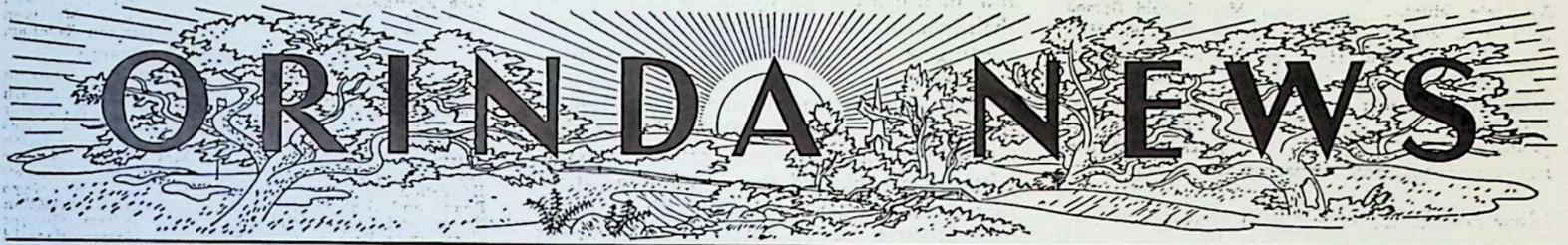


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VOLUME III

Orinda, California, February 1, 1940

NUMBER 8

Orinda To Contribute To Polio Research Fund

Residents of Orinda are for the first time joining the rest of the nation in holding a President's Ball for the benefit of the infantile paralysis fund. Proceeds from the ticket sale and from the "March of Dimes" will be allocated as follows: one half remains in the county for use in local cases and one half goes to the National Foundation for research into the cause, prevention, and cure of infantile paralysis.

The need for intensive research into this disease is evidenced by the figures for 1938 and 1939. Although the disease is believed to travel in cycles, the increased number of cases last year bears earnest consideration. In forty-nine weeks of 1939 there were 7,130 cases in the nation and in all of 1938 there were 1,705 cases.

Last year Contra Costa county led the counties of the nation in per capita contributions in this campaign against infantile paralysis. Maurice Anger's orchestra will furnish the music for the ball and an excellent floor show is being planned. Although Mrs. Bert Dawson's committee has covered all the units in Orinda for the ticket sales, if you have been missed support this community effort by buying your tickets right away.

The executive committee comprises:

Warren Harrold, chairman; Mrs. George Hickok, vice-chairman; Mrs. Richard Cross, secretary; Grover La Velle, treasurer.

Assistant committee heads are: Mr. and Mrs. Bert Dawson, ticket sales; Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Bell, refreshments; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Holt, decorations; Mr. and Mrs. George Pitt, "March of Dimes"; Mrs. Beatrice Cleborne, dance and floor show. Remember, January 30th, at 8 p. m.—Orinda School Auditorium.

RAIN HEAVY IN JANUARY

Orinda was favored early in January with one of the heaviest two weeks of rainfall on record according to Joe Varni, manager of the Orinda Country Club. Commencing on the first day of the year, rain fell for twelve consecutive days averaging nearly an inch a day, the total for the period being 11.32 inches.

As of January 12, the season's total stood at 13.70 inches as compared to 6.84 inches on the same date a year ago. As of January 16, the water in Lake Cascade stood at 26 feet as against 16.5 feet on that date last year.

February Meeting Notice

The next Regular Meeting of the Orinda Improvement Association will be held Friday, Feb. 2, at 8 p. m. in the Orinda School Building.

Photographic Possibilities

By JOHN B. EHMAN

The fun of owning a camera is using it. The fun of using it is the pleasure that comes from taking good pictures.

Good picture possibilities at Orinda are unlimited. There are beautiful landscapes that can include rolling hills, oak trees silhouetted against the sky, architectural pictures of the many styles of homes and the attractive detail of a chimney, a gate, or a cornice. There is a multitude of flowers and gardens that may be pictured in the near future with the approach of spring. Sport shots can be taken on the golf course, tennis court and swimming pool. Then there is the fun of including your family and friends in these surroundings—pictures that will find a place in your album.

