

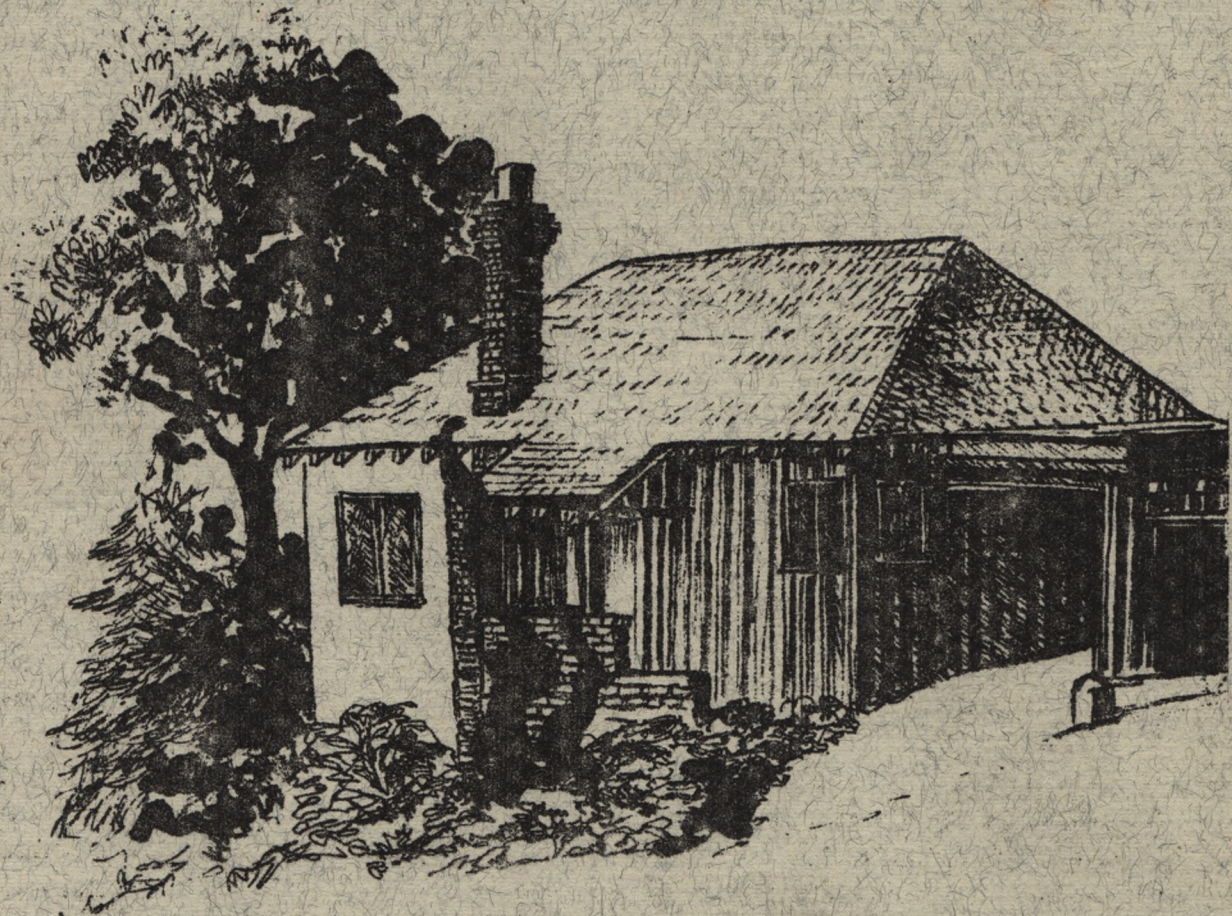
POINT COUNTERPOINT

A JOURNAL FOR CIVIC COMMUNICATION

VOL. III, NO. 5

WEEKLY 10¢

WEEK OF MAY 3 TO MAY 10, 1968



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MAYBE · IT'S · MAY

It's May. An impossible month. No one really wants to do anything but get prepared for vacations. But all the activities that had to be scheduled before vacation times arrive are crowded into May.

