

# THE CROXLEY RESIDENT

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' AND RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

Editor: W. F. HADAWAY  
83 Baldwins Lane.

No. 39.

No. 1—1952.

## EDITORIAL

This year of grace—1952—is a Leap Year. Thinking back to our schooldays—it seems they were long ago—we tried hard to remember what it was that distinguished Leap Years, but only two memories came to our aid. The one, a somewhat hazy recollection of division and subtraction. The other, much more distinctly remembered, and so shattering to male self-esteem, was that the “weaker” sex could actually propose! We remember shying violently away from those long-legged, short-skirted and pigtail-haired “opposites”—we would never, never, propose to any of them—they should most definitely not be allowed to waylay us—we had no time for “women”! How very foolish we proved to be, and how more and more dependent upon them we became, until now we are prepared to admit that there may be a “fair” sex, but most certainly not a “weaker” one. Fortunately, however, it is still mainly man’s prerogative to propose and doubtless he always does it to the best advantage. It follows naturally that when, at the recent Annual General Meeting of the Association, it became necessary to elect a new President, a lady was proposed. What is more, the lady was Mrs. M. R. Ritchie and it is hardly necessary to add that she became, by unanimous vote, “the first lady of the Association”. It is indeed gratifying to know that we have in Croxley Green such a well-known and public-spirited person taking a live interest in an Association whose declared aim is “service to the community,” and the choice of our new President is a welcome gesture to a Leap Year tradition. The housewives of Croxley Green can be in a very favourable position this year. They can “propose” joining the Association, with the certain knowledge that they will be “accepted”; and we will say with all gallantry, “You have made us so happy”!

After the National Budget, the Local Budget! And in both of them, what a difference between 1939 and 1951! Both balance sheets suggest that more is required than has been received and so, inevitably, more must be budgeted for and, so far as the County of Hertford is concerned, this unfortunate position seems to be indicated for some years to come. It is indeed something of a shock to realise that whereas in 1939, only seven counties enjoyed a lower rate, there are now only two with a higher one. What are the reasons for this very disturbing change? The main factors are: (a) the County Council receives no Equalisation Grant, and (b) the costly provision of services, particularly to the new towns and L.C.C. estates. When it is realised that the rate income from the areas (b) will prove inadequate for some time (several years, in all probability) it is not difficult to imagine that Hertfordshire’s future rate precepts may well attain the unenviable distinction of being the highest in England. Already three-quarters of every pound of your rates is earmarked for County spending, and the speed of expenditure is accelerating. Your burden as a ratepayer will be well-nigh intolerable unless some special financial assistance be forthcoming from the Government, out of the National Budget, and “this is where we came in”! Before we go, however, we would remind you that the Association has three delegates to the Hertfordshire Federation of Ratepayers, which at least means that your interests as ratepayers are being carefully watched, as are those who have the spending of your money. What the Federation cannot solve, more’s the pity, is the problem “why should more of your money be needed for the National Budget in order to lessen the cost of your Local Budget”? Truly money, like the music, “goes round and around,” but, unlike the music, it doesn’t “come out here”.

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## DIARY OF GARDENING

The winter months have slipped by and here we are on the threshold of spring once more. It is to be hoped that the sunny days of January and February enabled the digging and trenching, left over from autumn, to be practically finished, for now comes the busy time and it is as well that the lighter evenings are just ahead. If you have a greenhouse, the seeds of half-hardy annuals should be sown. There is a very wide choice and catalogues should be carefully studied, in order to ensure that your final selection will be based on colour, form and local suitability. In the absence of a greenhouse, maybe you will have a neighbour who will accommodate a box or two of seeds; you can repay him by doing a job for him.

