

THE

CROXLEY RESIDENT

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Editor: W. F. HADAWAY
83 Baldwins Lane.

Asst. Editor: A. T. THOMSON
93 Frankland Road.

No. 33.

JANUARY—FEBRUARY, 1951.

EDITORIAL

246 { We stand at the beginning of the second half of a century which will undoubtedly go down as one of the most eventful in history. Those of us who were living when the century opened have gone on marvelling, and all too often despairing, at the fateful march of events and as the balance sheet of the last 50 years is reviewed, it seems perhaps that there is more on the debit side than was anticipated. However, "hope springs eternal," and, with our usual optimism, we will go on believing that during the next 50 years this nation will "get through somehow." This inherent sense of optimism is both a strength and a weakness: it amazes, and almost always bemuses our opponents, but at the same time it tends to operate against our own real need to think clearly and deeply about the problems confronting our country and ourselves. It is traditional that "the Old Country" will endure—of course it will! But ought we not to strive just a little harder to make sure that instead of mere survival we should once more assume the role of moral and cultural leadership. Whatever our sex or status, our colour or creed, we each have a duty to our country and to each other. Let every one of us resolve that in 1951 the nation shall be able to rely on our good citizenship—if we do, there will be less problem—and more justified optimism—at the beginning of 1952!

* * *

100 { The fact that there seems no undue hurry on the part of the local populace to enrol for Civil Defence could be interpreted in two ways. Firstly, we could deduce absence of fear for the future, and our consequent reluctance to do something which everyone else thinks we ought to do! There has been a number of occasions in this nation's history when, by not doing the obvious, or by doing the seemingly idiotic, we have utterly non-plussed our adversary. Therefore, when Authority suggests that Civil Defence is imperative, the average citizen's first reaction is to murmur "nonsense!"

* * *

80 { Secondly, it is well to remember that, not so very long ago, we had a Civil Defence! That organisation, born out of "scare" and bred through "travail," and with little to sustain it except a wonderful spirit, bore itself nobly, and will always remain a memorial to the ability of the common man—and woman!—to rise above self! These facts, still comparatively fresh in our minds, are inclined to cause us to say at the present time—"no hurry—plenty of time!"

57 { This frame of mind is, of course, understandable, but so mistaken! The dearest desire of us all is Peace—the best way to ensure it is to have the strength to deter those who might threaten it. A healthy "C.D." is one of the urgent needs of the country. We did it before. We must do it again.

* * *

181 { This is FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN year. We are going to be continually reminded of that fact, by writers, speakers, advertisers, planners and old Uncle Tom Cobleigh and all. And so it should be. The word Festival may be Old French, but the custom is most certainly Old English and, in spite of everything, we shall show the world a wonderful shop window this year. In thousands of communities and by millions of people there will be demonstrated the ability of Britain to "bake it," "make it" and most certainly to "shake it." This national venture will cost a lot of money and, of course, we shall experience the usual plethora of criticism from the "dismal jimmies" and the "cannies." But let us not forget the long years in which all we had to do was to "take it." Surely we are now entitled to allow our long-submerged spirit of national buoyancy to emerge. Then let us "wake it" and, as regards our own local community, we should forget the "red," the "blue" and the "yellow," and concern ourselves with "The Green."

318

FAMILY

Tel.: Rickmansworth

2576

134 WATFORD ROAD,
CROXLEY GREEN

A.E. DARVILL

BUTCHER

50 { Advt should come down thus allowing for more literary content of approx } 50

396

400 is maximum. Ideal 390

348

YOUR OTHER FAMILY

72 How many of our readers, when putting the children to bed, attending to their many needs, or even chastising them, as is often necessary, consider that they have also another family under their care? It is a fact, however, that all who are ratepayers or taxpayers contribute in a varying degree, according to their circumstances, to the upkeep of those unfortunate children who have had to be placed in the care of Local Authorities.

70 Throughout the country, appointed Children's Committees are functioning, being financed in part from the funds of the Local Authority—in other words, the rates—and in part by exchequer grant—national revenue. These committees have qualified Children's Officers on their staff, whose duties comprise the investigation of cases involving the welfare of children, supervising foster-parent arrangements, administering the various children's homes, and giving advice to those in need.

