

BONDS MAKE GREATER CITY POSSIBLE

People Express Civic Ideals In Mighty Vote

THE vastness of the work of restoration of public buildings and public utilities, which has been completed or is now being carried on by the city of San Francisco, is surpassed only by the new undertakings of the municipality.

During the last three years the city has begun the actual work of creating a great water supply system from the Sierra after securing the finest reservoir sites in the world in the Hetch Hetchy valley and Lake Eleanor grants of the federal government, and for this purpose the people have authorized a bond issue of \$15,000,000.

A second water system, for which \$2,000,000 has been provided, is the high pressure fire protection system now entering the final stage of its accomplishment.

Two great sanitary improvements are going forward in the creation of the new sewer system and the establishment of a modern incinerator plant for garbage disposal.

The sum of \$2,000,000 has been set aside for the San Francisco hospital. On its old site in the Mission this institution is now more than half complete, the concrete foundation and the steel frame being in place. An infirmary at the relief home tract costing \$202,000 has also been erected to care for the sick poor.

The steel frame of the \$1,000,000 hall of justice is now up and the year will probably see the police and criminal departments of the courts rehoused in their permanent quarters.

In place of the 29 wooden schoolhouses swept away by the fire, modern steel frame and fireproof buildings are now being erected in all parts of the city.

Geary Street Road

The creation of a municipal street railway has advanced to the stage of offering the \$2,020,000 bonds for sale. The terms of the bonds' authorization have been made elastic, so that the exact form of traction to be used may be open to change. The route via Geary street and Point Lobos and Tenth avenues and Market street gives the municipality the most valuable right of way in the city, with the exception possibly, of Market street westward.

Overhead trolley construction may be avoided for the road, but recent development of storage battery traction in experiments in eastern cities under an Edison patent has raised the question whether some form of car independent in itself might not be economically used in the city's undertaking.

Sewer System

The oldest in point of time, and the most advanced in point of completion of all of San Francisco's municipal undertakings is its sewer system. As far back as 1852 a special board, of whom the present city engineer was a member, reported a general plan to be followed. The topographical features of the peninsula, upon which San Francisco stands definitely settled the character and disposition of the work.

San Francisco has three natural watersheds, westwardly into the ocean,

northerly into the bay and easterly into the bay. The central ridge dividing the ocean drainage from that of the bay runs along the axis of the peninsula and extends in nearly a direct line toward Fort point.

The elevations of this ridge range from 250 feet to 900 feet. The city and county has the shape of an irregular square, with sides nearly seven miles long, and over by far the greater portion of this area the slope makes possible and easy rapid gravity drainage.

The broad and almost level back of the bay water front forms the only notable exception, and necessitates the only pumping station for the entire sewer system of the city. A temporary power station at Commercial and Drumm streets is to be succeeded by a permanent pumping plant, which will cause the drainage coming from the Mission and northern Potrero district, and that known as south of Market street, to be passed on to the northward, where it will be emptied into the bay, at points subject to rapid tidal currents.

Four outfall points will finally receive and discharge all of the city's sewage. These four are: off Hunters point; off the northern termination of Grant avenue; off that of Pierce street, and off Mile Rock point.

For the Hunters point district gravity will conduct all the sewage, together with all the drainage due to rainfall up to a quarter of an inch every 24 hours, taking care of a section 2,300 acres in extent.

Richmond and Sunset will ultimately be drained directly into the ocean, the outfall sewer being a channel of brick and concrete 8 by 16 feet in diameter and extended well out to sea. This end tunnel will be 4,500 feet in length.

The bulk of the city's drainage will pass into the bay from the two outfalls off North beach. The four locations for the outfalls were not selected until exhaustive experiments for a period of three months made by the use of floats and the study of the currents had demonstrated the best points for discharge and that at these points a degree of dilution would be secured such that no perceptible pollution of the waters of the bay could result.

Garbage Disposal

The city of San Francisco now owns the crematory. For two years the company, which controlled the establishment, will continue to run it for the city until the three modern incinerators, proposed to be built, are constructed.

