

LAS CRUCES—Continued.

their settlements and planted their missions before Plymouth and the Atlantic coast settlements were thought of.

CAMPBELL HOTEL is good; leads. Also **AMADOR** and **DON BERNARDO**. Frequently fill early. Free camp space. Inf.—Chamber of Commerce.

RIO GRANDE RIVER, crossed westward.

THE DESERT NOT DESERTED

In far West Texas and across New Mexico and parts of Arizona and California are arid areas crossed by the Old Spanish Trail often referred to as deserts. They are not deserted. Cliffs of refinement reach hands across these lands for many love the mystery and life and sunshine of the Southwest while the souls need only the magic touch of water to spring into life as fruitful as the oases of Biskra or the garden spots of Arabia. Mountains rear their crests with friendly greeting and nature plays her undefinable colors on their rugged sides. The sands are redeemed by the graceful mesquite, the tangled yucca, the bayonet shaped yucca and its bouquet of white bloom in spring, the cacti of a hundred mystic types and their delicate flowering, the ironwood blossoms, the flaming flower of the ocotilla that grow mysteriously and proudly among the rocks. Strangeness, mystery and vastness; it is the dwelling place of the Great Spirit!

Irrigation is spreading its broad mantle, joining with sunshine and fertility, and the sands leap to life and send products of incredible variety to the tables of the frozen north. Ft. Stockton and Balmorhea, Texas, are gardens in the desert watered by great springs. The Rio Grande Valley thru Ft. Hancock, Fabens, Ysleta, Juarez, El Paso, Mesilla and Las Cruces is redeemed and enriched by the big Elephant Butte reservoir in New Mexico, 101 mi. north of El Paso. South of New Mexico is still unredeemed but underground reservoirs reached by shallow wells underlie great areas. On westward Mormons are irrigating along the San Pedro River. Irrigation is around Tucson. Westward at Florence the great Coolidge Dam is building to transform more areas of hot sands into semi-tropical gardens of wealth. The Salt River Valley around Phoenix and its green fields and colorful life breaks on the desert traveler like a benediction; the Roosevelt reservoir that mothers it all seems a distant sacrament. Over in California the sandy bed of the old Salton Sea is now the Imperial Valley growing green gold. The desert is not deserted. A great highway gives comfortable travel thru it and travel service is plentiful along the way. Soft, fine drinking water prevails in this sandy country with but a few places not so fortunate.

***DEMING**. An interesting city in the midst of an apparent desert but those plains are underlaid with abundant water for irrigation and the sands are fertile. Mines, forests and cattle ranches are around. Three railroads. Pure, soft drinking water is characteristic of this country—and most of the Old Spanish Trail territory.

PARK HOTEL leads. **HOTEL BAKER**, lower priced, good. Five cabin and apmt. camps. Free camp space, also cabins. 20 mi. west at Gage; Camp space at Wilna. Inf.—Chamber of Commerce.

CONTINENTAL DIVIDE. 32.5 mi. west of Deming; 27.5 mi. east of Lordsburg. Elevation 4,584 ft. East, the water goes to the Atlantic; west, to the Pacific.

***LORDSBURG**. A railroad division point. Lead, copper and silver mines in the surrounding country. **HOLLEN** and **VENDOME** hotels, fair. Two cabin camps.

GRANITE GAP. Elevation 4,400 ft. West of Lordsburg 28 mi. east of Rodeo 20 mi. Cut thru granite mountains that rise in beauty out of the desert. The ocotilla, the spindling cactus of the arid, rocky places, is seen in this section; its flowers in spring a scarlet flame and one of the mystic beauties of the desert.

RODEO. A railroad station village. Mining and ranch interests around. Country hotel. Camp space, camp house.

NEW MEXICO-ARIZONA STATE LINE

2 mi. West of Rodeo

ARIZONA—501 MILES

Road Conditions

The road across Arizona is well built and well maintained; gravel prevails. 125 mi. are paved.

Description of Country

The scenery thru the eastern part is varied and interesting—majestic mountains and rich mining districts; deserts that attract by their varied cacti growths and deserts turned to green fields by irrigation. West of Buckeye dry sands and a drab country are traveled to Yuma but small hotels, auto service, camp sites and cabin camps have developed along the way. The people are hospitable. The drive is an interesting experience.

Arizona is but 15 yrs. old as a state. Its industry, mining, agriculture, education, road and city building are examples of American enterprise. Numerous ranch resorts are in the mountains and valleys. In summer the elevation cools the temperature. In winter southern sunshine instead of snow and ice.

Old History

The Santa Cruz Valley—Tucson, Nogales, and into Mexico—was one of the great seats of mission and colonizing effort by the Spaniards. Numerous missions were in that territory. Some still remain in Mexico south of Nogales. The beginning in Arizona was in 1602. The Mission San Xavier del Bac, 9 mi. south of Tucson, was apparently founded in 1700. The building, which still stands and functions as a church, restored after years of disaster and neglect, was one of the first structures erected by the padres in the New World. From the Santa Cruz Valley mission works were extended across Arizona to Yuma, down the Gila Valley of the Old Spanish Trail of today. From this base also the expedition started that founded San Francisco in 1776. The great mission chain along the California coast had been started in 1760 at San Diego.

In this Arizona, New Mexico and Northwest Texas country Coronado and his princely expedition spent three years, 1540-42, searching for the Cities of Gold and the land of the Gran Quivira.

DOUGLAS. A thoroly modern city, the smelting center for the copper mines of the Phelps-Dodge and the Calumet & Arizona companies at Bisbee. The monthly production 21,000,000 lbs. Near is the Chiricahua National Monument in the Coronado National Forest where Nature and her genii have fashioned fantastic figures in the rocks. Ranch camps and resorts in the mountains. Across the Mexican border fence is Agua Prieta with a pleasant welcome to the traveler. **HOTEL PALOMAR**, the leading hotel. **HOTEL WINTON**, lower priced, good. Three good cabin camps. Inf.—Chamber of Commerce.

BISBEE. Phelps-Dodge and the Calumet & Arizona copper mines; three of the greatest in the country. Production reaches \$57,000,000 monthly. Bisbee is built in a canyon with the houses over one another, clinging to the canyon walls; a never-to-be-forgotten picture. The Var-canyon embraces rich District around these mines including thru the crook-over 15,000 people. The crowded highway thru the crook-over canyon is essentially the city of Bisbee. Mountain spring water at Bisbee. Cattle and goat ranches in the mountains and valleys, mountain and ranch resorts for a stop-over. **COPPER QUEEN HOTEL** leads. **GOLDEN HOTEL**, modern rooms. Two cabin camps. Free camp at Lowell, 1 mi. east. Inf.—Chamber of Commerce.

BISBEE SUMMIT 3 mi. west of Bisbee, 6,030 ft. highest point on the Old Spanish Trail. The highway here is a beautiful piece of engineering, easily driven, while the mountain peaks and canyons are impressive pictures.

Three other OST summits are: 8.5 mi. west of Van Horn, Texas, 4,630 ft.—the Continental Divide between Deming and Lordsburg, N. M. 4,584 ft.—7 mi. west of Boulevard, California 4,103 ft.

***TOMBSTONE**. Once a turbulent city as men sought the riches in silver buried in the mountains; \$40,000,000 were taken from the mines. One pocket produced about