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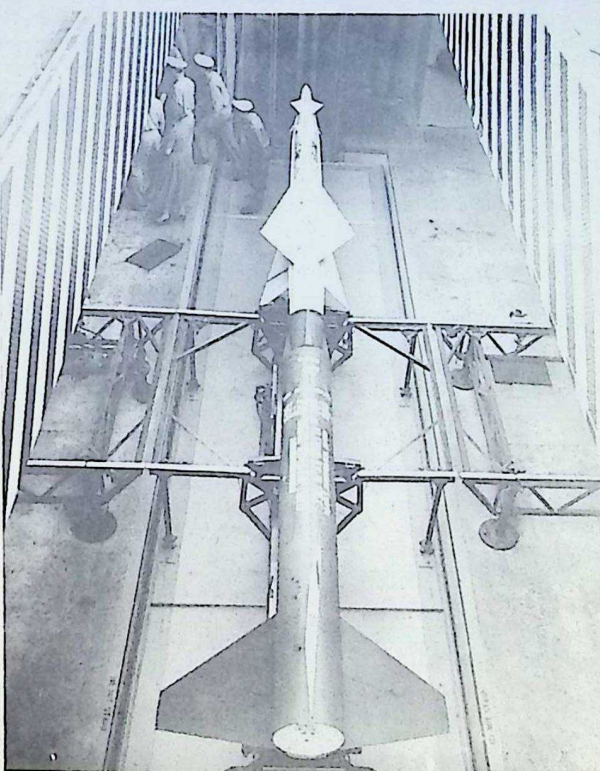
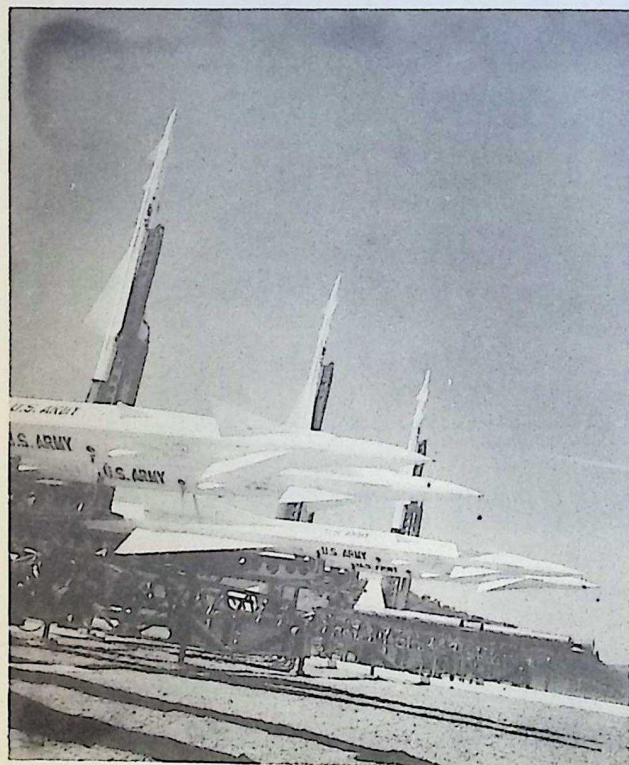
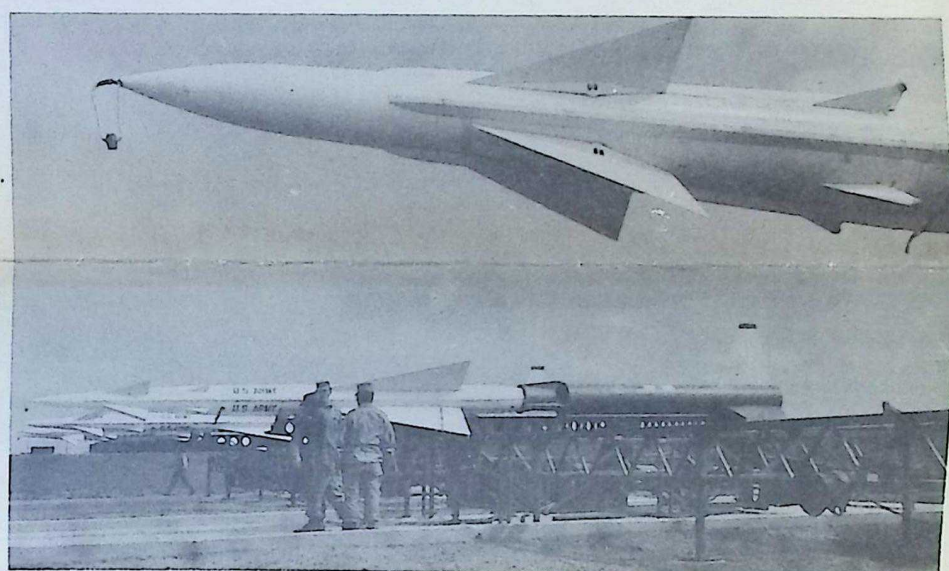
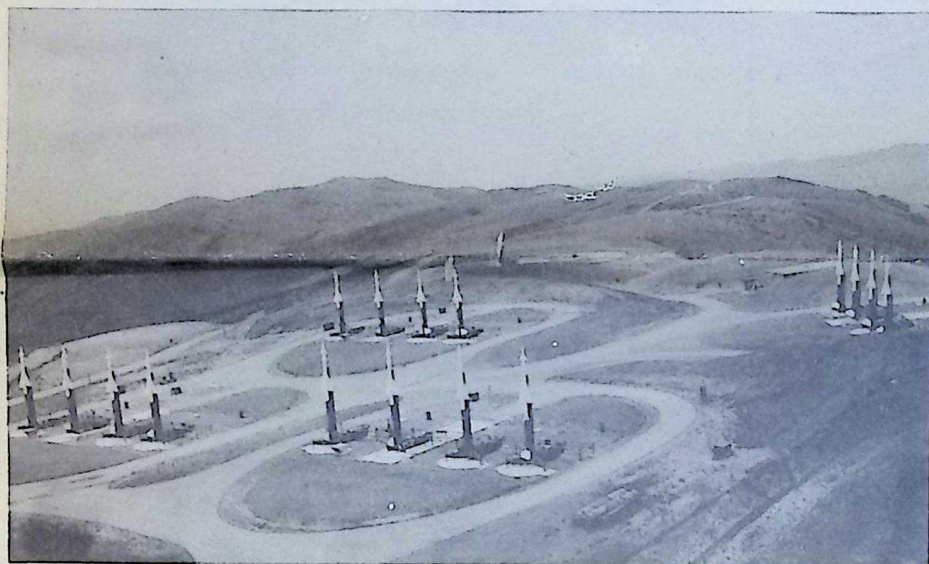
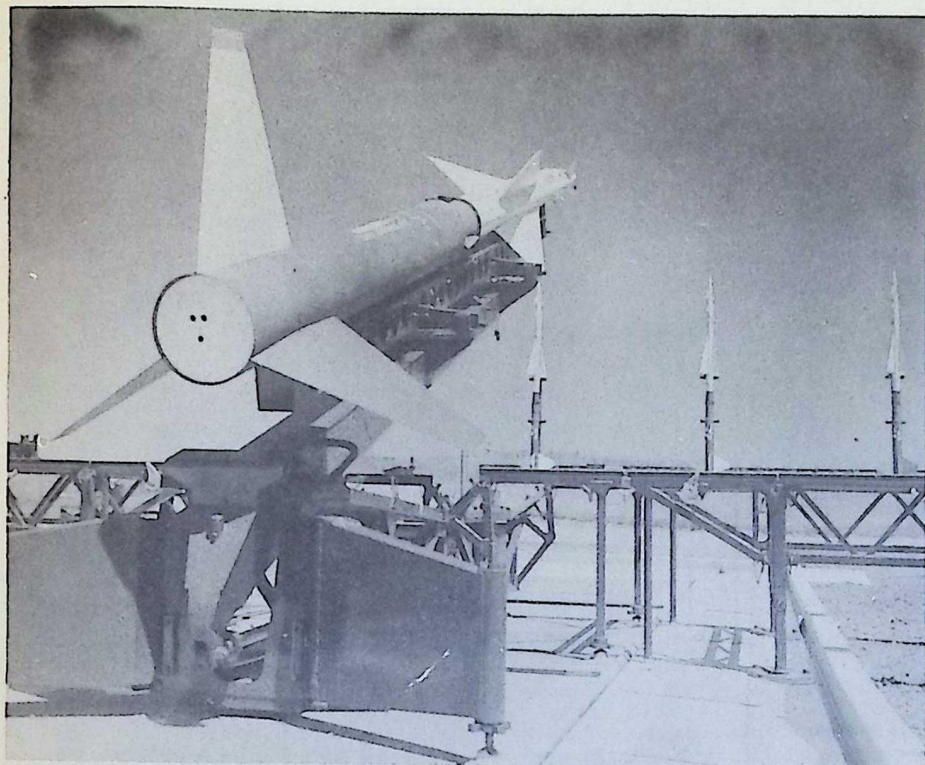
The Morindan