Sun is not essential for good pictures but it will give more life and snap to the subjects mentioned. Dull, overcast days make for flat, evenly lighted pictures which should be in-
(Continued on page 3, col. 3)

PLAN NEW BUS SYSTEM

A report of the survey made for the proposed Walnut Creek and Berkeley bus system by Rhodes Stage Inc. was presented by F. A. Curtis, chairman of the committee in charge of the questionnaires at the public hearing before Examiner Leo C. Paul of the State Railroad Commission at the American Legion hall in Walnut Creek, Monday, January 15.

High rates, unsatisfactory service, overcrowded buses and poor schedule were the main criticisms of the present carrier. The only formal protest voiced against the new system was by the Sacramento Northern Railway and that will be considered at a later hearing.

The new bus system would operate daily between Walnut Creek and Berkeley with stops at Moraga, St. Mary's, Lafayette and Orinda. Orinda was represented at the hearing by Martyn F. Warner and Mrs. Lloyd Huston.

Colored Film Feature Of Feb. Improvement Meeting

"Sky-Land Trails of the Kings" is the title of a colored film produced by the Sierra Club to be shown at the regular meeting of the Orinda Improvement Club at 8 o'clock at the school on Feb. 2. The 1600 feet of vividly colored film was photographed by David R. Brown and Richard M. Leonard to further the cause of the King's Canyon National Park. It pictures one of the most beautiful wildflower displays of the Sierra ever flashed on any screen.

Many claim the Kings Canyon is the rival of Yosemite. Explored 65 years ago by John Muir, he was so enraptured by its majestic rock canyons that he urged the establishment of a National Park of this 438,000 acre paradise. A bill (H. R. 3794), is now before Congress and is being actively supported by conservation organizations.

"I have never seen a more magnificent mountain panorama. I have seen the mountains of this continent from Alaska to Mexico, and I have tramped many mountain miles in the Alps, but such a comprehensive view of mountain massives and peaks and amphitheatres and canyons, of all the details of mountain sculpture on the tremendous scale as we are looking on now I have never before seen".—So said David Starr Jordan as he stood at the junction of the King-Kern Divide and the Main Crest, in the High Sierra.

A large attendance has been assured the Sierra Club for their courtesy in showing this film. Bring a neighbor if you can but be sure YOU attend the meeting on the evening of February 2.

SCHOOL BOARD LOSES MATHY

E. L. Mathy, after serving for the past year and a half as a member of the Orinda Grammar School Board of Trustees, has been obliged to resign due to pressure of business. Mathy has served the community well in his capacity as president of the board, and it is with regret that the board accepted his resignation. To fill the position as president, Frank Bryant, recently appointed member of the board, was unanimously elected.

The vacancy created by Mathy's resignation has been filled by the appointment of Stuart Campbell by the county superintendent of schools, B. O. Wilson. Other members of the board are Owen Dibbern, secretary; Reuben C. Chase and Donald Badgley.

ORINDA NEWS

Official Publication of the
ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Editor Mrs. Malcolm Lamb
Associate Editor Mrs. Harold Symes
Staff—Mrs. Miles F. York, Mrs. Stuart Campbell, Mrs. Sheldon Duncan, Mrs. John Ehman, Mrs. George Hickok, Mrs. Carl Zamloch, H. Warren Harrold
Advertising Manager Martyn F. Warner
Circulation Richard Cross
Publisher Jesse J. McMillan

New Members in Orinda Improvement Association

At the regular meeting on January 5th of the Orinda Improvement Association the following residents were voted to membership in our Association:

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest I. Spiegl, Mr. Frank B. Hight, Mrs. E. J. Hadden, Mr. and Mrs. Lonie Bee, Mrs. Ann Leighton, A. T. Anderson, E. St. Louis, Reese D. Jones, G. S. Perkins.

Any resident of the Orinda district is invited to our association meetings whether he is a member or not. These meetings help you to get acquainted as well as obtain information on taxes, fire district regulations, septic tanks, roads and many other functions that are necessary in our community. Each new resident in the district should attend the association meetings for his own benefit and for the welfare of the community. Suggestions and questions are welcome at our meetings held the first Friday of each month.

Application forms for membership may be obtained at our meetings or from any of the officers. The association dues are \$1 per year.

D. C. JONES,
Chairman Membership Committee

FIRE DEPT. MAKES REPORT

The Fire Department is grateful and appreciative of the many donations received during last December which made possible the annual Children's Christmas Party.

