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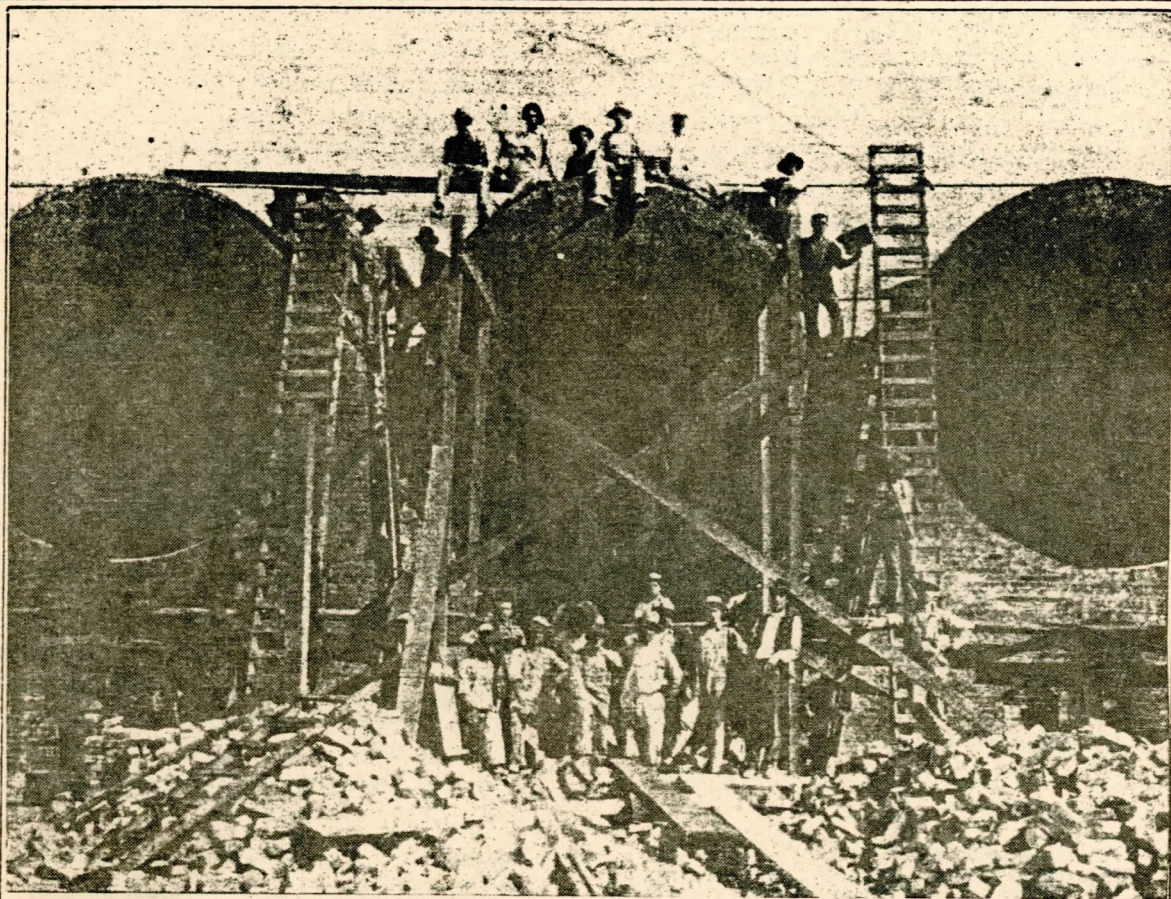
NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

VOL. IV, No.3

October 1985

75 cents



CREW OF WORKERS AT STANDARD OIL DISTILLER, courtesy Thomas Kenny

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~ HISTORY ASSOCIATION NOTES ~

LOOKING AHEAD --- to NOVEMBER 21

Our November meeting promises to be one of the more interesting and lively ones, since Liz MacDonald, our program chairman, has decided to invite as special guests members of our community of Italian ancestry.

We know that a great number of Italians were among the first settlers in Point Richmond, and that they and their families have information and stories to share. If you happen to be one of these people, *Please*, don't wait to be asked, because we may not know about you. Please, call Liz Macdonald, at 234-3936 and tell her you'll be coming to the meeting — at Linsley Hall, Thursday, November 21 at 7:30 p.m. — and be ready to share some of your knowledge.

A GLANCE BACK . . .

We were so fortunate at the September meeting that people came with generous (and delicious) snacks to share. Singing gives people an appetite! Special thanks to George Batten, who arrived with a specially decorated cake, but couldn't stay, because of a nasty cold.

Thanks to all of you who contributed; and, just a note -- if you know some good Italian recipes, we're hoping to have Italian snacks for the November meeting!

SPECIAL NOTE -- TO SHY PERSONS . . .

Once in a while we hear from someone that *they* have heard from someone that *they know* someone . . . who should have been included in a story, or who should have been interviewed, etc.

This is a plea --

Those of us who volunteer our time doing the newsletter, archives, etc., didn't wait to be asked. We volunteered. And we are perhaps no more qualified than those of you who are too shy to volunteer. But, please, let us know -- send a short note or call -- if you or someone you know could add to the research being done on Point history.

It would be so greatly appreciated if others would join in doing interviews (take a tape recorder and just talk to someone who is a fount of information, and we'll even transcribe it for you); or in helping to look up articles in old newspapers at the library (It's fun to do, they're all on microfilm, so you turn on a viewing machine and find articles that add to our knowledge of the Point's past); or in the valuable "do it at home" work of indexing publications so that research can be comprehensive and correct.

Memberships are of course valuable, to make it possible financially to publish the newsletter and copy old photos, etc. We do really need people who are willing to assist in any way, and who are not too shy to drop us a note or call and offer to help.

In answer to any of the above requests, mail to 212 Bishop Alley, or call 235-4222.

CALENDARS . . .

The 1986 Point Richmond Historical Calendars have been selling well. If you haven't found one yet, they are on sale at Richmond Supply (145 West Richmond), from Gracie at the Santa Fe Market, at Savoir Faire, Sherry and Bob's and soon at Sonrisa.

If you wish to have one sent by mail, send your request to 212 Bishop Alley along with \$4.00. They cost only \$3.00 if you buy them in person.

PRHA board members will be selling calendars also: Teresa Albro, Deirdre and Jerry Cerkanowicz, Muriel Clausen, Mid Dornan, Sarah Eeles, Mae Mandl, Liz McDonald, Donna Roselius, and Pam Wilson.

MEMBERS . . . Pam Wilson, membership chairman, 521 Western Drive

Thank you to the following members who have renewed their memberships this month:

Mary J. Basile	Bruna Giorgi
Claude Bisio	Shoney Gustafson
Elizabeth Bronson	Adele C. Hollander
Verla Camren	Grace A. Howe
Caroline Davidson	Elizabeth McDonald
Trannie Dornan	Paul Murphy & family
D.R. 'Doc' Edmonds	Mrs. Louise M. Rogers
Lucretia & Tom Edwards	Anna Schwarz
Mary Forbes	Judy Walz
	Peggy Young

And welcome to the following new members:

Cathe Amber-Brazk	Alice Nelson
Ed Gingrich	John Piazza
Sharon Hardwick	Tom Spencer
Mrs. John E. Harvey	

Please let us know if we have made any errors in listings.

INDIAN STATUE FESTIVAL . . .

The second annual Indian Statue Day was as pleasant as the first, with perfect weather, happy people, wonderful food, fascinating arts and crafts, and great entertainment.

Festival T-shirts are still available at the Masquers Office at 105 Park Place.

The deadline for contributing to the Indian Statue Park Fund has been extended, with an absolute deadline of August 15, to give six weeks before next year's festival to create the third brass plaque.

As of this printing, donors of \$200 or more are:

Alko Office Supplies	Adele C. Hollander
Anne Andersen	David & Mary Janney
Louisa Banks	Donald J. Jardine
George M. Batten	Virginia R. Kennedy
Brickyard Landing	Florence C. Morton
Muriel & Burt Clausen	Barbara A. Olesen
Marion Downey	Greg Solich
Lois & Loraine Haigh	Betty Wirth
partial payments:	
Robert Butzbach	Camille Zulpo

Still more donations are needed to create the park that is planned. If you wish to donate to the park, please do it very soon, so that we will know just how much money is available to begin the park.

NOSTALGIC and NOISY —

by Frankie Greenlaw

Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here — well, not really. But those who were gathered in Linsley Hall for the first fall meeting made up in enthusiasm for whatever was lacking in numbers.

A wonderful warmup provided by Susan Amacker and the Point Richmond Madrigal Singers, accompanied by Lois Boyle of the Richmond Museum Association, set the mood of the evening for the mixed young/old audience of friends and members of the Richmond, Point, San Pablo and El Cerrito historical groups.

