you let someone step ahead of you and buy the house which is suitable the repentance will be just as acute although perhaps not so permanent. It will evaporate when you buy a different house which is also suitable.

One of the characteristic failures about the whole business is that the difficulties and problems never leave you from the moment you decide that you may well start looking for a home until the day you move in (some people think that the problems start when you move in, but I am not one of them — sceptics are usually jealous or failures or both). It is not easy to find a home you like — it is not easy to find a mortgage, but even when you have found the house and got your mortgage there are all the negotiations involved in finalising the purchase. So many things can go wrong somewhere for no good reason and if it happens you are right back to square one.

Sequence of events in

important too. The way I have suggested is mortgage inquiries, search, deposit, survey, solicitors, mortgage application, contracts, completion. There is however no "critical path" no index-able rules. Within certain clearly defined limits you can mix them up, shuffle them about, space them out or bring them together as it suits you best. One of the complaints which many people have is that it takes too long — it is messy sometimes to hurry things along or slow them down, but I am warning you that the machinery is rather ponderous and the rate of movement is difficult to change but it can sometimes be done.

Finally I would like to take the opportunity of wishing anyone who is embarking for the very first time on buying a home of their own the very best of luck and at the same time I hope in some way with these articles I have been able to assist them in their venture. — N.A.

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LADIES (and business girls) your own time and neighbourhood...

EXTRA money for just a few hours a week, agents for home based...

SHORTHAND TYPIST including general work and small Switchboard also assist occasionally...

APPLICATIONS invited for stevensman with knowledge of timber, mouldings, hardware and plywood...

EMERGENCY !! We are again in urgent need of a good all-round DRAUGHTSMAN...

RECTION FOREMAN REQUIRED for the site erection of precast elements and other prefabricated units...

DRUMS LIMITED THAMES ROAD, GRAYS REQUIRE MAINTENANCE FITTERS and PRESS TOOL SETTERS...

MALE insurance clerks vacancies all departments: nr. Aldgate Stn. B15 5531, Clayman Agency, 718, Aldgate High-st. E.C.3.

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AUDIO typist, 9.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.; 14, vouchers; opp. Fenchurch-st. B15 5531, Clayman Agency, 653, Fenchurch-st. E.C.3.

EXPERIENCED MAINTENANCE ENGINEER required for the maintenance of Injection Moulding Machines...

EXPERIENCED FEMALE OPERATORS required for operating Lead Machine for sheet metal worker...

Required for Gents Tailoring: TAILORS, FIXERS, SPECIAL MACHINISTS...

STAFFORDS BAKERIES RAMSDEN HEATH REQUIRE MALE BAKERY OPERATIVE...

Apply to: The Personnel Officer W. W. SPRAGUE & CO. LTD. 186 City Road, London, E.C.1

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ACCOUNTS clerks (exper.), age 20/30, req. by a City Insurance firm for its office in Wickford; salary according to ability, 5-day week...

EXPERIENCED MAINTENANCE ENGINEER required for the maintenance of Injection Moulding Machines...

EXPERIENCED FEMALE OPERATORS required for operating Lead Machine for sheet metal worker...

Required for Gents Tailoring: TAILORS, FIXERS, SPECIAL MACHINISTS...

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FOREMAN req. by steel and rubber merchants for their Gray Thru-rope plant; able to assist in the design of general running machinery...

EXPERIENCED MAINTENANCE ENGINEER required for the maintenance of Injection Moulding Machines...

EXPERIENCED FEMALE OPERATORS required for operating Lead Machine for sheet metal worker...

Required for Gents Tailoring: TAILORS, FIXERS, SPECIAL MACHINISTS...

STAFFORDS BAKERIES RAMSDEN HEATH REQUIRE MALE BAKERY OPERATIVE...

Apply to: The Personnel Officer W. W. SPRAGUE & CO. LTD. 186 City Road, London, E.C.1

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Experienced STEEL FIXERS required REINFORCEMENT STEEL FIXERS REQUIRED for general concrete factory. Normal rates, plus bonus. Regular work. Apply S. G. WILSON

GILBARCO TECHNICAL SALES CLERK We have yet another vacancy in our sales department, which is dealing with an ever-increasing flow of orders...

