

THE BEAUTIFUL GULF COAST AND THE WINTER RESORT CITIES HOUSTON AND GALVESTON

ROUTE O

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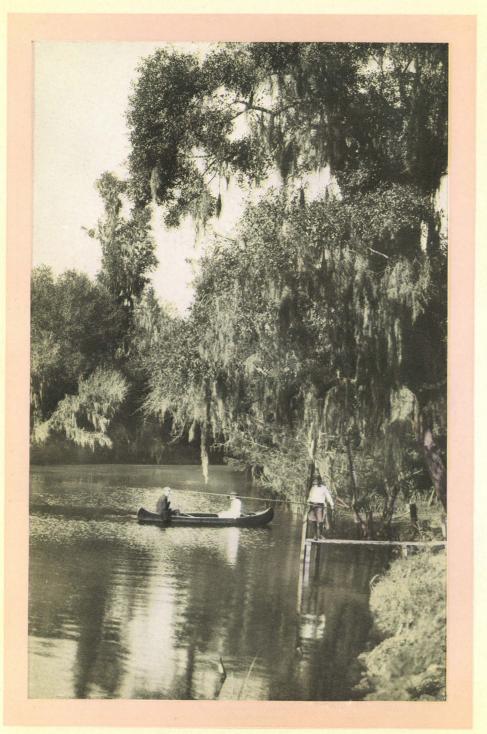
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nS



Canoeing on Sim's Bayou, Houston

HOUSTON AND GALVESTON





THE AMERICAN RIVIERA.

HE lure of the joyous life lives in the atmosphere of the Texas Gulf Coast. It rests on the glinting waters of the sea and lurks along the shaded banks of placid bayou and stream. It thrills you through and through while your motor is speeding over long miles of wonderful shell roads; and it remains with you in your sleeping hours, when the soft breath of the ocean breeze wafts you away to

"The Sweet Land of Dreams."

The Texas Gulf Coast, with all its natural charm, its wonderful climate and its unrivaled opportunities for the enjoyment of outdoor life and sports, is rightfully named The American Riviera. Along the great sweep of coast from Galveston to Corpus Christi Bay it is Summer all the year. Sparkling blue waves and rolling surf; bracing salt air and matchless sunshine; splendid cities; green and lovely inland countryside and abundant hospitality, with accommodations from the most elegant and luxurious to those suited to the modest taste and purse, for all that humankind may demand or can devise, are present to complete the joy of living in a Holiday Land. And the final confirmation of the claim that this is the Nation's playground, lies in its central location and its easy accessibility from every part of the North, East and West. The short and direct line of the IRON MOUNTAIN ROUTE (St. Louis, Iron



Sheltered Harbor for Pleasure Craft, Houston



Mountain & Southern Railway, Texas & Pacific Railway, and International & Great Northern Railway) from St. Louis, brings this favored locality in close touch with the northern latitudes, making it an easy matter to leave Winter behind and quickly forget the unfriendly chill of frost and snow under the gentle influence of an ideal Summer air.

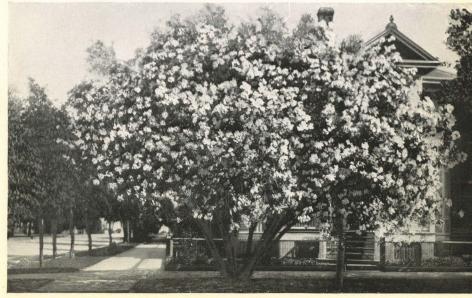
Houston and Galveston, fifty miles apart, with excellent railroad, electric and water service, also a magnificent shell road between the two cities, are twin attractions in the Texas Riviera.

Houston, the metropolis of south Texas, is the embodiment of the Texas progressive spirit established in one of the loveliest natural locations in the southern part of the State. It is a great railroad center, an important sea-port and



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an equally important manufacturing and commercial center. It is, moreover, a gay metropolis, provided with every facility for indoor amusement and outdoor enjoyment. It is, also, a university town and, above all things for the visitor to know, it is a thoroughly beautiful and desirable residential city. Its population is considerably more than one hundred thousand, and within the past two years, many millions of dollars have been expended in improving civic conditions and beautifying its parks and streets. There are more than eighty miles of asphalt paving within the city limits, and outside of the corporate boundaries are hundreds of miles of perfect motoring roads encircling the city in the beautiful outlying country. Houston is situated fifty miles from the Gulf of Mexico, on an