In place of the low temperature combustion practiced in the present plant, which results in the clouds of smoke and ashes settling over the city, the new plant will subject the refuse to a temperature as high as 2,000 degrees before final egress.

To buy the plant \$100,000 was paid, and \$80,000 has since been expended for the site of the North beach plant.

Fire Protection System

During 14 years of San Francisco's history the 11,827 fires which occurred cost a direct loss of \$13,500,000.

came the conflagration of April, 1906. In the three days' fire the city suffered a loss which has been estimated all the way from \$300,000,000 to \$700,000,000.

To jump on a fire quick and to jump off it hard, the auxiliary water system now being installed was devised. Plenty of water at hand and plenty of power behind it are the sole purposes of the plant.

A pressure at all times at the extremities of the system of 150 pounds to the square inch will make each one of the 1,200 hydrants to be installed the equivalent of a fire engine on the spot and ready for service. Union square can be flooded to a depth of 25

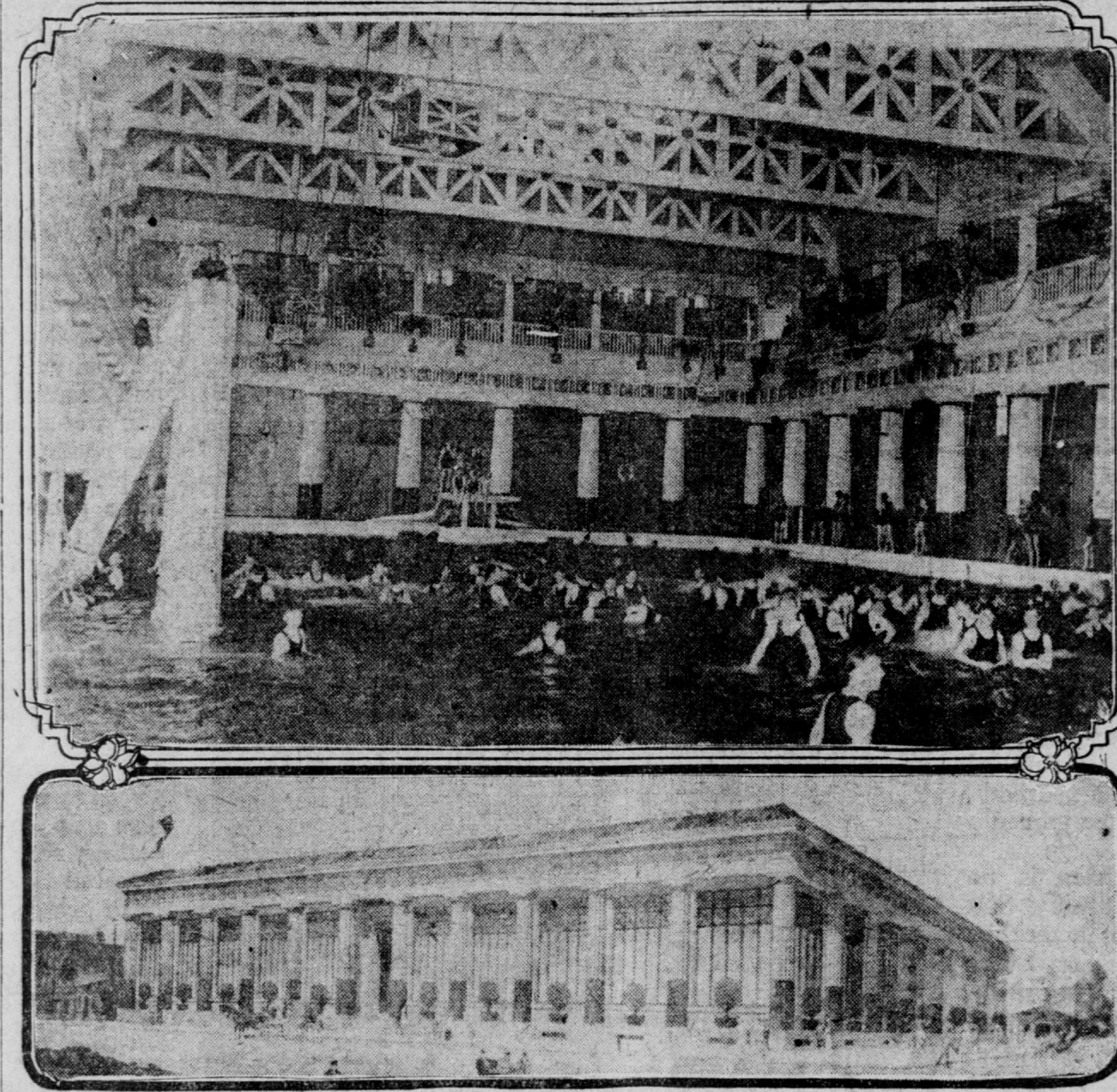
feet in 24 hours or any similar block throughout the whole congested value section may be deluged with one foot of water per hour indefinitely and without decreasing the pressure in adjacent or distant parts of the system.

