

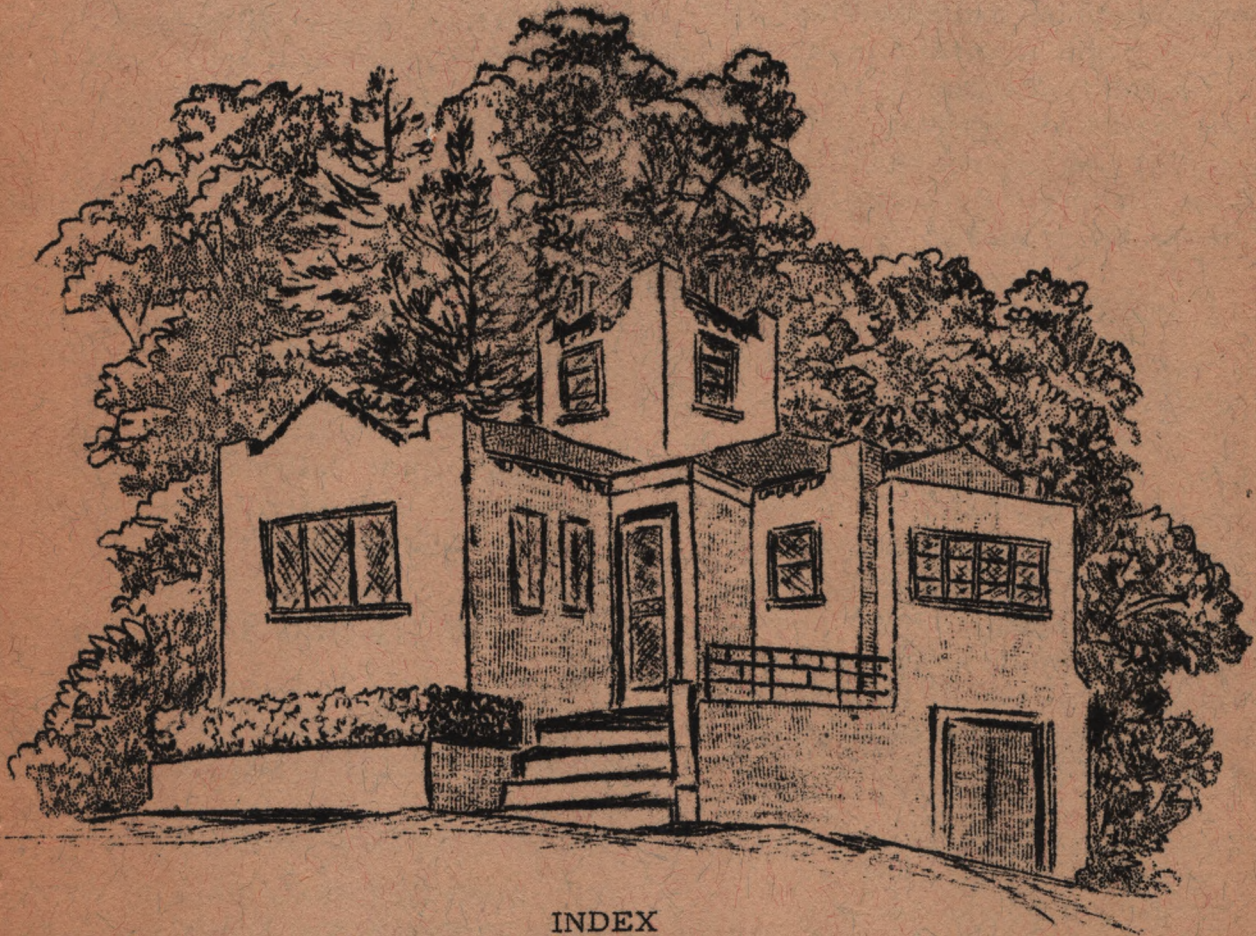
# Point Counterpoint

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# LOCAL NEWS



## ATTENTION: COMEDIANS

Tryouts for Ira Wallach's delightful and thought provoking comedy, "The Absence of a Cello" will be held at the Masquer's Playhouse, 105 Park Place, Point Richmond on Monday, August 28 at 8:00 p.m.

There are parts open for three men and four women of varying ages. The production, which will be directed by Scott Campbell, will open on October 13 and continue playing for five week-ends.

## ATTENTION: PHILANTHROPISTS

The Richmond Museum is still gladly accepting books to be sold at their used book sale in the El Portal Shopping Center on September 28 and 29.

If you are willing to part with some of your books, call Marlys Reynolds at 234-4617. She will pick up your books, and provide you with a receipt.

