

point counterpoint

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2. *Extended* NEW GIRL in TOWN

The Masquers of Point Richmond are so pleased with the reception given by East Bay audiences to their summer musical, "New Girl In Town" that directors, Jo Camp and Virginia Cherniak have decided to extend the show till August 26.

At first glance, Eugene O'Neill's "Anna Christie" would seem to be a most unlikely subject for a musical. But with George Abbott on book and with Bob Merrill's music and lyrics, the disillusioned lady had turned into the joyous, roistering "New Girl In Town."

The production will play every Friday and Saturday night at 8:30 through August 26 at the Masquers' Playhouse, 105 Park Place, Point Richmond. Reservations may be made by calling TH 3-5475 or BE 2-3888. Theatre patrons are advised to make advance reservations.

Bert Miller, making her musical debut as Anna Christie, has a fine background in the theatre spanning the country from New York to the East Bay and playing roles from Gigi to the sixtyish Martha in "Arsenic and Old Lace". Ivan Paulsen (Matt Burke) who has sung the leads in the last three Masquer musicals also has a multi-varied background in roles from light comedy to Shakespeare, playing from Iowa to the East Bay. He has also studied in New York. Virginia Cherniak, along with playing the second lead in the play is also musical director of the show.

Basil Cherniak, who is something of a miracle worker, plays one of his best roles to date in the part of Chris Christopherson.

Scott Campbell, who has proven himself to be an outstanding performer in every way, plays, with a great deal of warmth, Larry the bartender.

Resident director, Jo Camp, along with Virginia, has created her usual magic and brought forth a production for all to enjoy. --Marie Wedell

Letter

INVITATION FOR ASSURING TRAFFIC SAFETY

With Keller's Beach becoming a city park, the roadways on Western and Bishop Avenues are likely to become even more cluttered and hazardous than they are, with motorcyclists, cars, bicyclists, walkers, dogs, pets, children and parking visitors.

As a household which had four pets killed in front of the house, and which has seen injuries to two others, the undersigned are interested in surveying their neighbors' opinions about making Bishop Avenue and Western Avenue one-way streets. Bishop in particular is very narrow, and when trucks, workmen and visitors park on the sides, there is hardly room for safe entry and exit. However, no plan for traffic rearrangement should be undertaken without the majority approval of the residents on Bishop and Western Avenues.

Neighbors will be polled concerning their opinions on traffic control. Meanwhile, everybody involved is invited to give the matter some thought and to forward suggestions to:

Lillian V. Inke
Helen R. Kocher
234-1440

* \$100 REWARD *
* for information leading to the arrest *
* and conviction of person who commit- *
* ted assault with a deadly weapon (a *
* thrown bottle), on Friday, August 11, *
* in the evening; on the 200 block of *
* West Richmond Avenue. *
* Information should be given to Sgt. *
* Rodden or Lt. Hawkins of the Richmond *
* Police Department: 237-7000, Ext. 476. *

Reminiscing

---with Don Church---

"RICHMOND"

This week, and periodically in following weeks, we present excerpts from the history of Richmond, taken by Mr. Church from an article written in 1926 by Mr. Clarence Odell, contained in the Contra Costa County History.

EARLY HISTORY

"The first inhabitants of Richmond and the surrounding country were of a prehistoric race, as we learn by investigation of the Indian or shell mounds of which there are several located in this county. Among those in this vicinity is the one at the mouth of Wild Cat Creek; a larger one just behind the Masterson Hotel at San Pablo, about 3,000 feet north of the old Alvarado Hacienda; and another that was occupied by the house of Antone Luiz, not far from the San Pablo Station of the Santa Fe R.R., but most important of all is the one at Ellis Landing. All of the offal, refuse and debris, as well as burials of generations succeeding generations have from dead level, built up mounds.

