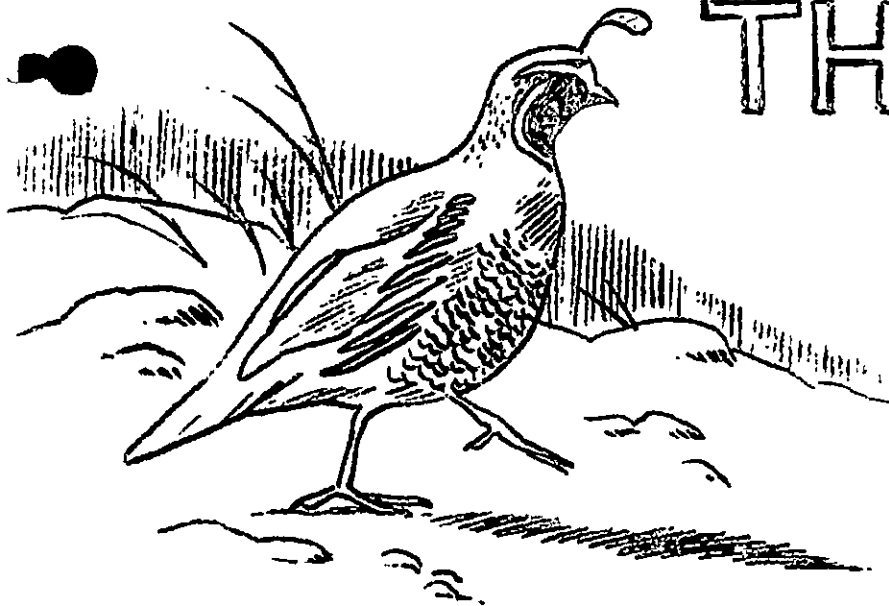


# THE QUAIL



Bulletin of the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society

November, 1954

Vol. 1 No. 1

## REGULAR MEETING - DR. ROBERT C. STEBBINS

We have a new and bigger meeting room now - Room 501 at Los Lomas High School. We will have our first meeting there Thursday, November 4, 1954 when our guest speaker will be Dr. Robert C. Stebbins, Curator in Herpetology, California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and Associate Professor of Zoology at the University of California. Dr. Stebbins will illustrate his discussion of the reptiles with live specimens of lizards, snakes, turtles, etc. (all caged). We urge each member to bring a friend for Dr. Stebbins is a well-known authority on the vertebrata.

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The Field Trip list for 1954-55 is attached.

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## SEWER FARM FIELD TRIP REPORT

Paul Opler reported a very successful three hour trip to the Sewer Farm on Sunday morning, October 10th. There were seventeen people. The most interesting part of the trip was the close look that everyone had of a green heron. Among the other birds seen were avocets, greater yellow legs, white tailed kites, Wilson snipe, least sandpipers, marsh hawk, black phoebe, ruddy duck, as well as the usual coots, linnets, and song and savannah sparrows.

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Have you read "The Bobwhite's Last Stand" by George Sessions Perry in the October 23, 1954 issue of the Saturday Evening Post?

Be sure to read the article in the November 1954 issue of the National Geographic Magazine by John H. Baker, the President of the National Audubon Society "Saving Man's Wildlife Heritage". If you look at the top picture on page 612, you will see a very intent friend of ours, Mary Smith.

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FIELD TRIP - JOICE ISLAND GAME REFUGE - NOVEMBER 21, 1954

The date for the trip to Joice Island has been changed from November 7 to November 21.

Meet at County Court House in Fairfield at 9:00 A.M. (Fairfield is approximately 41 miles from Walnut Creek).

Turn right at County Court House onto Highway 12 (the Rio Vista Highway). Proceed 1.4 miles to sign reading "Grizzly Island and Joice Island." Turn right and proceed 4.5 miles to gate at right hand side of road leading over a bridge which stands high on the landscape.

Total trip approximately 47 miles from Walnut Creek.

Wear warm clothing and footgear for possible dampness underfoot. Bring lunch and water.

For further information, phone the Manns, Yellowstone 4-2265.

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See you Monday night, November 1, 1954 at the East Contra Costa Junior College at 8:00 P.M., Building 12, for the first Audubon Screen Tour, "Wanderland" by Mr. William H. Wagoner, Jr.

MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY

FIELD TRIPS  
1954 - 55

September 4th	Bay Farm Island		
October 10th	The Sewer Farm	Paul Opler	Ye 5 5645
November 21st	Joice Island	The Manns	Ye 4 2265
December 26th	Bird Count	The Adams	Ye 5 5608
January 15th and 16th	Monterey Pacific Grove	The Beitzels	Mu 2 9588
February 6th	Tomales Bay	The Hamptons	Mu 2 9342
March 6th	Tilden Park	Norma Warner	Ye 4 4604
April (Date announced later)	Mulfontes	Isabella McGeehon Bert O'Meara	Ye 4 2752 Ye 4 4720
May 7th and 8th	The Pinnacles	The Adamsons	At 3 2164
June 5th	Mt. Diablo	The Hasslers	Ye 4 3151
July 9th and 10th	Mt. Hamilton	The Smiths	Ye 5 5657
August 7th	Golden Gate Park	The Cooparriders	Ye 4 6021

# THE QUAIL

Bulletin of the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society

Walnut Creek, California

December, 1954

Vol. 1 No. 2

## REGULAR MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held Thursday, December 2, at Room 501, Los Lomas High School at 8:00 P.M. at which time we will see a film from San Jose State on their one week Nature School at Yosemite. In case this film does not arrive in time, Violet Beitzel will show her slides taken at the Audubon Summer Camp, and Jim Hampton will show his slides of the Sierra Club. Try to be at this meeting for we have many subjects to discuss.

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## JOICE ISLAND FIELD TRIP REPORT

In spite of the cool, foggy day, the Joice Island field trip on Sunday, November 21, was very rewarding. At the end of the day we had a bird list of 51 species, which, we are told, is a good record for that area. There were hundreds of Snow Geese, and it was quite a sight to see them rise in large numbers when disturbed. We saw many Whistling Swans, White Pelicans, Pintails, Ruddy Ducks, Canvas Backs, Coots, and a few Florida Gallinules. Marsh Hawks were in possession of large areas on the Island, and it was interesting to see the competition between the Short-Eared Owls and the Marsh Hawks vying for the same territory. In contrast, the little Pipits were numerous and friendly, bobbing and running along the road in front of the cars or perching along side the road eyeing our Caravan curiously. There were a number of Great Blue Heron, American and Snowy Egrets, Ring-Necked Pheasants, American Bittern and Avocets. We also identified one or two Shovellers and Cinnamon Teal as well as a group of White-Fronted Geese. Shrikes, Song Sparrows and House Finches were very busy on the Island and on the way in from Fairfield, and we almost forgot to mention the Bi-Colored and Brewers Blackbirds which were everywhere. Also enroute we saw Red-Tailed Hawks, Savannah Sparrows, etc. etc. We won't list all 51, but the above will give you some idea of what you missed if you were unable to be with us. Probably because of the dense fog and poor driving conditions the attendance was somewhat small (15), but those who went felt that the trip was well worthwhile. - The Mams.

FIELD TRIP - BIRD COUNT - DECEMBER 26

Announcement is made of the First Annual Christmas Count of the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society. Joining with other local societies throughout the nation, our society will take a bird census on the first Sunday to follow Christmas (From midnight Saturday, December 25 to midnight Sunday, December 26). All members are cordially invited to participate either with the organized bird count field trip groups or as official yard-watchers, for those unable to spend the day in the field. However, all who wish to take part must be registered prior to the count. Transportation for those without cars will be arranged. Please notify Olive or Bill Adams, 1860 Newell Avenue, Walnut Creek, Ye-5-5608 either by card, phone or at the regular meeting of the Audubon Society, December second.

The field trip locale is given on the map in the appendix of this issue of "The Quail". As can be seen from the map the official Mt. Diablo Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count area includes the shore of Suisun Bay between the city limits of Martinez and Pittsburg on the north. On the west from the outskirts of Martinez along the greater portion of the Pleasant Hill Road to Acalanes High School. South from Acalanes through Saranap along Tice Valley Road to the Contra Costa Highway, nearly to Alamo and then up the northwest slope of Mt. Diablo to the summit. On the east from the summit of Mt. Diablo, including North Peak, to a point approximately 4 miles south of Clayton on the Marsh Creek Road to the outskirts of Pittsburg. The only towns included in the official Mt. Diablo Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count area are Walnut Creek, Concord, Pleasant Hill, Pacheco, Clayton, Port Chicago, Cowell and Clyde. This area is a circle with a radius of 7.5 miles, centered at Treat Lane and Clayton Road.