Required for Gents Tailoring: TAILORS, FIXERS, SPECIAL MACHINISTS. Apply The Trafalgar Clothing Co., Ltd. 10 BROOK ROAD, BENFLEET, ESSEX

STAFFORDS BAKERIES RAMSDEN HEATH REQUIRE MALE BAKERY OPERATIVE. Apply to: The Personnel Officer W. W. SPRAGUE & CO. LTD. 186 City Road, London, E.C.1

Fully Experienced MACHINISTS - here is your opportunity to help the export drive and earn top money at the same time. Come to JULIAN JERSEYWEAR

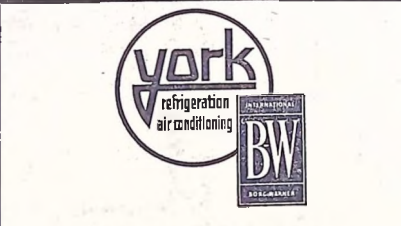
DRUMS LIMITED THAMES ROAD, GRAYS REQUIRE MAINTENANCE FITTERS and PRESS TOOL SETTERS. Apply to: ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY !! We are again in urgent need of a good all-round DRAUGHTSMAN. Apply Chief Draughtsman DRUMS LIMITED, Thames Road, Grays, Essex

RECTION FOREMAN REQUIRED for the site erection of precast elements and other prefabricated units on industrialised housing site at BASILDON. Apply S. G. Wilson, CRUDENS LIMITED, Burnt Mills Road, Basildon.

ACCOUNTS CLERK (male) aged 18 to 21 years - sales ledger experience an advantage and a CLERK-TYPIST. Apply In writing to Durox Building Units Limited

Our Sales demands are rapidly increasing calling for additional FULLY SKILLED MEN. Only fully skilled and experienced men need apply. Apply to: R. T. S. (HACKNEY) LTD. RAWRETH LANE, RAYLEIGH, ESSEX



Have the following skilled vacancies: HORIZONTAL BORER, VERTICAL BORER (Night Shift), RADIAL DRILLERS, STOREMAN, MACHINE and FITTING SHOP INSPECTOR, SKILLED ASSEMBLY FITTER, SEMI-SKILLED MACHINIST, ASSEMBLER, PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT CLERK (Male), TIME OFFICE CLERK (Male), CLERK (Male). Write, telephone or call YORK SHIPLEY LTD

STANDARD STAFF FINDER

MAN required for Coating Production

Experience in making paint or ink an advantage but not essential. Training given.

Apply in writing:

STABILITY RADIO COMPONENTS Ltd.
CRANES FARM ROAD, BASILDON
Telephone: BASILDON 21262

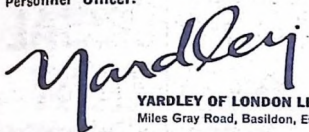
WOMEN FOR DESPATCH WORK

Those who enjoy an absorbing and active occupation may be interested in the vacancies in our Despatch Department. The work entails the collection of items for customers' orders from the warehouses and is suitable for women aged 25-35.

- * Pleasant surroundings
- * High rates
- * Overalls supplied
- * Hours 8.15 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

For further details please telephone Basildon 2271 or write to:

Mrs. A. K. Forrest,
Personnel Officer.



YARDLEY OF LONDON LIMITED
Miles Gray Road, Basildon, Essex.

MAINTENANCE FITTER

required to undertake the maintenance of both plant and machinery at the Wickford Check Printing branch.

Good conditions of employment. Forty-hour week.

Apply to:
The Manager
W. W. SPRAGUE & CO. LTD.
Unit 15, Heron Trading Estate
Wickford
Telephone: WICKFORD 3779

SECRETARY REQUIRED

for Chief Engineer of large Oil Storage Installation

Applicants should have had wide industrial experience and be capable of good shorthand and typing speeds. This position is pensionable and salary range is £743 to £873. Five-day thirty-seven-and-a-half-hour week. Catering, sports and welfare facilities and free transport from Stanford-le-Hope.

Apply in writing giving full details of age, etc. to Personnel and Industrial Relations Manager
LONDON & THAMES HAVEN OIL WHARVES LIMITED
THAMES HAVEN, NR. STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.

London and Thames Haven Oil Wharves Ltd.

Europe's largest independent Oil Storage Installation, has a vacancy in the Engineering Department for a

Services Engineer

The successful candidate will be principally responsible for the generation and distribution of steam and air and distribution of fresh and salt water. Experience of steam engines, compressed air and associated plant is essential. Applicants should also be familiar with domestic heating and water services. A knowledge of scheduled maintenance and the periodic insurance inspection and testing of plant and equipment is desirable. A minimum of five years' experience in this field is absolutely essential. The salary range is £140 to £176 and starting salary will be £140. Certificate in Marine Engineering. Salary will be £140 to £176 and starting salary will be £140. Applications in writing should be addressed to the

Assistant Installation Manager
LONDON AND THAMES HAVEN OIL WHARVES LTD.
Thames Haven (near Stanford-le-Hope), Essex

A PLANT ENGINEER

required to take direct charge of
PRODUCTION & MAINTENANCE of
Color-Gas Filling Plant at Coryton

Applicants should be fully qualified engineers, age 35 to 45, with at least five years' management experience including control of labour. The factory operates on a production line basis and plant includes chain and overhead conveyors, vacuum pumps, L.P.G. pumps, compressors, etc. and the successful applicant must be capable of initiating methods of improved maintenance and production and putting his ideas into effect. Starting salary will be in the region of £1,500 p.a., plus company car, non-contributory pension scheme and life assurance scheme. Apply, stating age, brief details of career and present salary to Chief Engineer (Filling Stations) L.P.G.A.S. LTD., 26 Micham Road, Rushden, Northants.

