



The BEAUMONT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Beaumont, Texas

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Beaumont With Its Inland Harbor and 30-Foot Channel to the Sea Is Served by Steamship Lines to All the World

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HE first part of the story of Beaumont begins with the trader who sat on the bank of the Neches river a hundred years ago and traded things with settlers from up the river, across the river and the interior. That he was sitting on a treasure house never entered the head of this trader. Nor did it enter the minds of his customers that their trading was a faint hint of the world-round commerce that would one day be carried on from this spot. Neither did it enter the minds of the trader and his customers that some day great ocean ships would come up this river, drop anchor, unload cargoes, take on others and sail away to ports scattered about the world.

That little trading post is now Beaumont, one of Texas' largest and most important cities. It is the capital of Jefferson county and the commercial and financial capital of the Sabine-Neches district. By air-line the city is less than thirty-five miles from the Gulf. Down the ship channel it is forty-nine miles to open water.

Beaumont serves a trade territory with a population of 500,000, embracing a large part of East and Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana. To the people of this area, Beaumont is their metropolis.

Like the pioneers of any new country, the early settlers of Beaumont devoted their time to agriculture and livestock. Beyond making syrup from sugar cane and operating a few crude sawmills, these people gave little thought to the industrial possibilities of their town.



# The Story of T

Airplane View of Business Section—Industrial Island in Background

The industrial awakening of Beaumont began with the lumber industry some time after the city was founded. As Beaumont is located on the southern rim of the yellow pine district of East Texas, it soon became known as the center of the lumber industry in Texas.



New Million Dollar High School With 23-Acre Campus

Lumber provided and continues to provide an important portion of its export cargoes.

Rice farming was the next step in the development of the Beaumont area. In the early '90s the first crop was planted. So successful has the rice crop been that today Beaumont is one of the outstanding rice growing and milling centers of the United States. Here ends the first part of the story of Beaumont.



**Pearl Street** 

The second part of the story has no ending. For industrial Beaumont is young . . . so young and vigorous that no one would have the temerity to say where it is going. Its possibilities are so great that none dares predict their extent.

The second part of the story begins in 1901 when the famous Lucas Gusher in Spindle Top Field blew in with a roar that was heard around the world. It was a 100,000-barrel well, and so unheard of that special trains carrying thousands of people from all parts of the United States came to see it.

The Lucas well was the beginning of one of the world's greatest oil fields, the beginning of one of the world's greatest industries. Since that time Spindle Top Field has produced more than 100,000,000 barrels of oil, and Beaumont has become the center of the largest oil and refining industry in the world. The Gulf Refining Company and Texas Company started here.

But Beaumont has other claims to a place among cities. Converting the Neches river into a ship channel from Beaumont to the Gulf of Mexico has made the city one of the



Municipal Building and Auditorium

width of 150 feet and a minimum depth of 30 feet. Tonnage handled at the port has increased each year until today it exceeds 12,000,000 tons annually.

Land in the Beaumont area has been made more productive and valuable through extensive irrigation and drainage projects. This work has given new impetus to agriculture in this section. Production of such crops as cotton, rice, cow peas, corn, vegetables, figs, oranges, etc., has greatly increased. Industrial development since 1901 has equaled that of agriculture, lumber and oil. Abundant fuel, ample power, vast supplies of raw materials, excellent shipping facilities, rail and water, and a dependable supply of labor have induced many manufacturers to locate here.

Without civic pride no city can grow. Without something to be proud of no city can engender civic pride. Beaumont has civic pride in fullest measure, a civic pride that reaches beyond the city limits to the entire Sabine-Neches district.

The city is governed by the city manager form of government. It has many fine churches, excellent schools, beautiful homes, well paved streets. Its climate is delightful. Summers are cooled by Gulf breezes. Winters are warmed by a semi-tropical sun. Outdoor play and recreation go on the year 'round. There are hunting and fishing to thrill the heart of the sportsman.