Those who wish to participate in one of the field trip groups which will survey a prescribed sector within our area must be at the Monument at 7:00 A.M. SEARP on the morning of Sunday, December 26. The field trip will last until 4:00 P.M. (Be sure to bring a lunch!) All birders are invited to a "Come As You Are Dinner for Hungry Birders" at 5:00 P.M. at the Adams'. R.S.V.P. if you intend being present. Also, any faithful yard-watchers will be most welcome to join the field-trippers for dinner! Audubon field cards will be distributed at the Monument. Those who intend participating as official yard-watchers should secure a card prior to the count from the Secretary, Olive Adams. After the count all cards should be brought or sent promptly to the Adams so the official tally can be completed. It is hoped that all who participate will be able to attend the dinner and discussion for "collation and critique" of the events of the day.

In our area we are most fortunate in having a wide diversity of terrain and bird habitats. With such a favorable locale and with our many enthusiastic birders, the First Christmas Count of the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society should be a real success.

Remember, we need to know the species seen as well as the number of each specie.

Don't you be a birder counted among the missing!

In the November 15 issue of "Sports Illustrated" (Time's new sport magazine) there is an article by Florence S. Stumpf entitled "The Ducks are Flying South" which has a map of the United States showing the four duck flyways and the ducks found in each area, also "Where Ducks Cloud the Sky" by Scott Young. There is a color portfolio of 16 ducks by Athos Menaboni which is available for 25¢.

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The next Audubon Screen Tour will be on Monday, December 6 - Bert Harwell showing a color film of plant and animal life from the St. Lawrence Plain to the Maritime Provinces entitled "Canada East".

Immediately after the program, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Beitzel have invited the members of the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society to join them at a "Coffee Hour" to meet Mr. Harwell. (At the last Board of Directors' meeting, it was suggested that we try a "Coffee Hour" after the Screen Tour instead of a dinner before the lecture). The Beitzels live at 1713 South 5th Street, Concord - and Dick has given us directions on the easiest way to get there. "As you come in from the Junior College and hit the first stop signal on the main street of Concord, turn right two blocks and then left on Concord Blvd. at the Shell Service Station. Go straight out Concord Blvd, and cross the railroad tracks. Keep going about a half mile or so until you see the street sign (on right side of road) marked "5th Street". Turn right and the fourth house on the right is ours. (The one with all the bottles in the front window)".

