

GOVERNMENT

San Francisco has a consolidated City and County government, with legislative powers vested in a board of supervisors of eleven members, five and six being elected every two years for four-year terms. The Mayor, Treasurer, Assessor, City Attorney, Public Defender, District Attorney, Sheriff, and Superior and Municipal Court Judges are elected by the people and serve terms of four years. The Chief Administrative Officer is appointed by the Mayor, but thereafter has permanent tenure. The Controller, appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the Supervisors, also has tenure. The Mayor appoints members of and supervises police, fire, civil service, public utilities, park and recreation, welfare, library, city planning, art, housing, parking permit appeals, redevelopment, retirement (in part) and welfare boards or commissions, and may remove his appointees except civil service, public utilities, recreation and park, and welfare commissioners, and members of the school board. The Mayor also has a power of veto over legislation.

The San Francisco Unified School District and the City and County have coterminous boundaries. Members of the Board of Education are nominated by the Mayor and passed upon by the voters.

San Francisco has operated under five charters, granted in 1850, 1856, 1861, 1898 and 1932.

Initiative and referendum clauses were first embraced in the 1898 charter.

Mayor James Rolph, Jr., took office in 1911 and served five successive terms, until he became Governor of the State. In 1931 he was succeeded by Angelo J. Rossi, who served until 1944, when he was succeeded by Roger D. Lapham, who pledged himself in advance to one term only. Mayor Elmer E. Robinson took office Jan. 8, 1948, for a four-year term, and was re-elected for a second four-year term ending Jan. 8, 1956. The present mayor is George Christopher.

State and Federal Government Offices

San Francisco contains district and regional offices of many branches of the State and Federal Governments. Located here are some 49 major agencies of the State, including top-rank commissions and boards. These and many lesser divisions and branches make a total of about 174 State groups. There are 177 Federal agencies in San Francisco, including representatives of the Legislative and Judicial branches, Executive departments and independent agencies. The 13 Executive departments include: Agriculture, Air Force, Army, Commerce, Defense, Health, Education and Welfare, Interior, Justice, Labor, Navy, Post Office, State and Treasury, and numerous special agencies related to regional administration of Federal activities.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

First comes the group in the Civic Center, declared by the Duke of Connaught to be the finest thing of its kind in the world. The group consists of: (1) City Hall, of classic design, surmounted by an immense dome, higher than the dome of the Capitol at Washington; cost, \$4,000,000. (2) Civic Auditorium, seating capacity of 12,000 in the main auditorium, with numerous small halls; cost, \$2,000,000. (3) San Francisco Public Library; cost, \$1,500,000. (4) State Building; cost, \$1,000,000. (5) War Memorial group of buildings, as a part of Civic Center; cost, \$4,000,000, consisting of Civic Opera House, American Legion halls, etc. The San Francisco Federal Building cost \$3,000,000.

Recent additions at the Civic Center include an underground garage and exhibit building (Brooks Hall) costing \$3,392,000 and \$3,711,000 respectively. The State Compensation Insurance Building, at \$4,179,000, and the State Building Annex were opened in 1959. In 1960, construction of a new Federal Office Building, valued at \$32,500,000 was begun. Twenty stories high, and occupying most of a city block, it will be the West's largest office building when completed in 1963. Presently, the Kaiser Center in Oakland is the largest west of Chicago.

The California Palace of the Legion of Honor, in Lincoln Park, overlooking the Golden Gate, is a replica of the Palace of the Legion of Honor in Paris. It was presented to the City. The structure cost \$2,000,000. Other leading public buildings are the U. S. Mint, located at Market St. and Duboce Ave., built in 1937 (now inactivated); the Post Office Building, corner of 7th and Mission streets; and the Ferry Building, at the foot of Market St. on the waterfront, built by the State in 1896 at a cost of \$1,000,000. The Ferry Building is 659 feet long and 156 feet wide, and is the home of the World Trade Center. This was the first global mart to combine under one roof office and exhibit space, trade libraries and other facilities linked to international trade. The Covarrubias murals, executed for the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition, and depicting flora, fauna, occupations and culture of peoples of Pacific nations, are now permanently housed here. 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 de Young 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. Currently under construction is the new Hall of Justice at 7th and Bryant streets, to be occupied late in 1961, built at a cost of \$19,475,000.

HARBOR AND WATER COMMERCE

Centered in the San Francisco Bay Area, San Francisco is an important port of general commerce, handling a large and valuable domestic and foreign trade. It is the main gateway of commerce for the vast territory of the Central Pacific Coast Area and Intermountain States. The Bay extends from the Golden Gate to the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers on the northeast, and to a point near San Jose on the south, covering an area of 450 square miles. Deep-water commerce enters San Francisco Bay through the mile-wide Golden Gate, and thus shipping is afforded natural protection in the waters of the bay. To this has been added a comprehensive system of docking and berthing facilities, rail and freight connections, modern and well-equipped warehouses, etc. San Francisco harbor has 18 miles of berthing space; 228 acres of pier and wharf area; 42 modern piers; facilities to dock the largest vessels; several dry docks; 60 miles of harbor trackage connecting piers and warehouses; modern grain, refrigeration, banana, cotton, copra and heliport