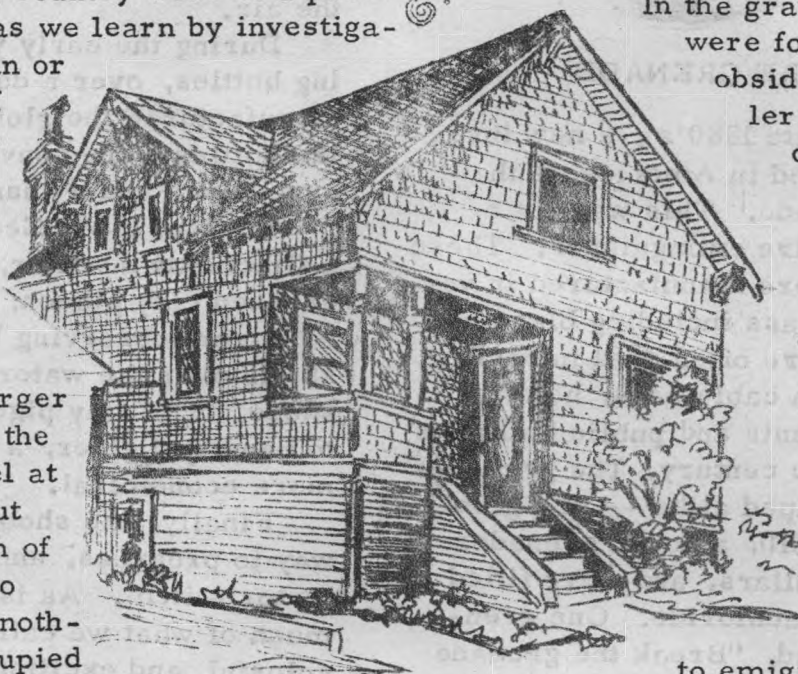
The Ellis Landing shell mound is situated east from Ellis Landing, on the northwest shore of San Francisco Bay proper and directly north of Brooks Island. It is mostly submerged and imbedded in an average of about 13 feet of fine silt, but rests on a firm gravel foundation. It is triangular in shape with the shore as a base, it stretches out 300 feet. The greatest height was 17 feet.

and the greatest depth below the marine level was 16 feet. Some scientists claim it is probably 3500 years old; others venture no opinion, other than to say it is prehistoric. It is made up of charcoal ashes and shells of which there were 400 varieties. In it were found 630 specimens of implements, weapons and ornaments. Many skeletons have also been unearthed from it.

In the graves of the males were found charm stones, obsidian blades and smaller weapons. In those of the women were found mortars, pestles and awls while the infants graves had in each a handful of disk beads made from the obivelle shell, or pendants of abalone shell. It would seem it was the custom of these early Richmondite.

to emigrate to the mountains during the summer to fatten on the berries, pine nuts, acorns and wild game then so freely supplied by nature; and that on the approach of winter they came back to their tepees along or near the bay shore and drew upon the sea for their winter food. From some unknown cause this race people became extinct; and it is only from the mounds which they left as monuments in this region that we may have any conception of the story of their existence.

NEXT: Spanish settlers in the Eighteenth Century.



BOTTLES I HAVE KNOWN

M. Julie Davis



THE HAND FIRE GRENADE

During the late 1880's , a new invention was marketed in America -- the Hand Fire Grenade. This was not a cocktail, but a fire extinguisher. These extinguishers were manufactured in various colors of glass including blue and green. They were often sold in racks, and were seen in cable cars, hotels, homes, restaurants and public buildings at the turn of the century. The grenades were mostly shaped alike -- in a globular form. In 1910, a dozen grenades sold for eight dollars, and were filled with carbon tetrachloride. One grenade's label stated, "Break the grenade in such a manner that the contents will be liberated over the flames." Not many grenades that are in tact can be found today. Now they are a collector's item.

THE SHOOTING BOTTLE

In 1831, glass balls were used for trapshooting in England. In America, at this time, live pigeons were being used. This was scorned by the public, and the pigeon could not be depended upon to fly in the right direction. But, by 1865, most trapshooting clubs in America used the shooting bottle.

But, problems arose. A hand-thrown bottle was not reliable. So one Captain Bogardus invented a device which would hurl the globes through the air on command.

At first the shooting bottle was perfectly round, smooth and clear. But later, the globes were manufactured in blue, green and amber, and their surface was corrugated to prevent the shot from bouncing off a smooth surface of the globe. Some globes were filled with confetti, feathers, ribbons and smoke. Upon breaking, the contents disbursed in the air.

During the early years of shooting bottles, over a dozen companies manufactured the globes. Although the bottles were convenient, they were expensive, and a change was needed.

In about 1880, George Ligowski, a Cincinatti inventor, invented the pressed clay pigeon. He got this idea from observing boys skipping shells over the water at the sea-shore. The clay pigeon was easier to handle, lighter, a better target, and more economical.