Perhaps that's why, this week, things appeared to be off-balance. On Hofmann Boulevard, at Cutting, a truck was parked, with a load of penned-up chickens--all except one, who was standing straight and tall, like a look-out atop the cases carrying his less-fortunate friends; a big, black bumble-bee decided to be a traveling companion in Connie Healy's newly painted orange Greenbriar; Julie Lesea, in a rush to get to a rehearsal on time, ran to an awaiting car with a violin in one hand and her knitting in the other, only to retrace her steps in order to rewind the yarn which clung to a bush at the entryway; Thursday morning's PTA meeting at Washington School was more like a meeting of the UN, minus interpreters. Now tell me, what devious mind would choose this month to make Nevin a two-way street????

BAREFOOT in the PARK

It's time to go Barefoot in the Park, if you're planning to go at all. The comedy at the Masquer's Playhouse has only four more curtains to raise before it closes, May 11. "Barefoot in the Park" by Neill Simon plays Friday and Saturday nights, at 8:30 at 105 Park Place, and stars Jim Bradeson, Jerry Larue, Betty Magovern, Ivan Paulsen, Don Riden and Joan Riden.



WEEK-END EVENTS

Music

The Richmond Auditorium will be the site of two musical events this week-end: On Saturday evening, the Richmond Symphony will present a free concert in the Auditorium, beginning at 8:30 with the Coriolanus Overture. Bartok's Suite Number 2 and Brahms' Violin Concerto are included in the evening's offering of varied musical treats.

On Sunday, May 5 at 3:30, the breathtaking Frula Folklorica, Yugoslavian Folk ensemble, featuring 35 star dancers, singers and musicians will grace the stage of the auditorium. This concert is part of the Contra Costa College Concert series, and tickets will be available at the box office, beginning at 2:30. Single admission is \$2.00.

ART

M. Fanques invites you to a preview-opening of pen and ink drawings by Mary Alice Lee on Sunday, May 5 at his very own Fair, upstairs in the Old Firehouse Refreshments will be served from 1 to 4 p.m. Come to be refreshed, meet the artist, and to see a delightful exhibit.

Miss Lee has studied at Chico State College, San Jose State College and California College of Arts and Crafts; she now lives in San Francisco and teaches art in Danville. She plans a year-long teaching-painting-excursion vacation in Beirut, Lebanon after completing this semester. This is the 24-year-old artist's third one-man exhibit. This show of delicate line drawings -- interiors, assembled objects, flowers and Cleveland Wrecking Yards-- may be viewed at the Gallery through May 26.

REMINISCING

WITH DON CHURCH

Interesting and sometimes amusing articles from old Richmond and Point Richmond newspapers, courtesy of the Richmond Museum.

OIL IN POINT RICHMOND ?

(OR: The Pipe (line) Dream of 1911)

Very few persons going to the Richmond Municipal Natatorium notice the steel plate in the right lawn as you face the front steps. Nor do they realize the history that lies under the plate.

Headlines of the Richmond Independent of May 21, 1911 read:

"LAST THING NEEDED FOR RICHMOND IS FOUND"

"Expert C. L. Cofer locates gas, oil, and artesian water at the Point and test well may be driven:"

"Crazy, freak or highly sensitive genius, C. L. Cofer of Red Bluff, Calif. who has found a great water well on Angel Island, unfailing water supply at Woodland and various gold mines and gas deposits in several parts of the State gives his report.

"Mr. Nicholl hired Cofer for \$50 per day and expenses to carry on his tests on the underground formations at the Point. He found a 600-foot-wide strata and 200 foot thick artesian water vein near the Superintendents house at the

Los Angeles Pressed Brick Factory.

"At Point Potrero, a mineral gusher 2,000 feet deep, 600 feet of sand, and 800 pounds of pressure.