White Oleander in Full Bloom

arm of the sea which was formerly called Buffalo Bayou: but Houston enterprise has now transformed this lovely waterway into a deep sea channel capable of accommodating all sea-going craft. While this adds immeasurably to the commercial importance of the city, it has in no way detracted from the picturesque beauty of the Bayou or in its essential feature as an element in the outdoor life of the people who go boating and fishing every day in the year on its placid waters, and picnic Summer and Winter on its grassy, tree-hung banks. This city, in common with other localities of the Texas Riviera, claims an unrivaled equable climate. The Winter months are warm and sunny, the occasional cool days only contributing to the bracing effect of the sea air. The thermometer



Hunting near Houston

HOUSTON AND GALVESTON



Canal Club Harbor, Houston



rarely sinks to the freezing point, and a "norther" is never of long duration. The average Winter temperature is 55.6 and after the middle of February, Spring is on in all the bloom and freshness of the semi-tropical latitudes.

Under such favorable climatic conditions, it is natural that outdoor sports should claim a large share of the pleasurings of the people. In addition to the superb water course furnished by the winding avenue of the wonderful Ship Channel, there are charming bayous and creeks, with many canoes, motor-boats, sailing and rowboats available for outings at all times. There are over two hundred private yachts and pleasure boats owned in Houston, and as many more comfortable and speedy craft of all varieties for hire. An annual

regatta on the Ship Channel is one of the social events of the year, and American speed records are always looked for during these meetings.

Motoring is an equally delightful diversion, and over the many hundreds of miles of fine shell roads, which are continually rolled and treated for dust, the autoist has unlimited opportunity for his favorite pastime. There are many attractive resorts within easy reach by motor car, and the excellence of the road and beauty of the drive between Houston and Galveston practically unites the two cities and the beach.

One of the most charming and interesting objective points outside of Houston, reached by boat or automobile, is the San Jacinto Battle Field, which is now a State Park Preserve. In the



Looking North, Main Street, Houston

HOUSTON AND GALVESTON

memorable battle of San Jacinto, which was fought on April 21, 1836, the Army of Texas, under General Sam Houston, smarting with the remembrance of the massacre of their comrades at the Alamo and Mission Goliad, attacked the superior forces of Santa Ana, and completely annihilated them. This victory gave Texas her independence and eventually brought her into the Union. It also drove Spain back beyond the Rio Grande and broke the power of the Castilian on the North American Continent. Small wonder, then, that this is a hallowed spot to the Texan and a place of wondrous interest to every loyal American. The State Government has made extensive plans for improvements on the old field, which is on the banks of the Channel, and it will ultimately



San Jacinto Battlefield and Ship Canal



Excellent Shell Roads near Houston



become one of the most picturesque parks in the South.

Houston boasts, and with great reason, of a Country Club whose golf links take rank with any in the United States. The game is played over an eighteen-hole course, offering sport eminently worthy the veteran and professional player. The Country Club is, moreover, a delightful stopping place after an automobile excursion into the surrounding country, and is popular with motorists. It is also reached by trolley car line. The club is noted for its true southern hospitality, and its courtesies are cordially extended to visiting club members.

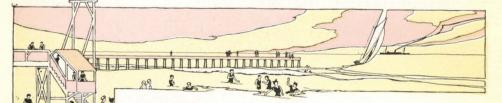
As has been said, Houston is the metropolis of south Texas, and its financial and commercial



HOUSTON AND GALVESTON



At Houston Country Club



facilities are of the most modern type. Its retail shops, which cater to a wealthy and exclusive trade, offer the latest and most desirable stocks, making this city a popular shopping center for tourists and visitors to the Gulf Coast. There are seven large first-class hotels and several more in the course of construction. Of these, the New Rice, on the historic location of the old hostelry of the same name, will be one of the largest and most magnificent hotels in the South. The Bender, recently completed, is also in the same class. Soon to be opened are two hotels of more moderate prices than either the New Rice or the Bender, but having accommodations of the highest order. Private bath with every room and all of the latest improvements will be included, and each hotel will have from one to two hundred rooms.

TEXAS RIVIERA THE



Houston offers exceptional attractions as a Winter residence. It has, besides its hotels, several large and perfectly appointed apartment houses. Its educational advantages are of the highest order, and include, besides an exceptionally fine public school system, the new Rice Institute, opened in October, 1912. This university, with its eight-million-dollar endowment, will be one of the finest seats of learning in the country. Its founders designed it as a means to higher education along the practical lines of every day and business life.

