

LOUISIANA AND TEXAS

For the

WINTER TOURIST



BAYOU TEICHE
NEW IBERIA, LA

LOUISIANA AND TEXAS

FOR THE
WINTER TOURIST



SUNSET  ROUTE

J. H. R. PARSONS, GEN'L PASS'R AGENT
M. L. & T AND L. W. R. R.'S., NEW ORLEANS, LA.

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SEASON 1911-12



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A New Orleans park in winter

NO ROUTE to the southwest, the Gulf Coast and western Texas offers such varied interest and charm as that of the Southern Pacific—Sunset Route, stretching from New Orleans on the east, along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, across the plains of Texas, to the Mexican border at El Paso.

Commencing at New Orleans, where the romantic atmosphere of a gay and a tragic past clasps hands with a life that is modern and engrossing, this route crosses the Mississippi River near its wonderful delta by means of a mammoth car ferry, and thence for a hundred

miles or more lies through the "Sugar Bowl of Louisiana."

Picturesque lakes and bayous and reed-grown savannas, interspersed with spots of deep, rank, southern forest, moss-draped and ghostly, alternate in the view with immense sugar plantations whose stately mansions are seen through the groves, suggesting days of southern chivalry and the old Creole aristocracy.



Henry Clay statue, New Orleans

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Jackson Square, New Orleans

Here is Bayou Teche and the village of St. Martinville, forever glorified by the sorrowful story of Evangeline and her wandering lover, and the simple-hearted Acadian peasant people whose descendants still inhabit its peaceful shores. Here, too, is Bayou Lafourche and Barataria Bay, the chosen haunts of the mysterious Lafitte and his dauntless pirate crew.

Over the boundary, into Texas, and still following the meandering coast line, the country traversed is in the heart of immense rice fields, passing through new and thriving cities, touching at Galveston, newly risen from the sea; Houston, the metropolis of the Southwest; San Antonio, with a past as thrilling as a tale of adventure, and a present that rivals in beauty and progress any city



A restful spot in the City Park, New Orleans

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In the old French Quarter of New Orleans

of her size in the Southern States, arriving at the International boundary at El Paso, where Mexican tradition and the melodious language of the Hidalgo pass side by side with the hurry and bustle of a modern American town.

NEW ORLEANS has alluring qualities not to be found in any other city of this country. It is different and un-American and yet it is essentially American and wide-awake. In its peculiar duality and its ideal climate lies the supremacy of its attraction. New Orleans tells a story of olden days when the flower of Creole chivalry thronged its streets, when the Latin tongues were the languages of society, and the soft-toned southern *patois* was the speech of the people. The city was founded by



Homes, Audubon Place, New Orleans



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The business section of New Orleans, looking towards the river

the French in 1718, and its history for nearly two centuries was as thrilling as a narrative of adventure with much of romantic incident and exciting episode. Its transfer from France to the Spanish Crown, its return to the French, to be passed on to the United States with the Louisiana Purchase, invests it with an historical interest unique among American cities; and its strategic and unrivaled location created it the metropolis of the South from the earliest

are full of old furniture, old books, old paintings and jewelry which was once the property of Louisiana's wealthy planters. The decaying mansions, with their ornamental overhanging "galleries," were once the homes of the Creole aristocracy, and through a half open door, perhaps, may still be seen the picturesque courtyard, green with feathery palmettos and other tropical vegetation. The narrow streets that lead through the *Vieux Carre* are essentially of the

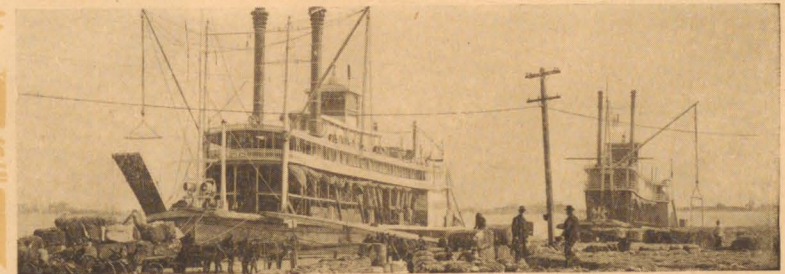
settlement of the southern colonies. The dividing line between the quaint old town and the peerless city of to-day is the widely known Canal Street. This broad avenue, lined with magnificent shops and stately buildings, lies between a world where the antiquarian will linger long in an atmosphere of a glorious past, and a world where every attribute of Twentieth Century progress is found in a high and attractive development.