CIRCULATION
5,000 HOMES

Vol. 1 No. 13

ORINDA, CALIFORNIA, SEPTEMBER 26, 1957

120 Orinda Highway CLifford 4-4223



Awesomely beautiful Nikes located in the East Bay hills guarding Morindans 24 hours a day. Photos by Army Signal Corps. Three right hand photos by Martin White.

DEADLY NIKE MISSILES PROTECT MORINDANS AND BAY AREA

Perched atop a ridge about three miles from Orinda, with a gorgeous view of both San Pablo Dam and San Francisco Bay are some two hundred of Uncle Sam's finest—all hoping along with us that they are "wasting their time." These are members of Battery "C", 441st Antiaircraft Artillery

Battalion which constitutes a unit in an extensive ring of protection encircling the entire metropolitan area. But don't let their twenty odd feet of graceful, tapered beauty fool you. They mean business!

Like the little boy who whistles and hastens by the graveyard,

we've sped past the site on previous occasions with hardly a dared glance to the side in our belief that its very existence was so super hush-hush we'd better pretend it wasn't there. However, much to our surprise the Morindan staff was invited recently to visit continued on page 2

MISSISSIPPI GIRL NAMED GRID QUEEN

America's "Miss Football of 1957", Mary Ann Mobley of the University of Mississippi, and her glamorous "court" of campus beauties from 16 universities throughout the nation, have returned to their homes this week—but not without fond thoughts of the warm hospitality of the La-

fayette area.

During their stay here for the 12th annual Berkeley Football Festival, they were house guests of Mr. and Mrs. Murray Lehr, 1023 Timothy Drive, Lafayette. The Lehr estate was also the scene of a gala garden party last Wednesday continued on page 2



Shown here are the candidates for "Miss Football of 1957" grouped around the pool at the Murray Lehr home in Lafayette during the garden party held in their honor during their stay here in the Bay Area. Mary Ann Mobley, beautiful southern belle from Mississippi University was selected from college girls all over the nation to be the National Football Queen. Photos by Martin White

FOOTBALL QUEEN CHOSEN

continued from page 1

day, and a gay picnic dinner last Thursday.

Hundreds of Bay Area dignitaries met the campus queens beside the Lehr pool, at the garden party.

Lafayette was also the scene of much hectic scrambling on Thursday afternoon, as Berkeley Junior Chamber of Commerce chaperones besieged all of the beauty shops in the area—frantically seeking last minute hair-do's for the beauty contestants, prior to the glittering Coronation Ball at the Hotel Claremont.

The co-ed beauties arrived in the area complete with Asian flu inoculations—taken in Los Angeles, after one of their group, Beverly Burmeister of Texas Christian, was hospitalized with the flu bug.

The annual spectacle, which also featured a colorful parade on Friday evening in downtown Berkeley, is sponsored by the Berkeley Jaycees, to herald the intercollegiate gridiron season.

NIKES PROTECT AREA

continued from page 1

the Nike site, and enjoyed a personally conducted tour of the Battery.

Visitors now, according to Battery Commander, Captain Sylvanus Wooldridge, are welcome, particularly in adult groups, clubs and the like.

Even to the novice the rockets are an awe-inspiring sight, with their deadly noses pointed to the sky, ready for business at a moment's notice.

Crews are on duty around the clock but no rocket has ever been fired here. Crews go to Red Canyon in New Mexico for actual training and target practice, using radio controlled "drone" planes as targets. And Battery "C" is especially proud of its last year's training record—three hits out of three. Even though the "beautiful" 20-foot missiles are never fired here maintenance and practice keeps the Battery busy.

The battery consists of two main areas. The launcher area, adjacent to the living quarters, is mostly underground and the plane-killing missiles are kept in readiness in concrete pits. From these pits the missiles are hoisted on huge elevators and pointed sky-ward. In times of action everything is handled by remote control.

"Brains" of the system is about a mile away at the Integrated Fire Control area, where a maze of electronic computing devices, under the Battery Control Officer,

make instantaneous and constant computations. As close as a layman can figure it out here's what happens: Several long-range radars (range classified) are constantly searching the skies for an approaching enemy. When the radar-scope shows an "unfriendly pip" this information is relayed, along with position and range, to a second set of radars, one of which locks onto the target, thus freeing the original long-ranger to seek out more targets. The second radar collects and feeds information—range, direction, etc.—into the computers. This information is digested in a matter of seconds and fed into the internal mechanism of the missile which from the moment of firing is guided to the target by still another radar. (Gets a little complicated, doesn't it?) To state it briefly: one of the paired radars is a target tracker, the other radar sends directions to the missile. If everything works all right—and they say that it does—WHAM!

Older systems worked on a pre-determined computation. The computer analyzed at what point the missile and target would meet and the missile was exploded at that spot. If something went wrong the \$20,000 Nike exploded harmlessly in the air. Now the missile is continuously directed toward its target so that it can constantly "out-think" and outmaneuver the enemy.

Nike, which is a foot in diameter, is joined to a booster in the launching rack. After its fuel is exhausted, the booster drops off and the Nike's own motors take over for the final, lethal run.

