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ORINDANS PRESENT GAS PROBLEMS TO O. P. A. MAN

Processing over 3000 applications for additional gasoline had turned out to be a far greater task than the rationing board at Walnut Creek had anticipated, was the declaration of Lyman Stoddard, chairman of the board, before a mass meeting called by Acting Defense coordinator Ray Dennis on Sunday afternoon, December 6, at the Orinda school auditorium. Mr. Stoddard stated that he and the board knew that many errors had been committed, due to the size and pressure of the job, and he urged all those who felt that they had not been fairly treated to appeal their cases.

Among the several hundred who attended the meeting were many who presented details of their individual problems to Mr. Stoddard and the the O. P. A. representative, H. R. Randall. In every instance, the complainant was advised by Mr. Randall to appeal his case, for in the opinion of Mr. Randall he was entitled to extra gasoline.

When asked why Orinda did not have its own board to handle its problems of rationing, in order to relieve the strain that was too much for the Walnut Creek board, Mr. Stoddard stated that he did not think it was feasible at this time, because the job was such a tremendous one that he did not think men could be found in Orinda who would be willing to donate the necessary time to the problem. However, Mr. Randall said that the question of a local board in Orinda had been referred to Washington, and that the decision rested in the hands of the O. P. A. officials there.

From the Orinda district are two members of the Walnut Creek board, Nelson Scotchler and Galen Fisher. Mr. Scotchler stated that he was eager to do all that he could to relieve the difficult situation, and that local public transportation had been considered inadequate.

Mr. Randall stated that anyone needing his car for occupational reasons was entitled to additional gas, and he assured everyone that it would be granted. He also stated

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The Stroller

After the glitter and tinsel of Christmas, January and the new year plunges one into stark reality. The glamour of the holidays over, the house and landscape look bleak and bare. Inside, the tree is taken down, the ornaments stored away for another year, the evergreen garlands taken down from the walls to flare brightly for their last moments in the fire place. Outside, the leafless trees and gray skies make one wonder if this can ever be the warm sub-tropical spot of summer days. If one ventures out of doors at all a stroll is more likely to be a dog-trot to keep up the circulation than an amiable walk.

* * * * *

Now that gasoline rationing has actually come, and you have accepted the inevitable, do you find that you have more sense of attachment to your community than you did in the days when you flitted hither and yon with no thought of precious fuel or tires? The more narrow your sphere of activity, the deeper the roots you put there. Do you feel that there is a sense of relaxation in knowing that you are limited in the use of your car, and that there is a sudden realization of values close at hand that went unnoticed before?

* * * * *

War undoubtedly is hell, but like many evil things it has compensations. To the Stroller's mind, there are evidences of a closer relationship in the community among friends and neighbors. We feel that people are sharing not only rides, but any small pleasures as well as sympathy where there is a need for it. The war seems to have

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**Next Meeting
Improvement Association
February 5th**

VEGETABLE GROWING TO BE DISCUSSED AT MEETING

Clyde C. Barnum, county farm supervisor, will discuss and advise on the planting and preparation of home vegetable gardens in Orinda, at the next meeting of the Improvement Association to be held February 5th. Farm produce will soon be scarce and, according to Mr. Barnum, Orinda is well suited to the growing of certain types of vegetables. With the aid of a little technical advice, residents should be able to produce sufficient vegetables for their own needs.

In addition to the regular matters, the zoning of the Orinda area of Contra Costa County will also be discussed. The Orinda Improvement Association has been advised by H. L. Cummings, supervisor, that the association's application for zoning has been referred to the Planning Commission for approval.

Hacienda Homes, Inc., has completed its work for the year on local roads by patching and repairing thirteen paved roads on the east side. The work cost the corporation approximately \$800 and exhausts the funds on hand except for the money necessary for patrolling during the winter months. The board of directors is now considering the amount of the assessment for the year 1943. Liens are being filed against a few lot owners who have failed to pay the 1942 assessment.



TO IMPROVE TUNNEL ROAD

Improvement of some two miles of the Tunnel Road eastward from Orinda crossroads, including the channelization of the Orinda intersection, will get under way as soon as weather conditions permit, according to Col. John Skeggs, district engineer for the state division of highways.

The improvement project has been given army certification and will involve an expenditure of \$437,494.60. Some grading and filling is already in progress.



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ORINDA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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THE FILTER PLANT

Letters from members of the community will be welcome for this column. Any expression of sincere criticism will be published without editorial endorsement by the publishing committee. However, the right to withhold anything of a purely malicious or destructive nature is reserved.

The Editor:

On October 31, 1942, the Lions Club of Orinda removed all papers, magazines and paper boxes from the Orinda Salvage pile on the property formerly occupied by the Orinda Nursery. This terminated our sponsorship of the paper drive.

We went to the expense of having two signs made up and placed at either end of the salvage lot requesting that no more paper be dumped there.

The signs have been pushed aside and paper is again being dumped on the lot.

Some action should now be taken by the Improvement Association or the salvage committee to stop this abuse. It has been suggested that someone be appointed to stop people from leaving papers there. Mr. H. K. Smith is always around the Fire Department, either working inside or outside and would be the logical person.

