

SOLANO IN LEGISLATURE

Governor's Maritime School Support Gets Plaudits Here

By STATE SENATOR
LUTHER E. GIBSON

Governor Edmund G. Brown visited the California Maritime Academy at Vallejo last week and pledged that "as long as I am governor I will do all in my power to make this academy bigger and better as the years go on."

It was my pleasure to accompany the governor and other officials on this visit because I believe it is important to increase the knowledge of our top state officials of state institutions located in our county. As the senator from this district, and prior to that as a member of the Board of Governors of the Academy, I have maintained a close interest in this important educational institution.



SEN. GIBSON

Only nine years ago a determined effort was made in the Legislature to abolish the school here, but once success was gained in that fight, the academy has grown larger and stronger with the passage of time.

This year the Legislature appropriated an additional \$900,000 for the construction and equipping of a new engineering building at the academy. The State Division of Architecture is currently in the process of preparing detailed plans and specifications for that structure and it is probable that a call for construction bids will be made early next year.

With the completion of this newest unit in the post-war building program the total state investment in buildings and facilities at the school will exceed \$3,600,000 and this does not include the training ship Golden Bear, the school's landmark on Carquinez Strait, which is owned by the Federal government and is on loan to the academy for its training program.

The present enrollment is 236

students who, if they successfully complete the course, will graduate with the degree of bachelor of science, commissions as ensigns in the Naval Reserve, and licenses as second officers, or second engineering officers in the Merchant Marine.

As a unit of the state college system, the academy graduates its students in three years although each academic year is longer than the similar semesters at other institutions of learning—and in each school year the entire student body sail as the crew of the Golden Bear on a several months cruise to foreign ports.

STATE FACILITIES

While naturally an institution of this type serves the state as a whole it is equally natural that the district in which it is located, and the legislators from that district, must take a position of leadership in efforts to secure funds for expansion and improvement as this becomes necessary. This applies not only to the Maritime Academy but to such other items as the California Medical Facility at Vacaville, the Napa State Hospital (out of our county but at which many of our people are employed and by which they are served), state parks and other similar facilities or programs.

We are fortunate to have these institutions in Solano County and I am certainly pleased to do everything possible on their behalf, and to have the governor express his positive support for the Maritime Academy program.

T-H
Sea S
U.S.
May

Federal ap
four State I
including t
time Acade
almost doubl
amount rec
dent Eisenh
is approved

Cong. Joh
Martinez st
the Presiden
the sum of
Year 1960
Maritime A
most twice
which was
last year a
ing years.

Baldwin s
tional appro
resulted fro
year by the
law provide
direct grant
ernment to
Academy
creased allo
uniforms, t
sistence.

Baldwin s
to submit
House App
tee for th