Nike Hercules—capable of carrying an atomic warhead—will soon replace the present Ajax. Captain Wooldridge says Nike bases will be able to convert to the bigger and faster Hercules with a minimum of changes.

Even though the battery is located in a rather lonely spot every effort has been made to make it attractive and comfortable. Barracks are of modern concrete block construction with beds separated by wooden screens. Each barracks has a large TV room with sofa and magazines. The mess hall has light pink walls and

small tables complete with colorful tablecloths.

At the close of the tour both Lieutenant Harry A. Comeskey and Specialist Everett Snell who showed the Morindan staff around (with both patience and graciousness) summed up the attitude of the men toward the Nike missiles: "The present Nike missile is a deadly weapon capable of engaging any known aircraft of today, but the Army's new Nike missile, the Hercules, will be far superior and capable of engaging any future developments in airborne craft for years to come."

Garden Club Now 20 Years "Young"

The October Meeting of the Orinda Garden Club will be a tour of seven Belvedere gardens, three on the Lagoon and four overlooking the Lagoon and Bay. The members will lunch at the San Francisco Yacht Club.

The Orinda Garden Club was founded in March, 1937, at the home of Mrs. D. C. Lamb, by a group of young women interested in promoting conservation of natural beauty, gardens and civic improvement. They were Mrs. Richard Breuner, Mrs. Ernest Hadden, Mrs. Leon Woolsey, Mrs. Harrison Ketchum, now deceased, Mrs. William Stephenson, Mrs. Harold Symes, Mrs. P. D. Richardson, Mrs. Harold Martin. Mrs. Lamb was the first president. Shortly after the original organization Mrs. Miles York was invited to join.

For two years the group was known unofficially as "The Lettuce and Begonia Society", so named by the members' husbands. Orinda by 1938 was starting to grow, and with the construction of many new homes the Garden Club expanded to include about 35 members, all interested in actual gardening and beautification of the community.

Some of the early projects were the scattering of many pounds of lupin and poppy seeds over the hills, the planting of the sycamore trees along the highway from the village to the Crossroads,

and the acquiring and planting of 750 pine trees around the Orinda school and Community center lands. Other projects included the sponsoring of various tours, donating and planting the Catalina cherry and Redbud shrubs in front of the Orinda school, buying and planting pine trees for the school playground. Also, through one of the members, Jane Solinsky, the logs on the Orinda school playground were donated. Cork Oak were given to the club as an experiment, to see if they would grow in this area, and they were planted around the Golf Club lake. Eight have done very well.

Many Oakland Garden shows were supported by the Garden Club, whose members developed and designed gardens there, and won prizes for their efforts.

New schools in the area have been recipients of donations in the form of trees and shrubs from the Garden Club. The triangle in

the village (soon to be destroyed by new road construction), the Bus stop, and the circle at the Cross Roads have been planted and maintained by the Garden Club. Litter boxes have been placed in several areas.

The membership now consists of 75 members and the founders look with pride at the record of 20 years of pleasant activity in helping a community to grow gracefully.

Ben Franklin said: Serving God is doing good to man, but praying is thought an easier service, and therefore more generally chosen.

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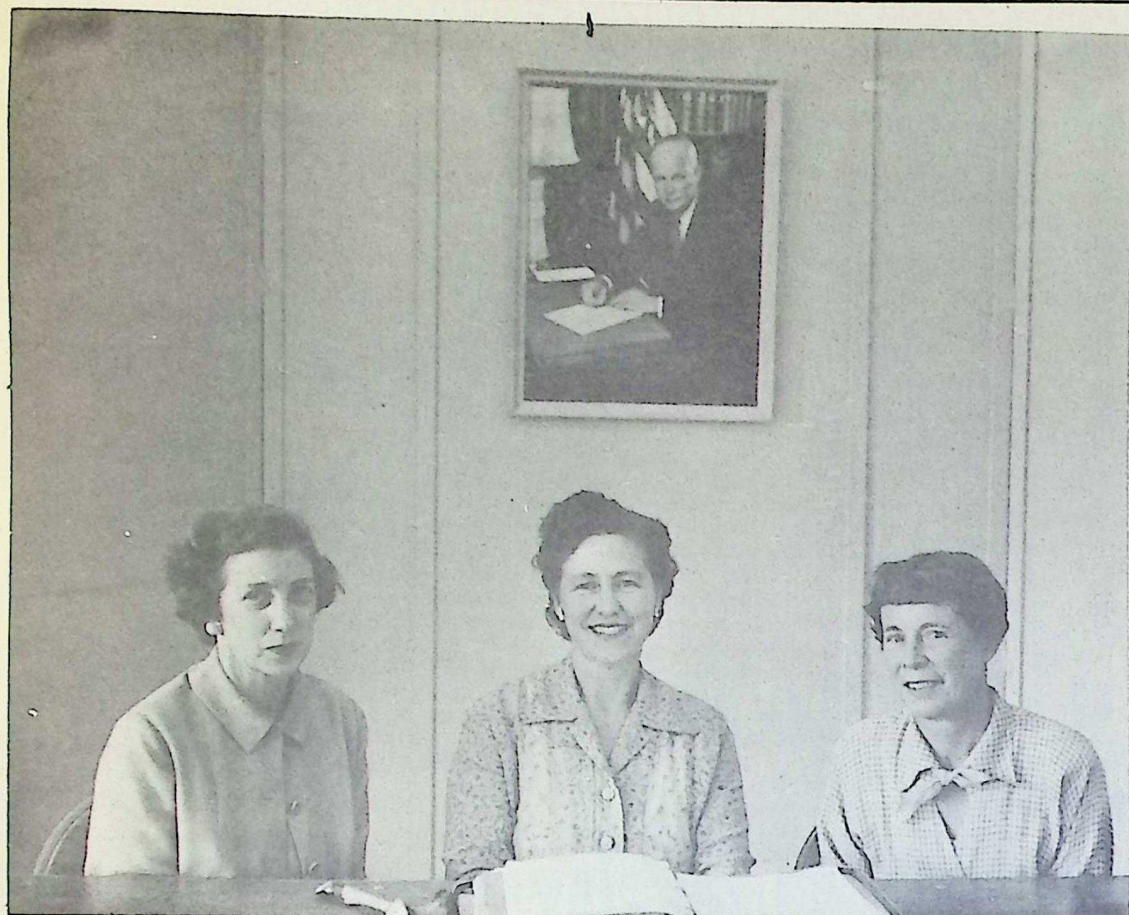
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Left to Right, officers of the Republican Women's Club. Mrs. C. M. Fish, General Chairman; Mrs. R. E. Galbraith, President and Mrs. M. G. Kennedy, Ticket Chairman. Martin White Photo.

Republican Women Plan 10-home Party

The Orinda Republican Women's Club is planning a simultaneous ten-home dessert-bridge party on Thursday, October 3, at 12:30 p.m. Mrs. Robert Galbraith, president, announced that the following members will have parties in their homes: Mesdames Robert W. Case, Bruce M. Anderson, Uriel B. Smith, J. Aubrey Sweet, W. H. Mordy, M. H. Fowler, Robeson Smith, John Traynor, N. S. Dodge Jr., Mrs. N. Ruth-erford.