Paul Vashell, President,
Orinda Lions Club.

Dear Editor:

We note that the Moraga Highwayman, which incidentally is owned and put out by a Lafayette resident, erroneously claims credit for the crossroads channelization to our Moraga one man improvement club. As everyone knows this improvement will be the result of the combined efforts of individuals in both Orinda and Moraga.

From this item and other articles, it is obvious that our Lafayette friend is bent on fomenting a controversy where no controversy exists. Our aims and problems are identical and should be solved together.

Call off your dogs, Mr. Hauser.

Moragan.

The Editor:

Of the many men from Mare Island who accepted invitations for Thanksgiving dinner in Orinda, a number failed to come. Although several hostesses were disappointed it is well to remember that many of the men themselves were equally disappointed. In many instances it was an eleventh hour temperature rise or a last minute lack of self-confidence. But the ones who came in most cases were eager to return. After the gruelling experiences of recent months, with most of them far from home and families, the feeling of friendliness will do much toward mental and physical rehabilitation.

Share your home with one or more of these boys — it is a real privilege. Phone Mrs. R. D. Harrison, Orinda 5766.

Hostess.

PRE-FLIGHT OFFICERS MOVING TO DEL MONTE

Several officers from the Navy Pre-Flight School at St. Mary's will be transferred to Hotel Del Monte where the navy is establishing the fifth pre-flight school. Captain G. W. Steele, commanding officer at the local school, will have the same position at Del Monte. Among those scheduled to be transferred are the following officers who have been living in Orinda: Lt. Comdr. G. D. Fitzhugh of Camino Don Miguel as executive officer; Lts. E. E. Myers, William Brennan and James Lawson of Moraga Highway, Lt. James R. Smith of Camino Sobrante and Ensign Jack Weierhauser of Barbara Road.

Christmas was a working day for the navy, but classes were suspended at two and a special Christmas program was given. There were motion pictures, a variety show and music by the newly arrived band.



TO ABANDON DUTCH HOME

Plans for the establishment of a vacation home for Dutch sailors in Orinda apparently have been abandoned, for Dutch government authorities have announced that property down the peninsula from San Francisco has been acquired for the purpose.

When the Miller property on San Pablo Highway was recently purchased by the Dutch government, it was announced it would be converted to a rest home for seamen serving under the Dutch flag during lay-overs in San Francisco.

It is understood that the Miller property is now up for sale, being listed with local real estate firms.

JACK SHEPPARD ELECTED AS DEFENSE COORDINATOR

The civilian defense executive committee, composed of Clay Sorrick, Kendrick Morrish, John T. Morrison and Herbert Hauser, recently received the resignation of Ernest Mathy, coördinator. The resignation was most regretfully received by the committee, but accepted in deference to Mr. Mathy's poor health.

The committee then elected Jack Sheppard to take over the responsibility of coördinator of Orinda civilian defense.

Mr. Sheppard has now expanded the executive council of the defense organization to include the chief of the police committee and his assistant, Ray Curtis and William Gilman. Also included are the chief air raid warden and assistant, H. L. Ketcham and Galan Darr; and the chief of the fire commission, Warren Harrold. Mr. Sheppard has also appointed Mr. Morrish and Mr. Sorrick to take the finance committee as their responsibility.

Herbert Hauser has been appointed a member of the Walnut Creek rationing board and he has been named by Mr. Sheppard as head of all rationing problems and adjustments for Orinda.



THE STROLLER

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brought with it the sense of helping one's neighbor that went out with the advent of the automobile and the faster pace of living that emerged in that era. A slower pace, literally a return to the horse and buggy days, brings with it stronger ties in small communities like ours that were far more evident in the days of our parents than they have been in our generation.

P E R S O N A L S

Visiting from Oregon are Mr. and Mrs. Edward Sala and their small daughter. They are being entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Shalldach of Orinda.

The Orinda Lions Club gave their Christmas party at the Country Club December 16th. The wives of the members were invited.

Lieutenant Granville Clark, brother of Guthrie Clark, formerly of the Orinda store, was recently killed in action in the Solomon Islands.

Gladys St. Louis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest St. Louis of Orinda, has left many sorrowing friends. Her death occurred on December 18th as a result of an auto accident.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gilman are enjoying their two weeks' vacation at home. Transportation being as it is, they are patriotic enough to find Orinda the ideal vacation spot.

Dr. and Mrs. E. M. Layton, of Don Miguel, have had an increase of two in their family during the last month, one baby boy and one Shetland pony.

The home of the Mahlon Jordans has been bought by Victor Cranston of Berkeley.

Lt. and Mrs. David C. Clegg of La Espiral are the parents of a daughter born in middle December.

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Davis have recently returned from an extended trip to the East Coast. Mr. Davis was a representative to a War Conference of Building and Loan and Federal Associations, held in Chicago. From there the Davises went to New York, where they were joined by their son, Ensign Stuart Davis, of the Naval Supply School at Harvard.

