

Panama-Pacific International Exposition

SETTING FORTH THE WORLD'S PROGRESS IN ART,
MUSIC, POETRY, RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY, SCIENCE,
HISTORY, EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE, MINERAL-
OGY, MECHANISM, COMMERCE AND
TRANSPORTATION.

THE SITE

The site of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition at Harbor View lies within the city limits of San Francisco as a crescent upon the shores of San Francisco Bay, just inside the Golden Gate. No more picturesque location, nor one more appropriate to the celebration of a great maritime event, could be imagined. On the south, east and west the grounds are encircled by towering hills of varying contours rising successively from 250 to 900 feet above sea level, as the enfolding walls of a vast amphitheater. Upon the north the site opens out upon the superb harbor of San Francisco. The panorama suggests the Bay of Naples in the neighborhood of Sorrento. In the harbor before the site lies Alcatraz Island, the location of a military prison, whose white walls are reflected in the waters of the bay. Beyond are the hills of the north shore of the harbor rising into the thousands of feet.

THE EXHIBIT PALACES

Flanking the central group upon the east is the great Palace of Machinery, the impressive architecture of which recalls the baths of the Emperor Hadrian. The architecture is essentially Roman and the decoration while classic in form is suggestive of modern machinery and invention. The principal architectural features of the palace are three central longitudinal naves, 75 feet wide and 101 feet high, with a secondary aisle on either side 70 feet wide and 41 feet high. The palace was constructed at an expenditure of \$659,665.

THREE HUGE GROUPS OF BUILDINGS

The Exposition grounds comprise 635 acres and extend along the shores of San Francisco Bay from Fort Point, which marks the south boundary of the Golden Gate, easterly for a distance of almost two miles. A narrow strip of sixty-five acres extends still further to the east but is separated from the harbor by the Fort Mason military post. The greatest width of the grounds is more than one-half mile. The Exposition buildings are set in three groups. In the center of the site is the group of twelve main exhibit palaces, five of which face north upon the harbor for almost one mile. On the east the concessions, or amusement district, occupies sixty-five acres; and on the west and nearest the Golden Gate are the great pavilions of foreign nations, the buildings of the State, parade grounds, live stock pavilions, life-saving station, race track, etc.

THE WONDERFUL COURTS

The Court of the Universe is capable of seating seven thousand persons in its central sunken gardens. Its principal features are the two great arches—the Arch of the Rising Sun and the Arch of the Setting Sun. The former is surmounted by an Oriental group symbolical of the Far East, while the latter bears an immense group entitled "The Nations of the West." In this are shown the pioneers of all races who have settled the western part of the American continents from Alaska to the southern extremity of South America.

The dimensions of the court are 500 by 900 feet and it resembles somewhat in shape the great plaza approaching St. Peter's at Rome. On the south the court is dominated by a great tower gateway, the lofty Tower of Jewels, 435 feet in height, surmounted by an enormous globe, typifying the world. The shaft is pyramidal in shape and richly sculptured and rises in lofty terraces from a base 125 feet square, through which a vaulted archway 125 feet in height, has been cut. The general details of the court are of the Italian Renaissance with a suggestion of the Byzantine influence, while the idea of the east and west arches was inspired by the triumphal arches of Imperial Rome.

THE COURT OF PALMS

Designed by George W. Kelham of San Francisco. This is one of the two minor courts of the Exposition. Its entrance is from the great South Garden, between two towers, each rising to a height of 200 feet and favoring in architecture the period of the Italian Renaissance. This court will contain a showing of rare and beautiful palms.