

# Point Counterpoint

VOL. II • NO. 27

A JOURNAL FOR CIVIC COMMUNICATION

WEEKLY • 10¢.

for the week beginning October 6, 1967



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# Thru The Week

## Here (and There)

### WATER SKI TOURNEY

The Richmond Water Ski Club is sponsoring a Water Ski Tourney Sunday, October 8, at the Berkeley Aquatic Park. The tourney will begin at 9:00 a.m., and continue until dark.

Featured events are: the Handicap Slalom, Handicap Jump, plus Kite flying during the intermission.

Anyone may participate, regardless of ability -- here is a chance to find out how good you are!

For information about the tourney, call Al Frosini, at 232-2998.

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Or.....

jog yur deep and merrie  
way to the  
RENAISSANCE PLEASURE  
FAIRE  
and ha'penny market

Benefiting KPFA fm, the faire will be held October 7, 8, 14 and 15, with Pageant and Revelrie, including Jesters, Jugglers, Pipers, piemen, strolling minstrels, mummers, ancient musick and players, tumblers, troubadours, commedia from Italie, puppets, poneys, games, magick, and alchemie.... amd...divers wondrous hand-made wares, from near and far, hawk'd from an hundred rustick stalls.

In the wood --near San Rafael, north San Pedro Road on San Pablo Bay. From 11:00 a.m. 'till dusk, with the call o' the Faire Processione at 12 noon each day. Admission is a \$2.50 donation for adults, Children under 12, \$1.00. (If you come in your medieval costume, on horseback, you will be admitted without payment). October 7th, the theme is a Harvest Masque, October 8th, the Queen's Progress, October 14th, Robin Hood's Birthday, and October 15th, Drake's Wellcome.

### NEXT ON THE AGENDA .... VOTE

October 10, Tuesday, is a special election day in Richmond. The Contra Costa Junior Colleges will hold a Bond Election, for the approval of a \$49,335,000 bond to be used for approved and designated purposes only -- buildings, equipment and sites. The colleges now provide a variety of college programs to over 16,000 students. The present use of temporary buildings for accommodation of students costs approximately \$300,000 per year.

The Trustees can levee a 10 cent tax, for the use of more temporary buildings; whereas the 11.9 cent tax would provide for the building of permanent buildings and facilities. Think about it, and the benefits people already derive from the existence of these colleges, and VOTE October 10.

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### \*\*\*SPECIAL FOR STUDENTS

"I never really liked school, because I never learned how to study"... or statements to that effect are common. A free course for Fifth through Eighth graders is being offered at the Richmond Library Auditorium, in "Techniques for Study". The course consists of only Three lectures, on October 10, October 17 and October 24, dealing with "How To Study", "Tools of the Trade" and "Term Papers and Exams"... The course can't be a waste of time, and it may be able to make future schooling more meaningful. Register for the course at the Boys and Girls Library at the Civic Center. Mrs. Miriam Delahay of the Library will present the course.



# Reminiscing

with Don Church

5..

FINAL excerpt from the history of Richmond, written in 1926 by Clarence Odell.....

## THE MISPLACED POSTOFFICE.

Mr. Naugle, his grocery, newspaper and Postoffice, moved to the corner of Washington and Richmond Avenue.....

"This building was started about September 1, 1900; and on the tenth, before he could get the roof completed, we secured a big dray and loaded on it Mr. Naugle's effects, including the Richmond Post Office, and brought it and the "whole cheese" over and established him in his new quarters. The Post Office did not stay long with the "bunch" at Washington and Nicholl Avenues.

It was a hard blow to Rudolph and the others interested at the original location, which was for years known as Old Town, to lose their most valuable advertising assets, other than the railroads, the grocery, newspaper and postoffice.

Mr. Naugle had failed to get permission of the post office department to make the move, and having raised the ire of Mr. Laymance and his friends, soon had Mr. Bricker, U. S. Postal Inspector, hot on his trail with a very large demand from so diminutive a man, "to immediately take that Post Office back!" Back it went; and Naugle with his grocery and print shop on the hillside, had to trudge through the rain and mud of that winter over to Old Town to take care of his Post Office. The spring following, Miss Lizzie McGann was appointed to succeed him, and was the Postmistress for many years until Waverly Stairley was appointed, in

turn succeeded by J. M. Long.

Frank Critchett, a small man with lots of energy and executive ability, soon got a crew of men together and started building operations at a lively rate. His hotel was started before we stole the Post Office. When Miss McNally, who was boarding a lot of Railroad men in a tent near where the round house stands, and was having difficulties with the winds and rain, prevailed on Critchett to put her up a hotel on the gore lot at the foot of Washington Ave.,

Bill Richards came over from San Francisco and bought the lot adjoining Critchett's on the north, and he wanted

a two-story building put up on it immediately.

