

erson Sanderson was prominent in several business organizations, including a trustee of the Chamber of Commerce, a director and two-term president of the board of trade, and president of the Merchants' Club. He also was a member of the Territorial Pioneers of California.

In 1890, San Francisco had 298,997 residents, and the city, consolidated with the county of the same name, was governed by a mayor and board of supervisors. Sanderson received the Republican nomination for mayor that year, and he won the 4 November election, partly because the Democratic party was divided between reformers and boss Christopher Buckley's faction. Sanderson polled 20,957 votes to Democrat William F. Goad's 15,790, Independent Charles C. O'Donnell's 17,054, and Reform Democrat James M. McDonald's 1,408. Like earlier San Francisco mayors of the 1880s, Sanderson recorded few notable achievements during his term, in part because the city charter inhibited leadership by dispersing power, and in part because in San Francisco good administration typically was viewed as carefully limiting government expenditures. In 1892, Sanderson, along with ten Republican supervisors, failed to win renomination; factions led by party bosses Martin Kelley and Phil Crimmins controlled the convention and presumably preferred their own men. Sanderson also failed to win the mayoral nomination of the reform nonpartisan organization which ran Levi R. Eliert (*q.v.*) instead. On 1 February 1893, after having been ill for some time, Sanderson died in San Francisco of pneumonia and was buried in the city, after funeral services at the First Presbyterian Church.

SOURCES: Lincoln Grammar School records for Henry E. Sanderson (California Historical Society); *San Francisco Call*, 2 February 1893; *San Francisco Chronicle*, 30 November 1890 and 2 February 1893; *San Francisco Examiner*, September–October 1892 and 2 February 1893; George H. Tinkham, *A History of Stockton* . . . (San Francisco, 1880).

Michael Griffith

SAWYER, BENAIR C. (1822–1908). Mayor of Pittsburgh (1862–64). Sawyer was born in Pittsburgh on 18 October 1822, son of a wealthy soap manufacturer of the same name. With a good education he became a printer but returned to the family business. Politically minded, he was elected to both the common and select councils several times before he was twenty-seven. From 1849 he ran for mayor almost perennially as a Whig and Republican. The city, with about 55,000 population when he became mayor, had two councils.

In the election of 1862, Sawyer defeated former Mayor Henry A. Weaver (*q.v.*), Union party, by 2,701 to 2,167 votes. Little occurred during his administration until he

announced he would seek a second term. Then a storm broke out, with charges of scandalous misconduct. The charges were never proved, but in the primary he was low man in a three-man race, and his father was caught redhanded stuffing a ballot box.

Following this defeat, Sawyer returned to soapmaking to replace his father, who died in January 1865. The business failed during the Panic of 1873, sweeping away the whole fortune. In 1876, he went to Colorado and entered the mining business, quickly making another fortune. In 1880, he moved to Denver, became a major in the National Guard, and held a number of state political positions. Sawyer moved still further west to Los Angeles in 1895 and went into real estate, successfully.

At some time in his career, Sawyer married Catherine Aiken, who bore him a son and three daughters. Apparently he was married twice, for two sons and a daughter survived him. He died in Los Angeles on 13 March 1908.

SOURCES: Allen Humphreys Kerr, "The Mayors and Records of Pittsburgh, 1816–1951" (typescript, 1952, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh); *Los Angeles Examiner*, 15 March 1908; *Denver Post*, 5 March 1908.

George Swenham

SCHAEFER, WILLIAM DONALD (1921–), Democratic Mayor of Baltimore (1971–). Schaefer was born in Baltimore on 2 November 1921, the son of William Henry Schaefer and Tululu Irene Schaefer, both of German heritage and both Episcopalian.

His father was a lawyer, and the son followed in his footsteps, earning the LL.B. degree in 1942 and the Master of Laws in 1951 from the University of Baltimore. He served in the Army between 1942 and 1945, as a colonel.

The city of Baltimore, 850,000 in size, has a so-called strong mayor form of government. The city charter provides for a council of nineteen members, three elected from each of six districts, plus a president elected city-wide. The council is empowered to set the property tax rate, cut the mayor's proposed budget, and confirm nominations. But the real power, particularly in an era of massive state and federal aid to cities, is given to the board of estimates, which makes all fiscal operational decisions. While the president of the city council is president of the board of estimates, the mayor is also a member and controls two more votes of the five-member board through appointment. A Democrat, Schaefer served on the city council, 1952–67 and was its president, 1967–71. In 1971, Schaefer won the mayoralty election, defeating R. Z. Pierpont by a vote of 120,725 to 17,680. The mayor, a bachelor, has devoted his life to his city. He also demands high levels of accomplishment from

himself and others who work for him. This trait, together with the strength of his position and character, enables him to attract many able subordinates.

