

S. S. California State.

# California Maritime Academy

**D**URING THE TREMENDOUS training program of the United States Maritime Service the importance of the State Maritime

Academy services has been somewhat obscured by the flood of publicity attending the larger effort. However, these older and more conservative

institutions have been functioning consistently and graduating carefully trained officers for the merchant marine.

California Maritime Academy.



The California Maritime Academy was established by legislation enacted in 1929 for the purpose of training young men for service as officers in the United States Merchant Marine. At the present time, the length of the course is two years and graduates are awarded licenses as Third Mates or Third Assistant Engineers, a commission as Ensign in the United States Maritime Service, and a commission as Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve. For new incoming classes, the length of the course will be three years, and graduates will be awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree and will probably receive a license as Second Mate or Second Assistant Engineer instead of Third Mate or Third Assistant Engineer, in addition to their commissions in the United States Naval Reserve and United States Maritime Service.

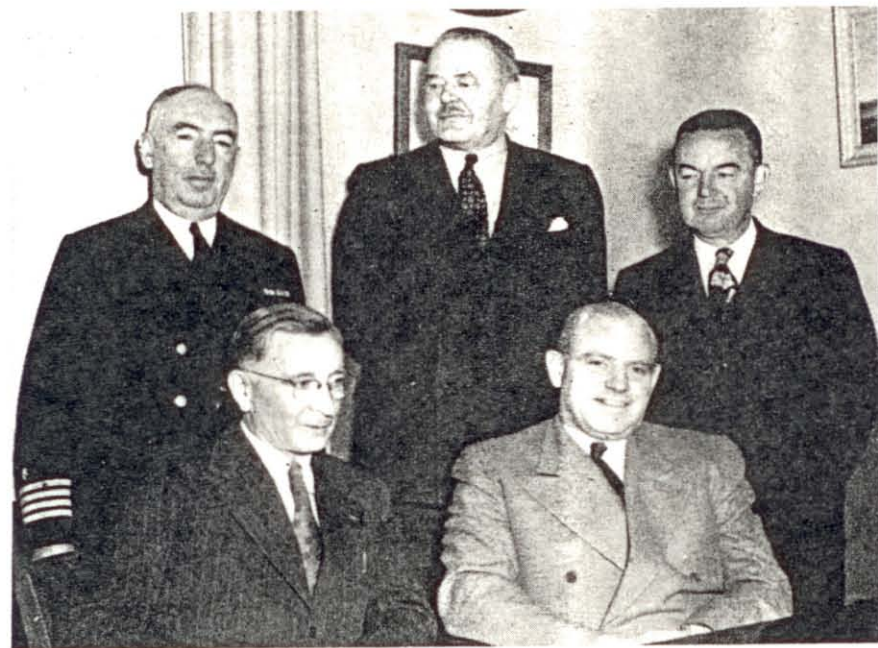


The C.M.A. is a unit of the State Department of Education and derives its financial support from both State and Federal sources. A Board of Governors, composed of five members, four appointed by the Governor of the State of California, and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, is charged with the general operation, management and control of the institution.

The active and immediate management and operation of the Academy is vested in the Superintendent, Captain Claude B. Mayo, U. S. Navy (ret.), who is appointed by the Board of Governors with the approval of the United States Navy Department. Instructors have been selected by Captain Mayo and the United States Navy for qualities of practical experience and training in their specialties, their ability to impart their knowledge to the students, and their personality, including the ability to deal with young men without friction.

The first class in the California Maritime Academy entered in March, 1931, and graduated in August, 1933. With the exception of 1936 and 1937, when reduced appropriations forced restriction, there has been a fine class graduating every year. During the war years the program was stepped up and three classes were graduated in 1942, two in 1943, and two in 1944. The grand total since the inception amounts to 588 midshipmen, 265 from the engineer department and 325 from deck department.

The record of accomplishment in any school is best measured by the progress of its graduates. Of the 588 graduates mentioned above, practically every one, with the exception of those who gave their lives in the service of their country, is still an officer in the merchant marine. Over 90 of these now hold masters' licenses, 95 or more are chief mates,



Top of page, back row, left to right: Lieutenants T. L. Dunlop, G. L. Davis, H. M. Bennett, H. M. Pedersen, S. P. Norman and Mr. D. Warick. Front row, left to right: Lieutenants J. F. Summerill and George E. Brackett, Comdr. Lester Martin, Capt. C. B. Mayo, Lieut. Comdr. C. H. Tubbs and Lieut. R. D. Heron. Center: Standing are Capt. J. E. Brenner, Capt. Henry Blackstone, and L. E. Gibson. Sitting are Dr. Joel A. Burkman and Ralph D. Sweeney.