As cups of wine and sparkling cider were raised, so were the voices of both young and old. Although an old-fashioned screen and a bouncing ball to point out words and rhythms would have helped even the more experienced singers with old songs familiar only to a few.

"California, Here I Come", "San Francisco" (the one made famous by Jeanette McDonald in the old flick with Clark Gable), and "I Love You, California", well remembered by those who sang it lustily and often in our grammar school days of long, long ago.

Especially popular with youngsters present was an old-time ditty, originated in Monterey, and entitled "Abalone", with a repetitive stress on the last three syllables. Other favorites included "Ballad of the Point", led by Anna Schwarz, and covering highlights of Point Richmond history, as written by Donna Roselius. Ann Roberts of the San Pablo Society provided appropriate wording for "My Favorite Things" and also served as an inspirational M.C. for the evening.

A rousing version of the "Church in the Wildwood" with special Point Richmond lyrics, was led by Mid Dornan.

Our special thanks to Madrigal Singers Kevan Kidd, Peg Hartley, Agnes Gahn, De-nen Cousins, Margery Simmons and Fred Reed.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

by Teresa Albro

ADDING 200 PHOTOS -
THANKS TO CHEVRON!

Chevron USA has agreed to provide the Point Richmond History Association with 8 by 10 copies of 200 photos from the Don Church Collection. The project, which will be completed in a few weeks, not only establishes the core of our collection, but also ensures the preservation of these interesting and historically valuable pictures. Many thanks to Chevron, and especially to Carolyn Poage who has been so gracious and so helpful.

DONORS ADDING TO THE COLLECTION -

Last month the PRHA board of directors agreed to spend \$100 for reproductions of old photos to enhance our display at the Indian Statue Festival. Then, by lucky coincidence, a few days later Mr. Thomas Kenny allowed us to borrow several very interesting pictures to be copied. These photos show the downtown area, specifically the Spot and Central Pool Hall, and Standard Oil. They are handsome additions to our collection, thanks to Mr. Kenny. Pat Pearson also provided valuable additions to the archives, via old scrapbooks of her mother's, Julia Bill. Displayed at the Indian Statue Festival were PTA scrapbooks by the late Mrs. Bill, provided by Washington PTA.

HISTORIC PICTURES WELCOMED -

The PRHA is very interested in locating historic photographs. If you have photos that you are willing to donate, we will be glad to help preserve them and to make them available for use by the public. If you would prefer to retain ownership of your photos, we appreciate the opportunity to borrow them and have copies made for our collection. Please contact us if you would like to help with our photo copying project.

1910... by Jerry Cerkonowicz

SKILLED MILLINER AT ELSIE'S

"So great has been the rush of trade at the Elsie department store on Washington Avenue that in the millinery line it has become necessary to secure a skilled milliner from the east and Miss Greer, of Toronto, Canada is now assisting in supplying the wants of many patrons of this store.

"The store is now elegantly stocked with the latest in ladies' fall hats and the lines of coats and suits for ladies and children are arriving daily. With the added assistance of Miss Greer, orders for hats and millinery of all kinds can be filled without delay."

HOTEL RICHMOND REVISITED

by Alexandra A. Gautraud

Seldom do we consider the long history of our downtown buildings. But, a recent donation of pictures by Thomas Kenny causes us to consider the memories behind our storefronts and restaurants.

The renovated Spot, on the corner of Washington and Railroad Avenues, reaches back to the early years of this century when it was the Hotel Richmond. The original structure was only two stories high and at least one-third longer. At the time that Standard Avenue was widened, the hotel was cut off and a third story was added.

These changes were before Thomas Kenny's time, but his family collection of pictures record the many changes in the downtown area. Downstairs at the Hotel Richmond were a cigar store, soda fountain and bar. Upstairs the family had their own quarters with living room and kitchen. The remainder of the building was operated as a hotel for residents and transients. Some of the residents lived at the hotel for many years. Thomas Kenny recalls two old gentlemen living there until their deaths. Sailors mixed with Irish families occupied the upper floors during the twenties.

Thomas Kenny remembers the General Strike of May - July, 1934. A Longshoreman's strike in San Francisco developed into a general strike. Union recognition and control of the hiring halls, better wages and hours were the issues.

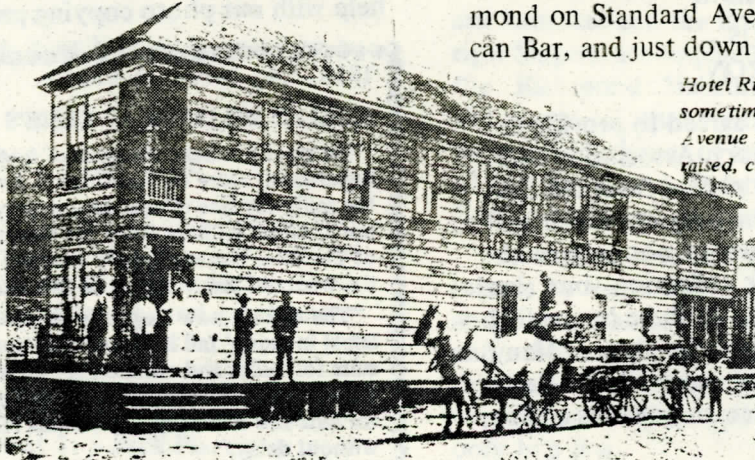
Serious rioting began when the employers attempted to operate the docks by force. The California National Guard was called out as the disturbances spread around the Bay.

By July, 1934 a general strike was called and even the quiet town of Point Richmond found itself embroiled in the dispute. Thomas remembers looking through the slats of the fence around the hotel's back yard.

"Every once in a while the police would come to the door during the General Strike looking for some sailor," he recalls, "But my mother would say, 'Hey, you don't have a warrant - you don't get in.'"

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kenny, Sr. were immigrants from Longford County, Ireland. Like so many of their neighbors the United States was their adopted home. Neighbors from Ireland, Italy and Mexico had been drawn to the Point for work with Santa Fe or Standard Oil, or ships that served them both.

Across the street from the Hotel Richmond on Standard Avenue was the American Bar, and just down Washington Avenue

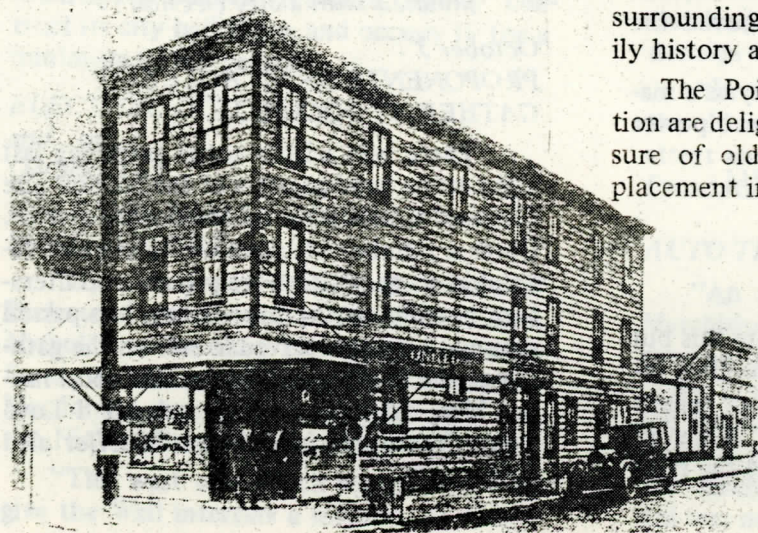


*Hotel Richmond (now 'The Spot')
sometime before 1925, when Standard
Avenue was widened and streets were
raised, courtesy Thomas Kenny*

on the same side of the street was the Central Saloon, until recently called the Central Pool Hall. It was owned jointly by Thomas' father and uncle. The earliest pictures show the staff standing outside the front window with a horse drawn wagon, its wheels caked thick in mud from the unpaved street.

Just up the street, at the beginning of Park Place, Mr. Heinrick had a bakery until 'Big Liz' opened a bar called the Mariner's Tavern. Big Liz had owned a bar on Standard Avenue but when that street was widened she moved her establishment to 105 Park Place — now the Masquers Funding Headquarters.

Among his pictures is a funeral procession leading from a funeral parlor in Point Richmond. The sign designates it as number 37, and it may have been in the triangle on Park Place. But the funeral that Thomas Kenny remembers most clearly was held in the parlor above the shop that serves as Jumbo's Restaurant on Washington Avenue today. Ed McDuff, a former City Councilman, died rather suddenly at his hotel, the St. James on Cottage Avenue (now the Ivy Inn) and the family decided to use their apartment for the funeral.



*Hotel Richmond (now 'The Spot')
after third floor was added.
Courtesy Thomas Kenny*

Our small downtown area was crowded with several residential hotels such as the Colonial Hotel which in the thirties became the Hotel Mac, and the Anderson Hotel which today are modern apartments on West Richmond, recently renovated by Jay Hollander. Within the confines of the triangle a small hotel struggled for years to keep its doors open.