Owing to the mild weather, the sweet pea plants are probably looking a trifle weak, owing to having made a little too much growth, so give them all the air possible—a few degrees of frost won't hurt them—and, in the meantime, complete the trench by adding the soil already heaped up the sides (see last issue), mixing with it some bonemeal or hoof and horn meal at the rate of four to six ounces per yard run and leaving the surface about an inch lower than the surrounding ground. Dust with lime or old (repeat OLD) soot, and in a day or two the ground will be ready for planting. You should already have "broken" and "stopped" each plant, by pinching the growing tip right out. This treatment seems drastic but it must be done, so that the plants flower on the side "breaks." By the way, if you intend to grow Sweet Peas on the cordon plan, get the canes in before planting and don't forget the golden rule—plant firmly. Sow a few extra seeds in late March or early April, either in 60 size pots or in open ground; you will get late flowering plants thereby. Quite a lot of the early Chrysanthemums have made good progress and can be potted up. Try to grow them on without any check and don't "coddle" them by keeping too warm an atmosphere in greenhouse or frame; let them have plenty of air.

The end of March should see all Roses pruned. Don't leave this job any later, or you will be severing wood in which the sap has already risen and that would be wasteful.

If you can get some stable or farmyard manure, fork it lightly round the bushes—old compost with old soot added makes a good substitute.

Now to the flower beds that contain the spring plants. Prick them gently over and give a dressing of general fertiliser when the weather is open and fairly dry.

The pruning of fruit trees should now be completed and the winter spraying done. If, however, the latter job has not yet been done, don't despair, but get one of the sprays which may be used right up to blossom-opening time; you will find one or two makes which are perfectly safe for late use, if you follow the maker's directions.

Trees growing in grass can now be given a dressing of lime, 3 to 4 ozs. per square yard and, in early April, some sulphate of ammonia at the rate of 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard.

It is still not too late to replace that old, non-fruitful tree with a new one! After all, fruit trees should have fruit on!

The vegetable garden or allotment will now be ready for sowing and planting. First the shallots, broad beans and one of the round varieties of early peas, then

parsnips and parsley. (If parsley is sown in March, it will yield a crop until the autumn frosts.) Onions, lettuce, leeks, brussels sprouts and cauliflower will do particularly well under cloches; you will find they will crop some four or five weeks earlier than those seeded directly in open ground. Make an effort to get all spare ground turned over before weeds get too big and remove all the old winter green stalks which are inclined to flower, as these are a menace to all seed growers.

And now, some advice to the occupants of houses on the new estates. Undoubtedly the footings and clay from the house site will have been deposited on what was good workable soil and there will also be a top dressing of all the bits and pieces of bricks and cement! What can be done? Well, the remedy may take some time but it will pay in the end. Start by removing all the rubble and clay to the end of the plot (unless it is more than 15in. deep, in which case it is rather hopeless). Then take off the original top soil to a depth of about a foot, put the clay back again and finally replace the top soil. This complete operation will probably spread over a couple of years, but you may be able to raise some greenstuff in the first half of the ground before the whole job is completed. In any case, the garden is always a long-term problem and you can only "make haste slowly." May the weather be favourable and may you all get some good crops, to help in these difficult times. A. BARBER.

## CARNATION AND DIANTHUS HYBRIDS

A series of coloured films dealing with these charming subjects was presented by Messrs. Allwood Bros. Ltd., of Haywards Heath, Sussex, to the members of the Croxley Green Horticultural and Allotment Holders' Society, at Science Room, Dickinson's Guildhouse, on January 24, 1952.

When introducing the films, Mr. P. Allwood Fenn (the lecturer) pointed out that Border Carnations have been grown in British gardens for hundreds of years. Few garden plants can produce flowers to rival the richness and quality of colour of the Border Carnation and surely no plant produces flowers that can compare with the exquisite delicacy and precision of markings of the fancy coloured Picotees. To get the best results, Pinks and other members of the Dianthus family should have direct light, good drainage, and plenty of lime in the soil. Carnations should be planted firmly, but not deeply. Their only food should be slow acting organic fertilisers.