Beaumont's future growth will come from two sources: Industry and agriculture. Excellent opportunities await many kinds of industry. Workers are intelligent native white men and women. Power, fuel, raw materials and transportation facilities are ample for all industrial needs. Here are soil, climate and close-by markets for agriculture.

country's greatest ports. The first hint of the city's future place among ports came in 1903 when the S. S. Nicaragua came up the Neches river and then dropped anchor in Beaumont. Since then the ship channel has been widened until now it has a bottom



**Orleans Street** 

## **Port Facilities** and Shipping

NLIKE the tides of the sea, the tides of commerce set in only to those shores where they are encouraged and made welcome, where they are helped to grow. The effectiveness of Beaumont's encouragement and assistance to world commerce is vividly expressed in a couple of sets of figures. In 1917, the total tonnage handled at the Port of Beaumont was 674,058. Today it totals more than 12,000,000 tons yearly.

More than 600 ocean-going ships call at Beaumont annually for cargo. Of this number, more than half are oil tankers. Each tanker has a capacity of 35,000 to 100,000 barrels of either crude or refined oil. The remaining ships are "dry cargo". They take on lumber, cotton, rice and other products for ports in every corner of the world.

Although the first steamship put into Beaumont in 1908, it was not until 1916 that a

ship channel down the Neches river to the Gulf was opened. The channel now has a bottom width of 150 feet and a minimum depth of 30 feet.

Beaumont docks are municipally owned. They are in the very heart of the business district. A little distance below these are the docks of the Magnolia Petroleum Company and the Yount-Lee Oil Company. Close by are various docks belonging to the Sun Oil Company, Texas Company and the Atlantic Refining Company. The total amount added to Beaumont's foreign trade by these various companies is about \$80,000,000 yearly.

Warehousing facilities are modern and are constantly being enlarged and improved to care for the always increasing foreign trade. Leading railroads serving the port have approved the Port Commission's plans for taking care of commercial development.



**Municipal Docks and Wharves** 

The completion of a 25,000-bale capacity warehouse and the installation of high density compresses in 1927 made possible the shipment of cotton from the Beaumont port. Even greater facilities and increased storage capacity are being planned.

From the interior, Beaumont is served by the Southern Pacific Lines, the Missouri Pacific System, the Santa Fe and the Kansas City Southern.

In 1929 the Clyde-Mallory Line established an annual West Indies cruise. The S. S. Shawnee sailed from Beaumont that year with the largest excursion ever to sail out of the Gulf of Mexico for Havana, Cuba; Port-au-Prince, Haiti; San Juan, Porto Rico; St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, and San Domingo City, Dominican Republic.

In 1930, the S. S. Shawnee left Beaumont with the largest excursion ever to sail from the United States for Mexico City by way of Vera Cruz; Havana, Cuba; Kingston, Jamaica, and the Panama Canal Zone.

Up the Neches a short distance from the Municipal Docks is the plant of the Pennsylvania





**Railway Systems Serving Beaumont** 

Shipyards Company. The plant is equipped with a 3,500-ton lift dry dock and for construction and repair work. A new 10,000-ton floating dry dock is planned by the company.

Latest Loading Equipment at Port of Beaumont

# Inland Waterways

ONG have business men and shippers of Texas and Louisiana dreamed of a canal along the Gulf Coast, connecting with the great Mississippi river system of waterways. As may be seen from the map on this page, such a canal, connecting with the Mississippi system, would give a new force, a new incentive to commerce in the Middle West. It would provide a new and economical system of transportation from the important manufacturing centers and from the rich agricultural districts of the Middle West direct to the sea.

That dream is now close to realization. Congress has passed and the President has approved the Rivers and Harbors Bill, authorizing the construction of the Intracoastal Canal from the Mississippi river at, or near, New Orleans to Corpus Christi, Texas, at a total estimated cost of \$16,000,000.

The Intracoastal Canal will be completed to Beaumont in 1932, making Beaumont the terminus. Later the canal is to be extended to Galveston and Corpus Christi. Eventually it will extend to the Mexican border.

Completion of the Intracoastal Canal will provide a "land-locked" waterway with a nine-foot depth and a 100-foot width bottom from the Mississippi river through the fertile coastal sections of Louisiana and Texas. This canal will connect Beaumont with the 14,000-mile system of inland waterways of the Mississippi river.