Libraries, churches, clubs and societies are numerous. It has several large and fine theatres, both for legitimate and high-class vaudeville. There is also a wonderful new auditorium, with a





Regatta at Seabrook

HOUSTON AND GALVESTON



City Park, Houston

seating capacity of over eight thousand, which puts Houston into the convention city class, with nothing in the way of entertainment and accommodations left to be desired.

Any notice of Houston would be altogether wanting which did not include its wonderful commerce and manufacturing interests. It is the greatest railroad center in the South, and its statistics show an enormous export business, carried in ocean-going vessels of heaviest draught. It is the largest inland port cotton market and the largest primary rice market in the world. It is also an oil center and the market for a large tributary agricultural country, which is growing and developing marvelously every year.

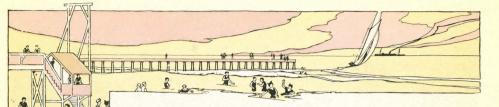
Galveston began life as a fishing hamlet on an



Brazos Hotel, Houston Carter Building, Home of I. & G. N. Ry., Houston

Hotel Rice, Houston

HOUSTON AND GALVESTON

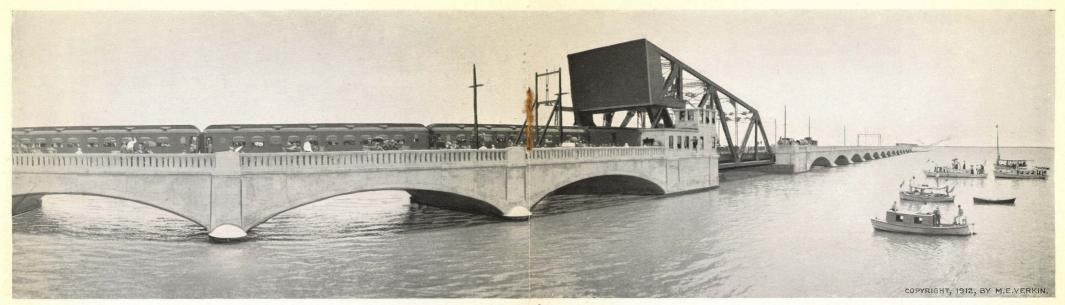


island so situated in Galveston Bay as to give it the most splendid harbor of the Gulf or of the South Atlantic Coast. This alone assured it an unrivaled commercial importance, while its superb climate and natural beauties have made it one of the most noted and delightful Winter resort cities in the world. On its southern border a broad and level beach stretches away for a distance of thirty miles, offering the finest surf bathing in the world. It is also widely known as an automobile speedway. It is level and hard, and motor cars encounter no obstacles or speed laws on the famous Galveston beach.

The water, always warm, scarcely varies in temperature throughout the year. The beach shelves gradually for more than a mile from shore,

Carnegie Library, Houston

HOUSTON AND GALVESTON



Galveston Causeway



and there is absolutely no danger from tides or undertow. The breakers are exhilarating and one may remain in the water indefinitely without exhaustion. Every day in the year thousands of bathers are dipping in the surf or taking the rest cure in the warm sands, reveling in the balmy atmosphere and gentle sea-breeze. Every facility for the full and complete enjoyment of this magnificent beach has been provided. Bathhousesthoroughly equipped-long lines of surf-ropes and pavilions, with all the requisites and usual amusements, are numerous. The beach is always a gay place, for back of the breakers is the wide drive and promenade, and back of that is Galveston's wonderful sea-wall, the engineering marvel of the age. This wall deserves a chapter on its own



account, but briefly: It was erected after the great storm of 1900, to prevent the encroachment of great tides on the city. It is of solid, re-inforced concrete, is five miles long, sixteen feet high and sixteen feet thick at the base, tapering to a width of five feet at the top. A promenade extends the entire length of the top, and back of this is a broad, level boulevard frequented by every class of pleasure vehicle, when high tide prohibits the use of the beach as a drive.

Inland the city offers every feature of delightful outdoor life. Its streets are broad and well paved, and beautiful homes, surrounded by a wealth of tropical verdure, line the avenues and boulevards. Its many shops and commercial establishments are well stocked and thoroughly up-to-date, so



View of Galveston

that tourists and visitors will always find their wants and necessities satisfactorily supplied.