The *Vieux Carre*, as the French Quarter is called, lies north of Canal Street, covering now an area approximately only thirteen squares long and six squares wide; but it contains enough of interest to first attract the thousands of visitors who yearly visit the city. The delapidated old buildings have a story of their own. The musty shops

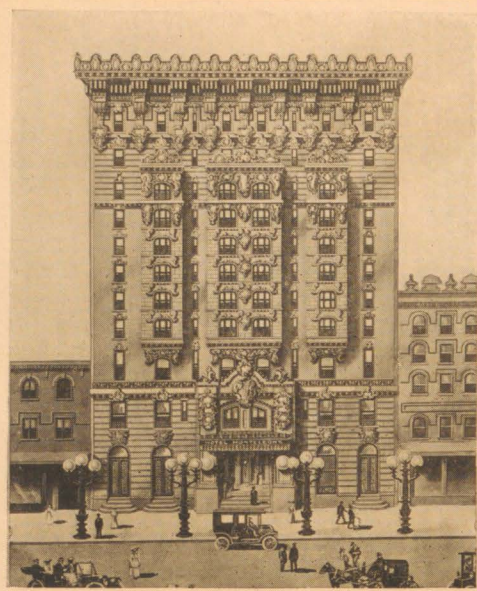
past, as is the grand old St. Louis Cathedral fronting on Jackson Square, with its remarkable equestrian statue of General Andrew Jackson. The quaint old St. Louis cemetery, the burial place of heroes, the famous French Market, and many other places of historic note are near by; and the visitor may wander indefinitely — always finding something new that is old and strangely full of the lure of the past. South of Canal Street is the splendid city of to-day. Twenty-seven electric car lines center on this broad thoroughfare, and, by means of a complete transfer system, a "car-ride" enables a stranger to see almost all of the business and residence sections; the parks and the lake district, where many amusement places afford recreation of every kind, including salt



Old St. Louis Cemetery, New Orleans



The cotton levee, New Orleans



Hotel Monteleone



Hotel De Soto



St. Charles Hotel



The Grunewald



Margaret Statue, New Orleans—first statue erected in memory of a woman in the United States

water fishing, boating and bathing. By a series of belt lines, the cars traverse one beautiful avenue outward bound and return through another, equally attractive, so that the ride is always one of new sights and new things of interest.

The hotels of New Orleans are among the finest in the United States, offering, in addition to an unsurpassed service, the social atmosphere and the hospitality peculiar to the South. The most widely known are The New St. Charles, The Monteleone, The Grunewald and The De Soto.

No mention of New Orleans is complete which does not include her Carnival and Mardi Gras—the season when gaiety reigns supreme, and pageants that pass into history for their splendor and beauty, parade the streets, and maskers hold nightly revel. The festivities extend over several weeks and culminate with the magnificent ball of the Mystic Crew of Komus, at the French Opera House on Mardi Gras night.



A bit of Mardi Gras, New Orleans



On Bayou La

The sumptuous details of the celebration of this festival in this country are peculiar to New Orleans, and the visit there may well be planned for that period.