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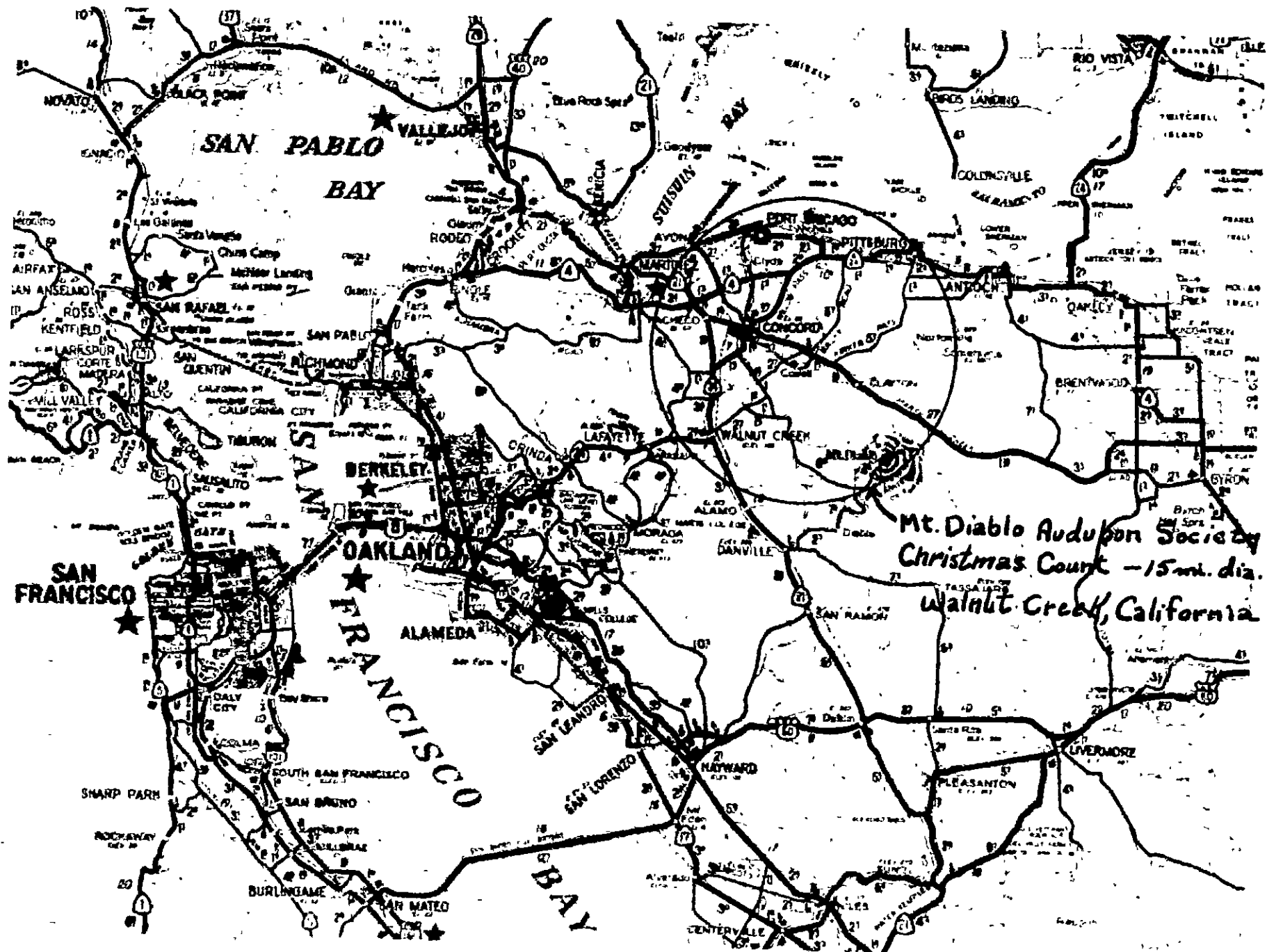
Many of you no doubt have seen the "Ford Times" sent out by the Ford dealers to their customers. Lately they have had some very interesting articles about birds and animals - such as - "There's Quail in the Cow Shades" and "The Cat in the Raccoon Coat" (Ring-tail cat) in the May issue. The June issue had an article about all three of the Audubon camps with illustrations, as well as articles on "The Magnolia Warbler" and "The Snappy Warrior" (Snapping Turtle). "Strutter in the Sage" (Sage Grouse) was in the September issue and October had an article about the ring neck pheasant - "The Pilgrim Ringneck". The November issue has illustrations of ten "Feeding Station Birds" which are very modern and rather amusing pictures. (These may be obtained for a price in 18 1/2" x 13" individual prints by writing to Ford Times.

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On the week-end of January 15th and 16th is the field trip to Monterey and Pacific Grove to see the Monarch Butterfly trees. Dick Beitzel has made arrangements for us to stay at Asilomar at a very reasonable rate, but he has to have all reservations in before December 15th. At the meeting on December 2 he would like to know just how many wish to participate. If you will be unable to attend the meeting and wish to go on the field trip, please contact Mr. Beitzel at Mu-2-9588.

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A mailing list for our Society is attached showing addresses, telephone numbers and membership in the National and local Societies. In each issue of "The Quail" additions for the month will be shown and in six months a new revision will be issued.



Mt. Diablo Audubon Society  
Christmas Count - 15 mi. dia.  
Walnut Creek, California