The Perpetual Carnation is a more recent introduction and has leapt into popularity during the present century. The remarkable thing about this type of Carnation is that it will continue to grow and produce flowers without a pause for two or three years when grown in a slightly heated glasshouse.

The films, which were in true-to-life colours, showed Carnations being grown commercially and by amateurs and included many close-ups of individual flowers. Demonstrations of propagation by means of cuttings, layers and by seed, and the best methods of planting and potting, were also included.

The concluding pictures showed some of the new and improved Pinks which are being produced and also some of the very attractive Dianthus Hybrids which have been bred from Sweet William and can be produced from seed in one season.

This lecture was greatly appreciated by well over a hundred people who, whatever their previous fancies, are now most definitely "Carnation conscious."

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## YOU WANT A HOUSE?

So much has been said and written recently regarding housing accommodation that the poor bewildered applicant must scarcely know whether his hopes are to be fulfilled more speedily or if he will have to wait hopefully and patiently until the red tape is finally severed or some courageous authority decides to act.

Like all other commodities or essentials in short supply, housing has been the subject of too much talking and planning and not enough action. Immediately following the war there were rash promises and forecasts that within a short space of time there would be houses for all. Shortages of materials and labour appeared to have been forgotten.

Each successive year has brought forth more promises but never any increase in houses, with the result that this vexed problem has recently become a major plank of political propaganda. That such should ever have had to be so, is, to put it mildly, a national disgrace which will be regretted by those concerned.

The poor housing applicant is not really concerned whether 100,000 or 500,000 houses are being built throughout the country, but is concerned whether a house is being built for him in his own locality. Figures on a grand scale are not only misleading, but are frequently used to cover up local deficiencies.

When it is considered how much money, materials and labour has been expended on huge office blocks for Civil Servants and Nationalised Industry Boards, any reasonable thinking person must pause and estimate the number of houses such expenditure would have covered.

Had these resources been used for housing at the time they were used for offices, many more dwellings could have been provided than is the case today when costs have soared.

The future is not rosy for the housing applicant. He may look forward to having a choice of three or four alternatives. He may (some day) when red tape is cut to shreds get a council house at a rent he can scarcely afford in spite of the subsidies, or, he may be able to buy a council built property and have repayments to

meet which will stretch his earnings to breaking point. (And don't forget that such a property may well deteriorate in value considerably before his repayments are half finished). On the other hand, he may obtain a licence and have a property built in which case a larger sum may well have to be found initially as well as a regular repayment; or, of course, he may decide to buy in the open market where, until the main housing demand is satisfied, he will have to pay an inflated price for vacant possession.

The only other hope, perhaps, is that someone who can see some daylight through the housing muddle, has the courage to build properties for letting at an economical rental. For the rental to be within the reach of the average wage earner, the speculator would need to have more courage and resourcefulness than has been displayed by those connected with housing hitherto.

Surely the mistakes and unfulfilled promises of the past should be enough to lift housing from the arena of party political haggling? Such mistakes and shortcomings should be frankly admitted and "co-operation on a national basis to solve this trouble" be the watchword.

When the kettle calls the pan black and the pan retaliates by returning the compliment, the two should be put out of service until they are cleansed beyond the fear of a repetition and a new and better balanced utensil put into use. The moral is—housing should be put into the hands of a local House Building Committee freed from the shackles of Whitehall, from the haggling of party political theorists, and also from the dead hand of local planning experts who live in a world of houses on paper and the like.

A committee formed of persons having not only the desire but the courage, initiative and drive to get things done and with power to act, would soon show the dreamers and theorists in their true light.

Yes, housing is not really a problem, it is a national disgrace. You want a house?—so do thousands like you. Can you look back with satisfaction or forward with confidence?

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## WE HEAR —

**Shops in Baldwins Lane.**—Whether shops are required in Baldwins Lane on the sites chosen, or not, they still remain "shops on paper," and developments of a practical nature are little further advanced.