West of the Mississippi River the route lies through the Louisiana sugar lands, among the lakes and bayous for which this region is noted, and a region which modern reclamation is fast putting into the ranks of commercial prosperity. The ground and waterways hereabout



Shadows on the Teche, Louisiana

all have a place in history, while the present is a smiling prospect that includes sugar plantations and factories, the like of which was never foretold by any prophet of the past. Growing towns and young cities are frequent, all owing their material prosperity to the great resources in the tributary country. Branches from the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad lead away at intervals to the various cities that lie on the shores of the Gulf, or inland toward the Red River district and the northern part of the State.



Fourche, Louisiana

Two hundred miles from New Orleans the road enters the Calcasieu River and Lake district, and Lake Charles and Sabine, and their tributary streams. This is a region unrivaled for boating, fishing and hunting. The waters are full of the gamiest of the tribes. Oysters, shrimps and crabs abound; tarpon, pompano, flounders, red fish, Spanish mackerel, sheepshead, fresh and salt water trout, etc., are caught in countless numbers. These waters, also, are the



Bagged near Houston, Texas

winter homes of wild geese, brant, duck of all varieties, herons, pelican, snipe, curlew, etc. Land birds and fur-bearing animals are found in large numbers in the forests along the Sabine and Neches rivers, and which are easily reached by boats from Lake Charles, Beaumont or Port Arthur.

The city of Lake Charles, 219 miles from New Orleans, is situated on the eastern shores of Lake Charles and Calcasieu River. It is a thriving place of 18,000 population and is a popular winter



Shell Beach Road, Lake Charles, La.

resort. The opportunity afforded here for all aquatic and other outdoor sports is unequalled, and brings, annually, large numbers of sportsmen and visitors who come for the enjoyment of the ideal winter climate.

The pine forests of Louisiana are directly north of Lake Charles, and lumber is one of the chief industries of the place. The city itself is most attractive; broad, shaded avenues and drives lead past old mansions, the homes of early Louisiana days, set in the midst of expansive lawns, and surrounded with moss-hung trees—a wealth of flowers, shrubs and flowering vines.

The accommodations for winter tourists and visitors are complete. The new Hotel Majestic, beautifully located in the heart of the city, is a popular resort for tourists. It has steam heat and electric light throughout, and a large number of rooms with private bath. Its broad verandas, spacious lobby, parlors and reading room provide every means of comfort and enjoyment to guests.



Through the "long-leaf" pine
of eastern Texas



Majestic Hotel, Lake Charles, La.

The Sabine River, near this point, with its lake and tributaries, forms the boundary line between Louisiana and Texas.

Orange, a thriving town of 6,000 people, is the first place of importance reached in Texas. This little city is connected with the Gulf of Mexico by the Sabine River, Government Canal, Sabine Lake, and it is the home of some of the most successful lumbermen in the State.

Port Arthur, Texas, is the lusty infant of the Gulf Coast. It is situated on Lake Sabine and is connected through a Government Canal and Sabine Pass with the Gulf of Mexico.

Although a young seaport, it is tenth in the United States, and its industries rank with those of many of the older and larger towns. A pipe line connects with the vast oil regions in the adjacent country and it is already the largest oil shipping point in the United States. Its dockage and shipping facilities enable it to handle cargoes, however vast, and the Sunset Route terminals connect



The "Evangeline" Oak
on Bayou Teche, near New Iberia, La.

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A home in the rice country, Crowley, La.

directly with the ocean steamships. Port Arthur is, moreover, a winter resort of rare attraction. Many handsome winter residences adorn its streets overlooking the beautiful lake; and the fine, new modern hotel accommodates the many tourists who stop here to enjoy the fishing, which is unsurpassed, and the hunting in the near-by lowlands.