66 Whenever trouble enters a home where there are children, be it domestic, financial, or any other cause, it is usually the children who suffer, because they are not developed emotionally to withstand the same shocks as adults. Fortunately, as soon as such cases are brought to the notice of the committee, action can be taken, and invariably in sufficient time to prevent permanent harm to the children.

22 As there may be many who are not fully aware of the functions of this welfare service, a few facts are given below:—

24 There are some 56,000 children throughout the country in the care of Children's Committees, of which approximately 18,000 are boarded out with private families.

30 There are some 800 such children in Hertfordshire, which has 17 children's homes. Approximately 40 of these children are in the Bushey Home and 60 in the Watford Home.

40 The children come under three main categories—those being temporarily cared for, those who are in the permanent care but are boarded out under supervision, and those in the permanent care but who live wholly in the Local Authority's Homes.

28 The reasons for necessitating the Committee's interest can be briefly summarised as illness, death of parent(s), neglect, cruelty, desertion, or being in need of care and protection.

Every possible action is taken by advice and assistance before resorting to taking children into care, such as arranging for home help, neighbours' or relatives' assistance, etc., and where the trouble is of a temporary nature only, this assistance is frequently quite adequate.

Children who come fully under the wing of the Committee have to be very carefully and tactfully handled, and have to be "conditioned" to a standard before they are suitable for boarding out.

Children of one family are kept together as far as possible, and every effort is made to preserve in full the family ties, bearing in mind that conditions may change at some time in the future in such a way as will enable them to join the family circle.

Some children are medically or emotionally unsuitable for boarding out and must be maintained in the Homes until they reach the age of 18, when they are normally considered able to make their own way in the world.

Being supported by Public Funds (apart from certain contributions by parents) it is not always possible to provide these children with all the toys, abundance of clothing, outings and the many little tit-bits and extras which the average child enjoys, and this is where you can help.

If you can offer suggestions as to suitable persons with whom children can be boarded out, if you can arrange an outing for a child, or perhaps more than one, or if perhaps you have good, clean, serviceable toys, a perambulator, a cot, or serviceable clothing, then please get in touch with Miss E. M. Taylor, Children's Welfare Officer, 31 Hempstead Road, Watford, tel. 6231/2, or if more convenient, the secretary of the Croxley Green Residents' Association, H. W. R. Fowler, 140 Baldwins Lane, Croxley Green, tel. Gadebrook 3882, who will be pleased to pass on the information. Arrangements will be made to collect items direct from the donors. If you cannot assist as outlined above, a donation to the fund maintained for special outings, etc., would be welcomed as would a regular supply of "comics" or magazines, etc.

Why not consider how you can assist in bringing up this other family of yours to full and useful citizenship? Their smiles and pleasure will be your reward.

H.W.R.F.

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FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN

Following a meeting called by the Croxley Green Society, attended by delegates from all affiliated associations and societies, it was decided that Croxley Green should not join with Rickmansworth in arranging a joint function in connection with the Festival of Britain, but that any festivities should be on a local basis only and take place on the Green.

A sub-committee was appointed at this meeting to consider the extent of the festivities, to discuss the ways and means of arranging any functions and to suggest suitable dates.

Although it is too early yet to give a complete picture of the possible extent of the venture, it can be said that this is provisionally timed to take place during the week commencing 18th June and end with a series of events on the Green on Saturday, June 23rd.

During the week it is hoped, through co-operation with the Youth Organisations and other societies having facilities for indoor shows, to complete an attractive programme which should be of interest to all.

The festivities on the Saturday should incorporate such items as Children's Fancy Dress Parades, Maypole Dancing, displays of Country Dancing and many other similar events which can so well be included in a programme of this description.

Whilst this small sub-committee can do much towards organising the programme, there is much to be done by that worthy band of volunteers which always comes forward on these occasions. Anyone having any suggestions which may be helpful, or who would care to join in the organising of any of the events, would be welcomed. Please send your suggestions or offers of assistance to the sub-committee's secretary, Mrs. Pooley, 72 Malvern Way.

DECADENT YOUTH ?

Arriving home earlier than usual the other evening, I happened to hear for the first time a programme on the wireless compiled and presented entirely by "under twenties" and which gave accounts of some of the activities of that generation. At first I was tempted to switch off until a twinge of conscience made me realise that I, like many more adults, am inclined to be a little supercilious in my attitude towards youth.