Mrs. C. M. Fish is general chairman and Mrs. M. G. Kennedy is ticket chairman. All proceeds will go to United Republican Finance.

Valley Art Center Schedules Party

Members of the Valley Art Center this week received invitations to the organization's fall benefit party, "Champagne and Blue Velvet," scheduled for Saturday, October 12, in the colorful gardens of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cashin, 1611 Orchard Lane, Walnut Creek.

The late afternoon affair, from 4 to 7 p.m., will feature a showing of distinguished modern jewelry and a tasting of sparkling California champagnes contributed by three leading California vintners.

General chairman, J. Gordon Ainsworth, Orinda, stated that the party promises to be a greater sell-out than the successful "Mosaic and Wine" benefit in June at which an attendance of 500 was reached. He urged members to reserve invitations for themselves and their friends early. Deadline for reservations was set as October 5.

Mrs. Irving Roemer, Lafayette, ticket chairman, will be assisted by Mrs. J. Gordon Ainsworth (Cl. 4-2192) and Mrs. Arthur Sassone, Orinda (Cl. 4-3340). Donations are \$3.00 per couple and invitations must be secured in advance of the party by calling members of the ticket committee or mailing in a reservation to Mrs. Roemer, 3783 Happy Valley Rd., Lafayette.

Mr. and Mrs. William Wilkinson, Orinda, will serve as exhib-

ition chairmen for the jewelry exhibit. Leading Bay area jewelers, including members of the Valley Art Center, will show hand-crafted articles in gold and silver with hand-cut stones. In the display will be rings, pendants, earrings, pins and bracelets set off with stones of topaz, turquoise, malachite, azurite, opals and pearls. Wilkinson announced that Kay Lane, well-known Berkeley jeweler, will be among the exhibitors.

Mrs. John Ellis, Lafayette, will coordinate efforts of committees arranging the benefit. Chairmen include: Mrs. John Hildreth, Orinda, invitations; Mrs. Frank Cardin, Lafayette, arrangements and hostesses; and Mrs. Harold Powell, Lafayette, publicity.

Luther Leaguers Install Officers

The Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran church of Orinda held their installation of Luther League officers on Sunday, September 22. The officers installed were: Gayle Erickson, president; Milton Blake, vice-president; Kathy Jones, secretary; Joy Bekedam, treasurer.

In observance of Youth Day the Luther Leaguers conducted both church services with the assistance of their advisors, student pastors Joseph Bamdt and Eugene Vanderwater.

Ben Franklin said: A pair of good ears will drain dry a hundred tongues.

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Library Board To Pick Up Rummage

Pre-Christmas clean-up? Fall house-cleaning? The Orinda Library Board will welcome your rummage—and will collect it from you—for its rummage sale October 3rd at Miller's in Berkeley. For collection please call CL 4-3043 or CL 4-4886.

This was one of the items on the agenda at the annual general membership meeting of Orinda Library Board on September 12 at Dr. Lloyd Farrar's, president of the Orinda Library Board.

At this meeting the seven directors of the Library Board were re-elected. Following the resignation of Dr. Farrar as president,

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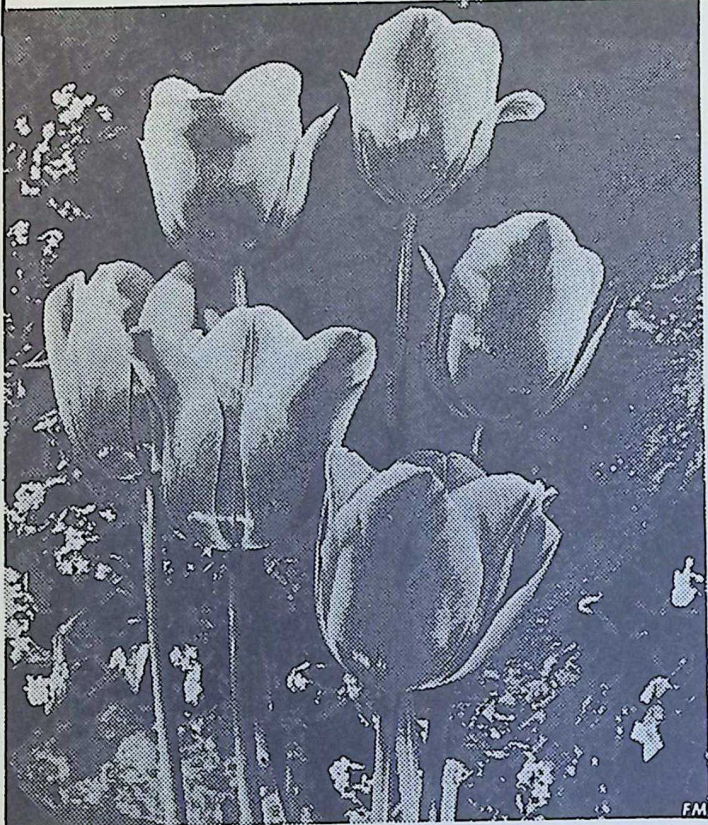
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YOUR FALL GARDEN

By Albert Pucci, Tree and Spray Expert

FOR SPRING BEAUTY

Plant Tulips Now!



HALF-A-DOZEN TULIPS planted in a clump, like these pink Darwins, provide a bright touch of color against a hedge or in an obscure corner of a lawn. Planted in blocks of single colors or in patterned designs, these Dutch bulb flowers can transform a backyard garden into a color spectacular.

NEW ANNUALS FOR '58

Each year great strides in the development of more beautiful and hardy annuals are announced. This is to be accentuated in 1958 with the announcement of four All-America award winners. Three new marigolds and one newly-developed petunia received coveted bronze medal awards and will be available in quantity for spring planting.

The marigold breeders presented an entirely new class of flower, the petite, for judging this year and walked off with three prizes. There are three colors of the new class, Petite Orange, Petite Gold, and Petite Harmony (a two-tone

edition of the popular Harmony). The California Association of Nurserymen suggest these as excellent edging plants because of their low, compact, uniform spreading growth. Their blooms are small, double, crested and quite free-blooming. These new plants are dwarf developments in the French Marigold species.

The other bronze medal winner is Maytime, a first generation hybrid in the grandiflora petunia species. This lovely flower has fringed, large, light salmon-pink blossoms and is otherwise very similar to the other large grandiflora hybrids.

see page 5

Carrier Position Opens In Orinda

Announcement is being made by Postmaster Laura Mallary that applications will be received from Orinda residents interested in applying for a permanent position as carrier at the Orinda Post Office starting December 1, 1957. Veterans will be given preference and applicants will be expected to take a civil service examination in order to obtain career status and retirement benefits. Starting pay will be \$1.82 an hour plus vacation and sick leave benefits. Males only need apply.

Applications are also being accepted for a temporary position as a substitute carrier until December 31, 1957 for Saturday and Christmas work only. Applicants must be 18 years of age, veterans will be given preference, work will start immediately and pay will be \$1.82 an hour.