"At East Richmond and the junction of Richmond and the Santa Fe Railroad, a dry or white flame of gas strata; at 1,000 feet, gas sands under 800 feet thick (under the 1,000) and 1200 feet wide.

"He states, 'The wells will be very great producers. I also find great belts of blue rock and great dykes of yellow and blue oil shale and a very large and well defined gas dome (Nicholl Knob) which is the hand of nature pointing to her hidden wealth and which I do register with my 'Terrestrial Wave Detector' (Signed)

C. L. Cofer"

"Cofer's device is a mechanical device of his own invention and with a series of

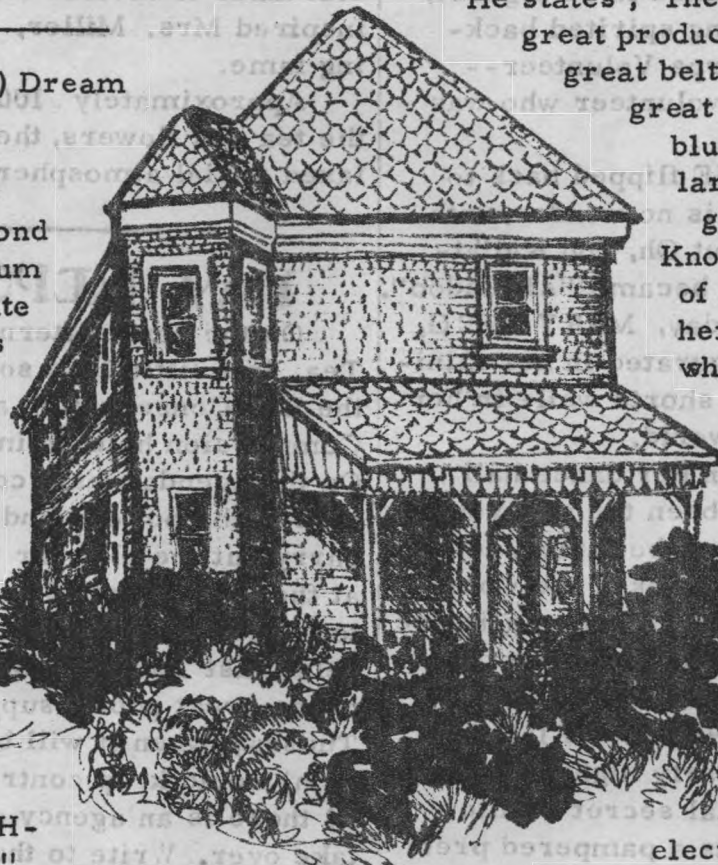
electrical batteries

strapped tightly around his body and the indicating instrument is styled "Terrestrial Wave Detector".

"Local people have enough faith in the report to form a Company and a test well will be sunk during the summer.

"The finding more than a water supply will be worth the cost; while with the finding of oil and gas, who can picture the results to the city?

June 8, 1911: "The recent statement of C. L. Cofer after examination of Nicholl property has prompted J. H. Nicholl together with W. S. McCracken, James Cruickshanks and E. M. Tilden to form a company to drill on the Nicholl property at Richmond and the Santa Fe Tracks.



All agreed fashion is not a serious matter.

Modeling gym attire was BESSIE SQUIRES in iced black licorice bloomers, adjustable to any size or shape, and which de-emphasize the figure, allowing freedom of movement. LUCILLE HOLLADAY appeared in today's personalized gym shorts, the perfect outfit for jogging around the Point in pursuit of the super shape.

As a missionary, LAUREL BRAY looked so pure that her pith helmet net would have been unnecessary--bugs or mosquitoes wouldn't have dared to harm her. GLORIA CRIM walked in as a guest, only to find herself being spirited backstage to be a Peace Corps Volunteer--taking the place of the volunteer who was detained in Malaya.