I listened instead and when I did switch off it was not until the programme ended, and my action was infinitely more reflective than when I had so casually switched on. Perhaps there is too big a tendency for adults to dismiss teenagers rather summarily, forgetting that they are at the stage where their thoughts and reactions have left youth and are gropingly trying to find their feet on the borders of maturity and adulthood.

In this particular programme I heard several accounts of what these youngsters were doing to aid the Festival of Britain in their own area, and I am willing to wager it is a good deal more than their adults. Particularly was I struck by the youth of some midland town whose project it was to clear a dump area in their neighbourhood, dispose of the rubble, and with the assistance of the local park council (by way of cuttings of flowers and shrubbery) convert the site into a source of pleasure.

Their object was twofold; the transformation of an eyesore into a few square yards of beauty and to provide a pleasant spot where visitors, residents and elderly people could pause and rest.

When I compared the ambitions and plans of these youngsters with those of our council, our neighbours and myself, I felt extremely uncomfortable and a little sheepish.

T.T.

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70 { Despite the number of newly-completed Schools, Hertfordshire still needs further buildings, as the classes—especially in Primary Schools—remain far above the agreed maximum. Hertfordshire has experienced its most rapid-ever increase in population, due to the new towns and the London overflow; it follows that there has been a large influx of children of school age. Detailed planning will help in this problem—an incomplete sketch is useless.

75 { The annual function of the R.U.D.C. at Moor Park last month was, as usual, a well organised affair, and among those present were the Chairman and Mrs. Pooley, representing this Association. Whilst in certain quarters there is criticism of this event, there is without doubt much good will established, as representatives of the various local associations and bodies have an opportunity of meeting the Council and its Officers under conditions which induce harmony and co-operation.

74 { It would appear that both the Electricity and Gas industries are doing their utmost to oust each other's appliances, in spite of the Government's encouragement to economise and save. Whenever an appliance, fitting or "gadget" replaces another, surely there is unnecessary expenditure in money, or fuel, or both! As the two industries were presumably Nationalised for the benefit of the community it is time they practised economic relationship instead of cut-throat competition.

74 { Civil Defence volunteers are reported to be coming forward in increasing numbers and the administrative organisation necessary to enable this service to function fully both during the training period and in the event of an emergency, has been set up. Full-time staff needed to complete the administration set up will be appointed almost immediately and the various senior officers of the Council have been allocated executive control over the various sections of the corps.

193

Allow 9 words per line for spacing which between above press equals 2 lines

CROXLEY SCHOOL OF DANCING
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 * * *

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108 { The news recently has been disturbing, to say the least, the ray of hope that sanity may at long last be prevailing. Rooted and moved away from home for other reasons, this is one which must cause concern. Nevertheless, whatever the future, I am sure that when weighed against the only alternative, it is their choice.

56 { We must continue to hope that the leaders of the country will only to live in peace and pursue the desire to uplift the standards of industry and commerce, may realise this folly before it is too late.

84 { In this country morale is high, and, as a frequent result, our regard for our neighbours have for us as a nation. The ideal has been taken one; in fact, the reverse is the case, in that all the blame is in their troubles. True, there have been criticisms of our statesmanship would do much good.

108 { Wherever clouds loom upon the horizon of a nation, it is that is where our duty becomes more plainly visible. We must win our local battles; they help to thrash out those details without which we would soon lose our individuality and our methods of approach to the many problems and matters at hand, but a desire to do the best for the community goes.

58 { Today, I see a need for less of the "fray" and more of your politics, to join hands and present a solid front upon to meet; there will be ample time and opportunity.

70 { If every village and township throughout the country in service I am sure that those who look with covetous eyes upon us, would think twice before deciding to attempt to take amongst us but pay homage to their alien masters may.

63 { Croxley Green is a very young community, and in a young country, all quite rightly having their own views on how to live, only, apart from necessity, will bond them together and provide a wonderful example in the past.

46 { I am one of those who have but a few years' experience, but clearly how much can be done for the common good of the country in such problems as face us.

37 { It is therefore my hope that 1951 will see the up and down pledge the full weight of the Croxley Green Residents' Association.