Above the Central Pool Hall Thomas Kenny's uncle maintained a rooming house with some housekeeping units and a string of cabins in the back yard. Above what is now The Point (originally 'The Louvre') and once known as Bill Barry's Bar on the corner of West Richmond and Railroad Avenues there was a rooming house for many years. Above the Village Laundry on Washington as with many upper stories in the business district, Mr. Kenny remembers a rooming house in the thirties and forties.

These years are the times that Thomas Kenny remembers so vividly because at seventeen he left the Point to sail the seas of the world. Today he has settled very comfortably among the tree covered hills of Pinole. Does he miss the sea? Not after 35 years of sailing around the globe. Today he is contented to watch the changes in the surrounding landscape and research his family history and roots.

The Point Richmond History Association are delighted that he has shared his treasure of old photos for reproduction and placement in our archives.



Points in the Past

Articles that appeared during this month, 70, 60, 50, 40 and 30 years ago, from the *Richmond Independent* and the *Point Richmond Record*, courtesy of the *Richmond Library*.

70 YEARS AGO ...

by Deirdre Cerkanowicz

STANDARD TO BE WITHOUT POWER TOMORROW

"Tomorrow the Standard Oil company will be without the usual electric power necessary to operate certain departments of the plant. The contractors for the Cutting Boulevard job must move the pole carrying the high power lines from the Great Western Power Company's plant to the Standard Oil company. The pole stands directly in the center of the street at the corner of Canal street and while this is being moved the 'juice' must be turned off.

"The work will be done Sunday as a majority of the departments do not need power on this day."

—October 2, 1915

SIGNS OF THE TIMES: SHINGLING OF HOUSES

"Winter is approaching.

"The weather wouldn't indicate this but the report of Bert Wierda, city building inspector does. Four permits for roof repairs were issued yesterday by Wierda. "A sign of the times," said Wierda, "and while the rainy

season isn't with us yet, it is advisable to get it repaired now, eliminating the necessity of sleeping with an umbrella for a covering.

"The permits issued are Edward McDuff, building on Santa Fe avenue between Cottage and Richmond avenues; ... L. Dicely, building on Idaho between Richmond and Unavista and A.L. Pearson, Scenic avenue."

CITY HALL SAGA SETTLED ...

In 1909, John Nicholl built a city hall on Washington Avenue. In 1915, he and Mr. Wall were determined to move city hall to an area where they each owned extensive real estate. The controversy culminated with a city election ...

October 3 :

PROPOSERS OF NICHOLL SITE GATHER AT SOCIAL ...

"There was a little social gathering last night at the headquarters of the Nicholl Site Citizens' Committee on Macdonald avenue. Quite a number of ladies and gentlemen favorable to that site were present and literature bearing on the proposition was passed around. A pianola served to enliven the gathering, and there was considerable vocal music. Miss Adele Downing rendered 'I Love You, California', and Ernest Kueffer also sang. . . ."

October 12:

ANOTER (sic) MEETING

AT POINT TONIGHT . . .

"Charles H. Spear, former Harbor Commissioner, and well-known attorney and public speaker, will address a mass meeting at the old city hall at the Point tonight. Mr. Spear has interests in Richmond and thought (sic) friendliness for Mr. Nicholl and his associates volunteered to speak upon the question of the choice of a city hall site. He is well acquainted with local conditions, and being a speaker of great ability, doubtless there will be large crowd present to listen to him."

also October 12 :

WALL PRESENTS SITE TO CITY

FREE OF ENCUMBRANCE . . .

and:

NICHOLL SITE ABSOLUTELY

DEEDED TO CITY . . .

"John Nicholl executed a deed yesterday, October 11, acknowledging it before J.H.Fine, a Notary Public of Alameda, by the terms of which he absolutely deeds to the city of Richmond, thirty-four lots in the Nicholl Macdonald Civic Center Tract, for municipal purposes. (Provided the city construct its city hall there, and occupy it for a minimum of ten years).

ELECTION: OCTOBER 15

and , on

October 16:

WEST SIDE FAILS TO GIVE

WALL SUPPORT . . .

"By a majority of 529, the voters of Richmond voted to accept the offer of John Nicholl and the Burg Bros., realty interests for a city hall near Twenty Third street and Macdonald avenue. The vote totals are: For the Nicholl Burg site: 1,844; against: 1315.

"The west side which was expected to give the Wall interests a majority of 4 to 1

failed to do so, and returned Wall a majority of but 2 to 1. In the precincts in the vicinity of Twenty Third street, the vote was more than 10 to 1 in favor of the Nicholl offer.

"At 8 o'clock last night, the Wall supporters admitted defeat, the returns from the west side indicating that there was slight hope for victory.

"Yesterday's election brought out a little more than half the registered voters. Despite this fact the election was featured by many outbursts of partisan bitterness. At several precincts clashes between rival supporters were narrowly averted.

COMPLIMENTS OF

U. S. BAR

Henry Van Curen, Prop.

WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS

219 STANDARD AVE -

1908 ad, courtesy Mary Casey

CITIES ROCKED BY TWO

QUAKE (sic) LAST EVENING . . .

"Two earthquake shocks occurred last night. The first shock was felt at 9:25 o'clock and the second and more severe one at 9:35. The shocks were felt in San Francisco, Oakland and as far as Davis. In Port Costa the shock was unusually severe but no serious damage was done.

"In this city buildings were rocked and the old Southern Pacific station at Sixteenth street and Macdonald avenue nearly left its foundation.

—October 8, 1915

AUTO TRUCK RUNS AMUCK . . .

"An automobile truck driven by Pete Marchisini of San Francisco ran amuck last evening. Before the truck could be gotten under control some fifty feet of fence of the Standard Oil company just west of the end of the street car line had been wrecked. The machine was not damaged and Marchisini was not injured."—October 10, 1915

NICHOLL PLANS TO REVIVE PT. POTRERO RAIL LINES . . .

"That John Nicholl Richmond capitalist is planning to revive the old Pt. Potrero railway line, extending to Pt. Potrero to the Santa Fe line, was rumored last night. Nicholl with several engineers spent part of yesterday looking over the ground and from indications plans to start operations on the line in a very short time.

"The proposed Nicholl docks are about a mile south of the city docks, now in the course of construction. It is understood that the proposed Nicholl line will mean an outlay of more than a million dollars. From the information secured last night, several large shipping interests are interested in the deal.

—October 17, 1915

PLEASURES OF EMULATORS OF SIR NIMROD SHATTERED . . .

"Several beginners in the favorite sport of Mr. Nimrod each summer as the opening of the duck season approaches make the startling discovery that the waters and mud flats of the inner harbor are haunted by hundreds of choice mallards, canvas backs and other scarce species of ducks. . . So far, so good, unless the boat leaks. But one must go yet further to bag the several aforementioned birds, and we are nearing the climax. for this is not a game in which you can go as far as you like. One must shoot the ducks with a gun or in the instance of the novice shoot at the ducks. Alas and alack, this action is what brings the downfall of the hunter, for no sooner has the reverberating boom of the shot-gun boomed than the raucous voice of Game Warden Harry Lauritzen also booms across the waters and muds, 'Hey you out there. Nix on the shooting. Don't you know you are in the city limits of Richmond?' "

"Yep. Richmond is a big city."

—October 17, 1915

RICHMOND 'LIT UP' TONIGHT . . .

"In honor of Thomas Edison, the City Council last night issued a proclamation that all Richmonders keep their lights lighted from 7 o'clock to 9 o'clock tonight. Everyone is requested to leave the curtains down or up, as the case may be, in order that the people on the outside may see the illuminations.

". . . All of the business houses have agreed to do this. . . and practically every city in the United States, the same conditions will prevail.

"Edison has given to the world a great gift,' said Councilman Lane last night, 'and it is only fitting that we should pay this tribute to his great genius.' "

—October 18, 1915

BAY MUD USED TO RISE ABOVE THE MARSH . . .

"With the culmination of the winter season, H.C. Cutting, local contractor, will begin operations on one of the largest development projects of the year. These plans include the grading of fourteen streets laying of sewers . . . The streets are: Oil, Wine, Washoe, Central, Esmeralda, Nye, Canal, Shoshone, Market, Commercial, Averill, Chesson, Wernse and First. The streets are all located in the marsh land just north of Cutting boulevard between the east side of the city. With the exception of Oil street, which has been raised by rock from the recent work on the new municipal tunnel, all of the streets will be built up from mud from the bay.

". . . 'Dykes' will be erected along the sides of the proposed streets and the silt will be pumped in and allowed to become firm.

"It is probable that many property owners along the route will have their property raised at the same time.

