

*Annual Message of***MAYOR JOHN L. DAVIE**

To the City Council of Oakland

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JANUARY 14TH, 1924.

*Honorable City Council,
City Hall, Oakland, California.*

GENTLEMEN:

In accordance with established custom and in conformity with the City Charter, I submit herewith my annual message to your honorable body.

As in several years past, 1923 has in every way exceeded the records of prior years. Each succeeding year has seen figures and records of the preceding year exceeded, and in this 1923 was no exception. Our merchants report that business during the past year exceeded that of any year previously, while published statistics show that 1923 was the best year for the shipyards around San Francisco Bay since the decline in shipbuilding and repair at the close of the war. Total business done by the shipyards during that period aggregates over \$7,000,000, indicative of the general prosperity of the district.

Again Oakland has been recognized for its superiority as an industrial center by having some sixty new industries locate here in the past twelve months. It is also a striking fact that of these many were concerns of nation-wide reputation, such as the Victor Talking Machine Company. The only factory which this company has outside of its original location in New Jersey is the one now under construction in this city and from which their products will be distributed to all parts of the West and the Orient. Another national concern to choose Oakland as a location was Montgomery Ward & Company, which has just completed a splendid business structure on East 14th Street.

Our rapid growth as an automotive production center has attracted additional accessory manufacturing companies here. Of these, the Western Steel Package Company, during the past summer completed its fac-



New 20-Story Addition to Oakland Tribune Building.