MORINDAN HAS MAP

The Morindan now has a map of the complete area to be covered in the proposed incorporated city of Orinda. This map was produced and loaned to us by Jerry Tara of the county Assessor's staff to whom we are gratefully indebted. We have had numerous inquiries from people in doubt as to boundary lines.

This comprehensive map may be studied at any time here in the Morindan office at 120 Orinda Highway, Orinda Village.

Ben Franklin said: An ill wound, but not an ill name, may be healed.

Ed Wallace

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CHURCHES

First Church Of Christ, Scientist, 22 Orinda Highway, Orinda, has Sunday morning services and Sunday School at 11 o'clock, also Wednesday services at 8 p.m. Nursery care is provided.

The Presbyterian Church holds services at 9:30 and 11 at the Park Theater in Lafayette. Sunday school is held at the same times in Town Hall. Rev. Carl Thomas is pastor.

The First Baptist Church congregation meets in the banquet room at the Willows in Orinda Crossroads on Sunday at 11 a.m. Rev. Bruce H. Parker is pastor.

The Community Church (Congregational) 10 Irwin Way, Orinda, holds services and Sunday School at 8:15, 9:30 and 11 a.m. services are conducted by the Rev. Chauncey Blossom.

Sunday services at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, St. Stephen's Drive and Via Las Cruces, Orinda, are Holy Communion at 8 a.m. and Morning Prayer with a sermon by the Rev. Albert Lucas, rector, at 9:15 a.m. and 11

a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated at the later morning services on the first Sunday of each month.

Church school for all grades meets during the 9:15 service. Duplicate sessions for kindergarten through the third grades are held during the 11 o'clock service. Nursery care for pre-school children is available in the basement of the rectory during the latter service only.

The Young People's Fellowship meets on Sunday evening at 7 p.m. in the undercroft of the church.

On Wednesday, there is a celebration of Holy Communion at 10 a.m.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church holds regular worship services at 8 and 11 a.m. Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Albert S. Hidy, jr. is pastor.

The Church of Christ is holding services at present in the home of Jack Osborn at 11 Crest View Drive. Services include Bible Bible School at 10 a.m. and Communion and preaching at 11 on Sundays. Prayer meeting and Bible study at 8 p.m. on Wednesday evenings.

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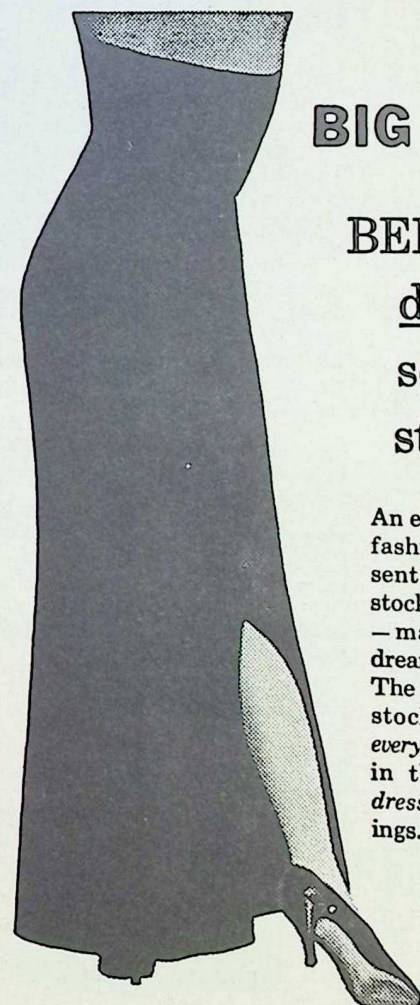
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YOUR GARDEN

continued from page 4

There are three newly-developed hybrid petunias which deserve special mention among new flowers for 1958. Two new dwarf nana compacta petunias, both first generation hybrids, were presented this year, Pink Satin and Peach Satin. Differing in color as their names indicate, both are multifloras. A third petunia which is newly-developed is a grandiflora which has been named Blue Luster to attempt to describe its main attractions.

These new flowers, which will be proud additions to the home garden, will not be available in quantity until the spring when both flatted and potted examples will be on show at local nurseries throughout the state.

TREES WITH FLOWERS

Nothing is so cheery on a dismal, rainy April day than the sight of a graceful tree in full bloom. Any California gardener can add this brightness to his spring garden because of the small size and adaptability of most flowering trees.

Local nurseries stock many varieties of flowering fruit trees such as crabapple, plums, peaches and apricots. Each has climatic preferences, the purple-leaved flowering plum being the most tolerant.

The flowering fruits thrive in all regions outside of the desert, but they flower best in areas with reasonably cold winters.

Southern California gardeners should inquire at nurseries for the Bauhinia Orchid Tree. This beauty has two or three inch rose colored flowers which resemble Vanda orchids. Other choices are the Calodendrum Capense, especially suitable for Southern coastal regions with flowers of a rosy lilac hue blooming in great clusters; the many varieties of Acacia and the equally numerous Eucalyptus tree. The Scarlet flowered gum, the Red Flowered Malee and the Pink Flowered White Iron Bark are all popular Eucalyptus choices.

In addition to the popular flowering fruit trees, some of which furnish fruit as well as beauty, there are many lovely deciduous shade trees which produce lovely spring blossoms. Among these are the Silk Tree, the hawthorns and the dogwoods.

Whichever flowering tree is chosen from the nurseryman's stock, the home gardener will find it to be a versatile, attractive addition to the landscape. Since these are small trees, they can be planted close to the house to give shade and spring colors. Many gardeners find it desirable to put these lovely trees in containers or in decorative planter arrangements that suggest containers.

Besides adding spring color to the landscape, the flowering trees are ideal for providing indoor cut branches for decoration. To get the best effect for indoor cuttings, the gardeners should select branches which are mostly still in bud and then allow them to bloom in water vases indoors.

Heavy pruning required to get the best display of blooms from flowering fruits since blooms only appear on new wood. Other flowering trees need to be pruned for shape only.

ZELKOVA

If you garden in an area which because of extreme climatic or soil conditions, supports only a minimum of plant life, the Sawleaf Zelkova is your best bet for a tree selection. The Zelkova is a handsome shade tree that can really "take it". A native of Japan, the Sawleaf Zelkova tolerates extremes in temperatures, has been grown in altitudes of 4000 feet and pays no attention whatsoever to winds or drought. Further testifying to its hardiness, this tree grows in alkaline soil.

However, for all its durability, the Zelkova is an attractive, broad, round-headed tree, much admired for colorful autumn foliage. Its dense, dark-green, elm-like leaves turn a rich dark-red or dullish red-yellow in the fall.

The Sawleaf Zelkova (Zelkova serrata), available at local nurseries throughout California, is a

heavy-foliaged tree with large, wide-spreading branches which start their spread a few feet above the ground. Because of its lowness and thickness, this makes an excellent windbreak or soundbreak tree. The same heavy foliage makes it an ideal shade tree which, like most deciduous shade trees, lets the much-desired sun shine through its leafless branches in the winter.

The Sawleaf Zelkova is an exceedingly easy tree to maintain. It requires no watering or special feeding and only occasional pruning to shape when it is young. It is best to prune it in the fall.

