

contains many State offices. The Customs House and U. S. Appraiser's Building represents an expenditure of more than \$4,000,000. In Golden Gate Park are located the deYoung Memorial Museum, Academy of Sciences, Steinhart Aquarium, Museum of Anthropology, and the Morrison Planetarium. At Kearny and Washington streets is the Hall of Justice, erected in 1910 at a cost of \$1,000,000, containing police courts and the criminal department of the superior court. The Golden Gate Bridge, costing \$35,000,000, was opened to traffic in May, 1937, and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, costing \$78,000,000, was opened to vehicular traffic Nov. 12, 1936. San Francisco East Bay Terminal (at Mission and 1st streets) is a \$2,000,000 structure opened to interurban train service Jan. 15, 1939. The \$2,730,000 Rincon Annex Post Office was opened in 1940. (See also "Social Features.")

### PARKS

San Francisco is noted for its beautiful and extensive parks. There are 52 parks, with 3,080 acres, and 74 recreation units, with 280 acres. Still others are under development. In addition to the municipal parks, the several Government reservations, the largest of which is the Presidio, comprising 1,542 acres, all go toward augmenting the aggregate. The area given does not include the numerous golf courses in and about the city. More than \$15,000,000 has been expended on municipal parks since 1870. All of San Francisco's parks are "man-made." Originally only sand dunes marked the spots where today are gardens of rare flowers, shrubs and giant trees. Even lakes, streams, waterfalls, hills, valleys and dales were developed by man, to say nothing of the miles of walks, bridle paths and boulevards traversing the parks. Golden Gate Park is one of the world's most noted playgrounds. It comprises 1,013 acres and is about three miles long and a half-mile wide, extending from Stanyan St. on the east to the Pacific Ocean on the west, and lies in the midst of San Francisco's choice residential districts. In the park are many museums and monuments, aviary, aquarium, music temple, stadium, tennis courts, baseball grounds, football grounds, trotting and packing horse track, athletic field and running track paddocks, and children's playgrounds. There are more than 25 miles of improved driveways in the park. Wild animals of many species are found here, while every bird and squirrel known to California flies or roams at will through the dense woods and shrubbery. At the western end of the park is to be seen the sloop "Gjoa," the only vessel that ever navigated the Northwest Passage. It was given to San Francisco by its owner, the late Capt. Roald Amundsen, explorer and discoverer of the South Pole. The gift was accepted by San Francisco, June 16, 1909. The ship was hauled upon the beach and is protected by a high iron fence.

### SOCIAL FEATURES

Events—The cosmopolitan character of San Francisco is well portrayed by the interesting and diversified events which take place daily. The citizen or visitor will find many educational things of interest, such as lectures, concerts, readings, recitals, and special exhibits of drawing, painting, sculpture, and other works of art.

Art Galleries—Three public art galleries and several semi-public galleries offer exhibits and collections of national and international fame. The M. H. deYoung Memorial Museum, the San Francisco Museum of Art, and the California Palace of the Legion of Honor attract hundreds of thousands of visitors annually.

Library—The main public library is located in the Civic Center. There are 24 branches and one depository. This system has 695,346 volumes. About 2,871,000 books were circulated for home reading during the past year. In addition to the public libraries, there are nearly 100 private and special libraries, including technical and institutional. There are also numerous circulating libraries.

Public Buildings—The Civic Auditorium with a seating capacity of 9,136, contains a magnificent organ and

is used for conventions and a variety of events. The War Memorial Opera House and the War Memorial Building provide a home for opera, the symphony orchestra, and a permanent war relics museum. San Francisco was the first city of the nation to have a civic opera house. It has a seating capacity of 3,285. The War Memorial Opera House and the War Memorial Building were chosen for the meeting places of the United Nations delegates from April 25 to June 26, 1945, to construct the Charter of the United Nations, and in 1955 for the Commemorative Session of the U. N., and for the Japanese Peace Conference in September, 1951.

Clubs—There are numerous societies, clubs, lodges, and fraternal groups beside the civic, historical, military, religious, and sporting groups. San Francisco contains many foreign colonies where the daily life and social events familiar to their native countries have been re-established here.

Churches—San Francisco has 438 churches, representing many denominations. The congregations of the churches include people of many nationalities, such as English, German, Italian, French, Spanish, Scandinavian, Russian, and Chinese.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

San Francisco public health facilities include a bacteriological laboratory, a chemical laboratory, consolidated inspection services, the San Francisco Hospital, the Laguna Honda Home for aged indigents, the Hassler Health Farm for convalescent tuberculosis cases, six emergency hospitals, child welfare centers, well-baby clinics, and other health-control facilities scattered throughout the city.

### RECREATION AND CULTURE

San Francisco is a city of supreme and exotic beauty, a city of many interesting aspects, and a cultural and vacation center for those who like to explore. The vacation experts, Californians, Inc., say—"There is the story-book part that is not on the map—the things of the city that guidebooks only hint at—small in area as great cities go, it is America's most cosmopolitan city. Almost surrounded by the sea, it's like being on shipboard all the time—there's salt in the ocean breeze, filling you with buoyant energy."

#### Some Outstanding Points of Interest and Their Characteristics

The Waterfront—"Threshold to all the world."

San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge—"World's largest, with foundations of greatest depth."

Golden Gate Bridge—"Longest single span in the world."

Latin Quarter—"Spreads up the slopes of Telegraph Hill and on to Fisherman's Wharf."

Educational Institutions—"Few cities in the world offer finer or more diversified facilities."

Chinatown—"Largest Chinese settlement in America."

Hotels, Restaurants—"Distinguished and distinctive."

Theatres—"Bid you to come forth for entertainment."

Downtown San Francisco—"Atmosphere all its own."

Civic Center, Auditorium, Opera—"First city to have a civic opera house and symphony concerts."

Parks, Museums, Sports—"Enough for days and days for spectators and participants alike."

Scenic Drives, Evenings—"Stunning vistas framed in the afterglow of sunset, and then, the lights."

Other facilities for outdoor activities embrace many golf courses in and adjacent to the city, including three San Francisco municipal courses; a yacht harbor; and several boat and swimming clubs.

A tour of San Francisco is refreshing and filled with many pleasant surprises. The city's delightful setting amidst sparkling waters and high hills is inspiring.