

## In The Heart of The Pines

The following interesting article on Camden is from the pen of Miss Louise Ches, of this city, and appeared in the "1919 Guide to Winter Tourists" published by the New York Evening Post.

Camden, a thriving little city of 5,000 population, is situated in the heart of a long leaf pine section and just at the head of navigation of the Wateree River.

The soil of the surrounding country is fertile and the drainage of the town is excellent. In consequence of this location, the climate is mild and invigorating, and the air, perfumed with the aromatic odor of the pines, is remarkable for its purity. The rainfall is less than in either the coast or the mountain region. Snow is seldom seen. The temperature for the four seasons the past thirty years is: spring, 60; summer, 73.33; fall, 62.26; winter, 45.16.

Camden is one of the oldest inland towns of the state. Settlements were made in the neighborhood as early as 1733. The town was chartered by King George III, about 1768, and the original Royal Charter hung on the walls of the Council Chamber until, in some unknown way, it disappeared in 1853.

After the Revolution Camden became the centre of much wealth and a delightful social life. Many of the prominent citizens numbered their slaves by the hundred, and their lordly plantations covered thousands of acres. Those wealthy planters often built for themselves beautiful country homes and handsome town houses in Camden, some of which still stand in their spacious old-fashioned grounds as memorials of a bygone style and splendor, add to the beauty and interest of the place.

As an item of interest, mention might

be made here of the old court house, with its dignified, pure lines, occupied for nearly a century as the administrative centre of the county, but outgrown in these changing days, and given to the Daughters of the Revolution.

From the earliest days the town was regularly laid out, with broad streets and numerous public parks. There are now seven of these parks, and the streets are bordered throughout with trees, making the town one of the prettiest in the country.

Attention might also be called to the weather vane on the City Hall, an effigy in sheet iron of Haigler, noble King of Catawba Indians, and friend of the white man. For nearly 100 years this image, loved of the citizens, has weathered every storm, and pointed his arrow bravely in the face of every wind.

Camden has three excellent tourist hotels, offering a table service unsurpassed in the country: The Court Inn, owned and managed by Caleb Ticknor and Son, who operate the Berkshire Inn at Great Barrington, Mass., during the summer season; the Kirkwood Hotel on

Camden Heights, T. Edmund Krumbholz, managing director, and the Hobkirk Inn, operated by H. G. Marvin.

These hotels open in November and close about April or May, and offer every comfort of home in a climate, mild and invigorating, between the bitter cold of Northern latitudes and the unseasonable warmth of the subtropical far South. The tourist going back home in the spring from Florida or New Orleans will find Camden a most delightful stopping place to break the long trip and sudden change, and a few weeks may well be spent here until the grip of winter has been broken in his own home.

The excellent accommodations, the delightful, mild, dry climate, and the beauty of the town make the place a most attractive one to visitors. Tourists may sometimes secure excellent accommodations in private homes. A number of winter visitors own homes here, and others rent furnished houses for the season. These visitors enter charmingly into the social life of the community, and the presence of many cultivated people makes the winter season especially delightful.

One of the commercial hotels of Camden is the Parkview, operated by R. H. Williams.

Days spent in Camden can be filled with a round of delightful recreations. There are two eighteen-hole golf courses, one, the property of the Sarsfield Golf Club, and the other of the Camden Country Club. Frequent tournaments are held by each club, and an annual match is played between the two. There is a charming little club house of the old Southern type of architecture upon the Country Club links.

The quail shooting around Camden is especially good and trained dogs and experienced guides may be had on short notice. Also, within short distance of Camden can be found wild turkeys, ducks, deer and geese in abundance, and parties are often formed from here for excursions after them. Then, too, the fishing is good in nearby ponds and streams.

Camden's residents and tourists have been devoted to equestrian sports, and anyone who loves the horse will now more than ever find Camden of interest. In the spring of 1917 was formed the Camden Riding and Driving Club. Under the auspices of this club will now be held the polo tournaments, and the annual horse show. There is owned by the club a splendid half-mile gentleman's driving track.

It has also two of the best polo fields in the South, on which games are played regularly by local teams and a series of tournaments every season with visiting teams.

The annual horse show has been held each spring since 1908, with every increasing success, and is now looked forward to as one of the society events of the Southern season.

By the formation of the Camden Riding and Driving Club there will be brought together prominent horse lovers who have selected our climate as the ideal one in which to train their horses during the winter and spring months, and who delight in handling their own fancy stock in the company of their friends.

Riding and driving along the country roads, and through the piney woods are much enjoyed. Good horses and teams can be secured by the day, week, month or season.

Camden is on the main line of the Seaboard Air Line Railway and also on divisions of the Southern and Atlantic Coast Line Railways. It is located on the Capital to Capital Highway, and, in fact, on more of the official automobile highways than any other city in the State of South Carolina.