HELEN VALENTINE flipped back to the flapper era, and it is no wonder, with her "I Love My Wife But Oh, You Kid" attitude the fashion soon became "23 Skidoo". The teeny-bopper of today, MARY BERG, brought a roar as she gyrated in her mini-dress with peek-a-boo shorts while in her own transistor-radio-world.

FRANCES SMITH in her dance hall costume may not have been the girl you took home to mother (maybe father, not mother) and may have shocked the women of those days because more than a glimpse of her hankle showed, but how were the women of those days to visualize Hugh Hefner's Bunny Girl, HELEN CRIM?

SARA FARMER'S early night shift concealed her "very special secret" while FLORENCE WILSON as a pampered pretty added fantasy to her life in her fluffy sheer dress. Florence also doubled as Rosy the Riveter, in a coverall ensemble, easily removed for a night at the movies. Psychogenic career girl, NONA HOWE, as an experienced secretary, met her boss through the IBM machine.

BEA KENOYER, in her long pantaloen bathing suit, beach slippers, hat and sun umbrella left much room for imagination, and little for the sun. PATTI JO BERG is America's answer to Twiggy in her suit that was purchased in the "Next-to-nothing" Shoppe in the Firehouse plaza. She may occasionally turn red, but her fellow sun worshippers will turn green.

JEAN ALLYN looked demure and modest as she blushingly awaited her husband-to-be in a gown designed for the young in waistline as well as heart (she couldn't get it fastened). HELEN SMALLMAN's wedding gown was obviously not a style for conservatives, but for the bride who will greet her computer-matched husband with cool--and courage.

Between showings, Frances Smith in her Suffragette dress and large brimmed hat spiked (oops) trimmed with huge flowers, sang thrilling operatic epics that made it obvious that it was she who inspired Mrs. Miller, of recent recording fame.

Approximately 100 guests enjoyed the tea and flowers, the fun and the relaxed social atmosphere of the day.

BAY REPORT

On the same afternoon as the Fleur Tea, in a little less social atmosphere, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission held an important meeting. On the agenda was a continued discussion of the powers and money needed to carry out the plan for the Bay, while at the same time, SB 231, in Sacramento, again awaits passage, after another delay last Tuesday. SB 231, which needs great public support (before next Tuesday, when it will be brought up again) would keep control of Bay fill until there is an agency of government to take over. Write to the Finance Committee, c/o Senator George Miller, State Capitol, Sacramento, in support of this bill!

The Santa Fe Plan for the East Bay shoreline was presented and discussed; Offering enough fill to cover the East Bay shoreline with industry, and to completely hide the shoreline from travelers on the freeway, the edges along the water are dubbed "possible" public areas. From a description once written about Hong Kong harbor, this shoreline plan looks much like the description sounded.

BCDC's planning conclusion on oil and gas drilling in the Bay recommend against platforms in the Bay (with exceptions).

TRIVIA

by MID DORNAN

Belated Happy Birthday to the Point's oldest resident, ELIZABETH CRAMER, who was 93 years young on April 24!

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Congratulations BEA and MARTIN KENOYER on your twenty-fifth wedding anniversary on May 2!

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Visiting in Jackson on Tuesday was Josephine Martin who reported the weather there was as glorious as it was here.

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Gertrude Paasch is feeling better after having a few "down days" with a virus.

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Returning home on Friday will be Julia Bill, who spent a week undergoing tests at Brookside Hospital.

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Retiring May 15 (his last work shift he notes, is actually on the 14th) is Jack Paeth, who has completed twenty-five years with the Richmond Fire Department. With all the plans he and his wife Mildred have, it is a good thing he has reached a retirement (!) status. At the top of the list of activities is completion of the dream doll house which he has promised to put on display for Point Richmond residents before presenting it to his anxious granddaughters.

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NO VACANCY

Birds have their cages, dogs have their houses and fish have their tanks, but at the Bob Butts household, cats have their apartments! Faced with houseing for the two new litters of kittens plus the many other homeless rodent-catchers, Mr. Butts conceived the apartment concept to keep unwanted neighbor dogs away. With twenty-one "residents" it is obvious that there aren't any vacancies!