North of the city lies Galveston Bay, offering a different but no less delightful list of outdoor joys. Here boating of every character is ideal. Canoeing is safe in the bayous and inlets, while sailing under the exhilarating breeze on the broad expanse of the bay itself is the acme of water sport. All around the bay shores are beautiful resorts and camping grounds, and on the far end of the island, where the channel leads out to sea, is a fishing resort known to lovers of deep-sea fishing all over the world. Over at Bettison's Pier there gathers, yearly, a choice collection of devotees of this exciting sport, and from the rocks and jetties off the pier, redfish, sheephead and trout are readily



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Wharf View, Galveston

caught daily, while, in season, great catches are made of tarpon, mackerel, jackfish, kingfish and pompano. Fishing is one of the chief and most glorious sports of this locality and fishing resorts abound both on the island and the mainland. This sport is unequaled, including every variety of the gamiest of the deep-sea tribes, as well as those that frequent the calm waters of bayou and inlet. Galveston, also, is famous for its oyster-beds and for its many near-by resorts, where the oyster roast is as much a social feature as a clam-bake on the New England shore.

As has been said, Galveston is properly on an island, but commerce and the remarkable recent development of the great inland empire of Texas has brought about another engineering marvel in

THE TEXAS RIVIERA



the erection of a Giant's Causeway, uniting island and mainland and making a wonderful peninsula instead of a detached principality off this Texas Coast. This Causeway, aside from its utterly incalculable importance to the commercial and industrial interests of the city, has opened the entire inland sweep of rare and lovely country, with its hundreds of miles of shell roads, to the pleasures of motoring. These shell roads, which are one of the peculiar institutions of southern states, are nowhere more ideally cared for and kept than in the country of the Texas Riviera; and in this genial all-the-year climate, where the sun shines three hundred days every year, what more delightful pastime than motoring can be imagined. The Causeway is steel and concrete,



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and literally puts two railroad tracks over the sea. with an electric car line, a driveway and a footway on its broad surface, besides. It is nearly two miles in length, consisting of a filled roadway, a concrete arch bridge, and a steel-lift span. The arch bridge has twenty-eight concrete arches with foundations on bed rock. Its proportions and designs are scientifically accurate, making it a thing of classical beauty, as well as of extraordinary utility. Commercially, Galveston ranks next to New York as a sea-port, and is already the greatest cotton port in the world. A cruise around the bay, in one of its many pleasure craft, is full of interest, showing phases of life from all over the world, and great ships that plow the eastern and western seas and sail to and from the remote parts of the world.



The Sea-Wall, Galveston



Fishing from Bettison's Pier



Popular Outdoor Exercise



A sail on the bay may also include visits to the Government granite jetties, the life-saving stations, lighthouses, immense docks, the Galveston Boat and Yacht Club, and many other places of interest and more than local renown.

Galveston is well supplied with hotel accommodations, both within the city and on the bay and gulf shores. The new and splendid Hotel Galvez, opening directly onto the boulevard that crowns the sea-wall, is one of the largest and most beautiful resort hotels in the South. It is fully equipped and furnished to meet the demands of the most fastidious. Its location and outlook are unrivaled, commanding all the beauties and diversions of beach and boulevard. Social life here is gay and the hotel provides its guests with every opportunity

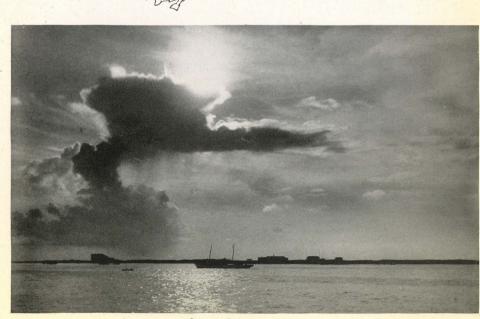


HOUSTON AND GALVESTON

for golf, tennis, motoring, boating, bathing, etc. Galveston also has a fine golf and country club, and beautiful parks and plazas within the city proper.

Galveston also enjoys the distinction of having originated the Commission Plan of City Government, which was adopted in 1901, and has proven a great success and attracted wide attention throughout the United States.

While all outdoor life and sports may be enjoyed at their best in the Texas Riviera, it is hunting and fishing that claim the largest measure of the popular attention, and they are unsurpassed in any section of the country. Houston is headquarters for these sports and is the yearly gathering place for fishermen and hunters from all over the

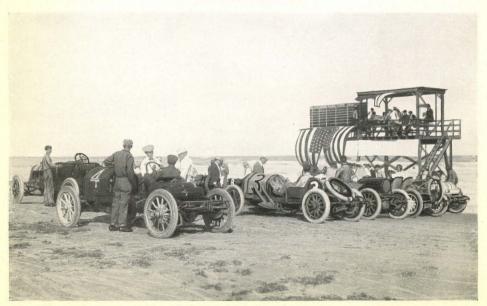


Sunset, Galveston Harbor

world. If you are a lover of rod or gun under ideal conditions, and have never experienced the thrill of the chase or the catch in this paradise of game, be advised and go at once to the Texas Gulf Coast—and going once, you will go again and again, to the utter exclusion of all previously favored localities.

