



PUBLISHED BY THE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE OF THE ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

VOLUME VI

Orinda, California, December 1, 1942

Number 6

**GAS RATIONING APPLICATIONS
REJECTED**

Eighty per cent of original applications from Orinda and Moraga for additional mileage gas books have been returned by the Walnut Creek rationing board.

Failure of applicants to make an effort to secure extra riders was the reason given for this wholesale refusal by Lyman Stoddard, Jr., chairman of the twelve member board.

Orinda Civilian Defense Council, under the leadership of Ray Dennis, has undertaken a telephone campaign to match up riders with automobiles or to bring non-essential civilian workers together to use each one's car in rotation.

Registration of prospective riders and drivers was made by civilian defense at the time A ration books were issued. This file is being maintained at civilian defense headquarters behind the Orinda store and is open to residents. Returned applications may be revised and refiled with the Walnut Creek Board for further action.



BRANCH OFFICE STARTED

The Orinda branch office of the Walnut Creek War Price and Rationing Board began operations in the defense office November 19 under the direction of Mrs. King Wilkin. The main activity of the office at present is to assist Orinda residents in making out applications for supplemental rationing books and to forward these applications to the Walnut Creek board for action. Office hours are 1 to 5 daily, except Sunday and holidays, 9 to 12 Wednesday mornings, and 7:30 to 9:30 Friday evenings. The personnel who will man the office will include A. K. Pettingill, Kenneth Courtright, Walter Wood, Kenneth Morrish, Mrs. James Blewett, Mrs. Alden Macomber, Mrs. W. P. Martin, Mrs. G. Vurek, Mrs. R. C. Diehl, Mrs. C. L. Ward, Mrs. J. S. Pedder, Mrs. H. N. East, Mrs. Bruce Hammond, Mrs. Clarence Tracy and Mrs. Raymond Winquist.

The Stroller

Now that the rains have come, the Stroller watches with pleasure the growing touches of green on the edges of roads and throughout the dead grass on the hills. With new grass evident there is an illusion of spring in the country that even the barrenness of the oak trees cannot deny. With the loss of leaves on the trees there is the unexpected view of your neighbor's house that surprises you by its proximity. Winter not only exposes; it seems to bring houses closer together.

* * * * *

Did you ever wonder why the evergreen conifer serves as the symbol of Christmas? Could it be that its physical characteristics suggests the ideals of Christianity — its constancy (the same form and color throughout the seasons), its ability to weather any storm because it complies rather than resists; its fragrance and design; its symmetry of growth; and its sense of balance?

* * * * *

"Peace on earth, good will to men" — with the holocaust of war waging over most of the world, and bitterness, offensive sadism, defensive frustration and hopeless despair to substitute for the peace and good will of the ancient carol, one wonders whether the words of the Christmas song suggest a feeling of irony or hope for those who have time to think about them. Still in homes in America are fires lit in yuletide splendor, decorated windows and trees, little children still enchanted by the myth of

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**Watch for Announcement
of next Improvement
Association Meeting**

**ORINDA FAILS TO SECURE ITS
OWN RATIONING BOARD**

Efforts of E. L. Mathy, Orinda defense coordinator, to obtain an independent rationing board for the community appeared to have met with a temporary set-back as this issue of the Orinda News went to press.

Acting upon suggestions contained in a deluge of correspondence that travel to Walnut Creek to contact the rationing board was inconsistent with one of the primary purposes of the rationing program, Mr. Mathy took up the matter with the Office of Price Administration and presented the following arguments:

1. That the rationing of gasoline is for the sole purpose of conserving rubber.
2. That this consideration alone made it seem unreasonable to impose upon Orinda, Moraga, and Lafayette residents the need to make individual round trips to Walnut Creek. Such round trips, involving from eighteen to approximately twenty-four miles merely for residents living in the hill area of Orinda-Moraga.
3. That the natural flow of traffic of residents in the Lafayette-Orinda area is toward Oakland, Alameda, San Francisco, or Berkeley, and it is not toward Walnut Creek.
4. That the majority of the residents of Orinda-Moraga are either engaged in or are executives of War Industries with problems of transportation vastly different from those of the more agricultural area of Walnut Creek.
5. That we have a very restricted shopping area at and within Orinda which necessitates our residents to travel into Berkeley, Oakland or San Francisco to make bank deposits or to purchase needed items not locally obtainable.
6. That the present transportation is wholly inadequate to take care of all of the men who are now forced to commute to and from their businesses or jobs by existing buses, and that the working hours of many of these men preclude the utilization of the bus service even though it were adequate.