The Plaza is located in a beautiful park overlooking Sabine Lake. Its accommodations and management are strictly first class, making it one of the most desirable, as well as being one of the most delightful hotels on the Gulf Coast. A direct line to Beaumont affords the best of railroad facilities. A bracing climate, outdoor life of every description, and the conveniences afforded in the



Plaza Hotel, Port Arthur, Texas

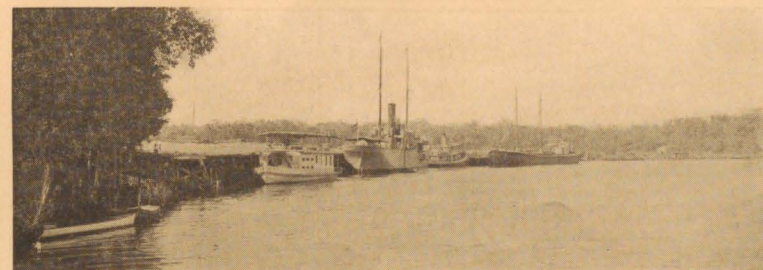
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Public park, Beaumont, Texas

enterprising city, are the compelling attractions of Port Arthur as a place of winter residence or resort.

Beaumont, the capital of the oil regions and a city of phenomenal growth and beauty, is in the heart of one of the most productive sections in southeastern Texas. Its past dates back to the timber industries of that territory, growing into prominence with the discovery of oil and becoming prosperous and substantial by reason of the vast agricultural resources in the immediate vicinity. It is a city of 25,000 population, has the best of modern utilities, fine hotels, notably the Crosby House, which is thoroughly modern and first class. It is conveniently located and equipped in the completest and most up-to-date manner, and is one of the popular resort



The river front, Beaumont, Texas



Copyright, 1910, by The Haines Photo Co., Conneaut, Ohio.

Houston, Texas.

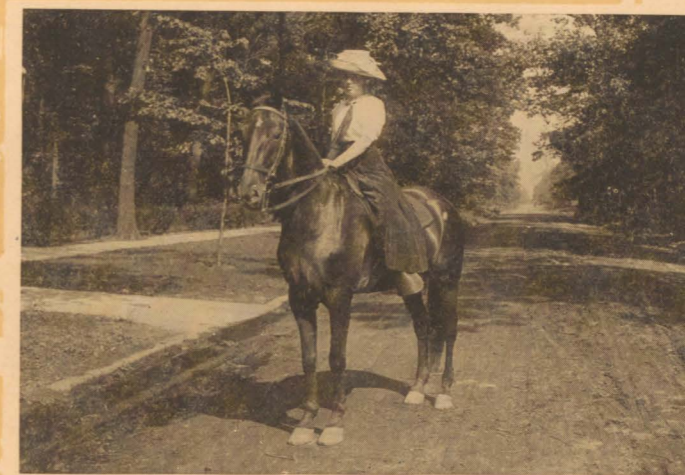
hotels of this region. A semi-tropical climate also offers attractions to all who seek an outdoor life during the period of the northern winters. Fishing, hunting, golf and tennis are popular pastimes and every facility is provided for the full enjoyment of these sports.

Some of the exciting episodes in Texas history occurred in the region between Beaumont and Houston, notably at Liberty, where the line crosses the Trinity River. On the banks of this

stream the Sieur de la Salle was murdered, after having been shipwrecked off the coast while engaged in an attempt to restore Texas to the French. Near Houston, also, the railroad crosses the San Jacinto River, named in memory of the Battle of San Jacinto which wrought the independence of the territory. At this battle originated the battle-cry, "Remember the Alamo."



Golf all winter long



Perfect roads for riding or driving



A regatta at Seabrook, Texas



Automobile races on Galveston's famous beach



In city park, Houston, Texas

Entering Houston, it is easy to realize that here is the metropolis of the whole imperial domain of the Lone Star State. Houston is a great and beautiful city, and is the central point in the rich coast belt, with its wonderful variety and abundance of resource. It is the largest railroad center between New Orleans and San Francisco, having seventeen railroads. It is connected with the deep sea by the Houston Ship Channel, accommodating vessels of considerable draught.

Manufacturing is Houston's greatest asset, and with its practically unlimited transportation facilities there can be no bounds set for its possibilities in this direction. Its markets are among the largest in the world, its wholesale trade is enormous and its commercial life is progressive in every respect. Houston, moreover, has a strong claim to being an ideal all-the-year-round resort. The climate is temperate and the seacoast may be reached in half-an-hour's ride.