"Work will commence in the spring of 1916. The project will mean an outlay of many thousands of dollars and will mean the development of that section of the city which is now with a few exceptions marsh land."

—October 19, 1915

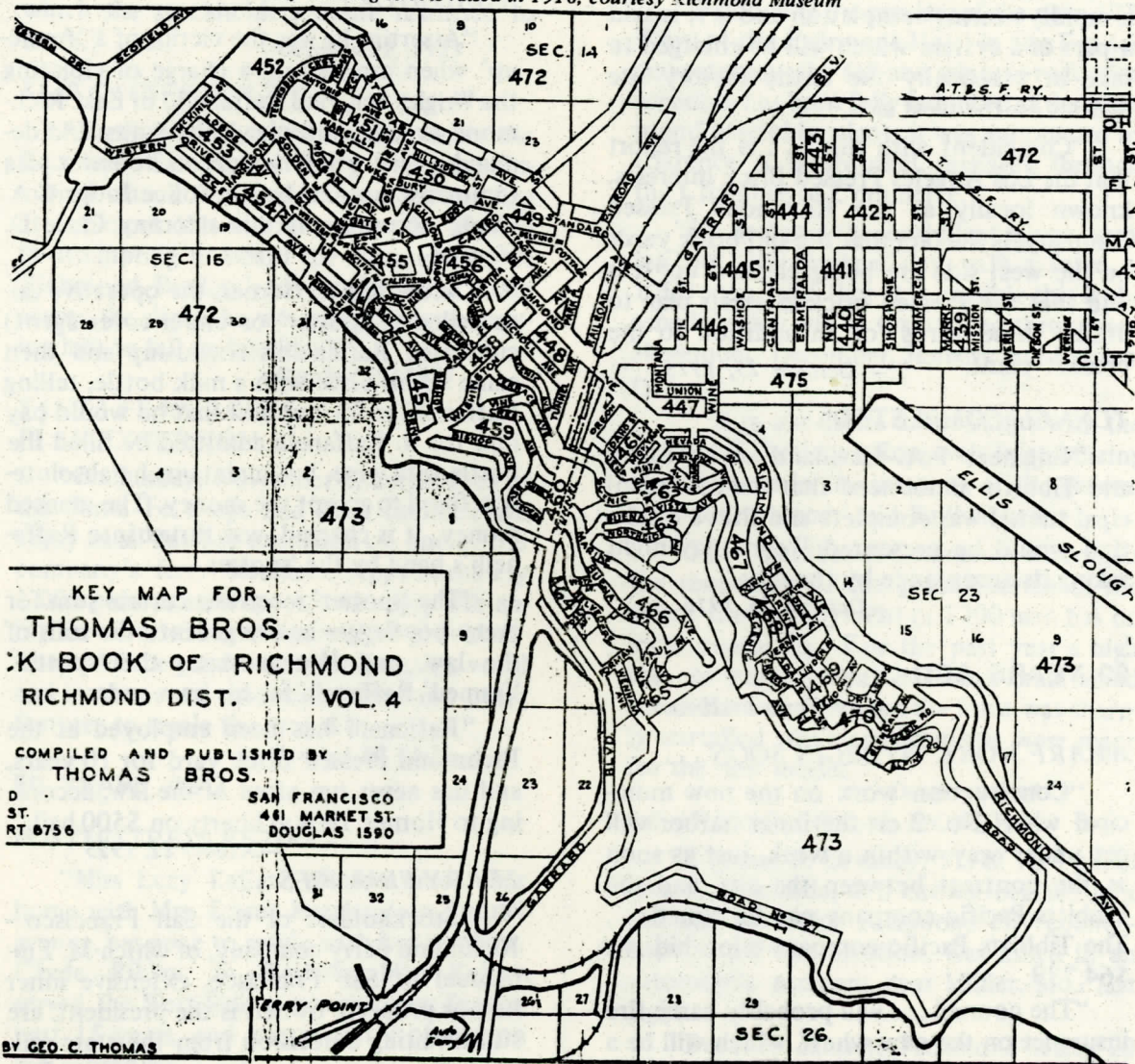
map —

For
TOYS, NOVELTIES, STATION-
ERY, MAGAZINES, CIGARS,
TOBACCO, ETC.
go to

Andrews
News Agency
36 Washington Avenue

ad from 1922, courtesy Thomas Kenny

Map showing streets raised in 1916, courtesy Richmond Museum



UNUSUAL ACTIVITY ON WEST SIDE MAY MEAN NEW PLANTS . . .

"With the announcement of the intention of John Nicholl to complete the abandoned work on the proposed Point Potrero line, comes rumors of the investment of a huge sum of money in new factory sites on the west side. The spur track connecting the Los Angeles Pressed Brick works and the Nicholl properties with the Santa Fe line is rapidly nearing completion and is it is said a part of a system which will be enlarged to take in practically the entire factory site district on the west side.

"Coincident with this . . . is the report that the Los Angeles Pressed Brick interests, known locally as the Richmond Pressed company, is the fact that the old brick yards on the west side are being cleaned up. It is said that the Pressed brick interests plan to utilize these yards for an addition to the present plant." — October 25, 1915

TUNNEL COMPLETED . . .

"Engineer P.A. Havilland of Havilland and Tibbitts announced that the new municipal tunnel was complete and that a resolution would be presented Wednesday night asking its acceptance by the city."

—October 26, 1915

60 YEARS AGO . . .

—by Teresa Albro

WHARF WORK TO BEGIN SOON . . .

"Construction work on the new municipal wharf No. 2 on the inner harbor will get under way within a week, just as soon as the contract between the city and the Tibbitts Pacific company can be signed . . . The Tibbitts Pacific company's low bid was \$64,779.

"The council . . . will probably carry fire insurance on the new wharf, which will be a wooden structure. No fire insurance is car-

ried on municipal wharf No. 1 as the rates are prohibitive, it was said."

—October 14, 1925

BASEBALL TRIVIA . . .

"The Pittsburgh Pirates won the world's baseball championship today, defeating the Washington Senators in the seventh and deciding game of the 1925 series, 9 to 7."

—October 15, 1925

A SAD STORY . . .

"Asserting he was the victim of a 'frame-up' when arrested on a charge of violating the Wright Act, Paul Raffanelli, of East Richmond avenue, will plead not guilty and demand a trial when he appears to enter plea tomorrow morning before Police Judge C.A. Odell, according to his attorney Clare D. Horner.

"According to Horner, the operative (also called a 'spotter' or under-cover agent) cultivated Raffanelli's friendship and then came to his place with a milk bottle, telling Raffanelli to fill it up and that he would pay him for it. Raffanelli admitted he filled the bottle with wine, but maintains he absolutely refused to accept the money. The marked money, it is charged, was thrust into Raffanelli's hand by the 'spotter'.

"The 'spotter' receives a certain sum for every bootlegger he can get into the toils of the law, and Horner states the 'spotter' 'framed' Raffanelli for his own ends.

"Raffanelli has been employed at the Richmond Pressed Brick yard for 10 years, and has never run afoul of the law, according to Horner. He is at liberty on \$500 bail."

—October 22, 1925

FERRY FINANCES . . .

"Stockholders of the San Francisco - Richmond Ferry company, of which M. Emmanuel of San Francisco, extensive inner harbor property owner, is the president, are still awaiting a decision from the state railroad commission on the petition of Em-

manuel for a rehearing of the commission's order for the return of moneys collected for stock, according to DeLancey Smith, San Francisco attorney, who represents a group of stockholders headed by O.R. Ludwig of Richmond."

"The stockholders contend that the ferry company has failed in five years to complete its financing and that it is unable to operate. About \$60,000 is impounded which the stockholders desire returned to them."

—October 22, 1925

SLIP CAUSES INJURY . . .

"Harry Bradley, night watchman for the Richmond-San Rafael Ferry company incurred what is believed to be a broken hip at 3 o'clock this morning when he slipped in attempting to board the steamer City of Richmond. Bradley's toe caught in the chain across the slip as he was going aboard, causing him to fall on his side."

—October 25, 1925

SANTA FE WORKERS PLAN EXCURSION . . .

"On Sunday, November 8, employees of the Santa Fe shops and their families will enjoy an all-day bay excursion on one of the company's ferry steamers. Approximately 1,000 persons are expected to enjoy the enjoyment the entertainment that will be provided. There will be good music for dancing, vocal and instrumental numbers, stunts and other features to regale the crowd."

—October 28, 1925

50 YEARS AGO . . .

POSTMISTRESS RETIRES . . .

"Miss Lucy Kellam, who has made her home with Mrs. Emma Howland on Tunnel avenue, has gone to reside with her nephew, Clyde Ribley, in Berkeley. Miss Kellam served the West Side as postmistress for the past 15 years, and was recently placed on the retired list."

—October 4, 1935

BASE BALL TRIVIA . . .