Finally, the shooting bottle gave way to progress, and is now a collector's item. As is typical of so much of what we call progress, a colorful and exciting tradition gives way to a functional, efficient, but colorless replacement.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

For Appraisals, or Information,
please telephone
233-3263

and I will be more than happy to try to help you.





BOOKWORMS

"If a book is worth reading, it is worth buying...." (Ruskin). So, if you are desirous of cleaning out your bookshelves, enriching some other person's reading program, and wish to contribute to the welfare of the Richmond Museum, it may be done by donating those books to the Richmond Museum Book Sale: September 28 and 29.

About 2,000 (that's right) volumes are needed in order to show a financial gain of any size.

The sale will be held again at the El Portal shopping center in San Pablo. A receipt of estimated value will be given to the donors (income tax purposes) on re-saleable books.

Marlys Reynolds, 234-4617, will pick up your boxes of books and give out receipts -- both gladly.

FEATURED

EXHIBIT AT THE

~RICHMOND MUSEUM~

Some pertinent artifacts that point up life a hundred years ago in our area make interesting browsing for the whole family on Sunday afternoon.

Household equipment, tools and the various paraphernalia of yesteryear are on display. Old programs from the Tivoli Opera House in San Francisco reveal that the proper pursuit of culture came hard on the heels of the Fort-Niners. Excursion trips to outlying districts by rail were also popular. Mrs. Ethyl Kerns and Mrs. Fern Miles have put a most interesting display together --- including some old Orpheum Circuit Programs, which the writer can recall circa 1930. (It seems a hundred years ago!) The Museum is at Fourth and Nevin -- Open Sundays, from 2 to 5 p.m.

--Marlys Reynolds.

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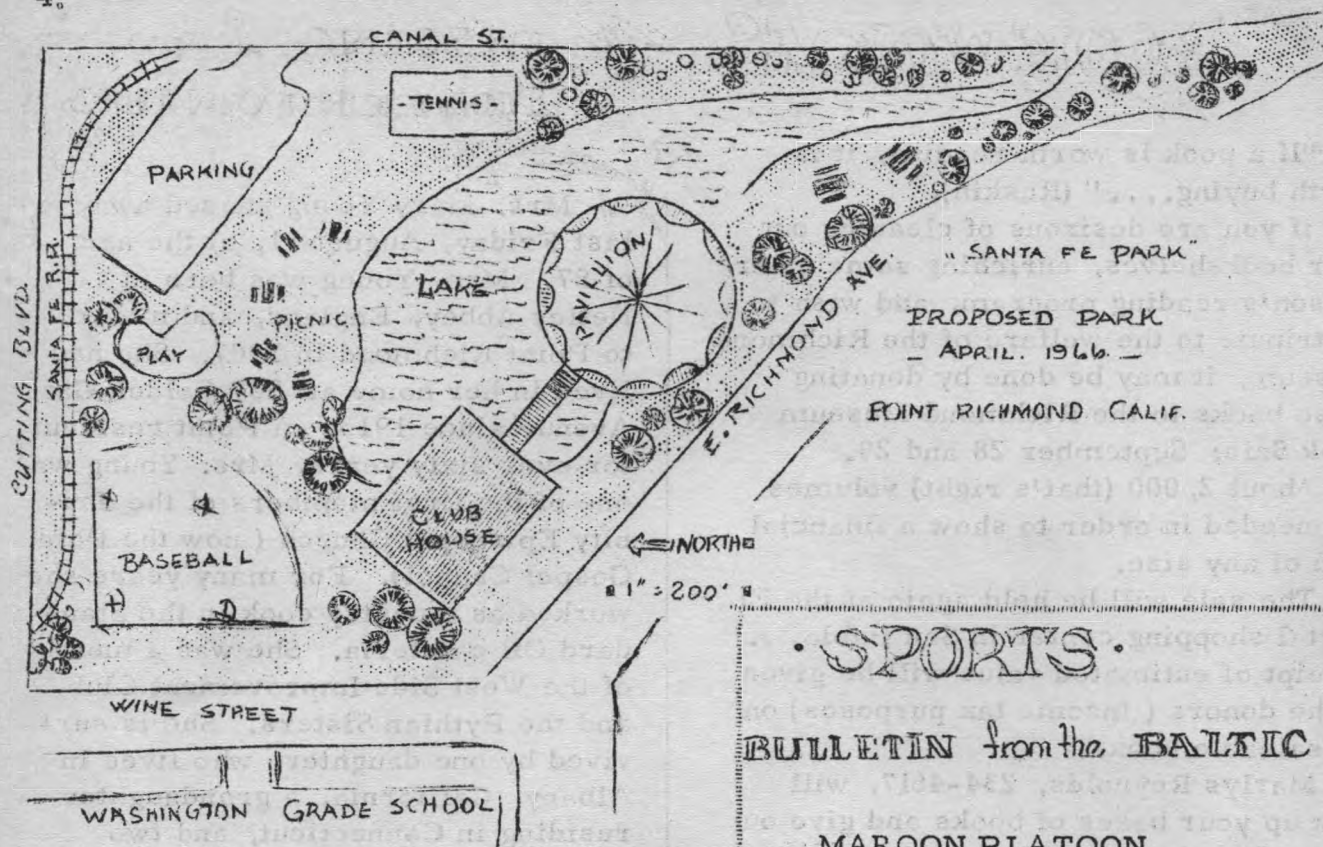
The PASSING of Two