Buffalo Bayou, Houston, Tex.



The New Bender



The Macatee



The Bristol

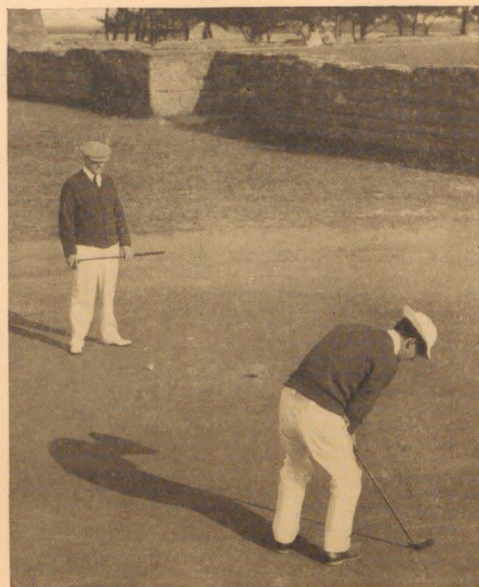


The Brazos

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Picking one's breakfast fruit in Texas



Golf—365 days in the year



Come on in—the water's fine



On Galveston Bay

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Harris County courthouse, Houston, Texas

Its facilities for amusement are varied and include several fine theatres at which may be seen the most popular stage attractions; fine clubs, elegant, modern hotels, eighty miles of paved streets and three hundred miles of shell graded roads for driving and motoring. The golf links at the Country Club are among the finest in the South, and excellent boating, bathing and fishing are enjoyed at the seaside. Among the noted resort hotels of the South, Houston's fine hostelries take high rank. Prominent among them are: The New Bender, The Brazos, The Bristol, The Macatee and the Hotel Field.

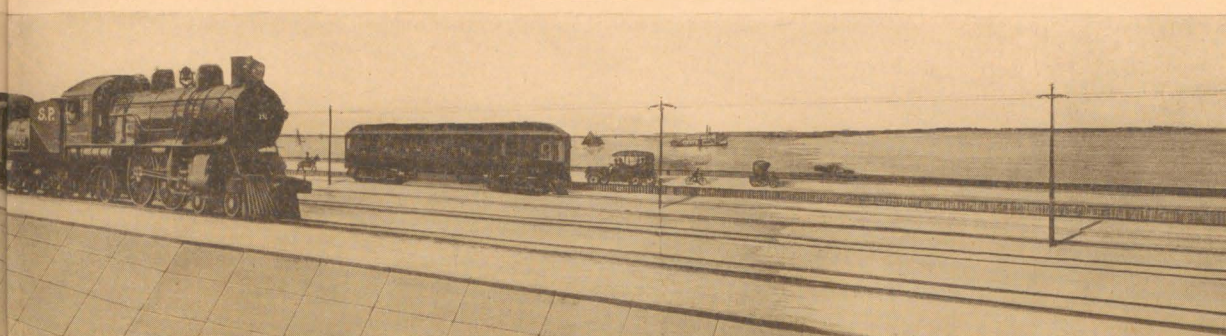
Galveston is fifty-eight miles from Houston, situated on one of the finest deep sea harbors on the Gulf Coast. Extensive improvements are making this a seaport equal to all the demands of commerce. Its ports are now open to the largest vessels and the Southern Pacific Steamship docks are typical of the shipping terminals, being as complete and well equipped as any in the world. It is



