

counties have a thousand miles of spring-fed rivers and creeks. Very good drinking water prevails. Hotels serve generous country meals. Three new, fine hotels have just been built and others enlarged. Camps of all kinds are settling in the Hill Country—church encampments, auto, ranch and recreation camps, boys' and girls' character camps, boy and girl scouts and numerous other institutional camps. In the Davis Mts. the Madera Springs mountain club is developing with every convenience for all-year service and all kinds of pleasures and for Old Spanish Trail travel.

#### Old History

In 1684 La Salle with a colonizing expedition from France sought the Mississippi River to take possession of the vast Mississippi Valley in the name of his king. He failed in this and landed in 1685 on the Texas coast. Spain learned of this colony on territory it claimed and in 1689 sent an expedition from Mexico; they reached the La Salle site and found La Salle had been murdered by his men. The French were dead, or gone away. A second expedition in 1690 continued northward and founded missions in the Nacogdoches district in East Texas. In 1699-1700 a group of missions was established south of the Rio Grande between the present Eagle Pass and Laredo. In 1716-17 four new missions were established near Nacogdoches but Spain found Nacogdoches too remote an outpost so in 1718 the mission, now the historic Alamo, was transferred from the Rio Grande and a fort (presidio) was established near it—and San Antonio dates from this. In 1720 the Mission San Jose was established. In 1731 the Villa of San Fernando de Bexar (town-site) was started and the missions Concepcion, San Juan and San Antonio were transferred from the Nacogdoches district to the San Antonio River.

From San Antonio other missions were established over a wide area. Gradually the outlying missions were abandoned or flames destroyed them. The San Antonio missions grew into great establishments. Fine stone churches and other buildings and irrigating systems were built. Today the ruins bear mute testimony to great achievement. These enterprises, so deep in a remote land, were remarkable achievements even in that brilliant age.

**LEON SPRINGS.** Jet. to Camp Stanley, one of the large U. S. military reservations. R. Aue Service Station, good.

\***BOERNE.** Beginning of West Texas Hill Country; sheep, goat and cattle ranches. **KENDALL INN, PHILLIPS** and **HILLTOP** hotels. Free and cabin camps.

**GUADALUPE RIVER** at Comfort; this river now followed for 25 mi.

**COMFORT.** On the Guadalupe river. These hills and valleys between Comfort and Boerne offer some of the prettiest driving scenery in America. Rustic drives among the hills. Pretty farms in the valleys. Goat ranches back in the hills and canyons. Elevations dry sunshine provide a stimulating climate. Hermann Some Home on a hill crest westward. **FAUST** and **MEYERS** hotels, small German places, good meals. **OST Filling Sta.**, cafe and resting place. Free camp on river, east.

**CENTER POINT.** On a river bluff; a hill town resort. Church encampment near. Several small hotels. **BRUCE HOUSE** leads. Camp space along the river. **Jordan's** cabin camp in a riverside grove on **OST** west, a pleasant place, 35c to \$1.00.

\***KERRVILLE.** The resort capital of the hills. Largest primary wool and mohair market in Texas. Numerous camps along the river; cabin and free auto camps, boys' and girls' character camps, church encampments, East 3 mi. on the **OST**, the American Legion \$2,000,000 hospital now conducted by the U. S. Government; adjoining are the Schreiner Institute and the Presbyterian Encampment. **BLUE BONNET HOTEL.** New, modern, 140 rms., overlooks Guadalupe River. ST. CHARLES and other hotels. Inf.—Chamber of Commerce.

**INGRAM.** Jet. of two branches of the river. Cabin camp on **OST**, east.

**STATE FISH HATCHERY.** East of Mt. Home, 2 mi. Largest black bass hatchery in the world; built by the

State, the Kerrville and Junction people aiding. The numberless spring-water streams of the Hill Country are kept stocked with game fish. Visitors welcome. You should not hurry thru this Hill Country.

**MOUNTAIN HOME.** Last settlement before crossing the divide. Nice free camp by mountain springs. Store and garage, nice service. Inf.—N. B. Estes.

**LLANO RIVER.** East side of Junction and the junction of the two Llano rivers.

\***JUNCTION.** Heart of the Hill Country. 500 mi. of spring-fed streams in Kimble County shaded with cypress, pecan and other tree groves. Wild, rugged sheep and goat country. Wild pecan nut market. South 20 mi. the Seven-Hundred Springs. North at Menard old Spanish mission works dating from 1757.

**FRITZ HOTEL,** modern, fireproof, every convenience, noted for its meals. **HODGES** and **BECKER** hotels, rms. and meals; **JUNCTION HOTEL,** rms. only.

A delightful ranch recreation camp, the V bar H Ranch, 9 mi. up the river, open all year. Saddle horses; shetland ponies and donkeys for children. Fine meals at club house. Camps at Junction on the river, and 1½ mi. south. See **Emil Loeffler** for any information or service, at Junction **Hardvare Co.**, sportsmen and general supplies, and **Loeffler Motor Co.**, fireproof garage, service station, repair equipment, etc.

**LLANO RIVER,** north branch, east and west of Roosevelt.

**NOTE.** The river is forded many times; converted low bridges are built. The river is spring-fed, sparkling, shaded and pretty. These are the only river fords remaining on the Old Spanish Trail. If the water appears deep, change to second gear and go thru slowly and steadily; this avoids splashing the water and assures easy crossing. The new road is to be built along the ridge.

**ROOSEVELT.** Fishing, bathing, boating at river. Cabin camp; also many camp sites along the river. **Camp Allison,** 7 mi. west, in a pecan grove, spring water; a good stopping place. Rooming house and meals at Roosevelt.

\***SONORA.** These West Texas towns are essentially the country; outlying are the fine cattle, goat and sheep ranches. Houses are seldom seen but nestled in the hills are the ranch homes with many comforts. The Hill Country climate is dry, invigorating; elevations 2,000 to 2,500 ft.

**HOTEL McDONALD** has 44 rms., modern conveniences and good meals. Camp space abundant in West Texas. **Sonora Motor Co., S. R. Hull** has 14,500 ft. of floor space with complete equipment, nice attentions. **City Garage, C. S. Keene,** is new and well equipped. Day and night service both places. **Yander Stucken's** store, all sorts of west country merchandise. **Dew Drop Inn** is a pleasant place

\***OZONA.** High rock-bound hills and plateaus; sheep, goats and cattle. Oil north and west. **Live Oak Hill** with its alpine road 25 mi. west. **Live Oak Creek,** good spring water and a nice camp site, 34 mi. west. Ruins of old Fort Lancaster visible to the south from the **OST** along **Live Oak Creek;** entrance at gate just east of **Live Oak Creek** crossing. This was one of the army posts that guarded the frontier from San Antonio to San Diego. Ozona is another mid-west community with schools and civic improvements that reflect credit on the citizenship.

**HOTEL OZONA,** modern fire proof, steam heat, hot and cold water each room, connecting bath. Dining room and cafe. A fine hotel.

The **Dudley** stone garage is the largest between San Antonio and El Paso and well equipped. **Lee Wilson** has a new garage equipped for every service.

**PECOS RIVER.** Rises in New Mexico.