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Newly elected officers of the West Side Improvement Club are: President: Mrs. John F. Downey; Vice President, Miss Mary Casey; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Clare Bryant; Treasurer, Mrs. David Silva.

Ruby Ellis was commended for having served the past five years as their president. It was also announced that thirteen baskets had been filled with meats and other supplements and distributed to needy families this past year. Palms were also made for their closing luncheon on June 6, at the Holiday Inn.

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Sympathy is extended to the family of Reginald Hickman, who had lived here for 45 years.

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Also, to the families of two former Point residents: Mrs. Myrtle Smith, who many will remember as their piano teacher, and who presented recitals at the First Methodist Church.

And to Les Jenks, local roofer who sat atop the steeple of the Methodist Church, and the "Candid Camera" (from brand X paper) took his picture. No one else would do the job and church members were concerned for his safety at such a height. He and his wife Lela recently celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at the Holiday Inn.

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FLEUR TEA

How easy it is to recuperate from a taxing, demanding activity when it proves successful. Or, so conceded members of the Women's Society of the Methodist Church after their Fleur Tea on Wednesday.

Proving they are versatile as well as talented, they put aside the hammers and paint long enough to have fun while providing funds.

The Fashion Review preceding the tea presented a "then" and "now" approach to fashion, proving it is difficult to judge whether then or now is funniest.

THE FIRST WEEK IN MAY

2.

CHOIRS

If you haven't sated your appetite for music during the week-end, Monday afternoon offers an unusual and filling treat. The Contra Costa College music department will host seven junior college choral groups at a music festival May 6. Anyone interested in choral work is invited to attend the 2 to 5 p.m. performance in the College gym.

Colleges participating are Hartnell, Reedley, City College of San Francisco, San Jose City College, Santa Rosa J.C., Shasta and Yuba Colleges, with directors of each college's chorus conducting.

LECTURE

Mark Lane, author of the book, Rush To Judgment, will lecture at Contra Costa College on Tuesday, May 7 at 8 p.m. Lane is a New York attorney and a member of the New York legislature.

FAMILY Discussion

Last lecture in the Brookside Hospital family education lectures will be May 7 at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Jogi Khanna and Dr. Piffat of the Contra Costa County Health Department will present the story for responsible parenthood, titled Sexual Adjustment and Family Planning.

URBANIZED INDIANS

"American Indians in the City" is the title of the last in the Contra Costa College lecture series on Anthropology. Dr. Kemnitzer, assistant professor of anthropology at S.F. State will speak at 8 p.m.

FAR-AWAY LANDS

Would you like to hear a first-hand description of Thailand, Paraguay, the Netherlands, and South Africa all in one evening? The four exchange AFS students will be on hand Thursday, May 9, to allow you exactly that pleasure.

At 7:30, Thursday, May 9, in the Washington School Auditorium, the Washington P.T.A., together with the Point Richmond Civic Group, will host the four foreign students at what is traditionally the most popular meeting of the year. However, usually, only one student is present. This meeting should be four times more fun.

The young lady from Thailand, Pom Amatyakul, will perform a folk dance from her country. Each of the students who include Elisabeth Krijn from the Netherlands, Nina Potash from South Africa, Pablo Sarubbi from Paraguay, besides an American girl who was a student in Peru last summer, will tell something about their countries, and their impressions of the United States. There will be time for questions and answers, visiting and refreshments.

Anyone interested in this fascinating and educational evening is welcomed to attend. If you have children who would enjoy meeting students from other lands, bring them along. Better yet, meet them personally before the meeting, by inviting them (one of them to dinner. Already, two of the students have dinner invitations from two Point families, the Frank Pearson family and the Jack Healy family. If you

would enjoy having a student to dinner before the meeting, please call Grethe Tedrick at 234-0415 or Sharon Taylor at 232-8819.