"The Detroit Tigers won the baseball championship of the world today — the first in all their long history — when they defeated the Chicago Cubs, 4 to 3, in the sixth game of the 1935 world series."

—October 7, 1935

FORD ANNOUNCES EMPLOYMENT SCHEDULE . . .

"Following the preview of the new 1936 Ford at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco yesterday, the fall and winter production schedule has been fully launched at the Richmond assembly plant, it was announced by Clarence A. Bullwinkel, manager, through the Chamber of Commerce.

"He declared the local plant is now turning out 200 units a day with a force of 1200 men, and that it is possible this is the schedule that will be maintained throughout November, December, January and February.

"It is our desire to act in line with the wishes of President Roosevelt in stabilizing employment in the interests of the general community good," said Bullwinkel.

"The Chamber of Commerce welcomed the reopening of the plant because of the effect the employment of 1200 men has on local prosperity. For the past year a high rate of employment has been maintained there. Several weeks ago the force was sharply curtailed while arrangements were made for the new model."

—October 16, 1935

DEATH OF LOCAL PIONEER

"Thomas P. Devaney, 51, of 10 Tunnel avenue, West Side, well known local resident and candidate for Richmond city councilman at the last election, was killed in an automobile accident near Millier, Mo., last night.

"Devaney came to Richmond nearly 20 years ago from Chicago and for 15 years

worked (as an electrical engineer) in the Pullman shops here.

"He was a member of Our Lady of Mercy church, West Side, and always took an active part in all church functions.

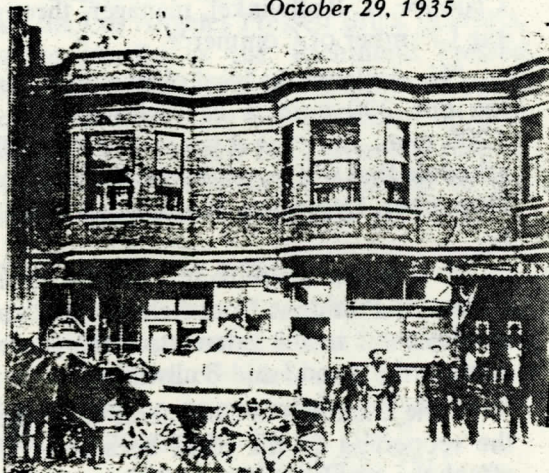
"For many years he roomed at the home of Mrs. Isabel M. Fowler at the Tunnel avenue address."

—October 18, 1935

ANOTHER PAPER STREET?

"The city (has) purchased two lots on the West Side from Fred Foster for \$160 to permit opening of a new street connecting Bishop avenue and Western Drive."

—October 29, 1935



Picture of the Central Saloon Building, with staff, and a truck with mud-encrusted tires from the unpaved streets... Thomas Kenny photo

40 YEARS AGO ...

by Sarah Eeles

POINT'S FIRST SCHOOL - OPENED MARCH, 1901 ...

"The first school at Point Richmond was opened in the basement of the Methodist Church on March 1, 1901. There were 87 children in nine grades with one teacher, these being seated three in a seat with a bench in front to work on. A portable blackboard was used.

"In the fall of the same year, this group moved to the first school building located on Standard avenue. It contained two rooms, one for the lower grades, the other for those more advanced. Two children sat in one seat, and the schoolroom was heated with a coal stove in which a fire had been built early in the morning by one of the older boys or the teacher.

"The population at the Point was steadily increasing so it was necessary to build an eight-room school in 1904 across from the first building. This is still standing and is now used as an apartment.

"The large Washington school was built in 1912 near (the present) Richmond Natatorium, only to be succeeded on November 1, 1941, by the present building originally constructed with seven rooms. Three additional rooms were added in 1943 and two more in 1945, making a modern plant of 12 rooms on one level. Mrs. Dorothy Wilkerson is the principal who directs a staff of 24 teachers to care for an enrollment of 1,020 students. Outstanding was the achievement of the school last year in selling \$16,213.50 worth of stamps and bonds in the weekly stamp sale."

—October 4, 1945

ATHLETIC CLUB ORGANIZED BY POINT RICHMOND BOYS ...

"Point Richmond has completed the first steps in the organization of a Pt. Richmond Boys' Club which plans to organize teams to compete in all kinds of sports. The club is being organized under the direction of Lt. John Kinstrey of the Richmond police department."

—October 10, 1945

8,000 ATTEND BIG S.O. PICNIC ...

"They came early. They stayed late. And everybody, from the youngest youngster to the oldest old time, left no doubt in the minds of anyone that the affair was a success.

"It was the Frontier Day Standard Oil Company employees picnic."

—October 1, 1945

TANKER AGROUND HERE ...

"A new Maritime Commission tanker, the SS Lost Hill, is aground on Southampton Shoals, west of Point Isabelle ... The vessel grounded early this morning. The tanker was launched at the Marin shipyards recently."

—October 4, 1945

COLOR TELEVISION JUST AROUND THE CORNER ...

"... samples of the first receiver sets will be available by the end of January. Television pictures in color were sent successfully last Wednesday from one New York skyscraper to another."

—October 13, 1945

30 YEARS AGO ...

75 CENT TOLL SET ON RICHMOND BRIDGE ...

"It will cost 75 cents to cross the Richmond-San Rafael bridge when it is completed next year. A 50-trip commute book will cost \$18.75 or 37½ cents a trip."

—October 5, 1955

THIS IS THE LIFE ...

"The US Army (Point Richmond variety) could well be listed as a therapy center for rugged individualists."

"Here, the GI finds himself bunking with one other man in a large apartment complete with adequate closets, a kitchen sink and a bathroom with shower."

"He's encouraged to decorate his own quarters, including the color scheme, and any olive drab is his own doing."

"... the primary duty of the battalion is to man the 90 mm anti-aircraft guns atop the Point Richmond hills. ... 100-hour work weeks aren't uncommon. And the scenic

spot can become pretty dreary when the cold ocean breeze starts whipping up a thick batch of fog. The duty requires constant vigilance so a maximum of informality is enjoyed the rest of the time."

—October 12, 1955

REFINERY PHONE LINE SEVERED ...

"A contractor working on the approach to the Richmond-San Rafael bridge today accidentally severed a telephone cable leading into Standard Oil refinery, cutting off communications to approximately 120 phone services."

—October 13, 1955

SANTA FE TO HOST OAKLAND TEACHERS ...

"Santa Fe Railway will host 30 school teachers during Oakland's third annual Business-Education Day tomorrow."

"The teachers will inspect the transcontinental streamliner the San Francisco Chief, visit Richmond Ferry Point where they will have an opportunity to witness operation of the Railway's tug and barge facility and its fleet of modern radar-equipped tugs. ..."

—October 25, 1955

DIRECT FROM N.Y.

RAY VERNE ON THE **KEYBOARD**

WED. TO SUN.

HOTEL MAC

"WHERE GOURMETS GATHER"

COMPLETE STEAK DINNER

\$2.00

Hours: 5 to 10 p.m. Daily!
10 to 1 a.m. A La Carte
Sunday: 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.
SMORGASBORD
No. 50 Washington,
Pt. Richmond

Ad from a 1955 newspaper

20 YEARS AGO . . .

by Pam Wilson

Real Estate Ad —

PT. RICHMOND

Panoramic view apartments
In secluded, artistic old Pt. Richmond. Elegant
new one and two bedroom apartments.

Private balconies
all electric kitchen
spacious wardrobes
wall-to-wall carpets, drapes
soundproof construction

from \$120 to \$175

430 Golden Gate Avenue

—October 4, 1965

BACK TO SCHOOL . . .

“Washington School . . . publisher’s representative William Seeds will discuss the pilot program in reading which is being conducted . . . The program, which is limited to the primary grades, stresses independence in reading.”

—October 5, 1965

JOURNALISTS’ REFINERY TOUR . . .

“Yesterday the Standard Oil Co. of California’s new multi-million dollar alpha olefin plant, under construction for several years, went ‘on stream’. To mark the occasion Standard arranged a press tour for Bay Area newspapermen and trade journal writers, and for their comfort they chartered a luxurious Gray Line sightseeing bus.

“Slight hitch!

“Also yesterday pickets showed up at the gates of the refinery because the Boilermakers’ Union had a dispute with a construction firm working inside.

“The Gray Line bus driver had his doubts. He was a paid-up member of the Teamsters Union . . . So the tour was delayed pending a conference and considerable telephoning to various union headquarters. It was finally agreed to let the bus proceed . . . Anyway, most of the newspapermen present think a boiler is something their wives use to cook beans.”

—October 6, 1965

10 YEARS AGO . . .

DIRECT CHANNEL TO HARBOR HITS STIFF OPPOSITION . . .

“The city’s proposal for a direct 40-foot deep channel into Richmond Harbor is being opposed by a diverse list of organizations, including Standard Oil Company, the Bay Pilots Association and several conservation groups.

