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ORINDA RED CROSS DRIVE TO BE HELD IN FEBRUARY

During the latter part of February the annual emergency war relief drive of the American Red Cross will be held in Orinda, according to an announcement by Mrs. Franklin A. Kales, chairman of the Orinda chapter. This will be the only Red Cross drive of the year.

The urgency of your support of this drive should be apparent to anyone who reads the papers or listens to the news on the radio, stated Mrs. Kales. The Red Cross has played the part of mercy for almost 100 years, and is the only accredited organization recognized by both Axis and Allied nations. Through the international Red Cross are the only contacts made by prisoners of war with their families.

Since the advent of this country in the war, more and more responsibility has fallen on the Red Cross. Some of its activities are: the care and financial aid of families of service men, the maintenance of the blood bank, service gifts sent to men abroad, supplying of medical necessities where there is a need, first aid instruction, maintenance and supervision of surgical dressing work-rooms, the supplying of yarn for knitters for the armed forces, the training of social workers for the hospitals, the training of social workers to be sent abroad, maintenance of canteens in this country and abroad.

Will you please respond generously, pleads Mrs. Kales, when one of your neighbors calls on you for your contribution to this essential organization of mercy and relief?

The Stroller

During the spring months the storm king runs rampant from time to time, and then he rules the heavens with a majestic hand. Breaks between the rains give one a tantalizing taste of weather to come, and should send most rural dwellers to the sacred patch of ground to be set aside this year of 1943, as the vegetable garden. Vegetables can be grown well and without expenditure of too much labor in Orinda. With the food situation as it is, the least we can do to help out is to grow for our own consumption. The Stroller for years has had a successful vegetable garden, and assures the novice, that in spite of gophers, birds, field mice and rabbits, vegetables in Orinda more than repay the effort put into them.

* * * * *

Walking around the hills one frequently sees cars parked by the mailboxes in such a manner that the carrier has to get out of her car to deliver the mail. This adds to the burdens of our mail-ladies and they request that you do not obstruct the easy access to the boxes, by your car or any other article.

* * * * *

Orindans have been grossly negligent of instructions regarding materials needed by the government from waste. Tin cans are

(Continued on Page 3)

IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION TO MEET FRIDAY NIGHT

Back-yard poultry flocks and victory gardens will be discussed and analyzed by the Contra Costa County farm advisers at the meeting of the Orinda Improvement Association on the evening of Friday, February 5th, at 8:15 o'clock, in the auditorium of the Orinda grammar school.

All residents have been invited to hear R. E. Goble, the farm adviser on chickens, explain how to start and care for a small number of home chickens, and to listen to C. C. Barnum, the farm adviser on produce, discuss planting and cultivation of vegetables. Problems relative to the hillsides, soil and climate of Orinda will be stressed and residents are urged to ask questions.

Edward H. Sibbett will retire as president of the Improvement Association after the next meeting. Mr. Sibbett has purchased a 600 acre pedigreed sheep ranch in the Valley of the Moon and will retire from the active practice of law. William Penn Mott as vice-president will become acting president.

Hacienda Homes, Inc., through its board of directors, has announced the 1943 assessment on roads to be at the rate of 5 cents per front foot. This assessment will include non-county roads west of San Pablo highway. Lots front on county roads will pay the usual one dollar for expense in connection with the enforcement of restrictions.

George H. Hauerken was selected to replace Mr. Sibbett as a director and attorney for Hacienda Homes, Inc. Hazel K. Benning is Secretary-Treasurer.

DIM OUT REGULATIONS

United States Army dim out regulations are now in effect in this Area and strict enforcement is demanded by General J. L. De Witt.

You can assist your law enforcement officers and avoid embarrassment and fines by complying with the following simple rules:

1. All window shades must be pulled down below the level of the lowest light. (Why not be safe and fully cover your windows.)

2. All porch and other outside lights must be hooded

so as to prevent any rays of light above the horizontal. In no case may they be of greater intensity than to register more than one foot candle at the ground.

3. There shall be no open fires — such as barbecues, incinerators and trash burning.

The above regulations maintain from sunset to sunrise. No further warning will be issued. Violators will be subject to fines.

Light Control Committee,
Office of Civilian Defense.