As is usually the case in our community, the cost of our 1939 Christmas party was oversubscribed by generous donors. The financial report submitted to the Board of Trustees by Warren Harrold, chairman, shows the cost of the party to be \$177.48, itemized as follows:

Printing, circulars, invitations	\$28.26
Operating expenses	19.50
Presents, wrappings, cards	70.00
Wigs	3.00
Popcorn, animal crackers	17.05
Junior fire department program	16.67
Tree decoration, cable, etc.	18.00
Music	5.00

TRUSTEES, ORINDA FIRE DEPT.

SONGSTERS HOLD MEETINGS

The new season of the Choral Group of the Orinda Improvement Association opens this month with meetings to be held as usual on the first and third Mondays. A great deal of enthusiasm has been shown and everyone is welcome to attend the meetings according to Chairman Mrs. Martyn Warner.

Notes on January Meeting

Charts, maps, data, history and law constituted the report of the committee on taxation and finance presented by Edward H. Sibbitt, chairman of the committee at the January meeting of the Improvement Association.

Fluctuations in the property tax rate over the past twenty years to the present rate of \$4.014 paid by residents of Orinda was illustrated by a comprehensive graph. The committee also explained the complex tax structure of Contra Costa County with its 95 tax using districts and its some 172 different tax rates and how the rate was figured for Orinda taxpayers residing within five districts.

With the history and mechanics of local taxes as a background the committee next charted the increase in our rate resulting from the formation and voted bond issue of the new Acalanes High School District. It was pointed out that this does not relieve Orinda of its obligation of the Richmond High school bonded indebtedness.

The committee report submitted that in lieu of contemplated future expensive districts, Orinda as an incorporated town could pass ordinances controlling the use of roads, building of septic tanks, abatement of mosquitoes, and could zone and enforce regulations pertaining to the building of homes and stores in the community.

The subject of the proposed bus system between Walnut Creek and Berkeley was brought before the meeting. The Improvement Club voted in favor of the proposal to send a delegation to the hearing before examiners of the State Railroad Commissioners at Walnut Creek on January 15.

During the meeting it was decided to donate \$10 to each of the following: American Red Cross, the Finnish Relief Fund and the Tribune Fund for infantile paralysis.

GIRL SCOUTS PLAN PLAY

Under the direction of Mrs. Reed Smith of the program committee, Berkeley Girl Scout Council, the older girls in the Orinda Girl Scout troop are making puppets of characters in the play "Hansel and Gretel." The rest of the troop are working on a play which incorporates Girl Scout activity and with the puppet show are planning to entertain their sponsors, the Orinda P. T. A., at their April meeting.

The troop now has nineteen girls registered. Mrs. Kenneth Thomson is the leader and Mrs. Lloyd Farrar assistant.

REAL ESTATE NEWS

Building Permits

H. C. Freuler, El Pulgar; Clarence Fratzke, Las Vegas; A. A. Smith, El Caminito; R. G. Menton, La Cuesta; C. J. Klintgaard Jr., La Cuesta; E. E. Wickman, Loma Vista; J. W. Burke, Loma Vista.

Sales

Mr. and Mrs. Clay Sorrick, four acres in Fairway Acres.

Rentals

Mrs. John Leslie Jones on Dias Dorados, the home of Mrs. F. W. Payne.

Moved Into New Homes

Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Perkins, Ardilla Rd.; Mr. and Mrs. I. I. Stewart, El Toyonal.

ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS

President Ralph Sisson
Vice President Owen S. Dibbern
Secretary J. T. Morrison
Treasurer Harrison Ketcham

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Reception and Hospitality Mrs. Warren Harrold
Program and Planning Owen Dibbern
Entertainment Mrs. E. R. Taylor
Membership David Jones
Publicity Mrs. Malcolm Lamb
Music Mrs. Martyn Warner
Taxes and Finances Edward H. Sibbitt
Education Mrs. Geoffrey Mayo
Roads and Highways Kenneth Allen
Safety and Public Welfare William Floeger
Community Park and Planning Warren Harrold

GOLF NEWS

The Orinda Women Golfers announce their new officers for 1940 as follows:

Captain, Mrs. H. D. Costigan; alternate, Mrs. L. B. Barnard; secretary, Mrs. S. N. Parkinson; treasurer, Mrs. A. E. Dart; handicaps, Mrs. J. C. Foliard; chairman of tournaments, Mrs. R. H. Chase; chairman of rules, Mrs. W. E. Henderson; chairman of prizes, Mrs. L. C. Rogers; advertising chairman, Miss Patricia Putnam; captain of A team, Miss Elizabeth Elliott; captain of B team, Miss Patricia Putnam; captain of C team, Miss Edna Dickie; telephone committee, Mrs. W. S. Everts, Mrs. Carl Smith and Mrs. Alice Larsen.