**Overhanging Hedges.**—Owners of properties where hedges are evergrown and overhanging the pavements, are to be requested to trim them back. These hedges are definitely dangerous, especially during periods of darkness.

**Cycling on Footpaths.**—The Association has received many complaints recently from residents who have been endangered by cyclists riding on public footpaths. This is a very dangerous practice and all residents who witness such occurrences are requested to take some positive action. School Heads and Club Leaders could undoubtedly do much to assist in this respect as many of the offenders are teen-agers.

**Gas Meters.**—Referring to the comment made in our Sept./Oct. issue last year, apropos the change-over to shilling slot meters, we are pleased to hear that the Eastern Gas Board is prepared, in genuine cases of hardship, to re-open the penny slot. It should, of course, be borne in mind that the "shillings only" restriction was introduced deliberately to reduce collecting costs.

**Gas Stoves.**—When reference was made to the fact that householders had been advised that a rental was to be charged for gas stoves originally freely installed by the Gas Company (pre-nationalisation), we were aware that there was a widely held view that it was another indication of "revenue collecting" by a Nationalised Industry. However, we are informed that this widely held opinion is not correct. The true facts are that, prior to 1951, the price of gas to coin meter users in this district included a supplement of 3.6d. per therm for cooker and meter hire. This was charged on every therm used, so that a consumer using more gas paid more hire. In 1951, the Eastern Gas Board corrected this anomaly by charging a revised tariff, in which the hire supplement, reduced to 3½d., is on the first 30 therms per quarter only. Consequently, so far from collecting revenue, this revision is estimated to cost the Board's Watford Division alone some £43,000 annually!

We are not advised how this £43,000 is to be made good.

**Waste Paper.**—The Council is to operate the waste paper collection scheme on a different footing in 1952 as the 1951 figures revealed the cost to be higher than that estimated.

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## CHAIRMAN

So much is heard these days in connection with the time to study the trends and take stock.

Education is very necessary, whether the child is to live by more practical use of the hands. Before giving the term "to earn a living" is really the key to the new era.

Gone are the days when a certain "class" did not but to send their children to work before they had even has come about gradually, due, not to the benevolence of a natural trend of events consequent on the normal advance.

The term I have used—"classes"—is merely to denote which ought to have been abolished long ago. There are levels of existence. "Class" is apt to denote privilege, more to pay towards the maintenance of the state than to receive.

You may wonder what bearing this has on education along with it a real education problem as to whether a child receives an education. There is a belief that this "right" must be fought for.

All children are not so suited for education to a profession with their hands.

They are carried beyond the realisation that a good deal of clamour for the white collar jobs which, unfortunately, these jobs only a very small percentage can ever hope to in penury battling daily ever harder against the cost of living.

It has become the belief of many that it is not social justice to have a class of people who live in poverty or clothes.

Back we come to education again. What is needed is a realisation of opportunity in education, but realisation of opportunity does not exist but the application of the policy lags far behind. The reverse and the day can be foreseen when, in order to have to be declared as having special privileges and he will himself enjoys. I, like many others who have been in other clerical appointments who endorsed their application for promotion.

We do not want a similar state of affairs in this country as in the industrial areas.

Let us then think, in these days of difficulty when whether these reductions could not force us to balance our books from a perspective. The war brought about a shortage of good clerical to satisfy of doubtful replacements, and youth employment of child into white collar employment.

Make no mistake, the child who enters into an apprenticeship (not too far distant) be the envy of his brother who comes home all day.

The future of this country is irrevocably bound up with the "standard of living" will be determined by suitability of employment encouraged into unsuitable employment as a youth will not be encouraged.

Having had the pleasure of working on both sides of the fence, I am most unhappy to think that any child, whether from rural or urban areas, and fitted for a profession or other calling where his or her own the mutual service of self and country. I firmly believe in the advancement. But I cannot reconcile the indiscriminate pressure to satisfy the whims of educationalists who ought to know better.