ORINDA NEWS

Official Publication of The
ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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PRUNING METHODS AND CARE OF FRUIT TREES DESCRIBED BY AIKEN

The pruning and care of fruit trees in the home garden was the subject of a lecture by John Aiken to the Orinda Garden Club on December 5th. He advised people in this locality to grow more fruit, since it is comparatively easy to raise and brings excellent results in the tree-ripened product.

Trees should be sprayed during dormant months and pruned to build proper structure for fruit. When planting, give care to the preparation of the hole which should be dug 18 inches deep at least and 36 inches wide. Loosen the bottom soil and backfill with soil well mixed with some manure, not too much — or one pound of gaviota to each tree.

Select trees with low buds on the trunk stem, so as to have branches spread from about 18 inches above the ground and thus keep the head of the tree low enough to aid picking and spraying.

Prune to three branches the first year and allow two branches to stem for each of these the second year. In this way six strong well-spaced branches will form the frame for the future tree and be sturdy enough to carry a burden of fruit.

Apples are later bearing, trees being five to six years old before fruiting. Prune to leave several large branches to form the spurs which bear the fruit and allow leaders properly spaced to extend to the desired size of tree. When these leaders have grown beyond the proper length trim them back to a bud. Always prune to allow free circulation of air and sun into the center of tree.

Peaches, apricots and plums all carry their fruit on spurs. Cut back the small weak branches to two or three inches from main branch to form additional spurs. The main pruning can be done soon after the fruit is picked.

Grapes bear on new wood, so prune back to a spur with one or two buds from the main leader.

Fertilize all fruit trees every year at fruit forming time. Use one pound sulphate of potash to ten pounds gaviota. Spread one pound of this mixture to each tree and over an area equal to the top of tree.

Fertilize berries early and spray with lime sulphur while dormant.

Strawberries should have their runners cut off except those necessary for new plants. The old plants are good for three years. Bone meal is an especially good fertilizer for these.

DIM-OUT REGULATIONS EXPLAINED

On Sunday, January 10th, Moraga Highway Association invited the community to attend their regular meeting which was held at the Orinda Theatre. The purpose of the meeting was to disseminate information of vital importance to all Orindans.

Herbert Hauser opened the meeting by introducing Mr. Simmons of the state highway department, who demonstrated by means of a model the new traffic actuated lights which are going to be installed at the crossroads. Mr. Simmons also had blueprints of the ground plans of the channelization.

Roy Thompson, chief administrative officer of four western states of the San Francisco office of civilian defense, under orders from Lt. General J. L. De Witt, spoke, giving the reasons why the dim out is necessary and explaining the precautions we should take to observe the regulations, or otherwise be liable to citation and fine since the army states that the period of warning is now over.

Following short talks by Coördinator Jack Sheppard and President Herbert Hauser, the meeting was concluded with two screen shorts.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Many inquiries at the office of civilian defense have made it evident that there is a need for emergency phone numbers and information in case of disaster, states Jack Sheppard, civilian defense coördinator. Cards will be distributed to all residents giving them the names and telephones of their air-raid wardens and policemen. If you do not receive such a card by February 10th contact Harrison Ketcham, Orinda, 4441, so that you may be supplied.



SCHOOL BENEFIT ON FEBRUARY 11

On Thursday evening, February 11th, under the sponsorship of the Orinda Garden Club, the Orinda School Glee Club and Verse Choir will present their program, "Songs of the United Nations" at the Orinda Theatre. The orchestra and glee club will be directed by Miss Delphia Phillips, assisted by Mrs. Barbara Davis, and the verse choir, under the direction of Mrs. Isabel Wayne, will present "Creed", a poem by Hal Borland. The picture at the theatre will be "The Major and the Minor." Proceeds will go toward planting the school grounds.

Friday, February 12th, and Monday, February 22nd, will be school holidays.

Mrs. Annette K. Miller is the new teacher for the second grade and Mrs. M. Miller has taken over the class which Robert Eten taught before his entry into the service.

The children of the Orinda School have purchased \$1496.10 in war stamps since the opening of school September 14th. When 90 per cent of the enrollment purchases stamps for three months they will be eligible for the Treasury flag. They can now deposit their money for stamps on any day in the week rather than on Fridays only and provision has been made for them to obtain the bonds at the school.