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RATIONING BOARD

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

7. That those able to travel via bus live from three to eight miles round trip away from the present bus station at the cross-roads and must therefore have automobile transportation.

It appeared for a time that the O P A officials were giving favorable consideration to the proposal for an independent board for this community but recent advice received by Mr. Mathy has been to the effect that the request has been refused.

Unless Mr. Mathy's continuing efforts to persuade the O. P. A. officials are successful, Orinda's rationing program will continue to be administered by the Walnut Creek board.



OBSERVATION POST HEATED

The aircraft warning service announces that the Moraga-Orinda observation post has been equipped with a heating unit that will help fend off the wintry blasts during the coming months. A car has also been provided by the army authorities for the transportation of the volunteer civilian observers between the post and their homes. Orinda residents wishing to volunteer for observation post duty are asked to contact Mrs. Robert Bennett, Orinda 6436.



THE STROLLER

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 2)

Santa, and perhaps hopes of peace and security for all the world.

For those far from the warmth, gaiety and goodwill of the family Christmas parties, we are full of quiet thoughts, haunted by their absence. A toast, then, to their valor, and chins up for those at home until again the chimes can ring and mean "Peace on earth and good will toward men."

ORINDA SCHOOL NEWS

By PETER WILKIN

The seventh and eighth grades will hold another of their social evenings on December 4th at the school. The committee in charge will be Gwyn Bowren, Sally Tinkham, Bob White, Harold Davies, Carolyn Prouty, Eugene Davis and Jim Doten. Parent sponsors are the parents of the committee members, and Mrs. Miller is the faculty sponsor.

The spelling bee at the school resulted in the following taking part in the finals at the P. T. A. meeting Tuesday, November 17th: Fourth grade — Lee Sutherland, Betty Lee Jack; Fifth grade — Ellen Galbraith, Norman Green; Sixth grade — Don Liebendorfer, Joanne Torney; Seventh grade — Eugene Davis, Anne Winters; Eighth grade — Peter Wilkins, Donnie Mae Mote.

Prize winners were Don Liebendorfer, Anne Winters and Joanne Torney.

On Tuesday, November 24th, the Glee Club and Orchestra gave a concert of the songs of the United Nations. The Eighth grade gave a poem "Greed" with Wayne La Velle as narrator. Proceeds of the concert were for the benefit of the Orinda Defense Council. The Orinda School wishes to thank Miss Phillips, Mrs. Wayne, Mr. Davis and the County Supervisor, Mrs. Cooper, for their cooperation in this concert. Miss Phillips was conductor and director.

An Eighth grade poster contest for the concert was won by Joan Jacobus, Frances Groves and Wendell Rawlins.

The Junior Red Cross drive amounted to \$18.04.

There will be a Christmas program of plays and music at the school on December 18th.

Christmas holidays will be Friday, December 18th to Monday, January 4th.

ORINDA GARDEN CLUB

"Cascade Chrysanthemums" was the subject of the talk given by Mr. J. H. Congdon at the November meeting of the Orinda Garden Club. The culture, propagation and training of this very lovely variety was discussed by the speaker. Mr. Congdon stressed the importance of choosing good stock and being careful and persistent in the training in making successfully flowering plants. Some examples of different types blooming in pots were exhibited.

An added attraction to the meeting was the very attractive and complete display of vegetables grown by Mrs. Earl A. Norton in her Orinda garden. Mrs. Norton not only had exhibited a very complete variety of vegetables showing what can be grown in Orinda, but showed also how beautiful such a colorful display can be in the garden. Some of the interesting kinds displayed at the meeting were flowering kale, red chard, red kale and small cherry tomatoes.

Mrs. Norton plans her garden so it will produce throughout the year. Some of the vegetables such as lima beans and corn she lets dry on the bushes and stores for the winter. Other vegetables she dries in a dryer to preserve them for such times when the garden is not producing so plentifully.