Farragut, Idaho, Nov. 28. — Volunteering for Navy duty a few days ago, Dudley Theodore Edson has reported at the new U. S. Naval Training Station at Farragut, Idaho. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Edson, 10 Valley View Road, Orinda.

To spend Christmas with their son, Kenneth, Dr. and Mrs. J. V. Holcombe of Oakwood road left Orinda on December 20th for New York. Kenneth formerly served his country in the merchant marine off the East coast, but has recently received a commission as ensign in the navy.

Ensign Glenn Medick, U. S. N., of Pittsburgh, Pa., was recently the house guest for several weeks of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Lamb of La Noria Drive, while he was waiting transportation to the south-west Pacific where he is attached to a submarine.

Tom Fowler, son of Mrs. Sayre Snook of La Espiral, was reported missing in action. He was serving with a tank corps in North Africa.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Coughlan and son, Michael, have leased the Minton residence on La Cuesta for a year.

Comdr. J. M. Barry and Mrs. Barry have gone south for the holidays to stay with their daughter-in-law who recently lost a new baby. Their son, Victor, is attached to a ship in the Pacific.

Mr. and Mrs. James Dieterich of La Espiral, and their son Bob, have left Orinda to join the older son, Jim, for the holidays. Jim is now Captain James Dieterich, commanding officer of the glider school at Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Ritchie Smith, of Don Miguel, has left for the Officers' Training School at Quonset Point in Rhode Island. Recently graduated from Quonset Point were Carroll George of La Noria Drive and Francis K. Bottomley. Mrs. Bottomley joined her husband in Rhode Island for the graduation exercises.

Lt. Col. John Leslie Jones is back on active duty and is commanding a battalion in Colombo on the island of Ceylon.

Milton Selby has been in the East. He wired his family saying that he was stranded at the Muleback Hotel in Denver, but that he hoped to reach home by Christmas Eve.

Mrs. Robert Vance Baumgartner, née Barbara Herzog, is visiting her husband's parents in Piedmont. Her husband is in the navy.

Kendrick Morrish is now engaged in government work. He flew to Washington, D. C., by airship, and returned in time for Christmas.

Ralph Bates returned from a flying trip to Pittsburgh, Pa. He is an expediter for the Kaiser Co. Mrs. Bates is doing navy work at Mare Island.

Mrs. Wallace Alexander's daughter, Mrs. Frank Gerbode, has returned from New York. Her husband, Major Gerbode, is a surgeon in the Stanford Medical Evacuation Unit. Major Gerbode has left for overseas, and Mrs. Gerbode remained with him in New York until he sailed.



TO PLANT SCHOOL GROUNDS

To plant the grounds of the Orinda school with shade trees, \$140 was appropriated by the Orinda Garden Club at the December meeting. Mrs. Edward Sibbett, chairman of the committee, presented the plans as designed by Wm. Penn Mott. They call for planting of scarlet oaks, Monterey pines and incidental shrubbery. The money appropriated will purchase thirty trees and defray the cost of their planting. Although this project is only part of the plan submitted by Mr. Mott, members of the club felt that it could make a start toward improving the grounds and would continue with the project as funds were available.

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The Calendar

The Women's Guild of the Orinda Community Church will have its regular meeting and luncheon at the home of Mrs. Fred El-kinton, 39 Ardilla Road, January 5th, at twelve o'clock.

The annual Christmas luncheon of the 12-15 Club was held at the home of Mrs. Claude Donaldson on December 8th. The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Leo Alexander, Mrs. Geo. Pitt and Mrs. H. T. Doten.

At the business meeting it was voted to help defray the expenses of the Citizens' Service Corps of the Civilian Defense in a project being undertaken in Orinda. Ten dollars was donated to the Red Cross for filling service kit bags.

Several families in Orinda have been making a special feature of entertaining the men from Mare Island over week ends during the past several weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Allan Young and Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Symes are among those doing this splendid work.

The Orinda Boy Scout Troop's Christmas "good deed" was the sending of packages to the former Orinda Scouts in the services. These packages consisted of cookies, candy, razor blades and other small gifts, packed in two pound coffee cans. The cookies were made by the mothers and packed and wrapped by the boys. The postage was paid for by the sale of coat-hangers collected by the boys.

The children of the Orinda school have purchased \$722 in war saving stamps in the past semester.



GAS RATIONING

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that if a car did not average 15 miles to the gallon one should have a garage certify that the car is in good mechanical condition and present this certificate to the ration board. Mr. Randall said additional gas would be allowed to make up the difference.

Mrs. King Wilkin declared that the Orinda sub-board was functioning in a clerical capacity to assist members of the community. Its office is at the rear of the Orinda Store. The office hours she urged everyone to note. They are: Tuesday, 1 to 5 and 7:30 to 9:30 p. m.; Wednesday, 10 to 12 a. m.; Friday, 1 to 5 p. m. The telephone number is 2027.

Lowell Berry asked how many present were in favor of establishing a branch office in Orinda to handle all rationing here. The entire gathering stood. The meeting adjourned spontaneously.

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