Zelkovas which have been growing for many years in California testify to the disease and pest resistance of this variety. However, the wise gardener will take the precaution of an occasional oil spraying.

The handsome Zelkova grows rapidly to heights of 50 to 90 feet and spreads widely to the same distance. This great spread makes it ideal for large areas.

The many species of low growing Cotoneasters perform well as a ground cover or a trailer over a wall or bank, in tub or rocky spots. The well-known Cotoneaster Dammeri or Barberry Cotoneaster forms a flat, evergreen mat of rooting branches with bright, glossy foliage, white flowers and scarlet berries.

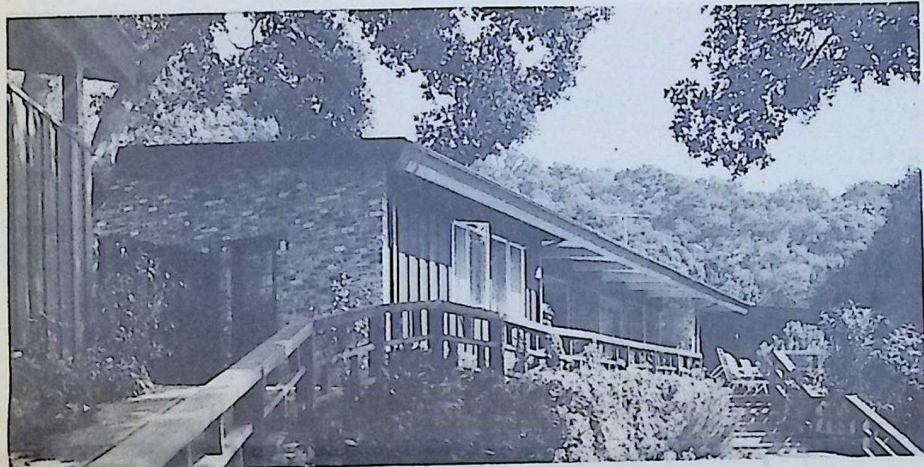
The trailing habit of the Ivy Geranium makes it ideal for ground cover in sloping areas or along parking strips in the mildew areas of California. It is just as attractive, however, when planted in hanging boxes, window boxes or other type of container.

An apple tree is a happy addition to a garden all year long. It has unmatched beauty in flower, luscious fruit in summer, casts a light and useful shade in summer and provides a lovely silhouette after the leaves drop. Gardeners with small space appreciate dwarf types.

Watch

the

Morindan

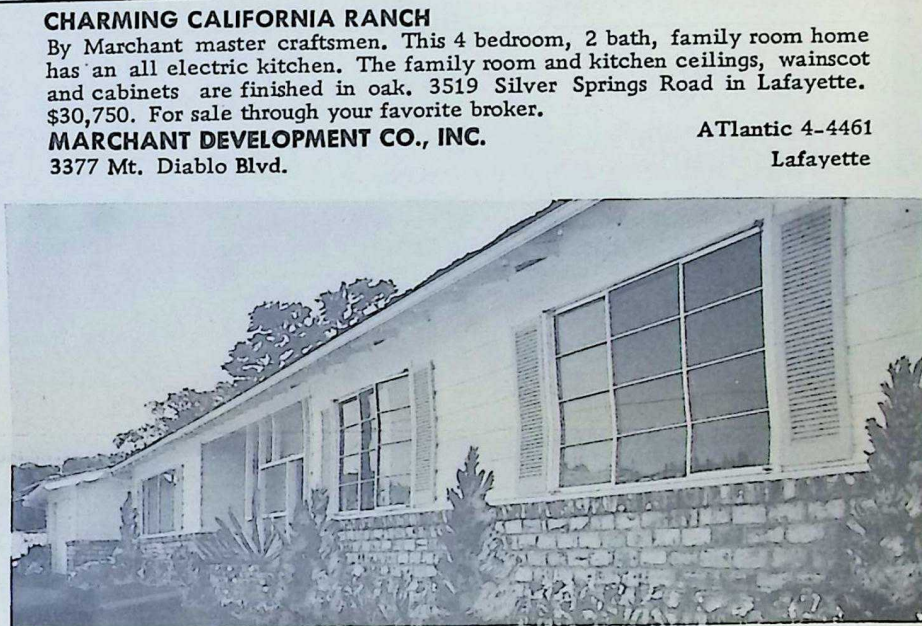


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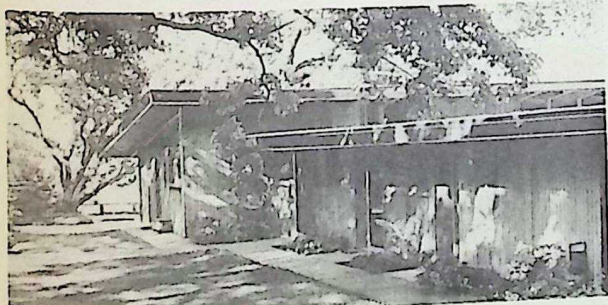


ON THE GARDEN TOUR

An outstanding, architect designed home in the Country Club area. All spacious rooms arranged for the maximum use of the beautiful gardens set amidst large oaks. Ten rooms, four car garage. \$90,000.

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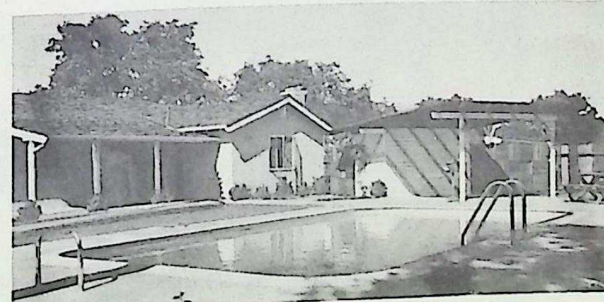


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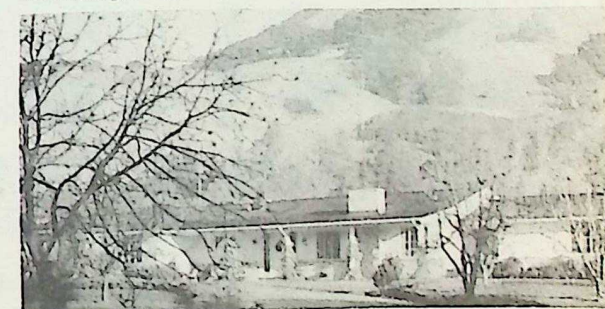


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Mrs. Leonard Mahler, Lafayette, (center) entertains former Orindans Miss Sharon Brown, left and mother Mrs. Barry James of Sacramento, at recent "Wednesday at the Claremont" fashion show luncheon. Party was in honor of Sharon who left in mid September for Paris.

Asian Flu Makes Good Headlines

Writing in Life Magazine not long ago, Dr. George Crile, Jr., surgeon at the Cleveland Clinic, charged that those responsible for telling the public about disease have "chosen to use the weapon of fear, believing that only through fear can the public be educated." "Newspapers and magazines spread this fear," he went on, "knowing that the public is always interested in the melodramatic and frightening."