Mrs. Opal Hill, many times winner of the western women's golf championship, member of the Curtis cup team and former holder of the national championship title played at Orinda January 26. Other prominent guests of the event were Miss Barbara Thompson and Mrs. Helen Lengfeld.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild of the Orinda Community Church will hold its regular meeting Tuesday, February 6th, at 12:30 at the home of Mrs. C. J. Cleborne, 69 La Espiral. An interesting program is being planned and all members and friends are invited. Mrs. C. Eugene Johnson, who has just returned from Europe, will speak.

CHURCH NOTICES

ORINDA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday Services at Casa Verano, El Toyonal and Orinda Highway—Sunday School at 9:30 a. m., Church worship at 11:00 a. m. 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.

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 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Lax on San Pablo Highway on Tuesday, February 6th.

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 two to four o'clock. Everyone welcome.

PERSONALS

Houseguests of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Zamloch during December were Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Fowler of Fortuna, Humboldt County, California.

At a cocktail party Sunday afternoon, Jan. 14, at the home of her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Orr of Moraga Woodlands, Miss Jane Weideman of Oakland announced her engagement to Mr. Clement Perkins, Jr. also of Oakland. The young couple plan to be married in April.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Ketcham spent the New Year holiday at Lake Tahoe. Later during the month of January, Mr. and Mrs. Ketcham entertained Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Allen of Des Moines, Iowa.

Having spent six weeks in Mexico traveling, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Anderson have now returned to their home at Orinda.

Reuben Chase spent most of January traveling through the north visiting Seattle and Portland on a business trip.

Ski-minded from Orinda during January were: Mr. and Mrs. George Gibson, Sun Valley, Idaho; Mr. and Mrs. William H. Fleager, Norden; Mr. and Mrs. Kendrick Morish, Norden.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Townsend of Orinda Highway went to Mount Rose over New Year's for snow sports.

Mr. and Mrs. George Pitt have bought a four-acre walnut ranch in Reliez Valley, where they expect to build a home eventually.

Mrs. Garry Owen has sailed from New York to join her husband in Delhi, India.

Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Heinrici spent four days over New Year's at Carmel. Miss Dorothy Heinrici graduated from Piedmont High school the latter part of January.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Rheems and their two sons arrived from their home in New York to spend the holidays at "Folly Farm." They have gone back to the East.

Mrs. Lowell Berry of Camino Don Miguel has been ill with a streptococcus infection of the throat.

Captain R. J. Nixon, captain of the China Clipper, arrived from China eight days late, due to heavy storms.

Mrs. J. S. Sheppard of Moraga returned from Washington where she enjoyed a visit with her father in Seattle.

Friends of Miss Virginia Hickok will be sorry to learn that she will be unable to continue her studies for the remainder of the year at U. S. C. She is now at her home on El Toyonal Road.

Greetings to Mr. and Mrs. William Day who have recently moved from Oakland and are now occupying the Phil Rolfe house on the San Pablo Creek Road.

DR. SHOOK HELD FOR TRIAL

Dr. Francis M. Shook, Orinda resident and Oakland eye, nose and throat specialist, must face a jury in the Walnut Creek court of Justice of the Peace C. L. Thomson, February 14, on two counts of poisoning dogs.

Dr. Shook entered a plea of not guilty, through his attorney, Ralph West, after having been denied a change of venue to Martinez, a dismissal, and a bill of particulars.

Mail Service to Be Improved

The Postoffice Department has recognized the continual growth in the Orinda District by the addition of a helper for the rural carrier. According to the announcement from the Berkeley postoffice, the work of handling the mail on the route has increased so that it has been necessary to employ another carrier. Stanley Richardson of Lafayette has been employed for this work and he meets the carrier at the Orinda postoffice and takes all the mail for the residents on the east side of the highway. This scheme makes it possible for the regular carrier to deliver mail about two hours earlier in the Moraga Estates and Happy Valley sections.

It is desirable that delivery service be further extended directly to the homes of a number of patrons who now have boxes along the highway several blocks from their houses. These extensions require an investigation by a post office inspector.