## ATTENTION: CLEPTOMANIACS

Whoever took the Japanese Stone Lantern from Friend's yard, Please Return it... No questions asked.

## ATTENNNNCHUN!

Recently inducted into the Army are Gary Swift and Maurice Solvang. Finished with basic training and home on leave is Robert Thomas.

## ORIENTATION

Orientation for new Senior High School students will be held September 1. Ninth and Tenth graders at JFK will meet at 9 a.m., Eleventh and twelfth graders at 1 p.m., in the school gym.

## RELAXATION

Labor Day is Monday, September 4.

## POINT BUSINESS

The Point Richmond Businessmen's Association had a very important meeting Wednesday, August 23, at which a brochure which contained the completed study of future parking area plans was presented. The businessmen present approved the plan, and asked that the committee begin at once to make arrangements for the realization of the plans. Parking facilities, adequate lighting, landscaping and general beautification of the Point Richmond Business District are included in the proposal.

## POINT PLAY

Have you noticed that the work on Keller's Beach Park is progressing very nicely? The park almost looks inviting already, and will obviously be an attractive addition to the Point. The only adverse comments we have heard were that the park looks "so small." Anyone interested in making a larger park a reality is invited to write the East Bay Regional Park District, 11500 Skyline Boulevard, Oakland, or call them at 531-9300.

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People

George Henry Lundvall passed away last Friday, August 22. Mr and Mrs. Lundvall (the former Mrs. Rose Dingle) lived at 46 Idaho.

He was amember of the Point Masonic Lodge and a Past Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star in Point Richmond.

Mr. Lundvall, a native of Colorado, was 74 at the time of his death.

Mr and Mrs. Carl Childers became the parents of an 8 pound, 2 ounce baby boy Sunday, whom they named Tracy Lee.



# Reminiscing

with DON CHURCH

Part II of excerpts from  
the History of Richmond, written in 1926  
by Clarence Odell.

"The earliest record of Richmond and its immediate vicinity is contained in the diary of the Rev. Father Crespi, the historian of the first expedition to explore the eastern shore of the Bay of San Francisco in 1772. He states they camped on Cerrito Creek where they killed a fat bear and enjoyed a supply of fresh meat; the next day marching on they viewed the second arm of the sea or large round bay. (San Pablo Bay). They noticed a large whale disappearing itself and they infer that this bay is sufficiently deep for large vessels.

From 1772 until April 1823 there seems to be little if any authentic history of this locality. But on April 15, 1823, Francisco Castro

asked for three leagues at the place called Los Cuchingunes, or San Pablo. Dates April, 15, 1823, he was granted the three leagues by the Honorable Assembly. It was signed Arguello, and countersigned by Jose Joaquin de la Torre, secretary. At that time, Louis Arguello was acting Governor of California.

He states that he has built upon said land a walled house having a stone fence 40 varas, and planted a garden with many fruit trees therein, and a vineyard containing upwards of 1,000 stalks of vines, built a mill and sowed 30 fanegas of wheat, and one-half a fanega of corn and beans each; also has 600

head of cattle and 500 horses, more or less, and that the tract of land runs along the bank of the creek and shores of the bay from north to northwest from where it bounds with the Rancho of the Sergeant Luis Peralta. Don Francisco died on November 5, 1831. The grant was finally given on May 26, 1830. He left a wife and 11 children. His wife was Gabriela Berryessa.

Nicholas Gray, one of the above named commissioners, was at that time a deputy U.S. surveyor, and he placed the acreage of the grant at 29,941, of which 2,470 acres