The heart of the system will be at the center of the city. High on the western slope of Twin peaks construction work has begun at the site of the 10,000,000 gallon reservoir which will form the "central bank" of the system.

For all ordinary use two smaller reservoirs, one of 500,000 gallons capacity, located at an altitude of 400 feet, near the intersection of Seventh and Ashbury streets, for the

higher districts, and one of 1,000,000 gallons capacity, located beneath the pavement of Jones street between Sacramento and Clay streets, at an altitude of about 220 feet, for the lower levels—will maintain the flow and pressure in the gridiron of pipes.

But the heads of water in the reservoirs will not be the only resource of the system. The two fireboats already constructed and in use along the water front may be hitched on to the system at any of the 20 connections to be installed at the various wharves. Either the Dennis J. Sullivan or the David Scannell can pump 8,000 gallons per minute.



Afternoon scene in the big plunge at the Lurline Baths, and an exterior view of the bathing pavilion

Have you shot the chutes at the new Lurline baths, Bush and Larkin streets, the handsomest bathhouse in the United States?

There is a plunge 140 feet long and 65 feet in width to dive into, and the water varies in depth from two to nine and a half feet. The baths are modern in every way, and situated in the heart of the city. In all respects they meet every requirement of the lover of natorial sport.

Certain things are demanded by the patrons of modern bathing pavilions. The arrangements must be sanitary in every way, the water must be warm enough to be comfortable, and yet sufficiently cool to be invigorating; there must be a depth of water to permit free swimming, and shallower sections for the young and inexperienced swimmer.

Housed in a building that for beauty and appropriateness of design is not equaled by any similar structure in America, the Lurline baths more than meet the demands of the most finical, or the needs of the swimmer. The plunge is kept filled with salt water drawn directly from the ocean from the end of a long pier at ocean beach. It is filtered through a plant that cost \$10,000 to install, then passed through the heater and conducted into the deep end of the plunge. It passes out at the shallow end.

Ranged around the plunge are two chutes, one solely for the use of women and children, and diving and spring boards. Running across the big tank and dividing it effectually into a part for the inexperienced or timid, and a large space for swimmers, is a stout rope.

Attendants are stationed at each side and end of the baths, and they keep a constant eye on the bathers.

In addition to the big plunge there are 102 tubrooms, supplied with hot and cold fresh and salt water. There is a shower in each tubroom. The partitions are of cement, and the drainage of the floor along the most sanitary lines. In all 250 dressing rooms are maintained, those for the men being separated from those reserved for women.

Elaborate massage parlors for men and women, fitted with modern electric and steam cabinets, with steamrooms, have been installed. A barbershop is operated at the baths.

The reason for the fact that this ideal natatorium cost \$150,000 to build is found in a glance at its architecture and construction, as well as at the equipment. The baths is surrounded, inside and out, by Pompeian pillars and the use of the best sort of building material completes the structural

features of the reinforced concrete building. The old Roman baths are suggested by the shape and finish of the structure.

Light enters the building through a wide area of heavy glass in the roof and in the evening clusters of electric lights cast a bright glow over the water. Around the sides of the tank are pathways of terrazzo marble, which composes the floor on every side of the plunge. The sides of the tank are lined with bright porcelain that reflects the water as it splashes around the bathers.

