

## HEALTH CONDITIONS

In point of health Oakland has consistently ranked among the first cities of the nation for a long period of years, and statistics show that it has become an increasingly more healthful place for residents during the last fifteen years.

In 1920 Oakland ranked second in smallness of death rate out of a list of forty-three larger cities compiled by the United States Government. The rate which was then 11.6 per thousand was exceeded only by Seattle, where the death rate was 10.5.

It is noteworthy that Oakland, as indicated by the death rate, exceeds in health conditions both Los Angeles and San Francisco; in one case 3.4 per thousand and in the other by 3 per thousand.

## POPULATION

The population of Oakland, January 1st, 1923, was estimated at 265,000, a gain of approximately 50,000 in three years' time. On the same date the population of the seven cities that form the Eastbay community was estimated at 400,000.

The population of Oakland in 1910 was 150,174, in 1920, 216,261, a gain of approximately 44 per cent in a ten-year period. At the present rate of growth it will register a materially larger percentage of increase during the ten years between 1920 and 1930.

The cities of Berkeley and Alameda and the municipalities of Emeryville, Piedmont, San Leandro and Albany have now grown together into one compact whole. It is these seven cities which are referred to as Eastbay community.

## SCHOOLS

Few cities in the United States can boast of a more perfect school system than Oakland, or more attractive school buildings. Noted educators from every section of the world have praised Oakland's educational facilities. The present school enrollment is in excess of 45,000. In Berkeley, which adjoins Oakland on the north, is the great University of California, the largest in the United States in point of enrollment and incidently one of the richest in the matter of endowment.

Oakland has 44 primary and grammar schools, 11 junior high schools, and five high schools.

## PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

Oakland's new park and playground development—a noteworthy feature of which was the acquisition this year of extensive municipal golf links—undoubtedly will be conducive to a still higher level of health and well-being among residents of this favored city. Among the Oakland parks which have attracted the attention of tourists from all parts of the world is beautiful Lake Merritt and Lakeside Park. Lake Merritt, situated in the center of the city, comprises 160 acres, and is surrounded by wonderful lawns and beyond these by beautiful modern homes and apartments. On one side of the lake is situated Oakland's new million-dollar auditorium.

The waters of Lake Merritt are dotted the year round with canoes and launches and during the so-called winter months many thousand of wild ducks make Lake Merritt their home. Spring finds these traditionally wild birds almost as tame as barnyard fowls. They walk on the lawns and among the sightseers, apparently recognizing that their safety is assured.

The annual visit of these ducks which have adopted this spot in sunny California as their home has been made the occasion for pageants on the part of the people, and each January the now nationally known Wild Duck Pageant is held on the lake shore.

Possessed as it is of all those things considered essential for a great metropolis, with three transcontinental railways, its position on one of the world's greatest land-locked harbors and with ample room in which to make a tremendous expansion, Oakland's future is assured.