An 800-lb. Jew fish, caught near Galveston



The Galveston Causeway connecting



Galveston Island with the main land of Texas

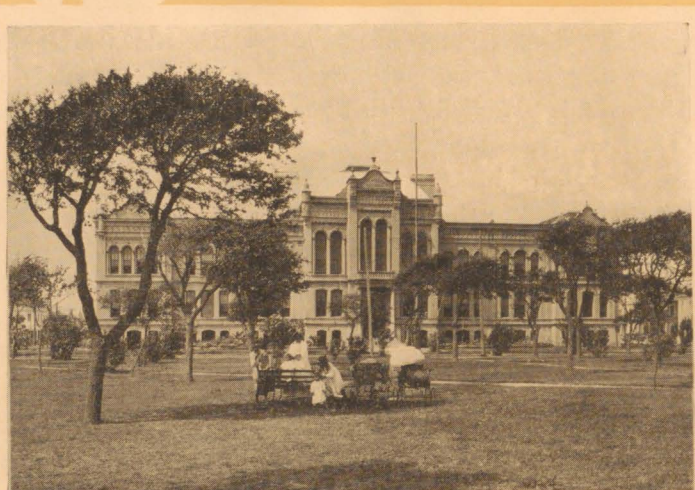
Copyright, 1910, by J. M. Maurer, Galveston, Texas.

the terminus of several important steamship lines to New York, Havana, Vera Cruz and European ports. It has six railroads and fine terminal facilities.

Galveston is also a popular coast resort. The bracing sea air and temperate climate make all outdoor sports delightful. Bathing, sailing and fishing are favorite amusements and driving and motoring are ideal. The city has undergone marked and substantial improvements,

and the great sea wall which now protects the town is one of the wonders of modern engineering. The Hotel Galvez, a magnificent new resort hotel, has recently been opened, affording luxurious accommodations to visitors and winter residents.

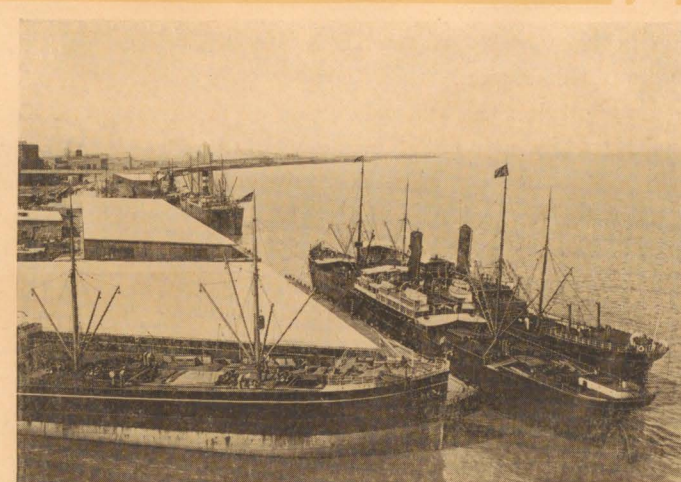
On the Coast, within easy reach of Houston and San Antonio, are Port Lavaca, Palacios, Corpus Christi, Port O'Connor and Rockport, all famous for the excellent hunting and fishing.



The Rosenberg High School, Galveston



The sea wall, Galveston



The steamship docks, Galveston



Galveston's new million-dollar hotel

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Hotel and pier, Palacios, Texas

The climate is cool and bracing and outdoor life in the winter is ideal. Large and modern hotels are found throughout this region.

Marlin, a thriving little city on the Waco Division of the Houston & Texas Central Railroad, 159 miles north of Houston, is a noted health resort and one that continues to grow in favor as the fame of its wonderful mineral wells increases. The waters at Marlin have been found similar in character to the Sprudel Well at Carlsbad, and are effective in the treatment of rheumatic disorders, paralysis, skin and blood diseases and all forms of catarrhal ailments. The elevation is 982 feet above sea level and the climate is delightful.

The city has a population of 6,000; it has eighteen or twenty miles of graveled streets, beautiful parks, public water and sewer systems, electric lights and good hotels. The Majestic and Arlington are the largest of the hotels and have, in connection, large bath houses equipped with



Ducks are plentiful all along the Gulf Coast

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The best tarpon fishing is in the Gulf of Mexico



After the hunt, Ft. Davis, Texas



The Arlington Hotel, Marlin, Texas

trained attendants, and with the necessary appliances for the treatment of patients.

