

# ORINDA NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE OF THE ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

VOLUME IV

Orinda California, August 1, 1940

Number 2

## ACALANES HIGH SCHOOL

The notice of approval of the W. P. A. project for the development of the site of the Acalanes Union High School has been received from Washington, D. C. Work will start in the early part of August.

Included in the project is surface grading and draining of the site, construction of recreational facilities including football field, track, baseball field, tennis courts, basketball courts, bleachers, swimming pool, and landscaping.

The school board contributes \$11,011 for materials for this work and the federal appropriation is \$14,448 for labor.

## RED CROSS NEWS

Mrs. A. W. Elkinton, chairman, called a meeting of the committee chairmen of the Orinda Red Cross Unit on Friday, July 19th.

At this meeting Mrs. Malcolm Lamb, the War Fund Chairman, reported that a total of \$975.00 had been collected to date. The committee is still at work and the desk at Warren Harrold's office is open daily for contributions. Mrs. Beatrice Cleborne has given much of her time working at this desk. The Red Cross posters on display there were made and donated by the Leon Woolseys.

Mrs. J. T. Cotton, the Production chairman reported the completion of 25 children's dresses, 25 doctor's gowns, and 50 Hospital night shirts under production. This sewing has been done under the supervision of Mrs. Stanley Smith, the sewing chairman.

Mrs. A. H. Winter, the knitting chairman reported 24 sweaters being made by the Orinda ladies.

Mrs. Geoffrey Mayo held a meeting of those interested in doing surgical dressings, on Friday, July 19th. At this time instructions were given for the necessary equipment and the method of making the various bandages.

This group will meet every Friday in the Red Cross work room at the Orinda School, from 10:00 until 4:00.

Those interested in doing this work should call Mrs. Mayo at Orinda 6446.

## WORK ROOM FUND

We wish to thank all those who have contributed to the Red Cross Work Room Fund, thus giving us an opportunity to purchase those things needed to carry on our work. This is a very needy fund and all spare nickles and dimes help in our work.

## August Meeting Notice

The next regular meeting of the Orinda Improvement Association will be held Friday, August 2, at 8:15 p. m., in the Orinda School Auditorium. At this meeting the budget will be presented.

## JULY MEETING

Mr. Martyn F. Warner opened the July meeting of the Association with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. This is to be the usual form of opening throughout the year.

Mr. Warner announced the following committees and chairmen for the year: Mr. Edward Sibbett, chairman of the By-Laws Committee; Mr. H. L. Ketcham, chairman of the Budget Committee; Mr. Richard M. Cross, chairman of the Publicity Committee; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Christy, chairmen of the Membership Committee; Mrs. Ambrose MacDonald, chairman of Reception Committee; and Mr. Kenneth Allen, chairman of the Roads Committee.

At this meeting it was voted to change the hour of meeting to 8:15 p. m.

## RED CROSS PARTY

Mrs. Frank Fee, Assistant Entertainment Chairman of the Orinda Red Cross Unit, has planned a Bridge Tea to be held for the benefit of the Red Cross.

The tea will be held on August 21, at 2:00 p. m., at the home of Mrs. Walter Thayer Wood, Woodward Lodge, Charles Hill, Lafayette.

The general committee is composed of Mrs. Chester Williams, Mrs. H. Atkinson, Mrs. A. L. Scott, Jr., and Mrs. Lee Dunham. Tickets are now on sale and may also be obtained at Warren Harrold's office. The tickets have been contributed by Mr. Nelson of the Western Tag and Envelope Company of Berkeley.

Mrs. Geoffrey Mayo is in charge of the refreshments and her committee will solicit these from residents of Orinda.

## NOTICE

William M. Fleager, Secretary of the Orinda Improvement Association, would like to have all receipt books, belonging to the Association, turned in as soon as possible.

## LIONS CLUB CHARTER NIGHT

At a meeting held at the Orinda Country Club on Wednesday evening, July 10, the Orinda Lions received their charter from the sponsoring Lafayette club. At this meeting officers of the Lafayette Lions were also installed.

Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Frank Woodward of Oakland, who was introduced by the Orinda First Vice-President, Joe Varni. Reverend Charles Huddleston gave the Invocation. Greetings from the sponsors were extended by Bob Burns, out-going president of the Lafayette organization.

After acceptance of the charter, which was presented by Thomas S. Neilson, district governor, a talk on Americanism was given by John Frenzel, district governor elect. The new Lafayette president, Dr. E. C. Gerow, was then installed. Dancing followed adjournment.

The weekly meeting of the Orinda Lions is held each Wednesday night at 7 p. m., at the Wild Duck Inn.

## ORINDA PARK WATER CARNIVAL

The Aquacade and Water Carnival held at the Orinda Park Pool on the Fourth of July, drew so many compliments that manager "Al" Morgan and lifeguard Payson Woolsey are planning a repeat performance later in the season.

The chorus of sixteen swimming in time to the music was a beautiful sight and there were several specialty acts of rhythm swimming and straight and comic swimming and diving. The program concluded with races.

Among those taking part were: Betty Jean Farrar, Wane LaVelle, Peter Wilkins, Dorothy Heinrici, Helen Heinrici, Tom Snook, David Dibbern, Bill Harrison, Gordon LaVelle, Bud Dawson, Leo Levy, Floyd Laughrey, Fred Allen, and Francis Allen.

In the evening members of the Park and their guests gathered around laden picnic tables for an old-fashioned community supper supervised by Mrs. Jay Herzog.

Other activities at the Pool are the nightly ping-pong tournament and the Tuesday morning bridge games, coached by Mrs. Daisy Hellen. Tuesday morning is the period that manager Morgan arranges for the care of young children so that mothers may have that time free.

## ORINDA NEWS

Official Publication of The  
ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Editor

Mrs. R. D. Harrison.....Orinda 5766

Advertising Manager

Richard M. Cross.....Orinda 4851

Staff

Mrs. Marshall Shapiro.....Orinda 5481

Mrs. Walter Wood.....Orinda 4556

Miss Maurine Donaldson.....Orinda 5511

Mr. David C. Jones.....Orinda 6056

Mr. Warren Harrold.....Orinda 5546

### EDITORIAL

On Saturday, July 20, Mr. R. M. Cross, publicity chairman, and Mrs. R. D. Harrison, editor of the ORINDA NEWS, called upon Mr. C. C. Morse, publisher of the ORINDA HOME BUILDER regarding his offer to take over the ORINDA NEWS, which he has mentioned in the last three copies of his paper.

Mr. Morse offered us one complete page in the ORINDA HOME BUILDER to be edited by the staff of the ORINDA NEWS. This page is to retain the present heading and advertisers. Mr. Morse assured us that by doing this we would increase our receipts to approximately \$300 per year for which the Improvement Association should pay him 5 cents per member per copy to pay his distribution costs, as he described them.

We explained that the loss of our individuality as a separate paper would result in the gradual loss of our advertisers who are so loyally supporting the ORINDA NEWS, and the paper as an organ of the Improvement Association would no longer exist.

It is the belief of this staff that there is a definite need and place in the community for the ORINDA NEWS which can faithfully portray the improvements and progress made in the community.

### REAL ESTATE NEWS

Property Recently Purchased:

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Holmes.....Canyon Drive

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gibbons.....La Cuesta

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Cory.....Cotton Ranch

Homes Recently Occupied:

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Allen.....Las Vegas

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Burke.....La Espiral

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Briggs.....La Espiral

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Seaver Orinda Highway

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Courant.....La Espiral

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Smith.....El Caminito

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hill.....Miner Road

Building Permits Issued:

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Diehl.....Los Dedos

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Prouty.....Rose Lane

Mrs. J. Brown.....La Bolsita

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cataline.....El Gavelin

Mr. and Mrs. J. Boyen.....Las Vegas

Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Pettingill.....La Espiral

Mr. and Mrs. William Pearson.....La Punta

### BARNSTORMERS

The following members of this group have been appointed to its executive board: Mrs. Gerald A. Woods, Mrs. Marshall A. Shapiro, Mrs. Richard M. Cross, Mr. Jack Morrison, and Mr. Robert Harrison.