“These organizations expressed their support for increasing the depth of the present channel configuration. . . Thomas R. Eddy, the city’s port director, said the direct route would be safer than the existing path because it would eliminate sharp turns.

“Opponents of the plan, including the Bay Pilots Association, strongly disagreed on the safety issue because of tidal problems that would exist if a new direct channel is cut through the Southampton sand shoal.

“ . . . Eddy said he did not believe the cut through the shoal would create any long-term impact.

“‘Our dredging studies indicate the dredging is not always that disturbing,’ he said.

“The Corps study did indicate the direct channel alternative would create silting problems that would significantly increase the maintenance costs. This increase, as well as the initial greater expense of dredging a new channel, creates a much less positive cost-benefit ratio for the plan.

“Eddy acknowledged the lower cost-benefit ratio of the city’s preferred alternative but said he believed the benefits could increase as the port grows because of the quicker, direct channel access.”

—October 1, 1975

GOLDEN DAYS FOR RICHMOND . . .

“ ‘This is the story of a hayfield that became an All American City. This is a story of progress — the story of Richmond, Calif.’

“That is the beginning of an article in

the September issue of the Santa Fe Magazine, which is published for Santa Fe Railway employees throughout the nation.

"The article, 'Golden Days for Richmond', recalls another article in the magazine published in September 1955, when Richmond was celebrating its 50th anniversary as a city. It told about Richmond's civic center, one of the most modern in the country when it was built in 1951, and the dedication of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, which took place in 1955.

"This summer, of course, Richmond celebrated its 70th anniversary. And again there were new building projects to dedicate, including the downtown Social Security Administration center, the Bulk Mail facility at Point Isabel, and the Hilltop Shopping Center."

—October 1, 1975

GEORGE BARNES at THE POINT . . .

"Nostalgia recycled by one of the world's greatest guitar players proved quite an attraction last Sunday at The Point, 32 Washington Ave.

"So much so, in fact, that the whole thing will be done again this coming Sunday from 5 to 9 at the Point Richmond bar.

"The center of interest is George Barnes, the 54-year-old guitar wizard who has been a household word to jazz buffs for nearly 40 years.

"His most recent partnership with Braff produced five memorable record albums, two of which were produced by Concord Summer Festival Director Carl Jefferson, who was in the front row for George's debut at The Point."

—October 9, 1975

COMPLIMENTS OF

STANDARD HOTEL

541 Standard Ave. Point Richmond

1908 ad, courtesy Mary Casey

A-MID TRIVIA

by Mid Dornan (234-5334)

Back-to-School night is a good time for parents to begin a good habit — meeting regularly with teachers to discuss their children's academic progress. Teachers can't do it alone — they need help and support from parents.

-O-

Who among you recalls the 'outhouse' — and maybe having tipped one over as a Halloween prank?

-O-

If you long for a real home style chicken dinner, stop by the Odd Fellows Hall at 117 West Richmond Avenue on Thursday, October 3 from 5 to 7:00. Presented by the Zephyr Rebekah Lodge, the complete dinner is only \$4.00. Everyone is welcome — and it's a real bargain.

-O-

A recent visitor to the Point was June Hein, who was the houseguest of Grethe Tedrick. A former Point resident now living in Colorado Springs, Colorado, June laments the fact that she no longer has a home on Tremont Street. We miss her musical talents here, too.

-O-

Ever try aspirin for dandruff? The 'aspirin cure' involves dissolving 10 tablets in a half cup of hot water (more for long hair). After cooling, massage the mixture into the scalp, wrap your head in a towel, and wait 20 minutes before you rinse it out. Could be a cure for dandruff and headache at the same time. . .

-O-

Special birthday greetings to Gust Allyn, who is now 91. Founder of Allyn's Men's Shop, now run by his youngest son, Henry, Gust served as a city councilman and later as Richmond's Postmaster besides belonging to innumerable service organizations. Gust is now in Church Lane Convalescent Home.

Bob Maske will be escorting his daughter April down the aisle of the First Baptist Church in Garden Grove, California on November 2, as she becomes the bride of Tim Neumann.

-o-

With the resignation of Fred Hart as Scoutmaster of Troop 111, parents met to reorganize and plan for the continuing of the troop. Volunteering to assume the leadership as Scoutmaster was Daniel Stallworth.

Increased responsibilities outside the troop forced Fred's resignation. He took over as Scoutmaster when his Scoutmaster, Bob Dorman, died in 1981. Fred is a former Eagle Scout from this troop, and will continue to be available for scout activities. The troop plans to honor him at a family dinner at the Methodist church in November.

-o-

Barbara Gray from Santa Ana has been visiting her sister Rhoda Ayers on Golden Gate Avenue, filling every day with adventures around the Bay. She must be a good houseguest, because the only controversy between her and her sister is that Rhoda insists she stay longer than planned.

-o-

Arriving for choir practice at the Methodist Church, Jean and Norm Reynolds were confronted with a Friendship Hall filled with members waiting beside a crib overflowing with baby gifts. Attending the surprise shower were Amy Rotting, Jean Eakles, Nona Howe, Jean Creed, Mid Dornan, Dagmar Francis, Christine Dennis, Betty and Trannie Dorman, JoAnn Bray, Helen Valentine, Kathy, Casie, Stacy and Charles Smith, Marian Hawkins, Susan Armstrong and Oretta Eaton. The baby is expected before the next edition of 'This Point . . . '.

-o-

One of the greater pleasures is doing something nice for a friend in secret (and having it discovered by accident).

-o-

Of interest to old Point Richmonders is the news of the combined family celebration of the 85th birthday of Goldy Shrewsbury and the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Albert and Hortense McGee. Both Goldy and Hortense are daughters of the late Sydney H. and Elizabeth F. Gnaga, pioneer residents of the Point. The party also served as a belated housewarming for the McGees in their new Vallejo abode.

-o-

Busy, busy fingers, needles and scissors are preparing for the *Annual Country Faire* on Friday, October 25, at the First Methodist Church at Martina Street and West Richmond Avenue.

The popular luncheon will be served from 12 to 1:30, and they prefer reservations. This event is a special social day as well as a fund raiser. Many former members and former Point residents return to visit with old friends.

A special bake sale, as well as aprons, boutique and Christmas items will be on sale, as well as a 'weather rock'....

For luncheon reservations call 234-0780 (Oretta Eaton), or 233-7339 (Kathy Smith).

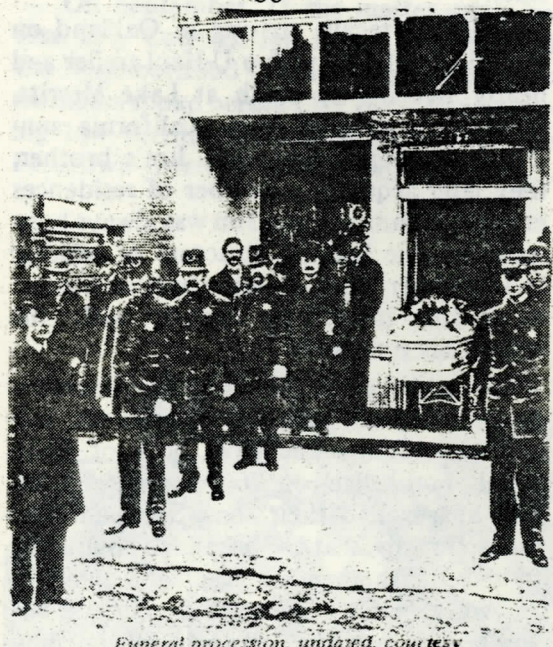
-o-

Genevieve Smith has returned to her home after spending too much time at Alameda Hospital. Mother of the Rev. Charles Smith, Genevieve has been missed, especially by the neighborhood kids who 'just happen to be around' for all the cookies she makes.

-o-

Knowing that the Planning Commission and City Council listen to neighborhood residents when a variance looms is comforting. A request for a variance that would close Morgan at Tewksbury had been denied by the Planning Commission, appealed to the City Council who also denied the request, in response to those who live in the area a would be affected by it. Such responsiveness is greatly appreciated.

DEATHS — G.Wayne Thompson died in an Oakland hospital in September, at the age of 79. Mr. Thompson was a charter member and past president of the Point Richmond Civic Group. He had been in the construction business, and was a building inspector for the Fairfield School District. He and his wife Margaret had lived in El Cerrito since 1970.



Funeral procession, undated, courtesy Thomas Kenny

LETTERS

Enclosed is my check for renewal of "This Point". I enjoy it very much as it takes me back to the year of 1906 when we lived at the Point. My father had his bakery at 1 Park Place. I'm sorry I had to cut the renewal form out of the little book because I like to keep them intact.