Between Houston and what is known as "The San Antonio Country" are many striking examples of the recent wonderful agricultural development of western Texas. Where sugar and cotton once prevailed entirely, are now many small farms devoted to fruit and garden truck, which yield enormous profits in net returns. Approaching San Antonio the country rises higher above sea level, and the character of vegetation changes with the decreased humidity in the atmosphere. Evidences here appear

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San Antonio, Texas

of the early Spanish occupation in the architectural style of the churches, and in an occasional half-ruined house here and there among the natives.

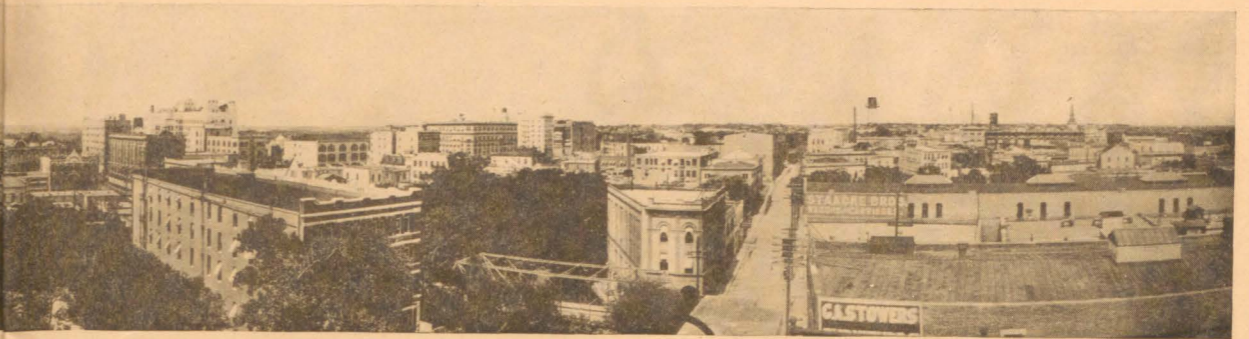
San Antonio is a delightful and beautiful city and a famous health and pleasure resort. Its climate is unrivaled. At an altitude of 686 feet the air is dry and salubrious and its percentage of sunshine is very large. It is the capital of Bexar County and one of the oldest cities



San Jose Mission, San Antonio, Texas

on the continent. The San Antonio River, a meandering tree-hung stream, flows through the city, and along its banks are many beautiful parks. The old Spanish plan of numerous plazas or open squares is also found here, set with gigantic palms, rose trees and other flowering shrubs, giving the city a riot of colorful bloom that adds immeasurably to its attractions. It has many large and elegant hotels, the principal ones being The St. Anthony, The Gunter and The Menger. These are

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crowded during the winter season when San Antonio is the center of a gay social life. The Hot Sulphur wells, with adjacent baths and hotel, are much sought for their curative properties in the treatment of rheumatic disorders, etc.

In the vicinity of the city are a number of old Spanish Missions, said to be several centuries old, which are interesting to visit; and the historic Alamo, now maintained as a



The Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, Texas

public museum, attracts many visitors. Many relics of the famous siege and the tragic defense are on exhibition here, with pictures and tablets to the memory of its heroes.

Foremost among the famous "beauty spots" of the San Antonio country is Sutherland Springs, thirty miles southeast of San Antonio, on the line of the Victoria Division of the Sunset Route, on the banks of the Cibolo River, in the center of one of the most thickly settled and highly prosperous agricul-

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At the Sunset Route Station, Southerland Springs, Texas

tural communities in the State. It is here that Nature has run riot and left a spot which presents more different features—topographical, horticultural and mineral—than can be found in many a day's journey, making it an ideal place for summer and winter homes, a place for recreation and the natural goal of the health seeker, and giving to it all of the essentials for the birth and rapid growth of a highly prosperous town and health resort. Five different waters are found here, one spring yielding 1,800 gallons per minute, which flows into an immense concrete swimming pool.