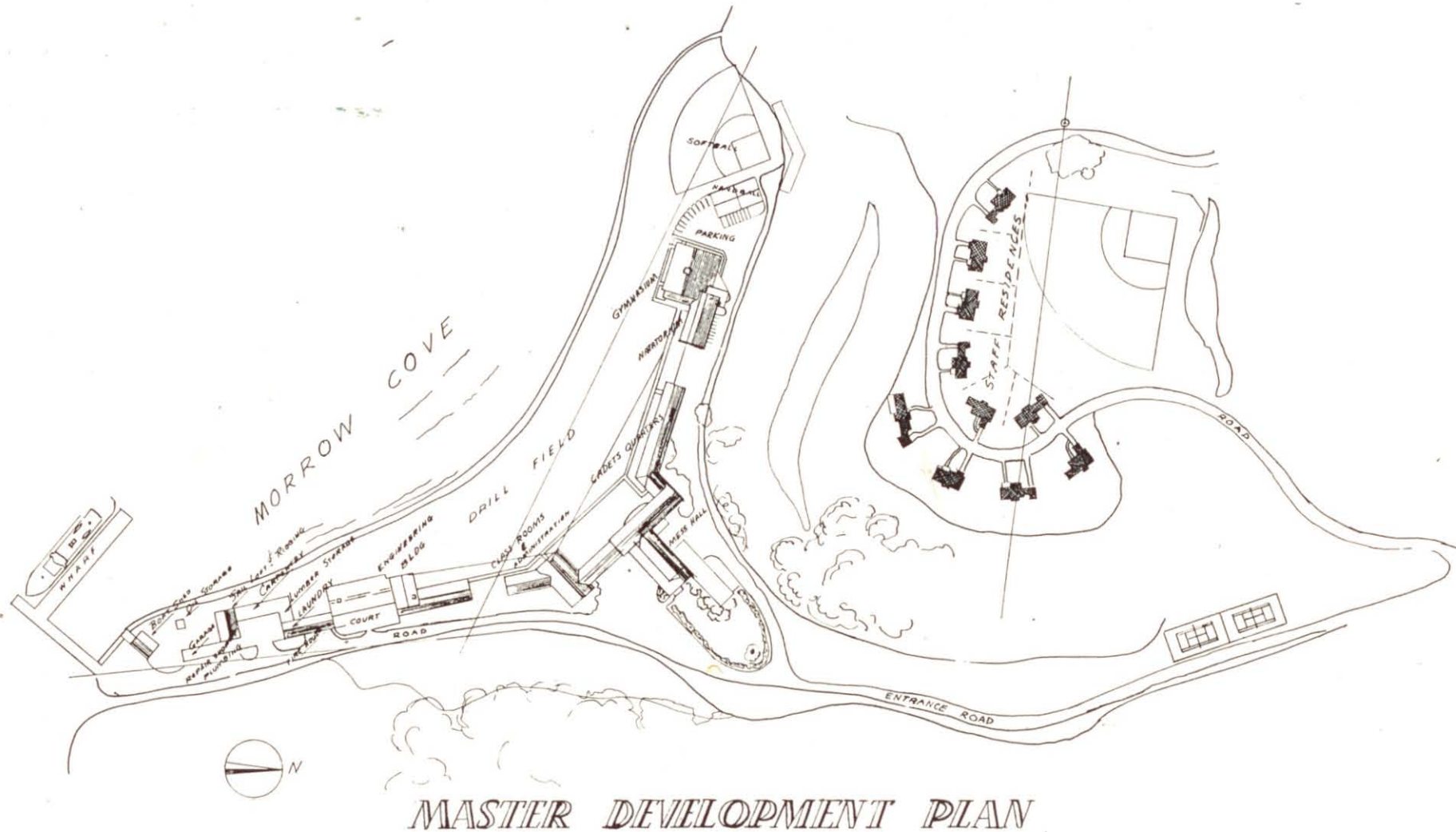
Mess hall.

Barracks.

Administration Building.







California Maritime Academy, Morrow Cove, California.



over 50 are chief engineers, approximately 75 are first assistant engineers, and the balance are second or third mates or assistant engineers. One graduate won his master's papers at the age of 22, and another his chief engineer's license at the age of 21. This seems to us abundant proof that the course given at C.M.A. fits the graduate not only for his first license as a deck or engineer officer, but also for rapid advancement at sea and ashore.

Since August, 1943, the C.M.A. has had its shoreside location at Morrow Cove, Carquinez Straits, San Francisco Bay, where the State of California had acquired 67 acres of land for that purpose. The State Legislature appropriated approximately \$2,000,000 for the construction of a permanent shore establishment at this site. Some \$500,000 of this two million has already been expended for docks, fills, cuts, and temporary buildings. A gymnasium, a natatorium, an armory, and five staff residences are now under construction, at a total cost of \$285,000.

Program for future construction includes: seamanship building, boat shed, and sail loft, \$62,000; engineering building and power house, \$147,000; classroom and administration building, \$139,000; mess hall, \$92,000; and cadet quarters, \$300,000.

This permanent building program was begun in September with the laying of a cornerstone for the gymnasium.