Perhaps we should start the cuts by weeding out a class of people who would be better employed earning a living by the use of their hands.

Perhaps there is still a "privileged class" being protected.

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## S LETTER

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## — AND OBSERVE

**Street Lighting, Watford Road.**—The Council are not prepared to extend the period of lighting of certain lamps, which if kept alight longer, would materially benefit late travellers and be in the interest of public safety.

**Pedestrian Crossings.**—The Council are to press for the retention of pedestrian crossings in excess of the four sanctioned under the recent regulations. This, if successful, would provide for the retention of the pedestrian crossing in Watford Road opposite Winton Approach. This Association maintains a very active interest in the siting and maintenance of pedestrian crossings and has recently been in touch with the Council on this subject.

**Council Agendas.**—The controversy regarding provision of agendas of Council meetings seems to be creating a stir in certain quarters. It is always said that there is a reason for all decisions; as this is a matter of public interest, it is worthy of the closest examination.

**Common Moor.**—The question of this piece of land being used for recreational purposes to fill the need for more football pitches, is to be reconsidered. Unfortunately, the Chancellor's ruling on expenditure on recreation grounds may delay any positive action.

**County Council Representation.**—Watford Borough are to press for more effective representation on the Herts County Council.

**Rail Services.**—A suggestion coming, strangely enough, from an outsider, but one which is certainly worthy of consideration, has been received by the R.U.D.C. The suggestion is that a junction between the Watford to Croxley L.M.S. section and the Metro. line might be effected, which would result in direct contact between Watford Junction and Rickmansworth. If this could be provided the Watford to Rickmansworth branch line could then be closed without causing so much inconvenience.

We wonder how far such a worthy suggestion will go!

**Bus Services.**—Fortunately, the W.R.D.C. are not prepared to let the L.T.E. foist their arbitrary decisions on the public and it is sincerely hoped that the R.U.D.C. will support this public-spirited body and not let the L.T.E. run services as and how it wishes, regardless of the public need.

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## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

So much is heard these days in connection with the cuts in education services, that it is perhaps an opportune time to study the trends and take stock.

Education is very necessary, whether the child is to follow a profession, enter business or commerce, or earn a living by more practical use of the hands. Before giving further thought to the subject, it does strike me that the term "to earn a living" is really the key to the need for education.

Gone are the days when a certain "class" did not need to work; or when other "classes" had no option but to send their children to work before they had even reached adolescence. This change, which is for the good, has come about gradually, due, not to the benevolence of any particular political party, but rather as a part of the natural trend of events consequent on the normal advancement of the way of life of the lower "classes."

The term I have used—"classes"—is merely to describe various levels of existence or living, and is a term which ought to have been abolished long ago. There are really no upper or lower classes, but simply various levels of existence. "Class" is apt to denote privilege, and today there is no privilege, but rather some have more to pay towards the maintenance of the state than others; and vice-versa some receive more in return.

You may wonder what bearing this has on education. Unfortunately, this levelling process has brought along with it a real education problem as to whether a child is fitted mentally or psychologically for advanced education. There is a belief that this "right" must be forced upon the poor unfortunate individual.

All children are not so suited for education to a point where they cease to realise the benefits of working with their hands.

They are carried beyond the realisation that a good craft apprenticeship is something to be proud of and all clamour for the white collar jobs which, unfortunately, are so often dead ends. Of the total number who take these jobs only a very small percentage can ever hope to reach executive or managerial level; the rest labour on in penury battling daily ever harder against the cost of living and the need to "keep up appearances."

It has become the belief of many that it is not socially desirable to come home from work with soiled hands or clothes.

Back we come to education again. What is needed more than ever in this country today is not only the realisation of opportunity in education, but realisation of the limitations of the individual. The opportunity very rightly exists but the application of the policy lags far behind. We are in danger of over-education rather than the reverse and the day can be foreseen when, in order to get an employee to work with his hands, his job will have to be declared as having special privileges and he will require to be paid a higher rate than the employer himself enjoys. I, like many others who have been in other countries must recall for example the applicants for clerical appointments who endorsed their application forms "B.A. Failed," etc.

