

FOREWORD

Uniquely productive, the San Francisco Bay bountifully provides living resources, recreation and waste assimilation to the many people that inhabit its shores. Its stock of fin- and shell-fish are important sources of food and recreation, and its scenic beauty provides pleasure to the masses that are fortunate enough to be able to partake of it.

Although its shores have been populated since before the turn of the century, San Francisco Bay has received surprisingly little scientific study until the environmental awareness movement of the late 1960's and 1970's. Additionally, few, if any, scientific meetings and symposia devoted to the Bay's ecosystem have been held. It, therefore, seemed very appropriate to hold a symposium on the San Francisco Bay system in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Pacific Section of the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography held June 12-16, 1977 at San Francisco State University, San Francisco, California. The symposium was held as a plenary session on 13 June 1977 under the sponsorship of the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography and in affiliation with the Pacific Division, American Association for the Advancement of Science.

This volume includes most of the papers presented at the symposium and some additional chapters written since then. It is hoped it will serve as a useful reference on how the San Francisco Bay system functions biologically, chemically, geologically, and physically, both for scientists and for the persons responsible for managing the Bay's resources.

I should like to express my appreciation to T. John Conomos for organization of the symposium and for efficiently conducting the difficult task of extracting the written material from authors, and editing it. Without his perseverance, this volume would never have come about. Further, I wish to take note of the decision of the Executive Committee of the Pacific Division, AAAS for undertaking the publication of this volume, which initiates the Division's new "Symposium Series." The members of the Pacific Division, AAAS and of its affiliated societies are the longterm beneficiaries of this action.

John J. Goering, *President*
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of Limnology and Oceanography
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