This observation is particularly pertinent now in regard to the wide publicity being given Asian influenza and the predictions that a vast epidemic is inescapable this winter. The fact that certain California health experts recently declared that there was no reason to expect an epidemic seems to have been ignored in favor of the more "melodramatic and frightening" forecasts.

Dr. John T. Barrett, chairman of the Rhode Island state committee on immunization, says that the publicity on Asian flu is "totally out of proportion with the danger involved." At worst, this latest "popular" ailment cannot be compared with the type of influenza prevalent in 1917-18.

Psychosomatic medicine emphasizes the harmful effects of fear and anxiety and echoes Job's statement that "the thing I greatly feared is come upon me." Disease is not a matter of germs and vir-

uses only.

Efforts toward immunization through vaccine are commendable but that is not the sole means of immunization. Many centuries ago the Psalmist said: "Because thou has made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling."

New Moraga Pool Group Is Formed

The latest addition to the growing list of community swimming pool groups in Western Contra Costa is that of the Moraga Valley Pool Association. The group was formally incorporated on August 9 with John Goerl as president; Bruce Hoffe, vice president; Carroll Foss secretary and Kenneth Anderson treasurer.

A deposit has been placed on a seven acre tract on Risa Drive, off Ivy Drive, Orinda, and a land use permit has been granted by the county.

Membership in the association will be limited to 300 families living in the area. Plans are being developed to construct a \$75,000 swimming facility including a pool, bath house and large park-

ing area.

The sale of memberships will be under the direction of John Hallisey. Residents of the area who desire additional information may obtain it from members of the Membership Committee, who are: William Carr, DRake 6-5032; John Fielding, DRake 6-5020; John Hallisey, DRake 6-5009; William Holland, DRake 6-5403; James Roberts, DRake 6-5524; Edward Walsh, DRake 6-4773; Willis Welsh, DRake 6-8792; and Robert Wendorf, DRake 6-4798.

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Local Items

Boys and girls in the Orinda area interested in stamp collecting will be welcome at the Saturday morning meetings of the Orinda Scouts Stamp Club. Bradshaw Harrison, adult leader, will be glad to meet collectors at the Boy Scout Hut, Orinda Park Pool from 10 o'clock to 12 noon every Saturday. The first meeting of the season will be on October 5th.

There is no registration or membership fee. All boys and girls who collect or would like to begin collecting are welcome. Collectors or beginners may call Brad Harrison at Clifford 4-3577, or come to the meeting any Saturday morning.

Friends will be happy to know that Mrs. Helen (Bion) Atkinson, of 44 Los Dedos Road, Orinda, is well on the way to recovery from an automobile accident in San Jose. She expects to be confined to her home for several more weeks.

Miss Patricia Monosmith, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph O. Monosmith, of 70 Sleepy Hollow Lane, Orinda, California, will be graduated from Armstrong College, Berkeley, California, on September 19, with the degree of Associate of Arts (Private Secretarial). September 19 marks the end of the

summer session at Armstrong.

Miss Monosmith entered Armstrong College during the summer session immediately following graduation from Acalanes High School in June, 1956. While attending Acalanes, she participated in many of the musical activities of the school as member of the Music Council, accompanist for the a capella choir and as majorette. During her sophomore and junior years at Acalanes High, she was a member of the California Scholarship Federation, high school honor society.

Miss Monosmith's father is an official of the California State 4-H Club organization.

If your grass is losing out to crabgrass, cut down on watering and use a good weed killer. Grass does not need the water you give it now half as much as the crabgrass does. When the lawn has been treated with crabgrass killer it may turn brown temporarily. The green will return following the next waterings.

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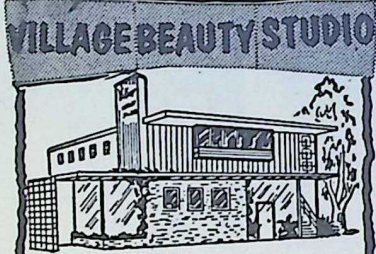
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Early Days of Moraga

This brings to a conclusion the History of Early Moraga as compiled by Henry Elisha Harwood, deceased. The Morindan appreciates the many comments received from its readers and wishes to take this opportunity to publicly thank Mr. and Mrs. William Harwood of 867 Acalanes Road, Lafayette, for permission to publish.

ROCKY RIDGE: Rocky Ridge, is the old name for that lofty ridge of mountains lying to the south of Grizzly Canyon and some four miles east and south of the town of Moraga. The elevation of Rocky Ridge is around 2300 feet, and from its summit the city of San Francisco and the Pacific ocean beyond, is visible on clear days. The summit of this ridge of mountains can still be reached by hikers with the assistance of a guide, by following abandoned wagon roads and cow trails. This ridge is located on the El Sobrante, as is the greater part also of Grizzly Canyon region. Redwood Peak, also on the El Sobrante, is a peak some 1500 feet in elevation, situated a short distance north of the Skyline Boulevard and is easily accessible to hikers or others who may enjoy mountain climbing and scenery.

The story of the El Sobrante Lands, adjacent to the Moraga Grant, is somewhat similar to that of the Moraga Rancho. The early occupants of these lands being primarily squatters themselves, on what afterward proved to be Government land. Many of the original settlers were successful, however, in obtaining Government patents after the Government had a survey made of these lands. Disputes arose, however between the original occupants and a new set of squatters who followed the Government surveyors and endeavored to dispossess some of the original occupants on the grounds that some occupied more land than the Government allowed to any one individual, viz., 160 acres. These disputes resulted in many lawsuits and quarrels and a couple of killings. Then along came our old "friend" the Central Pacific Railway, claiming ownership of every odd numbered Section, under a land grant subsidy, by Act of Congress. The Railroad Company lost out in most, if not all, of these attempts to evict the settlers from those odd sections for the reason that many of those original settlers occupied these lands prior to that of the Railroad Company. In later years from time to time, nearly all of these El Sobrante Lands along with a considerable portion of the Moraga Rancho lands constitute the water shed of the San Leandro Reservoir, a beautiful artificial lake situated in the canyons below and to the south of the town of Moraga. This dam is about 180 feet in height located about five miles down the canyon on San Leandro Creek. The waters of this lake, when full, back well up into the Moraga Valley and is one of Oakland's main sources of water supply. Water from the Mokelumne Dam is sometimes diverted into this lake by pumping when the water level gets low. The District has a branch pipe line from the Lafayette pumping station running through Moraga Valley, south to the headwaters of the lake.

These El Sobrante Lands were fairly well populated prior to the Government survey of same. The inhabitants being for the most

part Portuguese, were a highly industrious, honest and frugal people, and who did much heavy work in the development of these lands, such as building of wagon roads and preparing the land for cultivation by clearing same of trees and bushes, and building habitations.

Their principal crops were hay and grain, some fruit, and all kept a few cows and some poultry. All lived happily and contented and raised large families. These Sobrante Lands are now owned almost exclusively by the East Bay Municipal Utility District, except such portions as may have been disposed of and now constitute a part of the regional park lands of Oakland which are under the jurisdiction and control of a Regional Park Board.