We do not want a similar state of affairs in this country which rose to its greatness by the work of its industrious people.

Let us then think, in these days of difficulty when reductions in education expenditure are being decreed, whether these reductions could not force us to balance our outlook and view these matters in their more logical perspective. The war brought about a shortage of good class teachers, the abbreviated training schemes gave us a supply of doubtful replacements, and youth employment services seem to regard it as their aim to turn every child into white collar employment.

Make no mistake, the child who enters into an apprenticeship for training as a craftsman will one day (and not too far distant) be the envy of his brother who comes home with clean hands and who may well find himself at home all day.

The future of this country is irrevocably bound up with the quality of its craftsmen; the "level of existence" or "standard of living" will be determined by suitability for the job, and the lot of the individual who had been encouraged into unsuitable employment as a youth will not be anything near the picture he was led to visualise.

Having had the pleasure of working on both sides I know what opportunity can mean, and I would be most unhappy to think that any child, whether from rich or poor parents, could not be educated to capacity and fitted for a profession or other calling where his or her qualities and abilities could be given full expression in the mutual service of self and country. I firmly believe that all should contribute their utmost towards common advancement. But I cannot reconcile the indiscriminate pushing of youngsters into blind alley occupations merely to satisfy the whims of educationalists who ought to know better, with the vast sums now being spent on education.

Perhaps we should start the cuts by weeding out a few of those who are responsible for this trend and who would be better employed earning a living by the use of their hands.

Perhaps there is still a "privileged class" being perpetuated—the professional educationalist bureaucrat!

T. POOLEY.

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## FISHY BUSINESS!

Most likely the "keeping of fish" will conjure up in the minds of most readers a vision of an aquarium, possibly at the London Zoological Gardens or at Brighton. Some folk will imagine a bowl in which one lonely goldfish makes his endless rounds. But, to a surprisingly large number of people, this hobby of keeping fish has come to mean a tank (or tanks) with shingle and a rock or two, water plants, and last but by no means least, a wide choice of exotic fish to cater for all tastes and purses.

If *you* are already an "aquarist," or if you intend to be one in the future, remember that this hobby extends from the indoors tank to the outdoors pond and, whether you decide upon tropical or cold-water fish, you will derive a greater pleasure therefrom by sharing your interests, and those interests will be stimulated in discussing with fellow-aquarists your hopes, ambitions and troubles.

In an attempt to foster this "fellowship of fishy folk," a few local enthusiasts believe that the formation of a Club for aquarists of all ages would prove to be of great interest in Croxley Green, and would lead to a greater appreciation of the merits of this particular hobby, for merits it undoubtedly has! For example, I understand that the most fretful infant is magically pacified when its gaze happens upon a tank-full of "finniosities," whilst, as for husbands, maybe a tank down the garden would mean as much as a tankard down the road! In any case, for those who were interested, an exploratory meeting was held at the Guildhouse on Tuesday, March, 11, when the possibilities of forming a Club were discussed.

If you are already an enthusiast, then please contact Mr. A. Blanchard, 40 Oakleigh Drive, Croxley Green, before the date of the meeting, he will readily give you all the latest of 'fish'ial news!

### CORRESPONDENCE

From recent letters to the Editor, we think the following extracts are worthy of comment:—

Mr. Aubrey Henson, of 273 New Road, is in favour

of seats on the Green. He writes "Certainly. The more the merrier! But *do* please have backs to them. Sloping backs, of course."

[Editorial Note: Visit the Green, Mr. Henson].

He is also concerned about the absence of Bus Shelters; particularly at the Red House corner of New Road. "A shelter there is urgently needed," he says, as "it is a windy spot, and passengers generally, and those for Sarratt in particular, have to wait in an unenviable place. Who will do the job? Is it Council or London Transport? Will you please look into this?"