The canal will give Beaumont direct water connections with the towns and cities along the Mississippi, the Missouri, the Ohio, the Illinois and other rivers tributary. Ultimately Beaumont will become the inland waterway terminus for the great area served by the Santa Fe, Southern Pacific, Missouri Pacific and Kansas **City Southern railway systems.** 

Warehousing, loading, unloading and transferring of inland-waterway cargo which will come to and leave Beaumont will be handled by special facilities at the municipal docks. Dallas, Fort Worth and other cities of the interior will find Beaumont their logical port for the receipt and distribution of commodities borne over the great inland-waterway system of the United States.

With the opening of the Intracoastal Canal, connecting the Neches river with the Mississippi, by a channel nine feet deep and 100 feet wide, there will come excursions to Beaumont of motor boating enthusiasts along the entire waterway system of the Mississippi Valley. There will doubtless come, also, southward excursions by yacht clubs from Northern cities along the Mississippi waterway system.





HE intensity and speed of modern life demand that man play at living as well as working at it. In Beaumont and surrounding territory are recreation and sport of every kind. One may play the year 'round, as there are no extremes of temperature. Cool, zestful breezes from the Gulf make summer time delightful. A semi-tropical sun makes winter time playtime for grown-ups and children.

Hunting and Fishing-Do you know the thrill of hunting big game ... deer and bear? Does the whir of wild game . . . ducks, geese, quail, doves, etc. . . . on the wing . . . excite you? If you like such sport, you'll find it a-plenty within a few hours' drive of Beaumont. In this fisherman's paradise of rivers, creeks and bayous are black bass, crappy, sun fish . . . and other kinds of fresh water fish. The Gulf, a short run down the Neches river, brings the thrill of salt water fishing, where lives the king of all fighting fish . . . the Tarpon.

Parks and Playgrounds-The city has developed a system of parks and playgrounds that offer recreation and play every day of the year. Well located within the city and outside are 19 parks with swimming and wading pools, tennis, basket ball, volley ball courts, baseball diamonds, golf courses and picnic grounds. In addition to the beautiful fairway of the Country Club, there is a fine municipal golf course



Municipal Plunge in Magnolia Park

### Recreation

in Cartwright Park. A two-story clubhouse, with all facilities, is available for players on this course. Beaumont led the entire South in the installation of a modern municipal plunge.

Beaumont Yacht Club-For those whose liking runs to water sports and recreation, the Neches river and the Beaumont Yacht Club offer a never-ending delight, winter and summer. The clubhouse is a converted vacht. (See picture on following page.) A smooth automobile highway leads directly to it. Water is deep enough for sea-going vachts, which make frequent trips to the Gulf for fishing. The Intracoastal canal, when completed, will make it possible for Beaumont motor boaters to pilot their craft along the entire Mississippi waterway. (See map on page 8.)

Beaumont County Club—Long would be your search before you found a country club more beautiful than that of the Beaumont Country Club. It sits amid moss-draped trees on the Neches river a few miles from the city. Its course, praised by thousands of visiting golfers, was laid out by experts. Its clubhouse is on the Neches river at a spot where, according to legend, rests the great explorer LaSalle.

Stuart Stadium-On the rim of the city is Stuart Stadium, one of the finest baseball parks in the entire South. Beaumont is in the Texas League and its citizens enthusiastically support its team.



TYPICAL NECHES RIVER SCENE AT BEAUMONT Beaumont Yacht Club's Home Yacht—"Wild Duck"—Collier's Ferry and Club House of Beaumont Country Club.

# The **Oil Industry**

HE record-breaking Lucas Gusher in 1901 turned the attention of the "oil world" toward Beaumont. But long past are Beaumont's boom days. The city has steadily grown with the oil industry as a nucleus. Today one-tenth of the total consumption of petroleum products in the United States is supplied from the Beaumont area.

Spindle Top, the famed first oil field, still produces. Producing also are 22 other oil fields near by. Through thousands of miles of pipe lines, from other parts of Texas and from Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas and Louisiana, flows more crude oil into Beaumont refineries.

In Beaumont and within 20 miles are six large, modern refineries with a daily capacity of more than 300,000 barrels. More than 16,000 people are employed in these refineries. Trains of tank cars and great ocean tankers carry gasoline and kerosene to all parts of the

United States and to world ports. Great quantities of lubricating oils, greases, paraffin wax, petroleum coke and other petroleum by-products are also shipped to all corners of the world from Beaumont refineries.

