



## The U. S. is too spectacular to travel haphazardly; why not try region-touring on your coming vacation?

by Robert Meyer, Jr.

**T**HE U. S. A. is such a big, wonderful country that it would take a lifetime of two-week vacations to tour it properly.

If you're like most of us, you'll have to settle for seeing only cross sections which give a good representation of the whole nation. One way to do this is by "region-roaming"—spending your vacations in the Deep South, Upper South, Northeast, Great Lakes, Central States, Southwest, Rocky Mountains, Pacific Coast, Alaska, or Hawaii.

By concentrating on the high spots of each region, you'll get a good idea of the spectacular scenery, varied peoples, and exciting activities which make up our country.

In the Deep South, for example, there are Alabama's sandy beaches on Dauphin Island in Mobile Bay, on the fringe of the Gulf of Mexico. Fishing is fine here as well as at Lake Guntersville in northern Alabama.

Arkansas has Hot Springs, a world-renowned spa and site of one of our oldest national parks. And the Ozark Mountains are a popular, beautiful vacation area, too.

Florida has increased its number of Summer visitors in recent years because rates are lower than in Winter. From Jacksonville in the northeast and Pensacola in the northwest, all the way down to Key West, roads are lined with tourist "wonders."

Georgia boasts Stone Mountain, believed to be the biggest piece of exposed granite in the world, near Atlanta. Some day it might display the largest sculpture in the world, a

gigantic frieze of Confederate heroes.

Louisiana has one of the most romantic areas in any state, the storied Teche Country about 100 miles west of New Orleans. This is the moss-hung, magnolia-scented Evangeline land where descendants of exiled French-Canadians still use the recipes which made Louisiana a gourmet's paradise.

Mississippi puts tourist emphasis on its coastline, which it calls the Riviera of the Gulf. Here you can ride in view of Mississippi Sound for dozens of miles.

South Carolina's pride is Charleston, and no wonder. The gracious living symbolizing the antebellum South is still to be found in Charleston. Here you can savor some of the most delectable dishes served anywhere.

The Upper South consists of Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington, D. C., and West Virginia. Each has special tourist appeal.

Delaware is not sizable, but it has some mighty museums. Among them are Hagley and Winterthur, both near Wilmington. State Museum and Dickinson Mansion are at Dover, and Zwaanendael Museum is at Lewes.

Kentucky's trademark is the thoroughbred horse. The cream of racing thoroughbreds perform in the Kentucky Derby at Louisville in May. Before and after the Derby, many tourists travel to Lexington, heart of the Blue Grass country, to visit horse farms and stables. Late in May, they go to Pineville to see laurel in bloom and on June 14 move to

Ashland for the American Folksong Festival.

Maryland constantly draws multitudes to Annapolis where midshipmen at the U. S. Naval Academy often parade on Worden Field. Visitors also tour the Academy's museums and grounds. In Baltimore Harbor, an hour's ride from Annapolis, you can visit Ft. McHenry, site of the bombardment which inspired "The Star Spangled Banner."

North Carolina is blessed with three distinct vacationlands: The coastal area where the Wright brothers flew their first airplane near Kitty Hawk; the Piedmont, which boasts the golf and riding resorts of Pinehurst and Southern Pines; and the Blue Ridge Mountains, where a handsome parkway for non-commercial vehicles leads to Great Smoky Mountain National Park.

Tennessee also has part of Smoky Mountain National Park. Many of the myriad lakes created by the Tennessee Valley Authority dot southeastern Tennessee and draw thousands who like to fish, swim, and boat.

**V**IRGINIA's showplace in the field of restorations is Williamsburg. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., has spent some \$40 million for a reproduction of the colonial capital. In Virginia, too, are Natural Bridge, Luray Caverns, and Thomas Jefferson's contribution to graceful architecture, his home, Monticello, and the buildings of the University of Virginia at stately, picturesque Charlottesville.

Washington, D. C., of course, features scores of famous landmarks, open to visitors at specific times. You'll want to see the Capitol, White House, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, and Arlington National Cemetery where America's Unknown Soldiers are entombed.

West Virginia's scenic beauty is a favorite with artists and painters, particularly near historic Harpers Ferry, where the Potomac and Shenandoah converge. An exhibit of coal