On these Regional Park lands are many splendid locations for Game refuges and preserves, and where all manner of wild game could be propagated, such as deer by losing some 200 head of fawn, the stocking of pheasants, and for the protection of smaller game such as quail and rabbits. This writer would respectfully suggest to the Regional Park Board the advisability of converting these unoccupied and wooded lands into one giant game preserve, such a preserve would be a splendid asset as well as an attraction to the inhabitants of Oakland and Bay Region.

Now back to the Moraga Rancho. In the early days of the first settlement of this rich and fertile valley, great crops of wild oats and wild mustard plants grew and covered the landscape, making rich grazing land. Farmers frequently mowed these wild oats, and converted same into hay for stock feed. A few years later, when grain farming began in this valley, all at once, as if from nowhere, there was an invasion of ground squirrels.

These destructive pests became so numerous that it was well nigh impossible to raise crops of any kind, Farmers were kept busy fighting them, trying to exterminate them by poisoning, which resulted in killing most of the small game as well. After battling these pests for many years, and later receiving some assistance from the State, the squirrel situation became less and less acute. Finally these rodents disappeared, as if by magic. Some experts claim that they became victims of the bubonic plague, a contagion brought here by rats from sailing vessels.

In the early days of the Valley, wild game and bird life were extremely plentiful, such as quail, hare, (jack-rabbits, as we used to call them) brush rabbits, doves, etc. Quail, in particular, were more than plentiful, flocks of thousands, on all hillsides where there were any trees, and along the creeks. This Valley was certainly a paradise for quail and dove hunters. In the early days no one ever saw a "No Shooting" sign anywhere. No one objected unless they got careless and were not particular about what they fired at. Sometimes a man's house

would be riddled with bird shot, then a heated argument would ensue between the house occupant and the hunter.

Predatory animals of various kinds were also quite numerous in the early days. Especially coyotes, skunks, foxes, badgers, weasels, etc. Coyotes were a constant source of worry to sheep and poultry raisers. All this wild life has practically disappeared from the land.

During the Carpentier regime of the Moraga Rancho all those residing on the land were tenant farmers and cattle men (and there were many such). All were engaged in hay and grain raising, and raising of cattle and horses. Land rents were very reasonable so most of these tenant farmers made a good living, and those who were frugal saved some money. A few, when they retired, had large bank accounts. None of these tenant farmers ever made any improvements of any kind on the lands which they occupied and seemed to be very well satisfied with the dwellings and barns as they existed, tho many were in a very dilapidated condition.

After Carpentier disposed of his interests in the Grant, numerous improvements have taken place, and many of a very permanent nature, such as building of new and improved roads, the planting of many acres of pear orchards, all of which have made splendid growth and are now in full bearing. Many new dwellings have been constructed and are now occupied by the owners who are desirous of making homes in the Valley.

The one great improvement for the Valley was the building of the Sacramento Northern Railroad, running between San Francisco and Oakland and Sacramento by way of Walnut Creek and Pittsburg. The Moraga Land Company is now owner of all the unsold portions of the Moraga Rancho. (Recently purchased by Utah Construction Co. --ed.)

Concerning railroads--a brief mention may be made herein of the long since defunct California and Nevada Railroad which almost reached into the valley about 1885, long prior to the advent of the Sacramento-Northern Railway. This railroad was to have extended into the State of Nevada. This road was promoted by certain ambitious gentlemen in Oakland and Emeryville (who had aspirations to become Railroad magnates) as a nucleus for a new trans-continental line. The road began at 40th and San Pablo Avenue, where is now located the Santa Fe Depot and ran along the foothills on the east side of San Pablo Avenue to the town of San Pablo, then deflected to the right up San Pablo Creek past Orinda in the Moraga Valley proper. Rights of way were obtained and all grading work done as far east as the Valley, and rails laid as far as Glorietta, east of Orinda.

Combination freight and passenger trains operated over the road during the summer months carrying local freight, and principal passenger business was that of hauling picknickers during the picnic season. This railroad property was subsequently acquired by the Santa Fe Railroad Company and converted into a broad gauge

line and is now used as part of their main line into Oakland from the town of San Pablo. The balance of the right of way and road bed up San Pablo Creek was abandoned and its career as an independent line passed into history.

Moraga Valley is now the permanent home of St. Mary's College, an educational institution of higher learning conducted by the Christian Brothers. The campus, with its splendid buildings, is located in a cove on the east side of the Valley, with beautifully wooded hills in the background.

In the writer's opinion, no finer location could possibly have been selected for an institution of this kind, away from the noise and turmoil of city traffic. It is easily reached over the line of the Sacramento Northern Railway or over the various highways by automobile.

Saint Mary's College was founded in the year 1863 and was originally located in the City of San Francisco. During the year 1889 or 1890 its location was transferred to Oakland, out on Upper Broadway and from Oakland moved to Moraga Valley some 10

years ago.

This, in brief, is the story of the Moraga Rancho, going back to the year 1835, when the original white settlers, the Moraga family, first made it their home. And who were destined, in later years, through the cupidity and avarice of land sharks to be despoiled of their home and possessions, honestly acquired.

The whole family of Joaquin Moraga, sons and daughters, were reduced to poverty and want in their later lives. Gabriel, the eldest son, was a street sweeper in the City of Oakland at the time of his death a few years ago; and Joaquin, the second son, and close personal friend of this writer, kept himself employed at divers occupations up to the time of his demise.

Such is the true story of the Moraga Valley, peaceful in its isolation, with its beautifully wooded slopes, its many enchanting solitudes and above all, its colorful background and romantic past.

THE END

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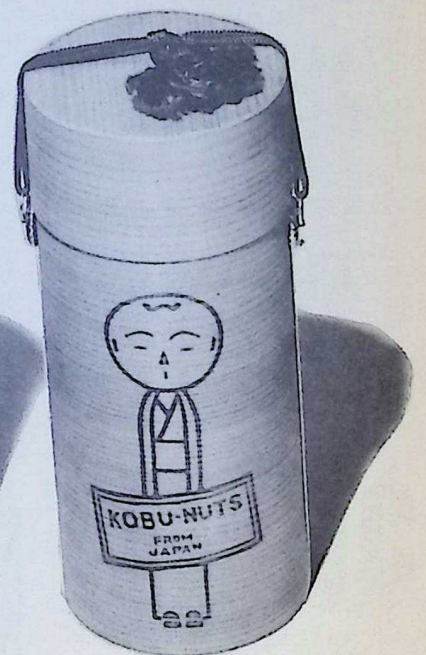
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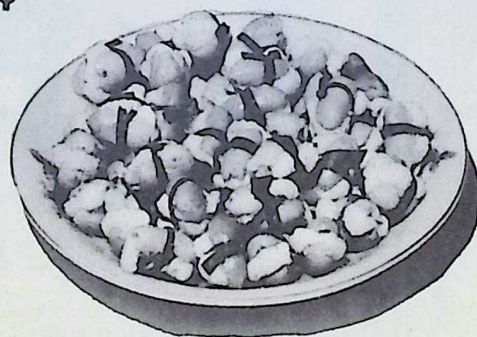


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