TWO NEW CUB DENS FORMED HERE

Two new cub dens have been formed in Orinda during the past month. Den 3, under Mrs. Bion Atkinson, has the following members: Leroy Atkinson, Lee Sutherland, Bobby Beeman, John de Soto, and Bob Winter.

Den Mother, Mrs. James Lucas, has in Den 4, Frankie Tieche, Jimmie Jacobus, Jimmie Hall, Vernon Lucas, Philip Dawson and Sumner Bullock.

COMMUNITY CHURCH ELECTION

The annual meeting of the Orinda Community Church was held on January 15th. The following officers were elected: Howard Fisher and Emil Wickman, trustees; Ralph Wilson, deacon; Mrs. Carrie Smith, deaconess; Mrs. Jennie McMillan, clerk; Mrs. Herbert Dil's, Superintendent of Sunday School; Mrs. Ralph Wilson, choir director; Mrs. Ralph Sisson, treasurer.

P E R S O N A L S

Kenneth Matheson, U. S. N., son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Matheson of Camino Don Miguel, has finished "Boot" training at Camp Farragut, Idaho, and is now in Newport, Rhode Island, attending Fire Control School.

Training for aviation service at St. Petersburg, Florida, is Stanley Almquist of Orchard road.

Constance Pearson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Earle Pearson of La Punta, has been on the honor roll at Ward Belmont School at Nashville, Tenn. Connie is a member of the senior class there.

Lt. Cmdr. and Mrs. J. J. Blewett have left Orinda, as he has been ordered to another assignment in the East. Their home on Las Palomas is now being occupied by Lt. and Mrs. Milton Vallens, formerly of Los Angeles.

Lt. and Mrs. Gene Bankston, formerly of Lafayette, have moved to 29 Barbara road.

Newcomers to Orinda are Lt. and Mrs. Francis Smart, who live at 8 Valley View Drive; Lt. and Mrs. Arthur Hall of El Pulgar; and Lt. and Mrs. R. R. Willis of Mariposa Lane.

The first of the month will see the G. D. Fitzhughs reunited in Del Monte, where Lt. Cmdr. Fitzhugh has been attached to the Naval Pre-flight School since the first of the year as executive officer. He was transferred from St. Mary's.

Lt. George Gibson, U. S. N. R., has completed his plane recognition course at Columbus, Ohio, and will serve as instructor in this field in the Pacific war zone.

Barbara Breuner, Stanford junior student, and daughter of the Richard Breuners of Miner road, has successfully completed her nurse's aid probationary course at the Palo Alto hospital. Along with her pre-medical course at the "Farm," Barbara takes time to carry on with her extra-curricular nurse's activities at the local hospital.

Franklin, Jr., and Sheldon Kales, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin A. Kales, have enlisted in the army air corps and are at home awaiting orders.

A bombardier for the army overseas is Technical Sergeant Don Donaldson, son of the P. R. Donaldsons of Orinda.

Flying to Alaska, Lt. Comdr. Lloyd Juelson, left Orinda January 20th to report for duty as a member of the admiral's staff. His wife and child will remain at their home on El Patio.

Lt. F. K. Bottomley of El Patio is attached to the naval station in Alameda where he is engaged in naval transport.

Lt. Nathaniel Dodge of Irvine drive left recently for Fort Benning, Georgia, for further army training. He has previously been stationed at Camp Roberts.

Members of the Orinda Garden Club and their husbands will meet on the evening of February 2nd, at the Orinda Country Club for dinner and a lecture by Mr. John Aitken who will speak on "Vegetable Gardening in the Home Garden."

Mr. and Mrs. Kendrick Morrish have been entertaining as house-guests, Col. and Mrs. Fred Foy of Washington, D. C. Mrs. Foy was Miss Elizabeth Hamilton of Berkeley.

Mrs. Ted Almquist wants to join the next nurses' aid course to be given about February 20th at Providence hospital in Oakland. To share transportation to and fro, she would like anyone interested in this course to call her at Orinda 2073.

Lt. Harold Martin, U. S. N. R., has reported for a two months' naval refresher course at Miami, Florida. Lt. Martin has been attached to the coastal patrol as skipper of the "Juniata". Mrs. Martin and her daughter, Sylvia, will join Lt. Martin in the southern resort after visiting friends in New York and Washington. They will return to Orinda around the first of April.

