



SACRAMENTO HOTEL



SUTTER'S FORT



SACRAMENTO HIGH SCHOOL



ELKS BUILDING



THE CAPITOL GROUNDS AT SACRAMENTO, IN WHICH ARE FOUND TREES OF ALL CLIMATES.

SACRAMENTO

By A. L. Crane, Secretary Sacramento Chamber of Commerce

Sacramento is growing by leaps and bounds. The population has practically doubled during the past six years. Business has grown proportionately. Property values have doubled, trebled and in some instances, quadrupled. The population when the last Federal census was taken was about thirty thousand. It is more than sixty thousand now and growing at the rate of ten thousand a year.

Sacramento is fairly alive with vim, vigor and enterprise. New railways, overland steam lines and interurban electric lines are building to and through the city. Many new enterprises, some of them involving millions of capital, have recently been established. Bank deposits and bank clearings for each month show a marked increase over the corresponding month of last year and of previous years. The city assessment roll increased thirty per cent in two years. The assessment of Sacramento County increased forty-seven per cent in the same period.

The rapid growth of Sacramento reflects a condition that is co-extensive with the Sacramento Valley. It is the result of an era of development due principally to the opening to settlement of Sacramento Valley lands. This settlement has only just begun; the millions of acres awaiting settlers is assurance of a much greater growth.

Sacramento is situated at the strategic point for the control of the commerce of this great valley empire, being at the head of tide water on the Sacramento River and at the natural point of convergence of railway lines crossing the State in any direction. It is and always will be the financial, commercial and railway center. It is also an important manufacturing center, having the main shops of the Southern Pacific and Western Pacific Railways. The combined advantages of water and rail transportation and of abundant power





in nearby mountain streams which electrical transmissions renders easily available, insure a large industrial development.

New buildings, public buildings, business blocks and homes, are visible evidences of this growth. Both the county of Sacramento and the city have undertaken large building enterprises during the past two years. The county is building a new courthouse and jail at a cost \$660,000; it is building 100 miles of macadamized roads with concrete bridges at a cost of \$825,000. The city is building a city hall at a cost of \$300,000, and has just completed a new high school building at a cost of \$250,000.

Sacramento is situated in the center of a vast area of fertile land. The improved sections are among the richest to be found in the State. In the river delta below this point there are a hundred thousand acres of reclaimed lands that rival in fertility the Valley of the Nile. At Florin, Elk Grove and Galt, large areas are devoted to berries, grapes and fruit. This is the center of the Tokay belt. Along the American and the Cosumnes Rivers are alfalfa and corn fields, fruits and grapes. At Fair Oaks and Orangevale large areas are devoted to oranges, olives, lemons, figs and other fruits. This county contains the principal strawberry district of the State, produces the bulk of asparagus crop and furnishes beans to the markets of the world. Practically all the peaches, pears, plums, grapes and other deciduous fruits shipped from this State pass through Sacramento. Eighty-five per cent are grown within a radius of fifty miles. ,,

Throughout the Sacramento Valley great ranches are being offered for sale in farm tracts. Some of these are near this city, all must contribute to Sacramento's growth. Among the most important developments now pending is a sale, for colonization purposes, of the Haggin ranch of 42,000 acres, which adjoins the city north, and the recent purchase for the purpose of reclamation and colonization of 60,000 acres of swamp lands east of the river near the city.