In 1975, Schaefer defeated the mayoral challenger, C. M. Chandler, by a 91,335 to 16,036 vote. A recent analysis of Schaefer's first eight years (two terms) gave him high marks for achievement but lower grades when compared with Thomas J. D'Alesandro (*q.v.*), on his image for humanness and sense of identity with the less fortunate. Baltimore was at least 47 percent black by 1970. Mayor Schaefer encouraged economic development as an important source of jobs for lower class and middle-class people. More recently, the promotion of tourism, eight years in the planning, has taken a major priority. The mayor has cooperated with law enforcement officials only to see crime rates rise and fall and rise again. He has frequently become involved in fights over expressways. He sees them as an economic advantage but has often been forced to compromise with irate citizens of threatened local neighborhoods. In other ways, he encourages these same citizens to organize. Stadium improvements, an aquarium, and what some call the finest waterfront development program in the entire United States are among his achievements. He has also worked hard to improve the city's schools, which were victims of *de facto* segregation and ineffective leadership during the first half of the decade.

Schaefer cut his urban teeth as a member of Baltimore's prestigious Citizens' Planning and Housing Association. As mayor, he worked with Commissioner Robert Embry to bring many federal funds to the city and used them creatively. Schaefer is a fiscal conservative and has therefore been able to keep the city's bond rating high during a period of urban collapse elsewhere. Finally, Schaefer has claimed to push Baltimore's neighborhoods as major sources of civic strength. He continuously praises them and attends their events. He has decentralized city government by placing eleven mayor's stations throughout the city where citizens can receive help and can communicate with local representatives of city hall.

Schaefer has sought to blend fiscal accountability, public works improvements, political sensitivity, and civic pride to lift his city's hopes and aspirations. As a result, Baltimore is experiencing a claimed renaissance. In November 1974, he was reelected by a vote of 118,706 to 25,072 (S. A. Culotta) to his third four-year term. While some contemporaries speak derisively of his authoritarian style, history may well record him as one of Baltimore's greatest mayors.

SOURCES: Baltimore Mayor's office biography, *New York Times Biographical Service*.

W. T. Durr

SCHEU, SOLOMON (1822-88). Mayor of Buffalo (1878-79). German-born Democrat councilman, and briefly mayor. Scheu played a minor political role in Buffalo's past. Born on 6 January 1822 at Standenbuehl, Bavaria, he was the son of Henry Jacob Scheu, a prosperous farmer and landowner, and Catharina (Hepp) Scheu, neither of whom chose to leave Germany. One of several sons of a Lutheran family, he emigrated to the United States with one brother in 1839, at the age of seventeen, settling in Buffalo in 1844. Entering in business ventures which included lumber-dealing and bakery operations, the Scheu brothers became prominent in Buffalo's sizable German population. Scheu married German-born Catharina Rink (1804-99), a Bavarian Lutheran (as he was) in 1847, and they had seven sons and a daughter, all but two sons surviving into adulthood. After his marriage, Scheu and his wife began a small but prosperous grocery business, which the family maintained until his death in 1888. His political career began with election as an elderman from the predominantly German-ethnic Sixth Ward in 1853, a post he occupied consistently until his temporary election to city hall, twenty-five years later.

Buffalo in 1878 had approximately 150,000 inhabitants and a mayor-council form of government. A Democrat, Scheu actively pursued the nomination for mayor, beating the incumbent mayor, Republican Philip Becker (*q.v.*), a fellow Bavarian immigrant, by a small plurality. That he was defeated in a subsequent bid for the Democratic nomination suggests that Scheu was an unpopular mayor. His brief term of office appears to have been unsatisfying, for despite continued support from his ward constituency, he henceforth refrained from elected political office. Scheu was appointed to the Erie County Board of Trade, on which he served for several years.

Scheu continued to run his grocery business after his political retirement. All of his primary outside interests were associated with the Lutheran Church, from which he was buried with great honors upon his death on 23 November 1888.

SOURCES: J. F. Barry, ed., *The Buffalo Text Book* (Buffalo, 1924); *Buffalo Commercial Advertiser*, 24, 26, 28 November 1888; *Buffalo Times*, 16 November 1919.
W. Andrew Achenbaum

SCHIRO, VICTOR H. (1904-) Mayor of New Orleans (1961-70). Mayor of New Orleans when the South and the nation were experiencing great social and economic changes. Schiro provided calm, quiet leadership, and the result was peace and order in his city while other communities were torn by racial strife. Schiro was born in Chicago on 28 May 1904, second child of Andrew Edward Schiro and Mary Pizzali Schiro, both Roman