This industry alone represents an investment in the Beaumont area of hundreds of millions of dollars and is constantly expanding.

In the Beaumont area also are the largest "tank farms" in the world. These "tank farms" have a capacity of more than 70,000,000 barrels.

Permanency of the oil industry in Beaumont is assured by hundreds of miles of pipe lines, great refineries, thousands of tank cars and ocean tankers, millions invested in tide water facilities and by the fact that in the Beaumont district there is sufficient quantity of oil to keep up production for more than 100 years.



Part of Famous Spindle Top Oil Field Which Has Produced Over 100,000,000 Barrels of Oil

## Agriculture

HE agricultural potentialities of Southeast Texas are immense and industrial development has created a large and growing local market in the Sabine-Neches district.

In Jefferson county, of which Beaumont is the county seat, the 1930 census showed 1014 farms, while the 1920 census found only 651 farms. This increase, placed alongside the declines in many of the agricultural counties. all over the United States, is gratifying and is evident justification of the expenditure by the county during the past six years of more than a million dollars in drainage projects.

To the young, ambitious and trained agriculturist the country around Beaumont offers exceptional opportunities, particularly so to the man who proposes a diversified program with careful attention to dairying possibilities.

Climatic and soil conditions are such as make permanent all-year pastures possible. Those who have taken care of pasture possibilities have succeeded. It was in Jefferson county that a permanent pasture program originated



which is now being followed to advantage all over East Texas.

Favored by climatic conditions farmers in the Beaumont area are increasingly taking an interest in winter cover crops which furnish pasture through the winter, give excellent spring grazing and provide a green manure crop to plow under before the planting of field crops. Permanent pastures are being built up. Farmers who have come into this section from Wisconsin and other states in the North have been delighted and profited by the possibilities of dairying in this section.

There is no section in the United States where attention to scientific rotation of crops produces better results.

Cotton as a part of a farm program and not "cotton farming" is proving its worth in this section which, before the days of drainage, was considered as unsuitable for this crop. A number of Jefferson county farms are now producing better than a bale of cotton to the acre.

**Rice Field Showing Irrigation Canal** 

At Beaumont a modern high density compress has been installed with large warehousing accommodations. A cotton market has been established and those active in the development of Beaumont as a cotton center are cooperating closely with the farmers, not so much in the increasing of acreage as in the encouragement of the determined policy of making this section noted for the excellence of the cotton produced. Farmers who have come in from less favored cotton producing sections have demonstrated the fact that this section of the Gulf Coast country is particularly adapted to men who have arrived at the decision that cotton should be only one of a variety of crops.

Rice has been for a number of years a staple crop in the county. Large areas are excellently suited for this crop and there are several irrigation canal systems capable of serving a total of more than 100,000 acres. If necessary, this irrigation can be used for the furtherance of other crop yields.

Truck farming around Beaumont has been carried on largely to supply the local markets, but organized effort is now being exerted toward production in sufficient quantities to meet outside demands of markets at seasons when these demands can best be supplied from this district of the Gulf Coast. Practically every variety of vegetable can be grown with two or more crops each year.

There are practically no losses from soil erosion in the territory. There is considerable variety shown in types of soil and response to fertilization is highly satisfactory.

Long summers and short, mild winters characterize the climate. The mean annual precipitation at Beaumont during a period of 20 years was 46.3 inches. Frost rarely occurs before the first of December and the last killing frosts over a number of years approximate March 1, although it occasionally happens that there is no frost in February. In an 11-year record kept at the state experimental substation near Beaumont the number of growing days during the year is shown to average 276; frequently it exceeded 280 days and in 1925 there were 295 growing days in the year.

Detailed information regarding specific agricultural problems and opportunities is always available from the county agricultural agent. who maintains his office in connection with the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce.

The South Texas State Fair, held annually at Beaumont, is primarily for the encouragement of agricultural activities and has developed to the position of being the second largest fair in Texas.



Dairy Cows In Beaumont Area

# Industrial Beaumont

HE Beaumont industrial area is more than 12 miles square and includes six of the world's largest oil refineries and by-product plants. In this area are employed more than 25,000 workers with a total payroll of about \$60,000,000 a year.