630
Increase
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Ideal 700

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To those of us who spent a few years in the services or up-
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70

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urge of a spirit of co-operation and common purpose, and I
association to that end. The rest is in your hands.

T. POOLEY.

750

That maintenance of Council properties is to be
revised and a scheme introduced which will permit coun-
cil house tenants to carry out their own interior decora-
tions, etc. These will have to conform to the Council's
standards. This modification in management adminis-
tration, with additional charges paid by those tenants
permitted to sub-let, is expected to go far towards
meeting the upward trend of management costs, and
should result in stabilising rents.

60

The R.U.D.C. have decided against the restriction on
street lighting suggested by the Ministry of Transport
as a means of fuel saving, on the grounds that the safety
of the population would be better safeguarded by
adequate lighting and that economies could be well
affected elsewhere. If this decision prevents even one
accident, it will have adequately served its purpose.

We are from time to time reminded that our best
efforts in fuel economy are not good enough. Judging
by a recent consensus of opinion it seems that the fuel
itself has now joined the campaign—much of it simply
refuses to be burned! Or can it be that there has been
a dark plot to "compel" economy of fuel?

58

There was a case of a "lost" fire in Rickmansworth
recently, when a neighbouring engine was unable to
locate the incident to which it had been called. Whilst
we understand that the outbreak was not serious, it does
seem to indicate another failure to cover eventualities.
More will doubtless be heard of this.

50

Dustbins and their apparently inseparable contents
have once more been "hot news," making their presence
obvious by their odour! It has been whispered that this
item of Council "service" (?) is the most prominent in
"Cabinet" circles—are they thinking that a call-up of
the "Z" Class might assist?

48

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CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

evf

108 { The news recently has been disturbing, to say the least, and day by day the newspapers are scanned for some ray of hope that sanity may at long last be prevailing. To those of us who spent a few years in the services or uprooted and moved away from home for other reasons, the thought of a further period of disruption of family life is one which must cause concern. Nevertheless, whatever the sacrifice we may have to make or ordeals to face in the future, I am sure that when weighed against the only alternative they will leave very few in doubt as to their duty and their choice.

56 { We must continue to hope that the leaders of those nations who seek to thrust their will on peoples wishing only to live in peace and pursue the desire to uplift the standard of living throughout the world by their contribution of industry and commerce, may realise this folly before plunging forward into the unknown abyss.

84 { In this country morale is high, and, as a frequent visitor to Continental countries, I can vouch for the high regard our neighbours have for us as a nation. The idea that we are considered a decadent nation is certainly a mistaken one; in fact, the reverse is the case, in that all the free peoples of Europe look to us for guidance and support in their troubles. True, there have been criticisms of our leadership in certain countries and a little more resolute statesmanship would do much good.

108 { Wherever clouds loom upon the horizon of a national or world level, there must be repercussions locally, and that is where our duty becomes more plainly visible. Whilst things are going well it is healthy and good to have our local battles; they help to thrash out those details which affect us directly, and keep alive that spirit of freedom without which we would soon lose our individuality and purpose. Even though we differ, quite rightly, in our various methods of approach to the many problems and matters which are our own local concern, there has never been anything but a desire to do the best for the community generally.

58 { Today, I see a need for less of the "fray" and more co-operation, and to this end I commend you all, whatever your politics, to join hands and present a solid front to meet any difficulties we may as a community be called upon to meet; there will be ample time and opportunity to indulge in local political battles at a later date.

70 { If every village and township throughout the country could unite its inhabitants under a common banner of service I am sure that those who look with covetous eyes and dream of the day when we may be under their domination, would think twice before deciding to attempt their conquest; and those few misguided individuals who live amongst us but pay homage to their alien masters may come to recognise their folly.

63 { Croxley Green is a very young community, and as such is made up of residents from almost every part of the country, all quite rightly having their own views on how local affairs should be conducted. Time and social contact only, apart from necessity, will bond them together and unite them to "Old Croxley Green," which has set such a wonderful example in the past.

46 { I am one of those who have but a few years' residence and know the problems only too well, but I can see clearly how much can be done for the common good of Croxley Green by close co-operation and joint approach to such problems as face us.

37 { It is therefore my hope that 1951 will see the upsurge of a spirit of co-operation and common purpose, and I pledge the full weight of the Croxley Green Residents' Association to that end. The rest is in your hands.

