

## Twentieth Century - The First Half



From that dark Saturday morning in 1901 to the closing days of 1950 Jacksonville's growth has been steady and rapid. From the 29,000 people who witnessed the fire, its population had grown to over 200,000.

The dedication of this magnificent new City Hall marks the closing of the old City Hall which was built in 1903 for a population of a little over 30,000. By 1912, it was already inadequate and the city, for the last 48 years, has had to use makeshift space wherever this space could be found.

This new building contains 220,000 square feet of floor space. Here all city offices with whom the public has contacts will be located, and it will be from here that daily direction will be given over the City's 4,125 employees and from which our \$67,000,000 annual budget will be administered.

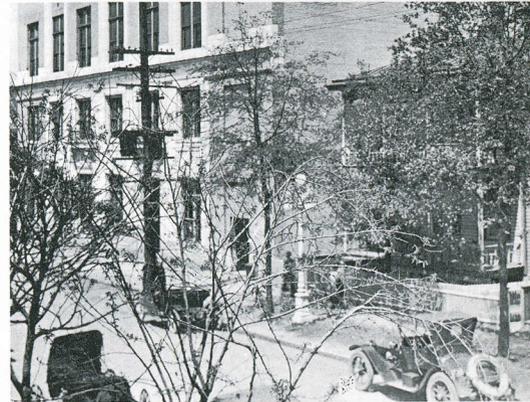
In these fifty years the City's growth and progress has paralleled that of the State of Florida. More and more, as all of our fifty states and the world has become conscious of this land of sunshine, Jacksonville has become its gateway . . . a gateway through which millions have passed to gain prosperity, security, a happy and rich home life for their families and recreation . . . Recreation with a capital R.

Naturally it has not all been smooth sailing. Jacksonville and the State, were temporarily retarded by the Panic of 1907, the burst of the Florida boom in 1926, the great Wall Street crash of 1929 and the gripping depression of the early Thirties.

But the course has always been forward.



*Bay Street . . . in 1892*



*These houses stood at Julia and Adams, where the George Washington Hotel was erected in 1926.*



*The Roosevelt Hotel now occupies site of "Arcade Select Rooming House" located there prior to 1925.*

*Main power plant built in 1912 on Talleyrand Avenue. Jacksonville has the nation's first municipally-owned electric system.*