The Western Union and the Postal Telegraph Companies have up-to-date offices here, and the Bell Telephone system insures the best of local service and the widest connections.

Visitors from afar are always impressed by Camden's public schools, of which she is proud. These schools rank as Class A, having now eleven grades, and the graduates receive the State diplomas signed by the Governor and Superintendent of Education, which admit them with a credit of fourteen units to the colleges of the State.

There are also several first-class private schools in the town.

Camden has its own water and light plant, built a few years ago at a cost of \$175,000. This assures good service and plenty of water. The source of supply is a sand hill stream from springs several miles out of the city. The whole watershed of several hundred acres is owned by the town. By the State analysis, and by private tests, as well, the water has always been rated in the highest class.

Camden is the county seat of a county whose interests are principally agricultural. Cotton is the main export crop. Corn, oats, wheat, potatoes, peas, vegetables and fruits are grown in quantities sufficient for home use. There is raised

annually in the county 30,000 bales of cotton.

There is a splendid opportunity here for truck gardens and poultry farms. Not only is the local market among Camden people and winter tourists good, but it is only thirty miles from Columbia, the State capital, and less than twenty hours from New York.

Truly a beautiful sight for the farmer's eye is the herd of 1,000 pure breed Hereford cattle of the Camden Beef Cattle Farms, a few miles out of Camden. The community is indebted to L. I. Guion for this bold, but successful, venture. Cheap lands, plentiful water supply, and accessibility to markets render the opportunities for cattle raising of the best.

Among the recent structures of a public nature which adorn the town are a Carnegie Library and an up to date hospital, given to the city by Bernard Baruch, of New York, as a memorial to his father, Dr. Simon Baruch, who spent his early professional life in Camden. The support of the hospital is assured through the generosity of the late John Bursell, of Kershaw County.

If you will come to Camden you will find a citizenry of the best, who glory in the history of their past, and keep sentiment alive amid the hard realities of life. You will find a community growing, progressing, developing, and will find a welcome awaiting you.

You will soon be made to feel that there is but one thing better than being a visitor to Camden, and that is to become a permanent resident.

**Death Claims Gallows**

Dublin, Ga., March 28.—Herbert Cummings, negro, sentenced to be hanged for the murder of Raymond Cannon, overseas veteran, died early today in the Lawrence county jail after an illness of several weeks.

**STORM TAKES HEAVY TOLL**

Many Lives Lost and Property Destroyed in Several States.

Tornadoes that struck in half a dozen states Sunday caused a death list that may pass three score, caused property damage reaching many millions of dollars and played havoc with wire and railway service in widespread districts.

The greatest damage was done in Chicago suburbs and Elgin where the known death list was 23 and a number of other persons were missing.

Atlanta reported that the death list in Georgia and Alabama was at least 30.

Apparently there were three distinct storms, one driving northeastward into Illinois and dying out on the shores of Lake Michigan just north of Chicago, one striking in Georgia and Alabama, and another striking in Indiana and passing into Ohio and Michigan.

**Points Hit Hardest**

A list of points suffering greatest damage follows:

Chicago suburbs, 15 known killed, hundreds injured, a dozen or more missing and damage of upwards of a half million dollars done.

Elgin, Ill., eight known dead, several missing and scores injured; property damage estimated at \$4,000,000.

Lagrange, Ga., a death list reported as high as 30 and a heavy property damage.

West Point, Ga., 10 killed.

Sear Port Wayne, Ind., three killed, heavy property damage.

Agricola, Ala., five killed.

Greenville and Union City, Ohio, 16 reported killed.

St. Louis, one killed.

East Troy, Wis., one killed.

Sawanton and Raabs Corners, Ohio, a number reported killed.



## A Store Devoted to Better Merchandise Columbia's Newest Store

**The Rest Room**

Especially to out of town customers should this Department of Service have a spontaneous appeal.

Easy chairs, writing desks, telephone, lavatories with tile floor, in fact everything to make you comfortable will be found in this Rest Room, designed to fill a long felt want in the shopping life of the city.

On the first floor we have equipped a checking room for out of town customers to check their suit cases, hand bags, umbrellas, etc.

**THAT'S** the slogan of the Bon Marche, and an examination of our stocks will prove that it is indeed something more than an empty title.

"Better Merchandise," as we conceive it, means newer and more exclusive style, better quality in fabric or workmanship and wider range of selection.

Nor does it necessarily follow that you must pay more for this superior selection. As a matter of fact you will very frequently find it here for less, due to affiliation of this store with the Bon Marche chain of stores, through which we secure an advantage in purchasing power, to pass on to our customers in Columbia and the surrounding territory.

**Bon Marche**

Corner Main and Taylor Streets. Columbia, S. C.



## A Twice-told Tale

—and it's a tale that'll never grow tiresome—  
**High Art Clothes** again for Spring and Summer, because we have never been able to find better.

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MADE BY STROUSE & BROTHERS, Inc.  
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