## ORINDA WATER DISTRICT HISTORY

The Orinda Water District was formed for the purpose of insuring Orinda with an adequate supply of water, making possible a continuous growth of our community.

Tax money paid each year is for the payment of interest and for the retirement of an original bonded indebtedness of \$155,000.00 which was necessary for the construction and installation of a distributing system through which water is furnished by the East Bay Municipal Utility District to Orinda homes.

The Orinda Water District was incorporated February 5, 1932, at which time the District's assessed valuation was \$728,596.00. Today it is over two and one-quarter million dollars.

The peak tax levy of the District was in 1934 with a rate of \$1.39 per \$100.00 of assessed valuation. The tax rate for subsequent years has been as follows:

1935 — 97 cents; 1936 — 81 cents;

1937 — 80 cents; 1938 — 80 cents;

1939 — 75 cents.

The tax decrease was chiefly due to the rapid growth in assessed valuation of the District, however, in January 1939, bonds amounting to \$7500.00 were retired and a similar amount of bonds were again retired in January 1940, and the same program will continue until our entire bond issue has been paid.

The tax rate for this year (1940-41) will be reduced from 75 cents to slightly below 70 cents.

With a continued increase of assessed valuation in our District, and with the retirement of additional bonds, both of which seem a certainty, the tax rate of the Orinda Water District will be decreased each year.

Our only other source of revenue is from meter rebates, which revenue has been accumulated each year for operating expenses and for obligated pipe line installations in remote sections of our District.

These rebates are only allowed by the East Bay Municipal Utility District for a period of 10 years but the various County Water Districts are endeavoring to have the time of rebates extended for a longer period. If such a plan is accomplished it will mean further reductions each year in the tax rate of the Orinda Water District.

J. W. DIETERICH, *President.*

### ORINDA HIGHWAY

Those of us in the community who have been wondering as to the meaning of the little red flags fluttering on the Orinda Highway are interested to know that they mark the beginning of the improvements for this highway.

The survey for the realignment and widening of Orinda Highway from the Tunnel Road to Orinda has been completed and at a recent meeting of the Board of Supervisors an amount of \$5000.00 was appropriated for the work, which will begin just as soon as equipment is available.

## ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Officers

President.....Martyn F. Warner

Vice-President.....Harrison L. Ketcham

Secretary.....William Fleager

Treasurer.....George Hickok

Trustees.....John Morrison, Kenneth Allen,  
Edward Sibbett

Standing Committees

Publicity.....Richard M. Cross

Membership.....Mr. and Mrs. Walter Christy

Reception.....Mrs. Ambrose MacDonald

By-Laws.....Edward Sibbett

Budget.....Harrison L. Ketcham

### BUDGET

The following Budget has been passed upon by the Executive Committee of the Orinda Improvement Association and will be submitted by the Budget Committee for approval by the members at the coming regular Association meeting:

Operating Expenses of the Association for 1940-41:

Refreshment Committee.....\$100.00

Membership Committee.....10.00

Secretary.....10.00

Stationery, Printing, Postage, Etc.....30.00

Contingency.....50.00

This total is derived from Dues.....\$200.00

Allotments from Treasury for 1940-41:

Donations.....\$115.00

Charity Contributions.....85.00

\$200.00

Balance in Treasury at time this Budget is approved, to be held as an unappropriated community service fund to be expended only on community projects.

### NEW MEMBERS

The membership committee reports the following new members of the Orinda Improvement Association: Mrs. Alan Young, Alan W. S. Young, V. W. Colbourn.

## Church Notices

### ORINDA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday Services at Casa Verano, El Toyonal and Orinda Highway — Sunday School and Church at 9:30 a. m. during July and August. Dr. Miles B. Fisher, pastor. Christian Endeavor for 'teen age young people at 7 p. m. New residents and visitors in the community cordially welcome to all services.

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

The Christian Science Society of Orinda holds regular Sunday services at 11:00 a. m., and one evening meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 8:00 p. m. Sunday School meets at 9:30 a. m. Pupils up to 20 years are admitted. Reading room open every Wednesday from 2:00 to 4:00 o'clock. Everyone welcome.

### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday Morning Masses the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays at 10 o'clock, and the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 8 o'clock.

The next meeting of the Santa Maria Church Association will be held Tuesday evening, August 6th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Miller.

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**BUS SERVICE CELEBRATION**

The Berkeley and Contra Costa Celebration Committees met Wednesday evening, July 24, at the Hotel Durant, in Berkeley, to formulate plans for the Inauguration Ceremonies on the Rhodes Tunnel Route Stages.

Mr. Cliff Thebaut is chairman of the Berkeley Committee and Mr. Cutler is chairman of the Contra Costa County delegation.

The Bus Route is scheduled to start service on August 4. Civic and county officials will leave from the terminals in Berkeley and Walnut Creek, meeting at Lafayette where the tape cutting ceremony will take place.

**REVISED BUS SCHEDULE  
EFFECTIVE AUGUST 4, 1940**

|     | Leave<br>ORINDA | Arrive<br>BERKELEY |
|-----|-----------------|--------------------|
| X   | 7:17 A.M.       | 7:40 A.M.          |
| X   | 7:32            | 7:55               |
| X M | 8:02            | 8:25               |
| X   | 8:42            | 9:05               |
| *   | 9:17            | 9:40               |
| X M | 10:02           | 10:25              |
| X   | 10:17           | 10:40              |
| *   | 11:17           | 11:40              |
| X   | 12:17 P.M.      | 12:40 P.M.         |
| * M | 1:32            | 1:55               |
| X   | 1:42            | 2:05               |
| * M | 3:32            | 3:55               |
| X   | 4:17            | 4:40               |
| * M | 5:32            | 5:55               |
| X   | 5:42            | 6:05               |
| * M | 7:32            | 7:55               |
| X   | 8:17            | 8:40               |
| *   | 9:17            | 9:40               |
| X * | 10:17           | 10:40              |
| S   | 12:02           | 12:25              |

  

|     | Leave<br>BERKELEY | Arrive<br>ORINDA |
|-----|-------------------|------------------|
| X   | 6:30 A.M.         | 6:54 A.M.        |
| X   | 7:42              | 8:06             |
| X   | 8:00              | 8:24             |
| X M | 8:30              | 8:54             |
| X   | 9:10              | 9:34             |
| *   | 10:00             | 10:24            |
| X   | 11:00             | 11:24            |
| * M | 12:00             | 12:24 P.M.       |
| S M | 12:20 P.M.        | 12:44            |
| X   | 12:45             | 1:09             |
| *   | 2:15              | 2:39             |
| X   | 3:10              | 3:34             |
| * M | 4:00              | 4:24             |
| X   | 4:45              | 5:09             |
| †   | 5:15              | 5:39             |
| * M | 6:00              | 6:24             |
| X   | 7:00              | 7:24             |
| * M | 8:00              | 8:24             |
| X   | 9:00              | 9:24             |
| * M | 10:00             | 10:24            |
| S   | 11:00             | 11:24            |

**Key to Symbols**

- X — Daily except Sunday.
- \* — Daily.
- † — Daily except Saturday and Sunday.
- S — Saturday only.
- M — Busses leaving or arriving at Moraga.

**Passenger Fares**

|  |               |               |
|--|---------------|---------------|
|  | <b>Orinda</b> | <b>Moraga</b> |
| One-way .....  | 20c           | 25c           |
| Round Trip .....                                     | 36c           | 45c           |
| Children between 5 and 12 years of age<br>half fare. |               |               |

**COUNTY NEWS BRIEFS**

Registration for the General (Presidential) Election closes September 26th, 1940. If you have not already registered and desire to vote at the General Election, you must register between now and the above date.

The assessed valuation of the Orinda School District for 1940-41 is \$2,358,350.00, a gain of \$322,530.00 over last year's figures. The above figures do not include Public Utilities, the assessed valuation of which approximates \$164,090.00. The gain is due entirely to new construction, as there has been no increase in assessed valuation of property previously on the assessment roll.

**LIONS CLUB MEETING**

Stanley Warburton, principal of the Acalanes High School, addressed the Orinda Lions Club at their weekly meeting on Wednesday, July 17. Irwin Matson, football coach for the new high school, also spoke.