FEBRUARY GARDEN NOTES

Deciduous trees and shrubs should be planted at once before any spring growth has started. Bare root roses should be in the ground now, also, to get the best results. Many annuals may be started in February; the hardy ones may be sown in the open ground. Finish pruning fruit trees and roses now. Fuchsias may safely be pruned now, also.

Some of the seeds to sow in flats now include: ageratum, anchusa, begonia, English daisy, calendula, clarkia, cosmos, delphinium, digitalis, gerbera, geum, gypsophila, lobelia, nemesia, penstemon, petunia and zinnia. Start these bulbs and roots now: agapanthus, anemone, tuberous begonia, canna, tigridia, calla, platycodon and gladiolus.

If the ground permits the following plants may be set outdoors this month: Pansy, snapdragon, columbine, campanula, coral bells, stock and primrose.

BOY SCOUTS RE-ORGANIZE TROOP

The Orinda Boy Scout Troop held its organization meeting January 6th and under the leadership of the new Scoutmaster, J. N. Gardiner, made plans and elected officers: Bill Harrison, J. A. S. M.; Sheldon Kales, J. A. S. M.; Fred Allen, S. P. L.; Pat Rosenthal, patrol leader; Tom Snook, patrol leader; Jack Hulse, troop scribe, and Ralph Corder, troop quartermaster.

Plans were completed for the first all day hike to Camp No. 5 and for the first Court of Honor to be held the latter part of February.

The Scouts are assisting in the ticket sales for the President's Ball for the Infantile Paralysis Foundation Fund.

Those who have registered in the Orinda Troop to date are: Francis Allen, Fred Allen, Ralph Corder, Monte Dibbern, Bob Hammond, Bill Harrison, Jack Hulse, Gordon Martin, Kenneth Rosenthal, Harold Schmelz, Tom Snook, Ben Warwick, Bob Dana, Herman Gericke, Bob Hulse, Sheldon Kales and Keith Bennett.

Photographic Orinda (Continued)

cluded in your collection. They are symbolical of winter and early spring—bare trees, wind and rain. Sunlight gives brilliance and contrast and will give the best results for the above subjects. It is suggested that whenever possible a fairly bright day be selected, a blue sky with or without clouds overhead.

When taking landscapes don't wait until the sun is directly overhead. Take the picture when the sun is casting shadows from the hills into the valleys or flats. This will give the feeling of rolling country. A yellow filter will darken the sky and if there are clouds, they will appear white and fluffy. Architectural subjects should be handled the same as landscapes, but work as close as possible to your subject in order to bring out all of the details in design of the subject. At this time of year most of the oak trees are bare of leaves and they alone offer many pictorial possibilities that can be used and the same camera set-up should be used as described above to bring out the full beauty of the scene. Low angles may be used to get better sky effects.

Flowers or parts of gardens are best photographed with good light. Provisions should be made to use a background of gray cardboard or cloth when photographing a single flower or a small group of flowers. Photographic parts of gardens depend on location and what is wanted. Do not try to include too much but make the picture as simple as possible. No filter is required for either flowers or gardens.

Taking portraits of people requires some study of the subject to get the best possible angle and expression. Avoid strong sunlight which will cast strong shadow around the eyes, nose, mouth and chin. Subdued lighting is the best. Avoid poor backgrounds and taking pictures where leaf shadows are present. Good backgrounds are hedges, plain walls or large tree trunks. If sky is included, use a yellow filter.

As an interesting experiment, take pictures of your friends at play. Golfing, swimming, playing tennis or just sitting. They are relaxed and at ease. You should avoid being too candid. Work as close as possible to your subject and if you are taking pictures of men take the picture from a low angle. Take only the head and shoulders and include sky—this again calls for the yellow filter.

Action shots require shutter speeds of at least 1/200 of a second in order to stop motion. At times this rule can be broken and slower speeds can be used to get the effect of motion in blurred hands and rackets.

COMMUNITY CHURCH ELECTS

At its first Annual Meeting on the evening of January 10, the Orinda Community Church reported a year of encouraging progress and elected officers for the coming year. New trustees: Mrs. E. A. Dawson, Ralph E. Wilson; Deaconess, Mrs. E. W. Bedwell; deacon, John A. Gordon, Jr.; Sunday School superintendent, A. W. Elkinton; treasurer, Mrs. R. C. Sisson; choir director, Mrs. R. E. Wilson; Clerk, Perry Dale Wilson.

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