T. POOLEY.

630
Increase
↓
Ideal 700 to 750.

DIARY OF GARDENING
March-April

56 { It is to be hoped that, in spite of January's anti-gardening weather, you have succeeded in preparing the ground in readiness for 1951 cropping, for the months of March and April mean that some of the garden's most important work must be done. Let's have a look round and see what we can do in March.

70 { Outdoor sowings of practically all seeds for the kitchen garden should be made—in the open ground for Brussels sprouts and early broccoli (if the ground is warm), early carrots, cabbages, cauliflowers, leeks and lettuce, onions, peas and parsnips, radishes, spinach and turnips. Quite a formidable list, and I have omitted broad beans, which perhaps you have already put in—if you have no autumn-sown ones get them sown now.

80 { Under glass you may now sow celery, cucumber and tomatoes, and towards the end of March it is often worth the risk of planting potatoes in a sheltered position. Replanting of the rhubarb should also be done now; choose only the "eyes," or crowns, on the outside of the clumps. If you have herb beds, now is the time to change them around—they will appreciate a move and their old quarters may be cleaned up and used for other crops.

66 { Those who have planted new fruit trees during the winter should make sure of "firming" where necessary. Incidentally, you may also find that some damage may have been done to the branches at planting time. Saw off the damaged ones and treat the scars generously with a good paint or tar. If the weather has prevented spraying, you must now seriously watch for the right day

and get the job done—I am assuming that all pruning has been completed. Whilst on the subject of spraying may I remind you that there are some most accommodating "washes" on the market, which can be used either when the tree is still dormant or later on at green bud stage; and this alternative is helpful to the gardener who has limited spare time.

You are still in time to fill those gaps in the rose beds, although your choice of roses will probably be limited and you may have to do quite a bit of scouting to get a particular variety. However, time spent over roses is never wasted.

As the days lengthen and April arrives the tasks also lengthen, and we have our time fully occupied, mainly with sowing and planting. The herbaceous border should receive attention as early as possible; those clumps needing division should not be left too long—get the new outside growths re-planted and burn the centres of the old clumps. Your border will be all the better for a "spring clean."

Plants that have wintered under glass should now be put out—sweet peas, for example—and if you missed your strawberry bed last September you can now put that matter right.

In the greenhouse there will be a lot of potting to be done—begonias, carnations, chrysanthemums, dahlias and bedding plants galore; and, if the greenhouse is heated you can put in tomatoes and cucumbers.

A. BARBER.

ERIC NORMAN'S NEW CLUB

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LADIES ONLY

88 If you are tired of making mince pies (assuming the fat ration runs to pastry-making!) yet have some mince-meat left, why not try some imitation Swiss Puddings? Make your pastry cases—a piece of bread or some rice—the case will prevent the bottom from rising—and when cool fill with mincemeat. Make some ordinary cold water icing and ice over the top of the filling. Put half a cherry on top and there's your Swiss Pudding. Quite a change, and a little icing always adds to the glamour.

Sandwich Filling

204 One tin corned beef, one small tin tomatoes, one tablespoon vinegar, pepper and salt.

Mince beef, chop tomatoes, mix all ingredients—a tasty filling.

Economy Hint

40 How to make 1 cwt. of coal last the whole winter and keep warm. Put it into a bag, and when you are cold carry it about until you are warm! (Copyright reserved—Ministry of Fuel and Power, please note!)

To Clean White Paint

30 1 lb. soap, 2 ozs. saltpetre, 1 jar whiting, 1 gill ammonia. Dissolve the soap in a jar of water, add whiting and saltpetre; when cold add ammonia, then bottle.

A Timely Recipe

192 When you owe for Milk—don't buy Silk.

"FEMINA."

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THE RICKMANSWORTH PLAYERS

Founded in September, 1944, as the Civil Defence Variety Show, the name of this versatile Society was changed as above in July, 1945. Affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic Association and to the British Drama League, the Players can count among their officers some very well-known people. Their President is T. J. O'Sullivan, J.P., and the Vice-Presidents include Miss Kay Cavendish, the Earl of Iveagh, C.B., C.M.G., D.L., Peter Brough, A. Barton-Smith, Jack Jackson, Gilbert Longden, M.P., and Eric Phillips.