**BASEBALL**

The Orinda Lions baseball team met and vanquished the Lafayette team on Sunday, July 13. The score was 17 to 11. At a second game, played on Sunday, July 21, the Lafayette team turned the table by scoring an 11 to 9 win over Orinda.

The lineup for Orinda was: Paul Vashell, Clarence Fratzke, Verne De Ago, Jack Snow, Cliff Coakley, Joe Navone, Carl Forsberg, Wilbur Johnson, Dr. Eller, and Guthrie Clark. Heinie Hodap is manager of the Orinda team.

**NEW R. F. D. SERVICE**

The Lafayette Postmaster, Miss Emelia Schutt, announces that the Post Office Department has authorized Lafayette to establish its own R. F. D. service, effective September 1.

This new service means that Lafayette will no longer be dependent on the Berkeley office and therefore will have earlier delivery of mail. Orinda's mail service will also be earlier, due to the elimination of the Lafayette mail from the Berkeley R. F. D. route.

**GIRL SCOUTS**

Regular meetings of the Orinda Girl Scouts will not be resumed until the latter part of September. A summer outing, however, is being enjoyed by six of the Orinda girls at Camp Far-Away-Mine at Alta, California. They are: Barbara Herzog, Connie Pearson, Barbara Mattes, Nancy Lou Harrold, Pat Lax, and Carol Henderson.

**MINERINDA**

A meeting of the Minerinda Property Owners Association was held at the Orinda School Auditorium on Monday night, July 1. In the absence of President Frank D. Bryant, Herbert J. Lueck presided. Maintenance of the new roads throughout the district was discussed, and it was agreed by the property owners to assess upon themselves a small levy in order that the roads may continue in good repair.

**MR. BRYANT SERIOUSLY ILL**

Friends of Frank Bryant were shocked to hear of the sudden recurrence, while he was vacationing in Los Angeles, of the illness which had confined him to his home earlier in the year. Mrs. Bryant has sold their Minerinda home and has moved to Los Angeles to be near him.

Orinda regrets the loss to the community of such fine public spirited people as Mr. and Mrs. Bryant.

**ORINDA SCHOOL**

When the Orinda Grammar School resumes class work in September, a fifth teacher will have been added to the staff. Mrs. Isabel Wayne of Walnut Creek has been selected by the Board of Trustees to teach intermediate grades.

**PLAY SCHOOL**

Mrs. Walter Gibbons has opened a play-school for children at her home on Via Farallon. The charge is fifty cents per day, and the hours from 9:00 to 12:00.

All children from two to six years of age are eligible, and each child is requested to bring his own fruit juice. Mrs. Gibbons has many facilities for supervised play.

*Personals*

Miss Elizabeth Mayo, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Mayo, was married to Mr. Charles Judy in Maui, Hawaii, on Saturday, July 20. Mrs. Judy, for several years, has been doing Social Service work in the Hawaiian Islands.

Mrs. C. J. Cleborne conducted the business of the Warren Harrold office during the recent absence of Mr. and Mrs. Harrold.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Loeffler are new residents on La Espiral. Mr. Loeffler is with Pan-American Airways, and was chosen to make the first trip on the new run to New Zealand.

Lieutenant Stamford G. Chapman, United States Navy, has been called into service as Supply Officer, Ammunition Depot at Mare Island. Lieutenant and Mrs. Chapman recently entertained Mrs. Marie Harrison of Los Angeles, and Dr. Michael Loutfellah of France.

Residents of Orinda will be pleased to know that Ben F. Courant, a loyal advertiser in the Orinda News, has now become a resident in the community. Mr. and Mrs. Courant have purchased a new home on La Espiral, near Los Dedos, and their Sundays are spent gardening instead of fishing.

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Young are recent purchasers of Orinda property, and are located on Via Hermosa. They formerly lived in London, England, as did Mrs. Young's mother, Mrs. Gladys M. Hawkins, who has bought a home on El Caminito.

Mrs. Gerald A. Woods of 44 La Vuelta returned on July 24, aboard the Matsonia from a visit to Honolulu.