In the city itself there are more than 100 industrial plants giving work to 7,000 people with a monthly payroll above \$1,000,000. Industrial Beaumont had its beginning more than 100 years ago when the early settlers began sawing logs and making syrup from sugar cane. The lumber industry itself was important enough to build a city of 10,000. Oil, rice and shipping in the last 30 years have made Beaumont one of the greatest industrial cities in the South.

Beaumont holds first place as the producing, distributing and consuming center for oil well machinery and supplies. It is recognized as a ship-building center with great potentialities for development. Iron and steel industries give



employment to several thousand people and have an annual production of more than \$8,000,000.

Other industries include lumber mills, lumber by-products, woodworking plants; rice mills, rice by-product plants; agriculture processing plants, such as preserving and canning factories, milk pasteurizing plants; brick manufacturing; ship-building and repair.

Many things point to the continued industrial expansion of the Beaumont area. Among these things are: abundance of raw materials, deep water ship channel, intracoastal canal, unexcelled railroad facilities, fine highways, quick and economical contact with markets, unlimited supply of natural gas and fuel oil; the lowest electric rate of any city in the South; a mild climate, excellent living conditions.

This city has an industrial population of high intelligence, clean habits and home-loving and home-owning. This condition makes an ideal labor situation. Nearly all the workers are

Showing Part of Magnolia Petroleum Company Refinery

native white. There is, however, a dependable supply of Negro laborers.

Industries of greatly varying needs will find numerous desirable locations in and near Beaumont. Close in are a number of excellent sites with railway switches and other conveniences. Wholesale businesses, warehouses or industries needing small space in down-town section would find these sites especially suitable.

A number of large tracts, with railway switches built or available, may also be had. Such tracts are served with, or close to, water, electric power, natural gas and pipe line fuel oil supply. Many sites may be had with ship and channel frontage.

The following industries will find excellent opportunities in Beaumont:

Wood-working, wood by-products; chemical plants making paper, cellulose, naval stores; cotton industries; machine plants using female labor; food products, textile factories; garment factories; brick and pottery factories; foundry and machine plants, wanting tidewater locations; radio cabinets; auto bodies, trailers and trucks; airplane parts; boat factory.

C. H. Sherrill, former president of the Hardwood Manufacturers' Institute, recently said that "Beaumont is the best unoccupied location for a furniture factory in the United States".

The statement by Mr. Sherrill was based on the fact that within a circle of two hundred miles diameter, centered by Beaumont, there is the greatest supply of the practical working hardwoods to be found anywhere on the American continent.

The growing demand from Latin America for the manufactured products of the United States gives to the port of Beaumont a strategic advantage worthy the consideration of the executives in almost any branch of industry. This advantage will be still further enhanced by the completion of Beaumont's connection with the great inland-waterways system of the United States.

Industry is welcome in Beaumont. Labor, power, raw materials and transportation here waiting to be used. Only capital and trained management are needed for sane industrial expansion. Beaumont business men stand ready to back their judgment with money for a portion of the needed capital, when advisable.

Correspondence relating to industrial prospects is treated with confidence and is handled by an executive committee through the industrial department of the Chamber of Commerce.



LANS for improvement and development of a city must also include provisions for the development of its airport facilities. What a city has to offer new industries, new commercial enterprises, new citizens, depends to some extent upon the development of its airport.

Beaumont citizens recognize this and take an alert interest in aviation, both commercial and pleasure. Beaumont's first airport, which is inside the city limits, is still in use, although unequal to the demands of present-day air travel development.



Transmission System Gulf States Utilities Company, Served by Neches Power Plant, Beaumont



## **Airport Facilities**

To give Beaumont an airport with facilities equal to any on the Gulf Coast, a 276-acre tract, near the city, has been purchased. Here a modern landing field is being laid out, modern equipment installed, hangars built. When completed, this new field will provide ample facilities for today's aviation needs and make possible future expansion.

The new airport is quickly reached from the city over two well-paved highways, one on each side of the field. The Southern Pacific Railroad parallels one side of the new field, the Missouri Pacific Railroad the other side.

Beaumont has daily airplane passenger and mail service direct from New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Washington, Atlanta and other Southeastern cities, and Western connections.

Climatic conditions in the Beaumont area make possible a great number of flying days the year 'round. There are no mountains or hills to obscure the visibility and make flying dangerous. Beaumont also has a large aviation school.