Mrs. Norton represented the Orinda Garden Club with an exhibit at the San Francisco Victory Show given recently at Gumps. Her exhibit represented what could be grown in a home garden.

The speaker for the December meeting will be Miss Carma White from the Art and Garden Center. Her subject will be "Suggestions for Christmas Decoration."



PRE-SCHOOL GETS TEACHER

Mrs. Robert Eten has been selected as the new teacher for the Orinda Park Play Center, announces Mrs. R. A. Sonnie, director of the pre-school. Mrs. Eten holds a bachelor's degree in education and has had previous experience in nursery school work. The school continues on a cooperative basis, states Mrs. Sonnie, with mothers of the children assisting Mrs. Eten each day in carrying on the school routine.

New officers for the coming six months were elected at the November meeting of the Mothers' Club. Mrs. Wm. Murphy was elected president, Mr. W. L. Calhoun, vice-president; Mrs. Jack David, secretary; and Mrs. E. J. Phair, treasurer. Anyone interested in this nursery school project may call Mrs. Sonnie at Orinda 2097.



THE FILTER PLANT

To the Editor:

All ready for the assembly lines are parts of a jungle-gym (climbing apparatus — to the layman). The children of the primary grades could use this healthy and muscle-developing equipment, if their fathers would devote an evening toward assembling it. The parts are at the school, waiting for first-rate fathers. Could we have an all-out volunteer response? A Mother.

P E R S O N A L S

E. L. Mathy, defense coordinator for the Orinda area, has been compelled to return to the hospital because of illness from which he has been suffering for a protracted period.

Bernice Brockhurst Harris is making her home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Brockhurst. Her husband, L. H. Harris, Jr., is stationed at the naval training station at San Diego.

Bob Stewart, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. I. Stewart of El Toyonal, recently joined the navy.

Fred Allen, Jr., has recently joined Uncle Sam's naval forces.

Mrs. E. I. deLaveaga's daughter, Mrs. Harrell Ward, is recovering from a serious illness in a San Francisco hospital.

The Orinda Cleaners closed December 1. Mrs. Menasse will represent a laundry and cleaners at her gift shop at the crossroads.

Dr. L. L. Farrar left his home on El Toyonal November 17th to enter the medical corps of the navy as lieutenant. He is now stationed at Camp Farragut in Idaho.

John J. Schroll of Orchard Road has received his commission as lieutenant in the aviation service of the navy, and is now awaiting active orders.

Mrs. Marion Duncan of Seattle is visiting in the home of Lt. John A. Torney on Dias Dorados. She is the mother of Mrs. Torney and will remain here until after the holidays.

Lt. E. J. Delucci, who has been living in Orinda, was married in early November to Miss Alice Gertrude Coakley of Oakland.

Mrs. E. H. Decker of La Jolla was a guest for a week in the home of her son, Lt. Cmdr. G. D. Fitzhugh.

A successful tag selling day for the Red Cross was achieved by the sewing group which meets at Mrs. Harold Martin's home each Monday. They sold tags in one day to the amount of \$125.00.

Mrs. Don P. White of Estates Drive celebrated the second birthday of her son, Tommy, with a children's party on November 25th.

The family of Paul Goodwin has received notice of his promotion to a major in the Army Air Corps. Major Goodwin has been in active service in Australia since last January.

Ted Almquist, Orinda contractor, is building defense houses in Tracy. Stan Almquist, former Davis cup winner and tennis champion, is working for the W. F. Stone shipyards. His company launched a mine sweeper last Saturday.

Chick Harkins of Moraga is leaving for officers' training school. Mrs. Harkins is moving to New York City to be with her mother.

Ernest St. Louis has just returned from a trip to Alaska for construction work. He was away for a month.

On Armistice Day a reporter from the official Japanese Press visited Americans in a Japanese prison camp. He interviewed Major Herbert Freuler and asked him if a year ago he ever thought he'd be a Japanese prisoner. Major Freuler replied that a year ago he doubted that he gave any thought to the subject, but that he hoped in another year the war would be over and he would be back with his family.

Mrs. Freuler received a letter from an officer in the British Royal Navy. He had been a prisoner with Major Freuler and was now exchanged. He wrote that Major Freuler was in good health and spirits. He was studying German and Russian, and debating on economic problems. This letter was written from Portuguese South Africa.

