

INTRODUCTORY.

1907.

THIS is the twentieth regular annual edition of Husted's Oakland City Directory, and it is presented to the public with the assurance that it is excelled by no similar work in America. It embraces all the features found in the largest metropolitan Directories and many other valuable things which are lost sight of in the larger cities of America.

After completing his labors on the 1906 edition of the Oakland Directory, and before the work had been finished by the printers, Mr. F. M. Husted died after having published the Oakland Directory since 1887.

The enormous task of making the Directory then devolved upon the widow which, with the rapid influx of population and phenomenal growth of Oakland, have enlarged the work to such an extent that it became too much for any one person, and Mrs. F. M. Husted has associated with her the National Directory Publishing House of R. L. Polk & Co., which has been engaged exclusively in directory making for more than a third of a century. The business will hereafter be conducted under the firm name of "Polk-Husted Directory Co." This consolidation makes one of the strongest directory publishing houses in the country, and brings to the Oakland Directory all the advantages of competent and experienced employes, and a thorough system backed by ample capital, and it is therefore reasonable to assume that the Oakland Directory for 1907 will be found more complete, more accurate and reliable than ever before.

The Polk-Husted Directory Co. will not only publish the Oakland City Directory, but a large number of other city directories throughout California, and will become one of the most substantial publishing houses of Oakland.

It is the intention to send a copy of the Oakland Directory to every directory office in the United States, where it may represent Oakland and its people, its institutions and its citizens.

A directory library will be maintained at the directory office, No. 906 Broadway, Oakland, for the free use

of the patrons of this directory and for the public generally. Here may be found the directories of all the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

POPULATION.

Growth in population is the standard measurement of a city's success and it is, therefore, always highly interesting to those who have the welfare of the community at heart. The present population of Oakland will be intensely interesting to the people not only of Oakland but generally to all people in the United States, for the eyes of the world are upon Oakland on account of the wonderful changes that have taken place here.

The United States census gave Oakland a population of 102,000 seven years ago. Oakland has been growing constantly ever since. A year ago it had a population estimated at 140,000. This directory contains 70,115 names of male adults of Oakland, 15,555 for Berkeley, and 11,324 for Alameda. Accepting the prevailing theory that there are three women and children to every name which appears in the directory, the population of Greater Oakland at the present time is 300,948. This does not include the Chinese or Japanese element.

This wonderful increase in population ranks Oakland as one of the largest cities on the Pacific Coast, and the largest trade center west of the Mississippi excepting St. Louis, and one of the important cities of the United States. This rapid growth is not of mushroom character, but has been wrought by conditions which will necessarily make it progressive. The business of Oakland is resting on a solid, substantial foundation, with one of the finest harbors in the world, midway between the large cities of the Southern Pacific Coast and those of the Northern Pacific Coast, and it must necessarily continue to grow and prosper.

The publishers wish to express thanks for the courtesies extended to their employes and the liberal patronage bestowed upon the work.

Respectfully,

THE PUBLISHERS.

Polk-Husted Directory Co.