## **Civic and Social**

HE modern manufacturer, when considering a new location, has in mind many things besides buildings and machinery. He knows that happy and healthful surroundings make contented employes. Inviting surroundings are found where there are churches, good schools, places for recreation and amusement, modern municipal facilities, adequate city transportation, reasonable living costs, good streets and sidewalks, opportunities for social conditions. All of these things Beaumont has.

Nearly all religious denominations have one or more churches here, many of them beautiful examples of church architecture. Beaumont city schools take rank with the best in any modern city. A new million-dollar high school building was opened for use in 1930. In addition, there are two junior high schools in the city. There is also the South Park Junior College, where Beaumont boys and girls may take the first two years of college work without leaving home. Just completed, also, is one of the finest Y. M. C. A. buildings in the South. The city has also an excellent Y. W. C. A. building.

Many of the leading fraternal organizations are represented here. Some of them own their own buildings. Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Round Table and the Advertising Club hold weekly luncheon meetings and take an alert interest in civic welfare. Other clubs are the Beaumont Club, Beaumont Country Club, Beaumont Yacht Club, and various women's organizations.

One of the most powerful factors in aiding the civic development of Beaumont is its two nationally recognized newspapers, the Beaumont Enterprise and the Beaumont Journal. Many of the most important civic developments have been generated by these two publications, and their editorial influence extends beyond the borders of the Beaumont trade territory.

Nothing has greater influence on the growth and progress of a city than its health conditions. Records show that Beaumont is one of the most healthful cities in the entire country. There are good reasons for this record.

Beaumont citizens are supplied with excellent water . . . colorless, odorless, free from sulphur and from pathogenic organisms of any kind. The mosquito menace has been eliminated by a two-million-dollar drainage system. Contributing much to the healthfulness and happiness of Beaumont citizens are the home grown vegetables obtainable the year 'round.

Beaumont is a city of many fine homes. There are also a number of suburban subdivisions with water, gas, light and sewerage connections. A home in Beaumont can have flowers and green lawn the year 'round. Home building costs are less here than in northern sections of the country. Electric light and water rates are extremely reasonable. Excellent bus and street car service reaches every section of the city.

Consider living costs, recreation, health, climate, educational facilities, civic conveniences, transportation, raw materials, labor supply, close-by markets and there is no better location in the entire country for industrial enterprise than in Beaumont.



Merchants' and Manufacturers' Building, South Texas State Fair





N a booklet of this size it is possible only to give the

subject a broad, general treatment, in order to enable the reader to know what Beaumont is and what Beaumont has to offer. However, the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce maintains an Industrial Department for the working up of special reports for those interested. This department has the advice and counsel of committees representing the various classifications of Beaumont's industrial and commercial life.

If you are considering a Southern or Southwestern location for a factory, branch house or other enterprise, Beaumont has much to recommend it as the best location for many lines of businesses. If you will write, stating your needs in the way of raw materials, location, etc., a candid and frank report will be made up for you. Your inquiry will be handled in a strictly confidential manner, and you will be told precisely what Beaumont has to offer.

If you want to come to Beaumont or send a member of your technical staff to make a personal investigation, our organization will lend every co-operation, and place at your disposal all facts and data obtainable. All such visits and investigations will be treated without publicity and in strictest confidence, until you yourself are ready to make an announcement.

The leading business men of Beaumont have subscribed a quarter of a million dollars to an Industrial Fund for the purpose of investment in industries of a substantial character.

The Industrial Fund will be invested under the direction of the Industrial Advisory Board of fifteen, selected subscribers to the fund, working in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce.

We invite you to write us for additional information, or to come to Beaumont to investigate personally the opportunities for your special enterprise.

> Address **BEAUMONT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Beaumont**, Texas

#### INVITATION



Modern Hotels and Office Buildings American National Bank, Goodhue Building, Hotel Beaumont, LaSalle Hotel, San Jacinto Life Building, Edson Hotel, Crosby Hotel, Perlstein Building and Enterprise-Journal Building

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LAMB PRINTING & STATIONERY Co., INC.







The Clyde-Mallory Line S. S. SHAWNEE leaving Beaumont harbor on one of her annual cruises to the West Indies and other Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico ports.