Sincerely,

Louise (Heinrick) Rogers

NOTE: We have had other comments about having to cut the form out of the newsletter — If you wish, just send the same information, on a piece of paper, and send that instead.

JIM SPILMAN

by Shirley Butt

Point Richmond lost a very special person on the third of September, 1985. Jim Spilman died at Doctor's Hospital in Pinole following a fall when his extension ladder slipped as he was repairing a gutter on the duplex next door to his residence at 70 Scenic Avenue. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Jim's special gift, which he shared cheerfully with anyone who asked, was a willingness to try to fix anything that needed fixing and help anyone who needed helping. Although he retired from Standard Oil in 1969 at the age of 65, he had continued to work harder than most of us, quietly playing the role of Good Samaritan to anyone who might need the use of his truck, his expertise, or his strong hands and back. His agility and stamina were that of someone much younger than his eighty-one years.

Jim and Virginia Spilman, who celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary only last January, first settled in Richmond in 1956. Prior to that time, they had lived and farmed in Missouri and in Texas, where they both were raised. Jim, the middle child in a family with nine sons, grew up on a farm, where he first developed the aptitude for 'fixing things'.

Virginia recalls glowingly their first encounter. She was nineteen and left her home in Childress, Texas, which she describes as "below the capped rock" or down below the Texas plains, to go and help her sister, who was awaiting the birth of a baby in Rock Creek, up on the plains. It happened that her sister Ethel, seventeen months older than Virginia, was married to Jim's brother who was seventeen months younger than Jim. According to Virginia, "Jim just walked in one day, and I never wanted him to walk out again. Once I saw Jim, there

was never anyone else!"

Jim, a dapper young bachelor of thirty, evidently felt likewise. After first meeting in September, 1934, they were married January 14, 1935. Their love and devotion to each other fifty years later were beautifully evident and inspirational to all who have had the privilege of knowing them as friends and neighbors. Virginia says she knew right from first sight that Jim was a "very special person", but the same description also applies to her. Both of them have truly 'lived thier faith' rather than preaching it, and young and old alike have been drawn to them by their genuinely caring, giving natures.

During the early years of their marriage, they lived in a two-room rock house which Jim built, with a tin roof and concrete floor, in Rock Creek. He also built his own windmill and dug a well by hand, giving Virginia early cause for anxiety. When he struck rock, he would set and light a stick of dynamite with a long fuse at the bottom of the well and scramble up a flimsy ladder to get out of the way before the fuse burned down. Then as later, he displayed great agility and little fear of danger.

Having farmed wheat and cattle in various locations in Texas, they subsequently moved to Bolivar, Missouri, where they raised cucumbers to sell to the local canning plant. This was "dry land farming" on a rocky farm, and the onslaught of a drought essentially put them out of business.

When farming became impossible, Jim took off for California, to help remodel the home of another brother who worked for Standard Oil. Soon after that, he wrote Virginia telling her to sell the farm equipment and pack up their three teen-aged children to move to Richmond, where he had been offered a job with Standard Oil. At that point, he was already in his fifties, past the

age of most hirees, but he began work as a janitor on the night shift at the Richmond Refinery. In spite of an education including two years of college in Lubbock, Texas, Jim considered no job menial and seemed to take pleasure in work itself. Later, he moved on to become toolroom clerk and machinist's helper and was able to switch to day shift.

Virginia recalls arriving in Oakland on the Fourth of July with a U-Haul trailer and nearly freezing to death at Lake Merritt, when she expected warm California sunshine. Staying at first with Jim's brother, they later acquired a number of residences in Point Richmond, and Jim was always busy restoring one historic structure or another to its former glory, doing whatever needed to be done himself or, recently, with the help of his grandsons.

In addition to Virginia, Jim leaves a daughter, Mazie, who lives in Fremont, and two sons, James and Don, both of Richmond. James lives on 26th Street with his wife Sharon and their sons, Scott and Stephen. Don lives at 64 Scenic Avenue with his wife Judith, their son Jason and a daughter Amee, while their other daughter Bonnee Young lives at Ford Ord with her husband Ron and their two young children Crystle and Cole.

For many friends, young and old, it is difficult to realize that we can no longer expect to see Jim's friendly wave and exchange pleasantries with him as we encounter him at one task or another. His death leaves an ache and a void which no one else can ever quite fill, but his life serves as a model to those who were fortunate enough to share it.

As a memorial for Jim, funds will be accepted to place his name in bronze on the Indian Statue base. You may call Shirley Butt (236-7435) if you would like to contribute to the fund.

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

by Alexandra A. Gautraud

FROGTOWN...

A major concern of the Neighborhood Council has been Frogtown, the segment of land bounded by Cutting Blvd., Wine Street and Canal Blvd.

On September 23 the matter came before City Council. Jan Lyons, President of the Neighborhood Council, and community members spoke before City Council requesting low density residential zoning for the Frogtown portion of the parcel. Barbara

Johnson and Ron Anderson of Wellspring Properties spoke in favor of medium density residential zoning.

By a unanimous vote the City Council placed a control district zoning of medium density residential (CD-RMD) on the Frogtown portion of this Santa Fe parcel. The lower portion of the parcel will be set aside for commercial and industrial use.

Wellspring Properties at 125 West Richmond Ave. have developed some very tentative plans for the CD-RMD portion of this property.

A landscape architect firm drew up these early plans that include single family



*Standard Oil crew, standing inside a tank.
Courtesy, Thomas Kenny*

homes and condominiums. A green marina area is designed for the central portion of the development with plans for trees and shrubs throughout the property. Slot parking is provided under the housing units with additional parallel parking along the access roads.

Wellspring Properties hopes to make a presentation at the Neighborhood Council's Winter or Spring Quarterly meeting.

AD HOC ZONING COMMITTEE . . .

An Ad Hoc committee to study all zoning designations in Point Richmond has now been formed, with Alan Romano as chairman. If you are interested in joining this group, please call Alan at 235-4130.

INDIAN STATUE PARK . . .

Plans for the Indian Statue Park were unveiled September 28 at the Indian Statue Day Festival. The park is expected to be completed in time for next year's festival. The Neighborhood Council has sent a letter to the Park and Recreation Department of Richmond urging them to apply for State matching grants for the park and for work needed on the Plunge.

UNDERGROUNDING UTILITIES . . .

Through the Neighborhood Council Point Richmond was the first group to request undergrounding of utilities. However, the big push is on to improve the image of Cutting Boulevard. Cutting will most likely be the first area to benefit from the money set aside for undergrounding utilities.

TISCORNIA-SHEEHAN BOWL

During the moratorium on this piece of property bounded by Western Drive, Pacific Avenue and Tremont, studies continue on the best placement of housing and the development of open space. The committee has developed seven plans to date. Lucretia Edwards is the Neighborhood Council rep-

resentative on this committee. Their meetings are open to the public and anyone interested in this property development is welcome to attend. Lucretia Edwards has copies of the seven plans and can be reached at 232-3118.

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP . . .

If your part of the community is interested in having a group of workers to clean up the roadside, there is help available through the city hall. Groups of workers on alternative sentencing are organized into weekend work groups through the city manager's office. Leveron Bryant is in charge of these groups. He will need one month's notice and the Public Works Department will supply the necessary tools. The city manager's phone number is 620-6512.

STREET VACATIONS . . .

The Neighborhood Council has taken a general stand in opposition to the vacation of streets by the city council and planning commission. During recent meetings of both these bodies, two street vacations were considered - Morgan and Harrison Streets.

On Monday, September 23, the Neighborhood Council and community members argued successfully before the city council to prevent the vacation of Harrison Street. The vote was unanimous to retain this street for future access between Ocean and Western.

On October 21 the City Council will conduct a public hearing at 8:00 p.m. in council chambers on the vacation of Morgan Street west of Marine Street. If you live in this area and are concerned about this issue, please join your Neighborhood Council representatives at this public hearing.

*QUARTERLY MEETING -
Thursday, October 10, 1985
at 8:00 p.m.
in the Point Richmond
Community Center*

FOURTH ANNUAL COLLECTORS' TREASURE FAIR AND RAFFLE

The Richmond Museum, a non-profit corporation, with its co-sponsor the Richmond Recreation and Parks Department, is preparing to hold the fourth Annual Collectors' Fair and Raffle on Saturday, November 9, and Sunday, November 10.

Donations are needed! This sale will be a major fund raising event of the year with proceeds from the sale going to support future programs at the museum.

White elephants for the sale are being collected now and all donations are tax deductible. No clothes please. Call the museum at 235-7387 for drop off locations.

The Museum is located at Fourth and Nevin, and is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 4:00 p.m. The main exhibit area offers comprehensive displays pertaining to Richmond history.

1910 'Briefs' ... by Jerry Cerkowicz

FIRE HALL BEING COMPLETED

"A bid was received from A.W. Josselyn for constructing walks and steps around and connecting with the new fire house on Park Place for \$89. Bid for same from S.F. Jenkins for \$156. (Matter referred to building committee with power to act.)