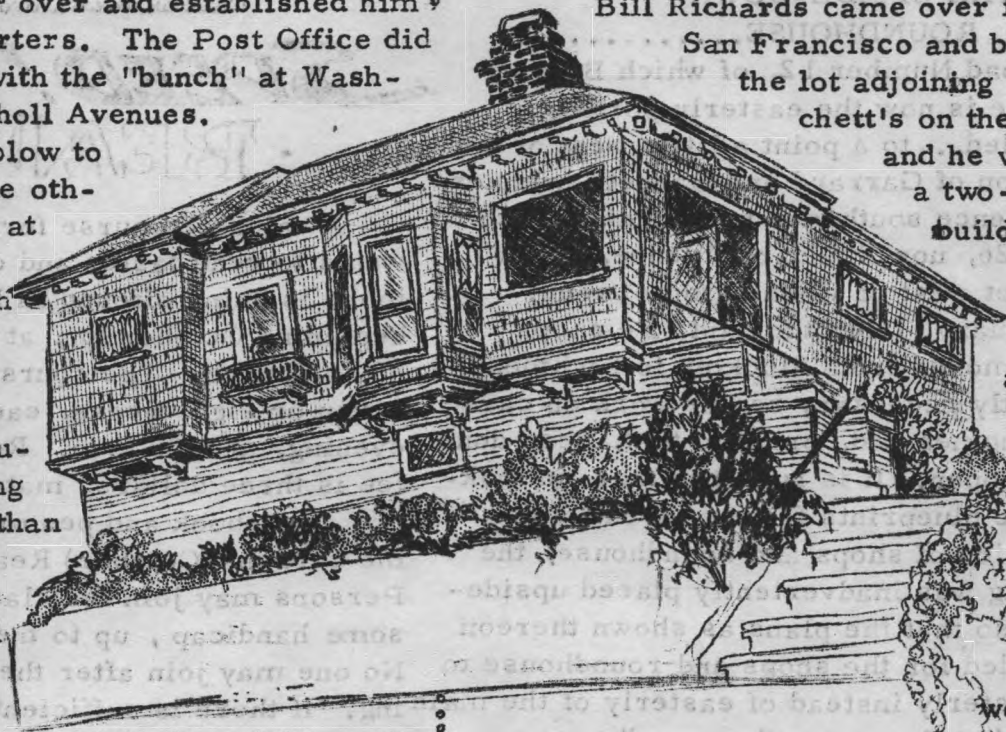
So, Frank

took over the management of that

work, and

soon had Richards Hall, where were had many a dance and frolic. He must have had a preference for Bills, as there were Bill Redding, Bill Falla, and Bill Conn all sawing away at the same time. Those were stirring times in the live town; in fact the wind during that winter "stirred" several of the unfinished buildings clear off their foundations. The John Nicholl Co. had five cottages under construction -- one at the south corner of Washington and Richmond Aves., one on Washington, One on Richmond, and two on Tunnel Avenue. During the earlier part of the season Pat Dean and Mr.

Wyatt had put up a (continued)



two-story frame building on Tewksbury (now Standard) Avenue and were occupying it for a boarding house and saloon. And with so many other memories crowding along, I almost forgot what must have been a very important place during the railroad construction work around here--the Hunters Home Saloon, that stood on the south side of Tewksbury Avenue opposite the end of the road that came up from the railroad yards. How long it had been there I do not know, but the building looked old when I first saw it: It was afterward moved across the street to its present location.

### THE UPSIDE-DOWN

#### ROUNDHOUSE.....

Road Number 12, of which Barrett Avenue is now the easterly portion, extended... to a point a little west of the junction of Garrard and Barrett Avenues, and thence southwest to a junction with Road 26, now Standard Avenue, about 100 feet west of Washington Avenue. In January, 1901, the Santa Fe shops were moved from Stockton to Richmond; urgently necessary repair work on cars and engines had, prior to that, been done in the open. It is rumored that, in making the blueprints for the layout of construction of shops and roundhouse, the tracing was inadvertently placed upside-down so that the plans as shown thereon provided for the shops and roundhouse to be westerly instead of easterly of the main line. At all events, the roundhouse was built so that it was squarely across and on that portion of road 12. In 1901, an abandonment of the portion of Road 12 shops was put through the Board of Supervisors, on condition that the Santa Fe give a new roadway, graded and graveled, and 60 feet wide, in exchange. That road was afterwards abandoned to the Santa Fe Company's use in exchange for the present Garrard Boulevard, 80 feet wide. It was filled to grade and an oil macadam top put on by the company and served for many years. Within the past few months (November 1926) the Santa Fe and the Key system have completed

a fine job of paving the portion of the boulevard from Ohio to Macdonald Ave. with concrete base and bitumen top.

As is the case of all new railroad towns, the Santa Fe's first depot was a box car; then came a frame building on the east side of the track near where Ohio Avenue crossed the railroad. A reading room for the employees was constructed there by the company. The station and reading room were maintained there until moved to their present location at the west end of Macdonald Avenue.

NEXT: Back to excerpts from Old Point Richmond and Richmond newspapers.

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## *SPEED!* READING.

A valuable course for anyone who wants to read faster and comprehend more is being offered in Point Richmond beginning October 16, at the First Methodist Church. The course will run for seven or eight weeks, each Monday evening, at 8:00 p.m. Registration fee is three dollars, materials needed are a notebook and pen or pencil, plus the current (October) Readers' Digest. Persons may join the class, though with some handicap, up to the second session. No one may join after the second meeting. If there is sufficient desire expressed in the community, the course may be offered again in the spring.

Don't Miss the opportunity to enroll if you want to read faster--call Mr. Bill Farmer at 232-4131 for more information

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YOU'RE ONLY ONE IN MILLIONS.... so why bother to vote, to speak up, to get involved, to commit yourself?

German author Hans Habe answers this way: "The world is 1% good, 1% bad, and 98% neutral. And this is why what individuals do is important."