Radiating in every direction from Houston, for a distance of 100 miles, there are countless fishing resorts, and inland, where game abounds, are many camps and clubs where sportsmen can find game and good cheer a-plenty, and where a day's hunting always represents the legal limit.

Did you say DUCK shooting? During the season (November to April) the west end of Galveston Island and the bays, inlets, bayous



Galveston Beach Race Course

HOUSTON AND GALVESTON



The Sailing of a Ship, Galveston

and lagoons along the Gulf Coast in the vicinity of Houston and Galveston are literally alive with all varieties of duck, including the canvas-back, mallard, blue and green-winged teal, red-heads, pin tails, and black duck. In addition to this, there is a bountiful supply of snipe and of the upland plover.

On Galveston Island there is hardly a spot on the shore line where the fishing is not good, and the island oyster fishing is famous throughout the country. The best salt-water and deep-sea fishing, within a short distance from Houston, is found, of course, in the waters of Galveston Bay—and off the Gulf Coast outside the harbor, tarpon, "the silver king" and jew-fish are caught, and even sharks may be the game.

A delightful side trip from Houston is to LaPorte or Seabrook, reached by boat at almost any hour of the day. Here are comfortable, well-kept resort hotels situated directly on the bay where the fishing is unsurpassed. Redfish is the specialty in this locality, with sheephead, trout and the smaller varieties in plentiful quantity. The hunting here is excellent, too, around the many small bays which abound with duck of all varieties, while inland a short distance are quail, snipe and doves.

Eighteen miles from Houston is the San Jacinto River and a string of beautiful lakes, where freshwater fish are caught in great numbers. Black bass and white perch are the gamiest of these varieties and are abundant here in the Spring and Fall months.



Hotel Galvez, Galveston

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Results of Shooting near Galveston

In what is known as the "BIG THICKET" of Montgomery County (within thirty miles of Houston) is bear, deer, turkey and quail shooting, and in the forests that line the Brazos River one may go on a bear hunt with trained bear hounds and guides who never fail to find the game.

The great forests of the Brazos River Country are, moreover, among the most charming retreats in the South for lovers of Nature in her primeval dress. Majestic live oaks, festooned with the gray Spanish moss, cluster closely, while the undergrowth is of tropical luxuriance. Song birds and feathered beauties of every tribe make these groves their Winter home; and the jungle is gay with a note of brilliant forest flora.

To specialize on any one locality of the Gulf



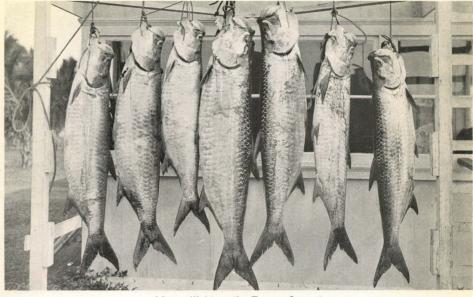
Cleander Country Club

Coast Country as an ideal fishing or hunting resort is hardly fair when these attractions exist in limitless abundance all the way from Port Arthur, on the east, to Brownsville, on the west. All of these offer rare opportunities for outdoor life, and especially is the fishing unsurpassed. In Corpus Christi Bay, tarpon fishing is ideal, it being a favorite haunt of this royal denizen of the deep.

Beautiful, splendid avenues and a broad beach drive offer the pleasures of motoring, riding and driving. The Corpus Beach Hotel, on Corpus Christi Beach, is noted among the first-class hostelries of the Texas Coast. It has a golf course and clubhouse adjacent, and a number of cottages which are maintained in connection with the hotel. The resorts on Aransas Pass, and following around



HOUSTON AND GALVESTON



After a Night on the Tarpon Grounds



the shore line, among the inlets and lagoons, to the mouth of the Rio Grande, all have beauties and attractions of a special nature.

Superb roads for motoring connect the Coast resorts and extend to historic old San Antonio, one of the most beautiful and interesting cities of the United States. San Antonio, with its many miles of splendid roads, its parks, clubs, great military post, fine hotels and every facility for the entertainment of guests, is one of the most popular places in the South, not only among Americans, but with many who come from across the sea to enjoy the beauties, the climate and the gayeties of this noted city, which, with its countless attractions, completes the list of famous resorts in the great, gay American Riviera.