Nature has befittingly ornamented these springs with giant live oaks and other trees, from which she has hung Spanish moss in the greatest profusion—thus making a magnificent park through which she allows to flow one of the beautiful streams for which Texas is noted.

West of San Antonio The Sunset Route continues over the wide grazing plains of west Texas and reaches



On the "round-up," Ft. Davis, Texas

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Hotel Hot Wells



The Gunter



The St. Anthony



The Menger

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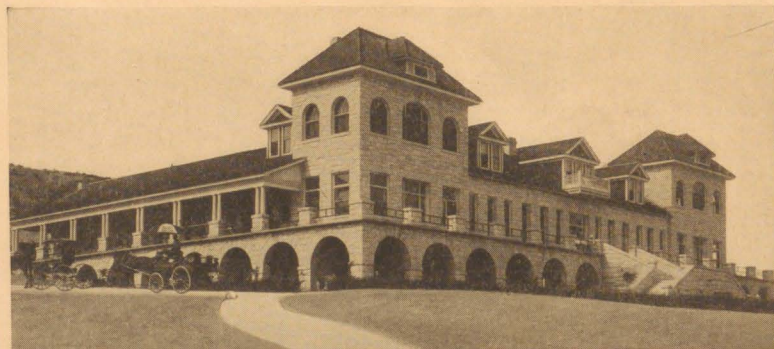
Hotel Sheldon



The St. Regis



Hotel Angelus



Sanitarium

PROMINENT EL PASO HOTELS

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Near Del Rio, Texas

its highest altitude, 5,082 feet, at Paisano. Immense herds of cattle are seen, with an occasional band of antelope; and the rapidly disappearing prairie dog seems to have made a last stand in this region.

At El Paso is the Rio Grande River, the boundary between the United States and Mexico. The city is one of the many wonders which the recent phenomenal development of western Texas has produced. It has a wide-awake, progressive population, many manufactories, smelters, cement mills and a wide tributary area in the valley of the Rio Grande, which is only in the

beginning of its prosperity. Its buildings are substantial and include a large United States Custom House and Courthouse, churches, public library, hospitals, banks, a number of fine modern hotels, and a magnificent clubhouse. Among the hotels are The Sheldon, St. Regis, Fisher and Orendorf. Eight railroads center here and the traffic is enormous.



A bit of Old Mexico

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A modern home, El Paso, Texas

A street-car line connects El Paso with Juarez, where one may see a genuine bit of Old Mexico. The Old Mission, the Plaza, and the life of the streets are all essentially foreign in aspect and atmosphere. At Juarez also will be found the finest race course on the continent, and the amphitheatre in which bull fights take place throughout the season. The climate of El Paso, by reason of its altitude, is dry, invigorating and delightful; the winter temperatures are mild and the air is bracing, making it one of the most healthful, as its location renders it one of the most interesting places for the sight-seeing tourist in western Texas.



An adobe house, Juarez, Mexico

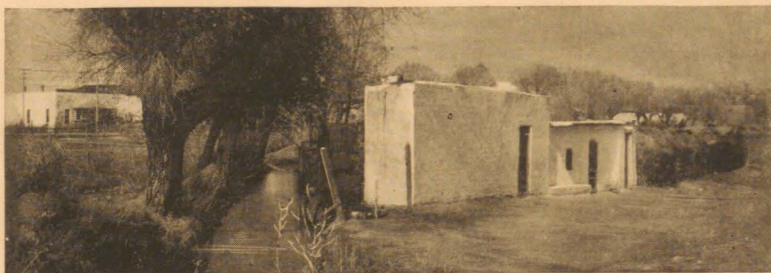


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An adobe house, Juarez, Mexico





HOTEL GALVEZ AND BEACH
GALVESTON, TEXAS