

The location I urge for such a terminal faces the municipal property on the western waterfront, thus it would be most appropriately placed for ready access to ocean shipping and transbay service. And finally as a city advertisement such a Union Terminal would be of the highest value. I cannot recommend it too strongly.

CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Mayor Revoke Own Appointments

1. An amendment giving the Mayor the power of revoking all appointments now authorized by charter to be made by himself. The mayors of most cities, including San Francisco, are endowed with this right. It is most vital for the proper carrying out of the policy of an administration. The charter would not give the Mayor these appointments if the people's desire was not to have such appointees carry out the policies of the Mayor they elect. It is but just to the people that, should any appointee fail to carry out the Mayor's policy and principles, they can, through the Mayor's own hand, revoke such appointments and place new men or women in authority.

Set Sum for Park Development

2. An amendment setting aside at least 10 cents of each annual tax rate for an appropriation to the Park Department. This would take Park Department funds out of political manipulation, giving the department an annual sum that would steadily increase with the city's growth. In this way the department could place money aside for future purchases.

Weekly Council Meeting

3. An amendment eliminating the daily Council meeting and setting aside one day of each week—probably Thursday—as Council day. Under the present system at least two hours each day are wasted by each Commissioner and his staff in making ready for and appearing in Council. This is uneconomical and inefficient. Setting aside one day of each week for the purpose of public Council meeting will save a large percentage of each Commissioner's time for office duty, and—except by the ever-present and apparently employment-dodging council chamber “chair warmers”—will be greeted by the entire public with appreciation.

Mayor's Urgent Necessity Fund

4. An amendment appropriating \$2,500 a year, to be designated as the “Mayor's Urgent Necessity Fund,” and to be expended by or under direction of the Mayor without the necessity of audit or the submission of vouchers. The cash from such a fund should be available to the Mayor at all times upon application, and without the necessity of his stating the reason for such demand or the necessity for such expenditure. The present city charter allows the Mayor an appropriation of \$500 per year as an Urgent Necessity Fund. In the entertainment of army and navy officers and outside officials, and in consideration of the fact that from time to time the Mayor is called upon to visit other cities in line of duty, \$500 per year is entirely too small an appropriation and \$200 a month by no means too large. Considering, also, the fact that the necessity for much entertainment comes unexpectedly the people of Oakland are surely just enough to allow their representative head some cash on hand for such emergency.

The charter should specifically state, also, that said fund is to be expended by or at direction of the Mayor without the necessity of audit or of vouchers, and with no interference from any other city officer or body, including the Council itself. There have been times, as may possibly exist now, when the Mayor should have money at his disposal with which to employ detectives to ferret out the authenticity of possible rumored graft, collusion, impending riots, etc. I have been unable to carry on such necessary work under the present system. Our present Auditor demands a voucher for every cent spent