SPLENDID TRAIN SERVICE

The Iron Mountain Route (including the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern, the Texas & Pacific and the International & Great Northern railways) operates two fast through trains daily between St. Louis and Houston and Galveston, connecting with all trains arriving at and departing from Union Station in St. Louis. These trains afford tourists from and to points in the North and East a continuous and practically a through service from their homes to Houston and Galveston. These trains are equipped with the latest design of electriclighted sleepers and dining car service to Palestine. The sleeping car on train leaving St. Louis in the morning starts from Chicago via the Chicago & Alton R. R., Midnight Train, thus giving through sleeping car service, Chicago to Houston. Close connections are made in St. Louis, both morning and evening, by the trains on all other Chicago-St. Louis lines.

Representatives of these companies at Union Station in St. Louis give special attention to lady passengers, children



Corpus Beach Hotel, Corpus Christi

HOUSTON AND GALVESTON



Bathing at Galveston Beach

and invalids, and may be freely called upon for information and assistance. The train employes are courteous and accommodating and strive to make the journey pleasant.

The route follows the Mississippi River for more than twenty miles south of St. Louis and thence through the famous Ozark Mountains and on to Little Rock, the capital and metropolis of Arkansas.

Passengers taking the Iron Mountain Route to Houston and Galveston have the privilege of stopping off at Little Rock or Benton, from which a side trip can be taken to the famous Hot Springs of Arkansas for a slight additional cost. This is one of the world's famous resorts and anyone passing so near should by no means miss it. We shall be very glad to send you a copy of our new and handsomely illustrated booklet on Hot Springs upon request.

From Memphis on the east and Fort Smith, Kansas City, St. Joseph and Omaha on the west and north, a service is operated which furnishes prompt connections at Little Rock with the through trains to Houston and Galveston, all intermediate points being thus brought into convenient reach.



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VALUABLE ASSISTANCE - The following Representatives are constantly looking after the interests of these lines, and will call upon parties contemplating a trip and cheerfully furnish them lowest rates of fare, maps, guides, time tables, etc., or they may be addressed as follows:

ST. LOUIS, IRON MOUNTAIN & SOUTHERN **REPRESENTATIVES:**

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CHICAGO, ILL.— ELLIS FARNSWORTH...... General Agent, Passenger Dept., 234 South Clark Street

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KANSAS CITY, MO.-R. T. G. MATTHEWS . . . Assistant General Passenger Agent, 624-625 Midland Building

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SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.-A. E. SINCLAIR, Trav. Pass'r Agent, 506 Postal Telegraph Bldg. SHREVEPORT, LA.-J. K. WALKER District Passenger and Ticket Agent

STLOUIS, MO., JOINT IMMIGRATION BUREAU— T. C. KIMBER M. FULLER. P. B. RODGERS. GEO, S. BRUCE. Traveling Immigration Agent, Houston, Tex.

INTERNATIONAL & GREAT NORTHERN **REPRESENTATIVES:**

CHICAGO, ILL.-W. R. TRELFORD. Northern Passenger Agent, 312 Marquette Building FORT WORTH, TEX.-J. F. ZURN. District Passenger and Ticket Agent, 704 Main St. GALVESTON, TEX.-LEV. FREDERICK Passenger and Ticket Agent

NEW YORK, N. Y.-W. G. TRUFANT......Eastern Traffic Agent, 290 Broadway

Panama-Pacific International Exposition SAN FRANCISCO February 20 to December 4, 1915

Panama-California Exposition SAN DIEGO, CAL. January 1 to December 31, 1915

Very low excursion rates will be in effect for the two great events in 1915, which will be attended by thousands of people from all parts of the United States and Canada, and as the tickets will be available for either one-way or round-trip passage through HOUSTON a most excellent opportunity will be afforded persons desiring to visit Houston, Galveston or the contiguous territory to do so.

Excursion tickets, account of the 1915 Expositions in California, will carry a final limit of ninety days and permit stop-over at pleasure at every point west of the Mississippi or Missouri rivers, and will be available for going passage one route and returning another.

A Suggestion

Take the Iron Mountain Route from St. Louis or Memphis, either through Houston, San Antonio or El Paso, returning via the Western Pacific, Denver & Rio Grande, Missouri Pacific or vice versa.