TILBURY POWER STATION VACANCIES—SHIFT CRAFTSMEN

ELECTRICAL MECHANICAL & INSTRUMENT

Applications are invited for the above positions. Candidates should be experienced in the maintenance of heavy plant preferably associated with generating stations. If you have this experience you are invited to apply. The appointed persons will be required to work a three-cycle shift on a seven-day basis yielding an average forty-hour, five-day week over four weeks.

Rate of pay: £22.18 per week plus 7/8 per week after two years and a further 7/8 per week after three years' service.

DAY CRAFTSMEN

ELECTRICAL MECHANICAL & INSTRUMENT

Applications are invited for the above positions. Experience as above.

The appointed persons will be required to work a seven-day stagger system of five days per week, 7.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. (forty hours), including three Saturdays and three Sundays in every four weeks.

Rate of pay: £22.18 per week plus 7/8 per week after two years' service and a further 7/8 per week after three years' service.

Applications on standard forms available on request from Station Superintendent, Tilbury Generating Station, Fort Road, Tilbury, Essex, or telephone Tilbury 3106.

The nurse who looks after her knows her job is worth it

This child's smile is her real reward... but there are practical benefits too.

The pay is good, there are four weeks' paid holiday each year and plenty of free time to enjoy with new-found friends.

For the girl who cares about people, happiness wears a nurse's cap.

For the modern girl who is looking for fulfilment and a progressive career..... it must be nursing. You are that girl!

Write today for brochure and further details to:
The Matron, St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay.



OFFICE STAFF

Consult the **BASILDON STAFF BUREAU**

6A SOUTHERNHAY, BASILDON Phone: Basildon 23381
We are in the Town Centre at the corner of Great Oake and Southernhay
We have vacancies in various categories (permanent and temporary)
— Experienced staff only —

NEW LABORATORY ST. ANDREW'S HOSPITAL, BILLERICAY

CLERK/TYPISTS

Three Young Ladies need 17 to 25 years required for interesting work. Salary scale £293 per annum rising to £489. Advanced increments for approved typing and shorthand certificates. Prospects of advancement for suitable candidates. G.C.E. "O" levels an advantage. Apply to Hospital Secretary by April 7.

JOHN WALTON REQUIRE A Senior Salesman

For their BASILDON branch. Excellent prospects for promotion. Top salary and staff pension scheme. Apply in strictest confidence to:

Staff Director
27 WOODGRANGE ROAD, LONDON, E.7
Telephone: MAR 7672

BARTONS the BAKERS

have a vacancy on their

WEEKEND SECURITY STAFF

for the following hours:

SATURDAY, 12.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

Applications to:

BARTONS (Basildon) LIMITED
Paycocke Road, Basildon
Telephone: Basildon 20301

MAKE A CAREER WITH YOUR COUNTY FIRE BRIGADE Firemen

required

Commencing rate at 18 £12.18.5 to £14.17.5 at age 21, rising to £17.16.6 a week. Shoes, shirts, socks and uniform provided free. Full pay during sickness. Excellent pension, retirement from age 50. Good promotion prospects. Three weeks' holiday and six days public holiday leave. Qualifications: age 18 to 30 (higher if ex-Regular Service man), height 5ft 7in. or more, chest 36in. to 38in. or more.

Apply local Fire Station or write **CHIEF OFFICER, 67 BAYLEIGH ROAD HUTTON, BRENTWOOD**

SAVE TRAVELLING TIME—BY WORKING LOCAL!!

THE TRAFALGAR CLOTHING CO., LTD.

10 BROOK ROAD, HIGH ROAD, BENFLEET
Telephone: SOUTH BENFLEET 2369

REQUIRE THE FOLLOWING WORKERS FOR TROUSERS AND JACKET SECTIONS

- ★ MACHINISTS
- ★ SPECIAL MACHINISTS
- ★ TAILORS
- ★ BAISTERS
- ★ FINISHERS
- ★ FIXERS
- ★ OVERLOCKERS
- ★ CLEANER

IDEAL CONDITIONS ★ CANTEN ★ MODERN FACTORY