\* \* \* \*

We have previously published a short account of the Citizen's Advice Bureau (to whose Committee a "Residents'" delegate is appointed), but we think that it will be of interest—and perhaps of use—to acquaint our readers of the following details, recently given by one of our correspondents, who writes: "There still is a place where it is possible for certain people who have difficulties which they cannot solve for themselves to go and obtain advice. The Bureau originated in the need of people faced with the many new regulations of war-time, though it was started in readiness before the war began in 1939; that beginning was due to a resident of Moor Park, who has now moved away, but a few of the helpers who were with him have kept it going during these years of peace, attending twice a week, on Monday from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., and on Friday from 11 to 12.30 in the morning, in the Council Chamber. Here there is of course complete privacy and, needless to say, no one's affairs are discussed openly. The ladies who give this voluntary service are also to be nameless in this article. Most of the queries are of a general kind, but we receive from C.A.B. Headquarters regular summaries of recent Orders and Legislation. This is, in fact, the only appreciable cost, all work being voluntary, but it does, in fact, fall on your rates to the extent of a very small sum, because, since the Government grant was withdrawn, we have given a donation to help maintain the supply of information."

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## LADIES ONLY

As the meat ration has been reduced, perhaps it would be as well if I gave you a few "fishy" recipes. Always hoping, of course, that you can afford to buy the fish!

For the very new housewife it might be a good idea to suggest a method for choosing fish.

Fish is divided into two classes—firstly, white fish, which is by far the most digestible, such as sole, plaice, halibut, whiting, cod, etc.; secondly, oily fish, which is more nourishing, such as salmon, herring, mackerel. When fresh the eyes are full and bright, the gills bright red, and in the case of plaice the spots should be bright red and the flesh firm and stiff. Always clean

before cooking.

The following recipe will make that bit of rough looking cod quite appetising and your prowess as a cook will be established for ever!

### Creme de Poisson

Half a pound of cod or hake; scrape all flesh from the bone and pound it well to a pulp; bind with the following: 2 oz. flour, 1 oz. butter,  $\frac{1}{4}$  pint of water, 1 egg.

Put water and butter in a pan and when boiling add all the flour at once and stir well. Beat up the egg and when the panada (flour, etc.) is cold, add it and stir well; add cayenne (if liked) and salt to taste, and one tablespoonful of cream and milk. Then mix the whole with the panaded fish. Grease a fancy mould and decorate with chopped parsley; put in the mixture and steam for one hour (cover with greased paper).

Now a sauce to be used with the dish:—1 oz. butter, 1 egg, 1 pint milk, squeeze of lemon juice, cayenne, salt.

Put butter and flour in pan and when hot gradually add the milk and lemon. Allow to cool, add the egg and seasonings, put on the gas again but do not allow to boil. Fry some rounds of bread, dip them in chopped parsley and place round the dish for decoration.

### A Nice Tea Dish

Take a lemon sole, skinned and filleted. Roll each piece in flour and place in a dish. Cover the fish with liquid—one part milk, one part water and put about four pieces of butter the size of a small nut on the fish; add salt and pepper to taste, and cook in a quick oven—time, half-an-hour.

When perusing menus or even recipes, I often think when I see these foreign names: "Now I wonder what that means?" And as I expect some of you have thought the same on many occasions. I am compiling a "glossary" and will publish a few in each edition of "The Resident":—

"Au Gratin"—term applied to dishes served in the dish in which baked.

"Au Maigre"—dishes prepared without meat.

"Au Fein"—baked in the oven.

"A l'Indienne"—curried dishes.

## INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE

Have YOU heard of this movement? and are YOU familiar with its purpose? No? Then this would seem the most propitious time to enlighten you, so that some Tuesday, at 8 o'clock, you may personally follow-up this very worthwhile object by being present at the Guildhouse, where you will receive a warm welcome. The British Section of the I.F.L. was founded in 1931. It is a young people's movement and has been built up mainly by them; the co-operation of everyone is, however, invited and there is no age limit to membership which costs 5/- if under 21, or 7/6 if over that age.