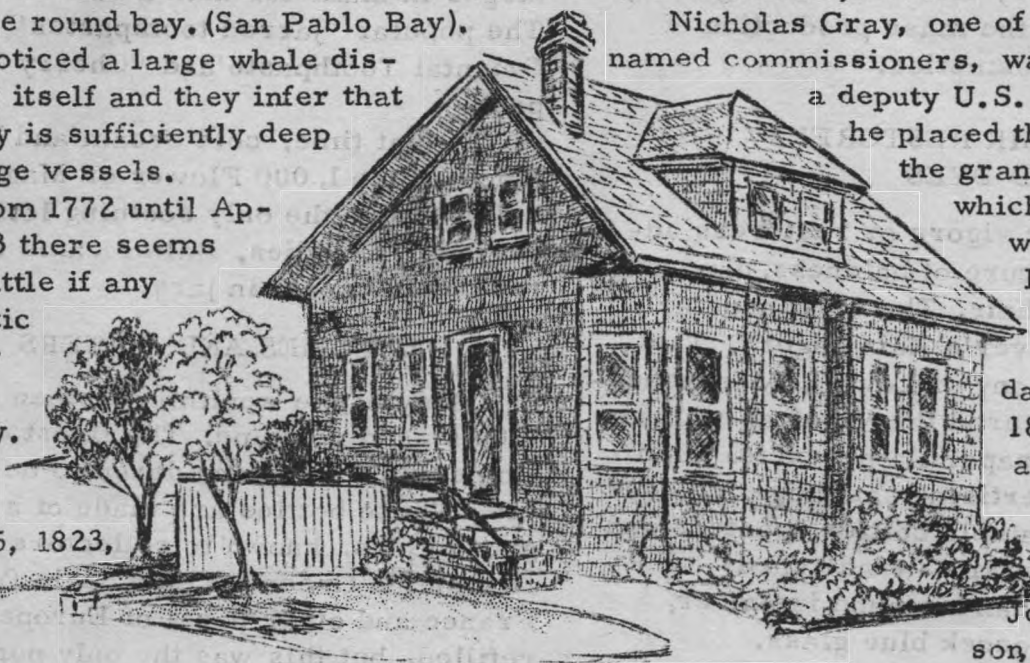
were marsh land, but the final decree of partition dated March 3, 1894, places it at 17,628 acres.

On October 10, 1853, Juan

Jose Castro, a son, mortgaged

to Thomas Chambers all of their right title and interest in and to the San Pablo Rancho, or one-eighth part of the Rancho on a promissory note for \$633 payable on demand with interest of 5% per month compounded until paid. Three years later, their interest was sold under foreclosure proceedings, and on January 12, 1857, the sheriff of Contra Costa County issued a deed therefor to John Saunders and Hiatt Hepburn."

.....and all this leads to the development of the town of Richmond, which will be traced in the continuing story, next week.



# 6. BOTTLES I HAVE KNOWN

JULIE DAVIS

## THE EARLY COSMETIC INDUSTRY

Since the Dawn of History, women all over the world have been striving to find ways to improve (or maybe destroy) their natural beauty. The ancient Chinese, the Romans, Greeks, the Egyptians and even the cave women used cosmetics in some form. But it was not until the 19th century that "Yankee Ingenuity" brought upon the mass production of widely sold cosmetics.

## THE HAIR RESTORERS AND DYES

Most hair vigors or restorers advertised the cure of baldness, dandruff and thinning hair. The most popular vigor was "Ayer's Hair Vigor". The Ayer's Company of Lowell, Massachusetts manufactured the Vigor as well as different Sarsaparilla products. Their massive advertising campaign included almanacs, sample bottles, posters and the most popular -- trade cards. The Vigor bottle can be found in amber, milk, and peacock blue glass.

One of the most popular hair dressings of early Point Richmond was Capillaris of New York. This dressing sold for fifty cents for a small bottle. Several of these bottles have been found at the Point. According to the label, Capillaris cured "a case of falling hair, humor, dandruff, salt rheum, pimples, eruptions, rough skin, chapped hands, itching scalp and skin diseases, (for only fifty cents!)"

Hair dyes were common throughout the 19th century. They were used for dressings as well as dyes. One bottle that is strange, though, is the Whisker Dye. This was used for dying mustaches.



## TOOTHPASTES AND CREAMS AND BALMS

It is hard to imagine that a 49'er would brush his teeth before retiring, but apparently he did.

Many toothpaste jars and bottles have been found in old Ghost Towns. Toothpaste came in bottles and jars. The popular bottled toothpaste was Rubifoam. This toothpaste came in a clear bottle and was "put up by E. W. Hoyt & Co." One advertisement states that "Rubifoam makes the teeth like a string of pearls". Toothpastes were sold in ceramic jars, also, as cold cream was. A sample jar was no larger in diameter than a half dollar. The popular "jarred toothpastes" were "Oriental Toothpaste" and "Cherry Toothpaste".

At that time, cold cream and balms (such as the 1,000 Flower or Magnolia balms) were the only soothing lotions available to ladies. Balms came in bottles, cold cream in jars.

## PERFUMES AND WATERS

Many of the wealthier women of the 1800's used perfume. The finest domestic perfume was considered to be Palmer's. These bottles are made of a heavy green glass, known to collectors as the "Palmer's Green". Other vials from France and other parts of Europe were refilled, but this was the only popular disposable perfume bottle.

The less wealthy woman or man used a "water." These were domestic scented waters. Florida Water, a popular brand, also claimed to cure nervousness, headaches and more.

Another interesting companion to the ladies' dresser was epsom salts. One manufactured by the Larkin Soap Company featured a glass stopper.