(September 27) "Contractor A.W. Josselyn had the work of laying the new sidewalks and approaches to the side and main doors of the new fire house on Park Place nearly completed last night, and the building is about ready for occupancy by the fire company and by the police department, which will hereafter be located at the building. The members of No. 1 will hold a big house-warming when they move into the elegant new quarters."

LANDMARK REMOVED — JUST IN TIME

When Stephen Burman was told by John Dancy that Trannie Dornan wanted to have the old sign above her door at the Richmond Supply Company on West Richmond removed, Steve immediately contacted Bill Judkins, and the two managed to get the large sign down.

The Blue and white "Lowe Brothers Paint" sign had been on the shop for a long time, and was becoming more of a hazard than a help to Mrs. Dornan. And the rust-encrusted 'Richmond Supply Company' sign hanging below it, though almost unnoticed, was holding on so tenuously that it came loose with the removal of one bolt.

Parts of the neon sign and the transformers inside it were retrieved intact, and Mrs. Dornan is wondering what to do with them — perhaps someone will have a good idea, or maybe the Richmond Museum will be interested in them.

In any case, thanks to Steve and Bill's prompt action, the sign is no longer a concern.

COLONIAL HOTEL

Board and Room

50 Washington Ave.

Point Richmond

Phone 249

Phone 834J

THE CARROLL

Modern 2 and 3-room apartments
Private Bath, Hot and Cold Water

Reasonable Rates

MRS. E. WILLIAMS, Prop.

ads from 1922, courtesy
Thomas Kenny

REPORT FROM WASHINGTON PTA

by Omera Johnson

This year Nancy Grimm and Carol Valjejo are sharing presidential responsibilities; Georgia Haley and principal Nino Petroni are first and second vice presidents; Linda Drake is treasurer, and Omera Johnson recording secretary.

The *second* Tuesday of each month will be Washington School PTA's regular meeting day. PTA membership is not limited to parents and teachers. We encourage and appreciate community support and participation.

If you would like to be a member of one of the best, hardest working organizations, see or call Georgia Haley. Memberships or any purchase (by check) from the PTA — or donations — are tax deductible.

We are working very hard this year to purchase a VCR camera for the school, which can be a great learning aid as well as lots of fun for the students.

October will be an active month. At our meeting Tuesday, October 8, at 7:30 p.m., Judy Jarvis, candidate for School Board, will speak on school closures. Later in the month we are hoping to have a Halloween festival, as well as the annual, ever popular Halloween Parade through the Point Richmond streets.

We are looking forward to seeing you there, and at all our functions.

M. Diamantini

Dry Goods, Shoes, Notions,
Men's Furnishings,
Cigars and Tobacco
14 West Richmond Ave.
Point Richmond, Calif.
Phone Richmond 1431

H. W. Pulse

C. H. Pulse

Pulse Bros. Quality Grocers

Phone Richmond 135
205 West Richmond Avenue
Richmond, Calif.

1922 ad, courtesy Thomas Kenny

CHURCHES

FIRST METHODIST

CHURCH by Mid Dornan

Sunday School has resumed at the First Methodist Church after a summer recess. Teachers and students are already in gear for a good year ahead. Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m.

Everyone is welcomed at the Annual Country Faire on Friday, October 25. If you come to the luncheon from 12 to 1:30, please make reservations by calling 234-0780 or 233-7339. The bake sale, boutique and Christmas items will be on sale during the afternoon. Plan to come!

-O-

OUR LADY OF MERCY

CATHOLIC CHURCH . by Marion Downey

The School of Religion will begin October 20 at 2:30 p.m. Mrs. Ellie Strauss is the coordinator, and Mr. Allan Smith will teach the older children on Saturday morning.

-O-

Recently married were Alfred Roth and Joanne Bacci; John Adolphson and Gina U'Ren; Gregory Miles and Charmagne Aman-tite; Rachid Rahmani and Renee DeArmand; and Armando Orozco and Josephine Calvan. Recently baptized was Scott Allan Scofield, son of Scott and Corrine Scofield.

-O-

During September, Father Denis Araujo attended the annual Retreat for Clergy of the Alameda Diocese.

-O-

Donations of coffee pots, tea kettles and thirty sets of silver were made to the church kitchen by Dolores and George Hamamoto and daughter Georgette Austria. Lumber for restoring our storeroom which had been gutted by fire was donated by Channel Lumber Compnay, Mike DeSimoni, owner. The grocery fund (163 bags were given to

needy families) was given \$100 by the Napier Company, employers of the wife of the late Mike Logan, killed in a motorcycle accident at the age of 23.

Proceeds from the August barbecue at our church were about \$4,000, thanks to all who worked and contributed. A special thanks to Pina Barbieri who contributed the steaks.

Winners in the raffle held recently were Bob Loza, Louise Novarini, Art Meneghelli, Alice Buckingham and Dean Smith.

-O-

POINT ART GUILD

Plans are being made for a winter show, so now is the time to join the group if you are an interested artist. Please call 235-4222 or 235-1547 for more information about the group, which formed earlier this year.

The next meeting of the group will be Wednesday, October 16 at 7:30 p.m. at 212 Bishop Alley.

1910 'Briefs' . . . by Jerry Cerkanowicz

"Some peddlers with a two-horse load of fruit and vegetables became stalled last evening at the corner of Nicholl and Santa Fe avenues and disposed of their load at any old price, as the horses could go no further. The people of that section received bargains and they stocked up heavily."

GOAT KEEPING AIRED IN LOCAL COURT

"The Jenkins goat case was called up for trial yesterday morning. . . and continued until Friday. Mr. Jenkins and his counsel, James M. Burke, were present and demanded a jury trial, and, of course this was granted by the court. It is expected that when this case is tried the public will be greatly enlightened on the subject of goat culture.

"Mr. Jenkins believes that he is being discriminated against in this matter, while the Health Commissioner of the city maintains that he seeks simply to abate a nuisance, after many complaints from people who live near the Jenkins home on Richmond avenue."

WEST SIDE LIBRARY

by Jan Burdick

For those of you who like to browse through and/or purchase second hand books, hopefully you didn't miss the big book sale at the Main Library. This is an annual event, but a lesser number of used books, magazines, records, etc. are available for sale throughout the year. If you'd like to make contributions at any time, please feel free to drop books at West Side.

Highlighting certain subjects is a way to introduce material that you might otherwise miss. Any book related items on the display table or in the window are available for check-out. . . To give Halloween a fuller share of October, books on the mysterious and occult will be used in the display for this month. Don't be *AFRAID* to come in the library and investigate.



Photograph by Deirdre Cerkanowicz

Please fill out and return this form to renew your membership, or to become a member of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit corporation. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (CHECK ONE)

- | | |
|--|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE | 10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR (65+) | 5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY | 20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ORGANIZATION | 25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HISTORY PRESERVER | 50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HISTORY MAKER | 100.00 |

membership in the Point Richmond History Association includes a year's subscription to "This Point in Time" newsletter (nine issues).

Please send membership forms to:

PAM WILSON
521 WESTERN DRIVE
POINT RICHMOND, CA 94801

Articles for each month's issue are due on the 20th of the previous month.

Please mail articles and items of interest to: Donna Roselius, 212 Bishop Alley, Point Richmond, CA 94801, or call 235-4222.

Items may also be left with Trannie at 145 W. Richmond Avenue.

This Point in Time is a publication of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit corporation, at 212 Bishop Alley, Point Richmond, CA 94801

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OCTOBER AHEAD . . .

- 1 — Elementary Schools Back-to-School Night
- 8 — Junior High Back-to-School Night
- 9 — Point Richmond Business Association meeting — Mac Hotel, 12 noon.
- 10 — Senior High Back-to-School Night
- 10 — Point Richmond Neighborhood Council meeting, Community Center, 8 p.m.
- 12 — Columbus Day
- 14 — Thanksgiving Day (only in Canada — but it's not far off!)
- 16 — Point Art Guild meeting, 7:30 p.m. If interested, call 235-4222
- 25 — ANNUAL COUNTRY FAIRE, Methodist Church, Point Richmond
- 26 — Daylight Savings Ends, - turn the clock back, gain an hour
- 24 — United Nations Day, founded in 1945
- 31 — HALLOWEEN

OCTOBER PAST . . .

- 1, 1908 — Henry Ford introduced the Model T car
- 3, 1789 — First Presidential proclamation for Thanksgiving Day issued
- 6, 1890 — Mormons in Utah renounced the practice of polygamy
- 20, 1927 — First Model A Ford built
- 23, 1915 — 25,000 women marched in N.Y., demanding women's right to vote in all states
- 28, 1886 — Statue of Liberty unveiled

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAY

by Mid Dorman (234-5334)

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
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