Three 100 horsepower boilers constitute the power plant of the bath house, together with an independent electric plant with two 35 kilowatt turbines. A laundry also is operated under the bathing pavilion.

Since the opening day, January 8, the baths have been crowded with bathers and the spectator's gallery, to which there is free access, has supplied a host of gazers, soon to yield to the lure of the sparkling water and join the merry throng in the tank.

Women find a privacy at the baths not enjoyed elsewhere, for special spaces are reserved for them and special mornings are set aside by General Superintendent C. C. Pryor for the accommodation of women and small children only, for women find as much pleasure as men in diving into the great tank, shooting the chutes and flopping from the two springboards.

Impromptu swimming races between men and women bathers are frequent occurrences at the baths, and to add to the joy of the day long strings of humanity, men or women holding to each other's ankles, often are seen shooting the chutes together, to end at the bottom in a great smother of spray and a general tangle.

There is good, clean, healthy fun at the baths, and people realize that fact, for daily the crowds of patrons are increasing. During the week parties come in the mornings or afternoon to

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Rev. J. A. Homan, Minister of Middle West, Declares Temperance Desirable

Considering Question From All Sides, Decides Liquor, in Moderation, Not Harmful

Rev. J. A. Homan, M. A., S. T. B., a clergyman prominent throughout the middle west for his learning and progressiveness, has just issued a scientific treatise on the liquor question that promises to cause unusual comment at this time of widespread prohibition agitation. For the minister, backing up his statements with data gleaned from every authoritative source in the world, has come out strongly as an advocate of the license system as a restriction of the liquor traffic and denouncing prohibition as a misguided movement, based upon false estimates that has caused misery, want and strife.

In the book's 116 pages the Rev. Mr. Homan discusses the liquor question in the light of scripture, physiology, legislation and political economy. He builds up his case against prohibition from a consideration of conditions in every place in which it has been attempted, and then indicates the movement in burning words as a bigot on the race. He defends the moderate drinker and declares that a moderate amount of liquor will hurt no adult.

"This essay on the liquor problem is offered to the American public without apology," the author states in a preface to his exposition. "It defends a cause that is grossly misrepresented at the present day—that of temperance in contradistinction to abstinence. If anything in the essay shall act as a tonic to restore healthy views on a much abused subject, the author will have been sufficiently rewarded."

In explaining his argument Rev. Mr. Homan declares that "the moderate drinker's ethical position is defended not only by the Scripture and Christian churches, but by natural law. * * * It will be universally conceded that one of these laws of nature is that every man may eat or drink whatever he pleases, so long as he does not injure himself thereby, or interfere with the rights of others. Now, by a strictly moderate use of alcoholic liquors, he will not, as we shall show, impair

his health in the least; but, on the contrary, promote it; and surely he does not trespass on the rights of others. Why should he, therefore, be forced to abstain from the exercise of his natural right?"

Copies of Rev. Mr. Homan's scientific treatise were received recently by the Knights of the Royal Arch in this city, and members of the order have perused with much interest the irrefutable arguments the clergyman advances to prove, by a study of the Scriptures, of physiology, of political economy and the effects of various legislative enactments, that prohibition leads to demoralization, excesses and, without depreciating to any great extent the amount of liquor consumed in a community, to a tremendous loss of revenue to the government.

In May, 1902, the grand lodge of the Knights of the Royal Arch was instituted in San Francisco with 14 subordinate lodges. Since that time it has maintained such a healthy growth that at the present date it boasts of 87 lodges, established in Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Arizona and California, with a combined membership of 12,000.

The order believes in and works for the abolishing of dives, for liberal licenses and for temperance, not prohibition. It protects the upbuilding of the liquor business, and its laws demand strictly that its members adhere to government, state and municipal laws. Severe penalties are prescribed for any infraction of the law, even to the revocation of licenses in certain instances.

Forming an important adjunct to the organization is the associate membership body of the grand lodge. Every member of this associate membership must be actively engaged in the business of wholesale wine or liquor merchants, brewers, or beer, soda, syphon and mineral water bottlers. Heartily in sympathy, the lodge and the associate members have succeeded in many instances in combating fanaticism and producing a sane view of the liquor question.—Adv.

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