Morrow Cove is in many ways an ideal site for the academy, and the architect has taken full advantage of the natural beauty of this location. One of the principal state highways borders the campus at its rear and the buildings and docks front on the deep salt water of Carquinez Straits. A short distance away on one side is Vallejo and the great Mare Island Navy Yard, and on the other the great cantilever bridge which carries the highway across the straits. At the south approach to this bridge lies the town of Crockett, built around the largest cane sugar refinery in the United States, and along the south shore of the straits and the adjacent waters are some of the largest oil refineries and chemical plants in the State.

Frequent excursions to Bay Area industrial plants are part of the curriculum, so that the midshipmen get first hand contact with many of the sources of future ship business and

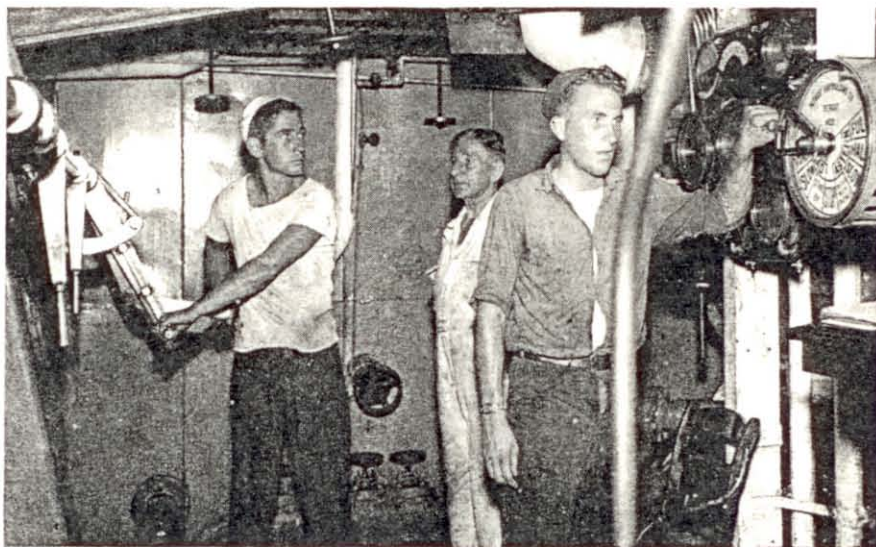
with shipbuilding and ship repair.

A school ship, S.S. California State, is an integral part of the academy. During intervals between cruises she is berthed at the academy dock. Here the midshipmen stand watch and do repair and maintenance work. Steam is kept up and the vessel is continually in use for demonstration and even classroom purposes. When cruising, the midshipmen form the crew of the vessel and put into practice the lessons they have learned in the classrooms.

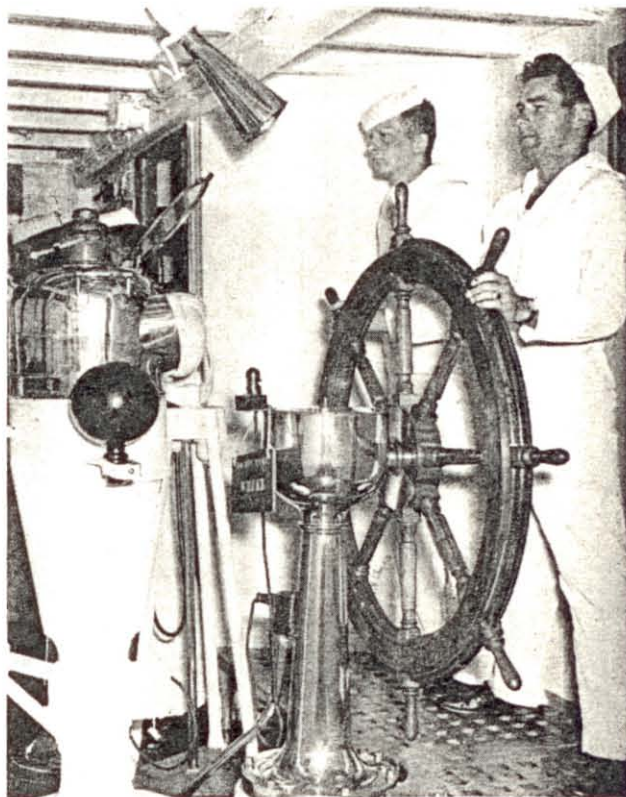
For the duration of the war cruises

were limited to San Francisco Bay. Prior to the war S.S. California State sailed on very ambitious cruises, including circumnavigation of the world; round South America; Hawaii, New Zealand and Australia; and intercoastal to the Atlantic ports of the United States. Such cruises will now be resumed.

In July, 1940, the State Academies were all transferred from the Navy Department to the Maritime Commission and that body now has associated responsibility for their support and guidance.



Above: Cadets at engine controls, S. S. California State.



Right: Cadets steering in wheelhouse, S. S. California State.