Ensign W. Stuart Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Davis of La Espiral, graduated January 8th from the Naval Supply School at Harvard, and was assigned to and is now in the Amphibious Command with the Atlantic Fleet.



OBSERVE SCOUT WEEK FEB. 6-12

The Orinda Scouts, under the direction of Richard Davis, scout master, are completing plans for the observance of Scout Week, February 6th to 12th. 1943 marks the thirty-three anniversary of the founding of the scout movement in America. On Sunday, February 7th, the boy and girl scouts will meet at 9:30 a. m. at the Orinda school for an observance service under the direction of Vaughan McCaughey, director of training for the area council of the boy scouts. Tuesday, February 9th, at 7:30, there will be a father-sons dinner and a court of honor.



THE STROLLER

(Continued from Page 1)

wanted, but they must be cleaned and flattened out, and scrap metal is desperately needed, but no paper is wanted.

The site of the old nursery is at present the dumping ground of the community. Please do not put any waste material there in the future. Your scrap metal and tin may be placed at the end of the blind street that runs by the Orinda store, declares C. P. McVicker, chairman of the scrap drive. From there it will be collected by army trucks in about two weeks. Let us have a scrap pile that can readily be turned into war materials.

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The Calendar

BREAD MAKING METHODS TAUGHT

Techniques in bread-making were demonstrated to twenty-five women at the January meeting of the Home Department at the home of the club President, Mrs. Clarence Betz, 33 Orchard Road. Several extra techniques for improving the quality of the bread and increasing its protein content were given by Miss Helen Burling, instructor from the University of California, who had charge of the project. University bulletins were distributed and discussed for adapting bread doughs into all varieties of rolls and sweet breads.

Small groups, of five or ten women each, made dress forms in a series of special meetings during the month of December. Each form was an exact model and the average costs of materials amounted to 65 cents.

A continuation of the bread-making project, topping off with a fancy "tea ring" will be demonstrated at the next meeting on Thursday morning, February 4th, at the home of Mrs. Betz. Miss Burling will also give instructions on the making of partial slip covers to dress up old furniture for the duration.

Women who do not have transportation are asked to be at the Orinda Store or the Orinda Theater at 9:15 o'clock for rides. Miss Burling submitted a suggestion for the future of breaking up the community meeting into several neighborhood meetings. She asked members to consider whether more could participate if she would follow this plan.



WOMEN'S GUILD TO HOLD MEETING

The Women's Guild of the Orinda Community Church will hold its regular meeting and luncheon at the home of Mrs. Fred Elkinton, 39 Ardilla Road, at twelve o'clock, Tuesday, February 2nd.

The speaker for the afternoon will be Professor John C. Bennett, author of note on peace problems. His topic will be, "Preparing for Peace."

All members and friends, both men and women, are urged to attend this meeting.



NAME 12-15 CLUB OFFICERS

The 12-15 Club had a meeting at the home of Mrs. Charles Malone, Loma Vista Drive, on Tuesday, January 26th.

At the home of Mrs. L. A. Mattes in December the following officers were elected: Mrs. Leo Alexander, president; Mrs. Mattes, treasurer-secretary; Mrs. Fred Elkinton, in charge of Red Cross sewing.

Leave of absence was given Mrs. John Cleborne, who has charge of the canteen at the Pre-flight school at St. Mary's. Mrs. Geo. Pitt also was granted leave of absence.



MOTHERS' CLUB TO MEET FEB. 8

The February meeting of the Orinda High School Mothers' Club will be held on

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"THE MAJOR AND THE MINOR"

Ginger Rogers Ray Milland

"SMITH OF MINNESOTA"

Bruce Smith

the second Monday, February 8th, at the home of Mrs. Milton L. Selby, 107 Camino Don Miguel, at 12:30 p. m. Mrs. J. S. Sheppard and Mrs. B. E. Mallary will assist Mrs. Selby.



PLANTS FOR CAMP STONEMAN

Donations of plants, seeds, flats and shrubs for landscaping of Camp Stoneman are being collected by the Orinda Garden Club. Contributions may be deposited in the roped area in the vacant lot next to Marie Bennett's Beauty Salon, across from the Orinda Theatre. For information please call Mrs. Clay Sorrick, Orinda 2121.