Dr. C. L. Camp's expedition to Arizona unearthed some rare fossils of early reptiles, amphibians and dinosaurs. A broadcast of an earlier find, the mosasaur (giant sea-lizard), was described over a nation-wide hook-up last Sunday.

Roy Stewart of La Campana, chairman of the communications committee for our civilian defense organization here, enters the service of the army on December 15th as lieutenant (j.g.). His initial training will be at the University of Arizona, Tucson.

The home in Orinda, which has been enjoyed for week-ends during the past many years by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Benner, is now occupied permanently by them. They have sold their home in Oakland.

Captain Walter E. Christie, U. S. A., has been transferred from Marin County to Fort Point in San Francisco, where he is to act as executive officer for his battalion, 6th Coast Artillery of Harbor Defense.

Their 19th wedding anniversary was celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Gentry, November 15th. They were entertained at a dinner for twelve by Dr. and Mrs. John T. Morrison and held open house at their home on La Campana for their friends on the evening of the 15th.



GIRL SCOUTS

The members of girl scout troop 37 have been actively engaged in handicraft work for the past month. They are fashioning Christmas presents and diverting the money thus saved into war savings stamps. The stamps will be turned over to the national girl scout victory fund that will be used to aid children all over the world after the war is over. New members of the local girl scout troop are Carolyn Prouty, Nancy Macomber, Joan McGee, and Claire Stoefel. Mrs. J. A. Mote is now assistant leader of the troop.

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The Calendar

HOME DEPARTMENT

Prevention and treatment of colds was the subject of a lecture given by Miss Helen Burling of the University of California at the meeting of the Orinda Home Department on Thursday morning, November 5, at the home of Mrs. Clarence Betz, 33 Orchard Road.

A lesson on the making of dress forms will be given by Miss Burling on December 3 at 9:30 a. m. at the home of Mrs. Betz. Each person is asked to bring a roll of gummed brown butcher paper one inch or more wide.

The next regular meeting of the club will be held on the first Thursday of January at the Betz home. Breadmaking with whole wheat will be the subject. Anyone interested is welcome to attend any Home Department meeting. Ladies who do not have transportation or who have car space are asked to phone Mrs. Betz.

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P. T. A.

In place of the regular December meeting of the P. T. A., Mrs. Kendrick Morrish has opened her home for a tea to be held December 18th from two to four o'clock.

At the last meeting of the P. T. A., it was decided to extend for one month the money making project which so far has raised \$45. Instead of one big money making project it was decided this year that members would raise money by individual home efforts. The money raised is to help in filling the soldiers' and sailors' kits which are being made by the Red Cross.

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MOTHERS' CLUB

The December 7th meeting of the Orinda High School Mothers' Club will be held at the home of Mrs. J. A. Herzog, on La Espiral, at eight o'clock in the evening. Assistant hostesses will be Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Fitzhugh and Mrs. Selby. It is to be Fathers' Night.

Please contact Mrs. Farrar, Orinda 5131, in Orinda, or Mrs. Goodrich, Orinda 9251, in Moraga, if arrangement for transportation is needed.

At the last meeting it was voted to give \$10.00 to help complete the Red Cross kits. About \$80.00 was raised and donated to Acalanes High School for the purchase of reference books for the library. Making Red Cross kits and U. S. O. scrap books are also some of the projects that the club has undertaken.

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BABY HOSPITAL

The Orinda Branch of the Baby Hospital is sponsoring a raffle for a layette. This will be held in December and tickets are available by telephoning Mrs. Sheldon Duncan, Orinda 5646.

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NAVY GETS NEW DRILL HALL

Every week sees new additions at the Navy Pre-Flight School at St. Mary's College. A drill hall and swimming pool are being built, but work was halted for a time because of heavy rains. The drill hall will be one of the largest in the country, 420 x 100 feet, and is interesting because of its all-wood construction. There will be an attached pool, 165 x 75 feet.

Another improvement on the grounds is the addition of large areas of grass which has attained a good growth by this time. These areas will be used as playing fields after a few months when the grass is thick enough to stand rough treatment.

A large mountain lion was seen recently back of the rifle range. An attempt was made to shoot him, and he was wounded, but got away.