Croxley Green has subscribed a number of very active members who are doing their best to keep productions up to standard.

The next production will be "The Toreador," to be presented at Dickinson Guildhouse on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 19th, 20th and 21st, with a matinee on the Saturday (children half price).

This musical play in two acts, by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton, enjoyed a long run when first produced at the "Gaiety."

Rehearsals are under way at Parsonage Road Schools, with a cast which includes Joyce Kynchala, Madge Pooley, Sybil Tutton, Beryl Williams, Basil Batsford, Godfrey Cornwall, Rowland Pitman and Jack Stonell. A number of male voices are still required for the chorus, but anyone wishing to join will be welcomed, and particulars may be had from members or from the Secretary, Rowland Pitman, c/o Corry & Corry, Rickmansworth (Rick, 3616).

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THE

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THE SOCIAL SIDE

180 { "The event of the season" is how the Old Time Dance held on December 30th has been described, and full marks must certainly be awarded to the Social Committee for a most enjoyable function. The dance was scheduled to commence at 7.45, but the "House Full" notice was put up by 7.30, and a number of would-be patrons were disappointed—the only regrettable aspect of a first-class evening—an evening which, incidentally, commenced with a "black-out"! The orchestra had warmed up and the first dance was about to be announced when—all the lights went out! "Was there a 'doctor' in the house?" Yes. Skilled experts were quickly forthcoming, and meantime the redoubtable M.C. announced "Take your partners for a waltz." He was determined to go ahead, lights or no lights, but suddenly full lighting was restored and thereafter it was gaiety all the way, with the programme wide and varied enough for all tastes. There were competitions and novelty dances; there were spot waltzes; and, in a hall seasonably decorated, fun and enjoyment abounded. "Auld Lang Syne" came only too soon.

30 { BUT—the identity of the person who mistakenly hung an overcoat on the main switch was the last one we would have thought! However—sssh—"no names, no pack drill"!

SOCIAL SIDE.

Saturday, March 3rd—

180 { Old Time Dance, 7.45—11.45 at All Saints' Church Hall. Demonstrators: Mr. and Mrs. Higgs. Tickets, 2/6d., may be obtained from Street Stewards.

WATFORD FOOTBALL CLUB.

Home Fixtures—

420 max. {
March 10th v. Port Vale.
March 23rd v. Ipswich Town.
March 24th v. Torquay United.
April 7th v. Swindon Town.
April 21st v. Bristol Rovers.
May 5th v. Walsall.

(Watch Press or Posters for times of kick-off.)

CROXLEY GREEN CHORAL SOCIETY.

The Society is now rehearsing Bizet's "Carmen"—the concert version by Maurice Besley—also popular Madrigals for their proposed concert in April. There are vacancies for all voices—tenors and basses are urgently required. Please contact the Secretary, V. Sturman, "Barnside," Croxley Hall Farm, Rickmansworth (Rick. 3951). Rehearsals on Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Guildhouse New Road.

CROXLEY GREEN FURTHER EDUCATION CENTRE

Spring Programme, 1951

Special Events—

Wednesday, February 28th, 2.30 p.m.: Visit to James Powell & Sons' Glassworks, Wealdstone. Wednesday, March 28th, 7 p.m.: Visit to Sun Printers Ltd.

Members wishing to join these visits should advise the Secretary as soon as possible as attendance is limited.

Current Affairs—

February 27th: Youth Club Debate.
March 13th: C.O.I. Films—"Town and Country Planning" (in co-operation with the Residents' Association).
March 27th: "Top of the Form," a Quiz. Senior Students of Durrants School.

Country Dance Party—

March 3rd—6.30 p.m.: Durrants School. In co-operation with the Croxley Branch of the English Folk Dance Society.

Regular Activities—

Local History and Field Study Group, 7.30 p.m. at the Old Boys' School—Tuesday, March 6th, and alternate Tuesdays.
Practical Art and Art Discussion Group, 7.30 p.m. at the Old Boys' School—Thursdays.

Evening Institute Class—

Square and Country Dancing, 7 p.m., at Durrants School—Wednesdays.
(Membership of the Centre is not obligatory for this Class. Register by attending on normal class nights.)

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