## Pontiac

THE CAPITAL OF BEAUTIFUL OAKLAND COUNTY—CIVIC, COMMERCIAL and INDUSTRIAL FEATURES

ONTIAC, Michigan is located in Oakland County about twenty-five miles north and west of the city of Detroit. Oakland County with its four hundred lakes is the natural Summer Wonderland of Michigan. Threaded with its hundreds of miles of modern concrete, and graveled roads, and with its golf courses and summer hotels by the dozens, it offers unusual attractions to the motorists and summer tourists. Not only is this County an ideal Summer resort, but as an Industrial and Agricultural County it ranks very high. Many of its farms and country estates are conceded to be not only among the finest in Michigan, but to compare very favorably with the famous estates on the Hudson, just outside of New York City. The city is especially proud of its school system. The High School is one of the most modern and beautiful in the country. Junior College studies are taught in connection with the high school curriculum so that the city is especially well taken care of from the standpoint of preparation for the college and university courses. The grade schools of the city are very modern and are given very careful attention. In addition to the public schools, St. Vincent de Paul's Catholic Church maintains a strong Parochial School with high school grades. At Orchard Lake, a distance of five miles, is located St. Mary's Seminary, a theological school for Polish voung men. The churches of the city are strong and growing rapidly in membership, and play a large part in directing the growth of Pontiac along the proper lines. The city is dependent for transportation upon three lines of the Grand Trunk Railway, being connected with Detroit by the Detroit and Grand Haven Division of these lines. The Pontiac, Oxford and Northern Division of the Grand Trunk runs northeast into the Thumb District of Michigan and the Air Line branch of the same road furnishes connections with eastern and western points. It also has direct double track electric line connections with Detroit on the Detroit United Railway and is connected with various lake points in the county by the Orchard Lake Division of the same line.

The city also has efficient Bus service to Detroit, busses leaving Pontiac every twenty minutes. The new two hundred-foot concrete highway between Pontiac and Detroit is about half finished. This, when completed, will be one of America's most wonderful highways. It will be electric lighted the entire distance.

For light and power the city is served by the Consumers Power Company, a branch of the Commonwealth Corporation. The Gas plant is controlled by the same company. The street railways are operated by the Detroit United Railway Company; the Water Works are municipally

owned—the water supply is furnished from deep wells and furnishes the city with pure, cold water.

Pontiac has one daily newspaper, the Pontiac Daily Press, which has a large circulation in the city and county and which exerts a very wholesome influence upon the community, due to the keen interest of its management in all that pertains to the civic welfare of the community.

The city has three strong banks and one Trust Company, which have resources of over \$22,000,000.00. A Mortgage Investment Company with a capital of \$1,500,000.00 gives encouragement to home builders.

Pontiac is especially fortunate in the financial backing enjoyed by its principal industries. The General Motors Corporation has three large industries in the city, the Oakland Motor Car Company, the General Motors Truck Company and the Fisher Body Company, manufacturers of Oakland, Chevrolet and Buick bodies. The Wilson Foundry & Machine Company, manufacturers of Willys-Knight and Overland engines, is closely affiliated with the Willys-Overland Automobile Company of Toledo. The Eaton Axle and Spring Company, manufacturers of auto springs, General Accessories Company, manufacturing automobile accessories, the Columbia Motor Truck Company, manufacturers of Columbia trucks. The Jewett Radio Corporation has just completed its new factory and broadcasting station. This broadcasting station is one of the most powerful in America. Other prominent and thriving industries are the Briscoe Devices Company, American Forging & Socket Company, Pontiac Varnish Company, Pontiac Paint Company, Hubbard Spring Works, Pontiac Exterminating Company, the Jig Bushing Company, the American Standard Tool Company, Baldwin Rubber Company, Boice Brothers, large manufacturers of brick; Pontiac Die Tool & Machine Company, Van Auken Top Company, Angle Bumper Company, Nelson-Boode Trap Company, the Oliver Bottling Works and many others.

The government of the city has been Commission-Manager in form since 1920. In every city some organization must centralize the general activity of the city in commercial and industrial lines and in civic betterment. The Board of Commerce is the logical organization in Pontiac. It is the instrumentality through which enterprising business men co-operate to make a greater and better city. It concentrates the best business activities of the municipality and affords an agency through which all can work for civic uplift. There must be such an organization if our civic spirit is to be kept alive and intelligently directed. The Board has been a progressive and potent factor in the advancement of the city and its unity of purpose and plans still further insure its continued prosperity. The Board of Commerce of Pontiac is quartered in its own home on East Huron Street. A Cafe is maintained which is open to the general public and which is very popular.

## STATISTICAL FACTS ABOUT PONTIAC

AERA: Eight and four-tenths square miles. Altitude 890 to 10,000 feet above sea level.

Assessed Valuation, 1925, \$52,188,040.00. Bonded Debt, \$2,555,750.00. Tax Rate of City, 1925, \$17.24.

Birth Rate per 1,000, 22.9. Death Rate per 1,000, 9.14.

Miles of Streets, 128.7. Miles of Paving, 28. Miles of Public Sewers, 80.85. Miles of Electric Street Railway, 14½. Miles of Gas Mains, 88.9. Parks and Parkways, 10. Number of Parks, 6. Number of Acres, 234.1. Values, \$215,000.00

WATER WORKS: Capacity, 16,000,000 gallons per day. Daily average number of gallons pumped, 4,000,000. Miles of Water Mains, 102½. Value of Plant, \$1,771,000.00.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Number of Men, 43. Number of Station Houses, 2. Number of Autos, 1. Number of Hose and Chemical Wagons, 2. Number of Hook and Ladder Trucks, 2. Number of Pumping Engines, 3. Value of Buildings and Lots, \$87,000.00. Value of Apparatus, \$32,693.00

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Number of Teachers, 243. School Census, 9,600. Value of Property, \$2,800,000.00. Parochial and Diocesan, 2. Miscellaneous, 1.

Number of Churches, 31. Number of Books in Public Library, 10,500.

Post Office Receipts, 1924, \$156,518.37.

Number of Banks and Trust Companies, 4. Bank Deposits, \$18,611,528.00.

Number of Theatres and Motion Picture Houses, 4. Seating Capacity, 3,867.

A fine, Nine-hole Municipal Golf Course has just been opened.

Number of Hospitals, 2. Funds subscribed for a new \$500,000.00 Hospital to be erected at once.

Number of Hotels, 6.

MANUFACTURING: Number of Factories, 40. Number of Operatives, 13,000. Wages Paid Annually, \$14,000,000.00. Value of Annual Output, \$79,000,000.00.

Number of Building Permits issued in 1924, 1,183. Value of Building Permits, \$1,915,393.00