MAILING LIST - MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY

Dec. 1954

		<u>Nat'l</u>	<u>Local</u>
Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Adams, 1860 Newell Avenue, Walnut Creek	Ye-5-5608	x	x
Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Adamson, 995 Carol Lane, Lafayette	At-3-2164	x	x
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Beitzel, 1713 South 5th Street, Concord	Mu-2-9588	x	x
Mrs. Reginald Biggs, 2111 Danville Highway, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-2200	x	
Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Bouman, 62 Orchard Road, Orinda	Cl-4-2592		
Mr. Herman Boyd, 132 Norman Avenue, Clyde	-		
Mrs. E. B. Bradley, 1125 Clover Lane, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-2523	x	
Mr. R. L. Buffington, 52 Celia Drive, Concord	Mu-5-8060	x	
Mrs. Bess Bulger, 1036 Estudillo, Martinez	1264-W	x	
Mrs. Dorothy Canedo, 312 Crest Avenue, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-3305	x	
Mrs. Eva Clume, 1780 Magnolia Way, Walnut Creek	Ye-5-5833		
Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Cooperrider, c/o General Delivery, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-6021	x	x
Mrs. W. L. Crosby and Joe, 2301 Overlook, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-2083	x	x
Miss Barbara Cross, c/o Acalamas High School, Lafayette	-	x	
Anne S. Culbertson, 131 Scots Lane, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-3260		
Mrs. L. A. Doyle and Valerie, 911 Ignacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-5879	x	
Dr. Mary L. Eilert, 1267 Broadway, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-6744	x	
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Gleason, 1530 Orchard Lane, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-3133		
Mrs. William Greuner, Jr. 877 Broadmoor, Lafayette	At-4-4562	x	
Mr. and Mrs. James Hampton, c/o Farm Advisor, Covell	Mu-2-9342	x	x
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Hassler, 18 Cuesta Way, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-3151	x	x
Mrs. V. W. Hendrix, 75 Sun Valley Drive, Walnut Creek	Ye-5-5217		x
D. R. Hollingsworth, 2679 Danville Highway, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-4606		
Miss Frances Howard, 2385 Walnut Blvd., Walnut Creek	-	x	
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph L. Hubbell, 3444 Freeman Road, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-8548	x	x
Mrs. Anita C. Hulse, RFD 1, Box 199, Martinez	-	x	
Mr. Peter Katz, 2104 Holbrook Drive, Concord	Mu-2-0610	x	
Mr. Tom La France, 1973 Rose Lane, Concord	Mu-2-2156		
Mr. Alexander D. Lindsay, Seven Hills Ranch, Walnut Creek	Ye-5-1724	x	
Enga Lusebrink, 56 Victory Lane, Concord	Mu-5-8732		x
Mrs. Dora McConnell, 4187 Walnut Blvd., Walnut Creek	Ye-4-3443		x
Mr. Michael McCurdy, 417 Soule Avenue, Pleasant Hill	-		
Mrs. J. C. McGeehon, 2165 Oakvale Road, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-2752	x	
J. E. McKirahan, c/o Goldfield Mines Consolidated 1 Montgomery Street, San Francisco			
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Mann, 120 Montecito Crescent, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-2265	x	x
Mrs. Elizabeth C. O'Meara, P. O. Box 914, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-4720	x	
Mrs. Lenora E. Meinert, 118 Norman Avenue, Clyde	P.C. 44J		
Miss Frances Miles, 1604 Relief Valley Road, Lafayette	Ye-5-1930		
Miss Margaret J. Milwain, 731 Alma Avenue, Oakland 10	An-1-9430		x
Mr. Roger Mongsene, 135 Wellington Avenue, Clyde	-		
Mr. Paul Opler, 415 Beatrice Road, Concord	Ye-3-5645		x
Mr. Lloyd Parry, 106 Dale Place, Concord	-		
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Pease, 525 Flora Street, Martinez	737-W		
Mr. David Prall, 418 Soule Avenue, Pleasant Hill	Ye-5-5282		
Mrs. Emma Plumb, 3506 Concord Blvd., Concord	Mu-5-7749	x	
Mrs. Minnie I. Pollock, P. O. Box 874, Concord	Mu-5-8214		
Mr. Pete Robinson, 106 Patterson, Concord	Ye-4-3586		
Mr. Ferd Ruth, 43 Cuesta, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-8803		x
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Samuelson, 3824 Walnut Avenue, Concord	Mu-2-9623		
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Savin, 540 Mayette Avenue, Concord	Mu-2-2561		
Mr. & Mrs. Cecil J. Smith & David, 79 Oak Knoll Loop, Walnut Creek	Ye-5-5657	x	x
Mr. and Mrs. David Snyder, 449 Noh Hill Drive, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-2486	x	
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Steller, 939 Carol Lane, Lafayette	At-4-4370		
Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Stewart, P. O. Box 392, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-8463		
Miss Norma L. Warner, 3163 Wayside Lane, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-4604	x	
Mrs. Emery C. Willis, 2215 Whyte Parkway, Walnut Creek	Ye-4-4369	x	