The aims of the League are:—

To bring young people of different countries into friendly association with one another.

To encourage an awareness of the ideals, culture and problems of other nations, and to help them to understand ours;

To inspire members to express this friendship and understanding in acts of service, however small, towards their fellows who may be in need.

The League is a voluntary organisation, and is non-political, non-sectarian and non-commercial. It is concerned chiefly with Human Relationships in the International Sphere, and knows that the promotion thereof will result in a better world in which to live.

In furtherance of these aims, the local branch holds Tuesday meetings, and provides speakers, film shows, discussions, social evenings, table tennis, etc. Why don't you pop along?—Guildhouse, Tuesday, 8 p.m.—and become a friend of the I.F.L. There can't be too many!

### LADIES ONLY (Continued)

"Allemande"—reduced white sauce, thickened with cream and yolk of egg and flavoured with lemon.

"Aspic"—a savoury jelly.

### Household Hints

1. Mould can be kept from the top of preserves by putting a few drops of glycerine around the edges of the jar before fastening the cover.

2. Fish to be kept fresh should be sprinkled with salt and put in a cold place.

### How to Spread Happiness

1 oz. common sense, 1 peel of laughter, 2 oz. give and take, 1 kindly deed, 2 lbs. of smiles. To be shaken and taken three times daily.

"FEMINA."

[Men—Beware! The spring-cleaning season is at hand!]

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## "PAINTED SPARROWS"

CROXLEY THEATRE CLUB, presents its second production at the Guildhouse on Friday and Saturday, April 4th and 5th. Please book these dates and give your own Dramatic Society your full support. New members, acting or non-acting will be cordially welcomed on Thursday evenings at Durrants School.

### WHITHER CROXLEY?

Two Public Inquiries in five months! Such is the local distinction (?) The latest inquiry, held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday, February 26, concerned the future of the Civic Restaurant building in Winton Drive. Colonel S. E. Gilbert was "the man from the Ministry" of Town Planning, and he listened extremely patiently to five hours of evidence, as well as finding time to visit the building to see for himself its condition.

The Council's case was put by the Clerk, Mr. Ransome Williams. He gave the reasons why a compulsory purchase order had been proposed in respect of the site and outlined the plans for repairs and adaptation as an Assembly Hall and Offices.

The objectors were a number of near-by residents, and the Chairman (Mr. Pooley) and Vice-Chairman (Mr. Hadaway) on behalf of this Association. A very interesting feature of the proceedings was the statement of Mr. V. F. Knowles (on behalf of the owners of the site) that they—the owners—had always been willing to sell

to the Council at a figure to be agreed with the District Valuer. Mr. Knowles emphasised that the owners were neither for nor against the Council's proposed action. Whatever the fate of the former Civic Restaurant may be—whether it eventually becomes an "Assembly Hall" (grand phrase!) or disappears and the site reverts to its original purpose as plots for private residences—the ratepayers of Croxley Green may rest assured that both sides of the argument were given a good airing. Our regret is that such an inquiry should have been necessary!

### SOCIAL SIDE

From success to success! This is now very definitely the popular verdict on our Old Time Dances.

Since the New Year's Eve dance on the last night of 1951 (voted the "best of all" by the happy crowd of patrons) further "Resident" dances have been held, at All Saint's Church Hall, on January 26, February 23, and March 22.

All these were well attended, and it is with regret that we now have to remind you that only two more opportunities remain for you before the season ends. You will do wisely if you book the following details NOW!

SATURDAY, APRIL 26th — GUILDHOUSE — 7-45  
 SATURDAY, MAY 17th — ALL SAINT'S CHURCH HALL — 7-45

(Don't forget change of venue on April 26th Guildhouse, NOT All Saints)

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