PIONEER POINTERS

Mrs. Mary Young passed away last Friday, August 11, at the age of 87. Mrs. Young was born in Netley Abbey, England, and moved to Point Richmond in 1907. She had lived in her home at 537 Golden Gate Avenue since 1913. A Point resident for over sixty years, Mrs. Young was one of the first members of the Trinity Episcopal Church (now the Point Gospel Chapel). For many years she worked as a pastry cook in the Standard Oil cafeteria. She was a member of the West Side Improvement Club, and the Pythian Sisters. She is survived by one daughter, who lives in Albany, California, a granddaughter residing in Connecticut, and two sisters living in England.

Mrs. Winifred Palmateer, who passed away last August 13, was the wife of the late Harry N. Palmateer. Mr. and Mrs. Palmateer were proprietors of the last drug store in Point Richmond. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Red Cross. A native of Eureka, Mrs. Palmateer was 79 at the time of her death.

• Mr. and Mrs. William Farmer left this week to visit in Syracuse N. Y. after which they will fly to Newark, N. J. to visit an aunt and a cousin; then on to Wilson, North Carolina to visit Bill's grandmother; then to Gatlinburg Tenn. • Mr. Curtis Beresford (the "Point Poetic Cynic") has left the Point behind, in favor of Hawaii--but only for a week. After that, he plans to visit all of his old college friends in Cincinnati, Ohio. That trip won't last long, either, since as he says, "It's bad enough being old, without having to associate with old people."



HOW'S YOUR MEMORY ?

The above sketch appeared in this paper April 29, 1966, as a proposal for the vacant land adjacent to Washington School and Cutting Boulevard, and the homes on E. Richmond Ave. The land had been, and has been suggested by many residents as an ideal spot for a park. A plot of approximately 11 1/2 acres, the land, formerly occupied by wartime housing, is zoned for residential development. However, since the land has been vacant for some time, and since so many people voiced an interest and need for a park, this park plan was proposed, and presented to the Santa Fe Railway Company and to the City of Richmond. Since that time, part of the land has been definitely considered for a park, as the replacement of Kenny Park, which will eventually be displaced by a freeway ramp. (Kenny Park is located at Castro, Tewksbury and Standard.) The area which would be used for the Kenny Park replacement would be approximately 1 1/2 acres. "Wouldn't it be nice to have the remaining 10 acres for recreation?" Public demand often determines land use.

SPORTS

BULLETIN from the BALTIC

MAROON PLATOON DRAGOONED

It was foretold in Thucydides' History of the Peloponnesian War: "All things bloom to suffer loss..." The undefeated warriors of the Baltic, prideful and recalcitrant, fell before the Spartan legions of Andy's Oak Pit last week at Nicholl Park. The score of war was 16 to 1, and scars remain. A Baltic outfielder (it is rumored) spent the long night of defeat wandering through Nicholl Park aviary chanting:

"...we shall fight them on the bases

we shall fight them at the plate,
we shall fight them in the out-field,

we shall fight upon the infield dust---

we shall never surrender..."

He was led out of the bird sanctuary at dawn by park attendants.

Next Monday the battered Baltic challenges the C & F Glass Co. at Eastshore Park (7:45 p.m.). May the words of Aeschylus abide: "We learn through suffering..."