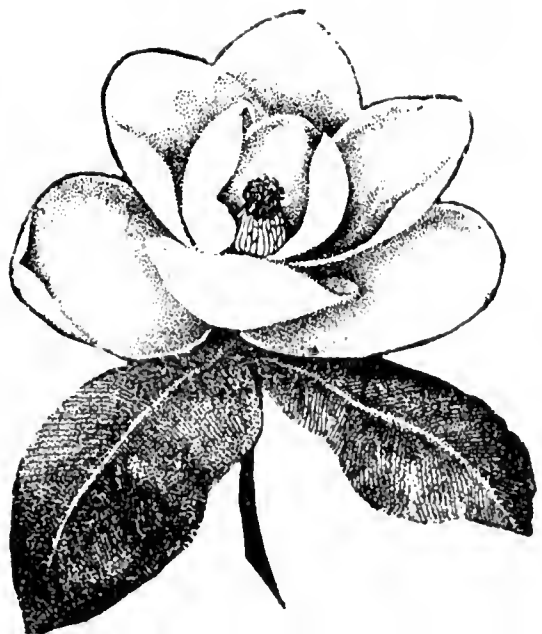


HOUSTON

AS A SETTING OF

THE RICE
INSTITUTE





HOUSTON



AS A SETTING OF
THE JEWEL
THE RICE INSTITUTE



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HOUSTON, TEXAS
1913

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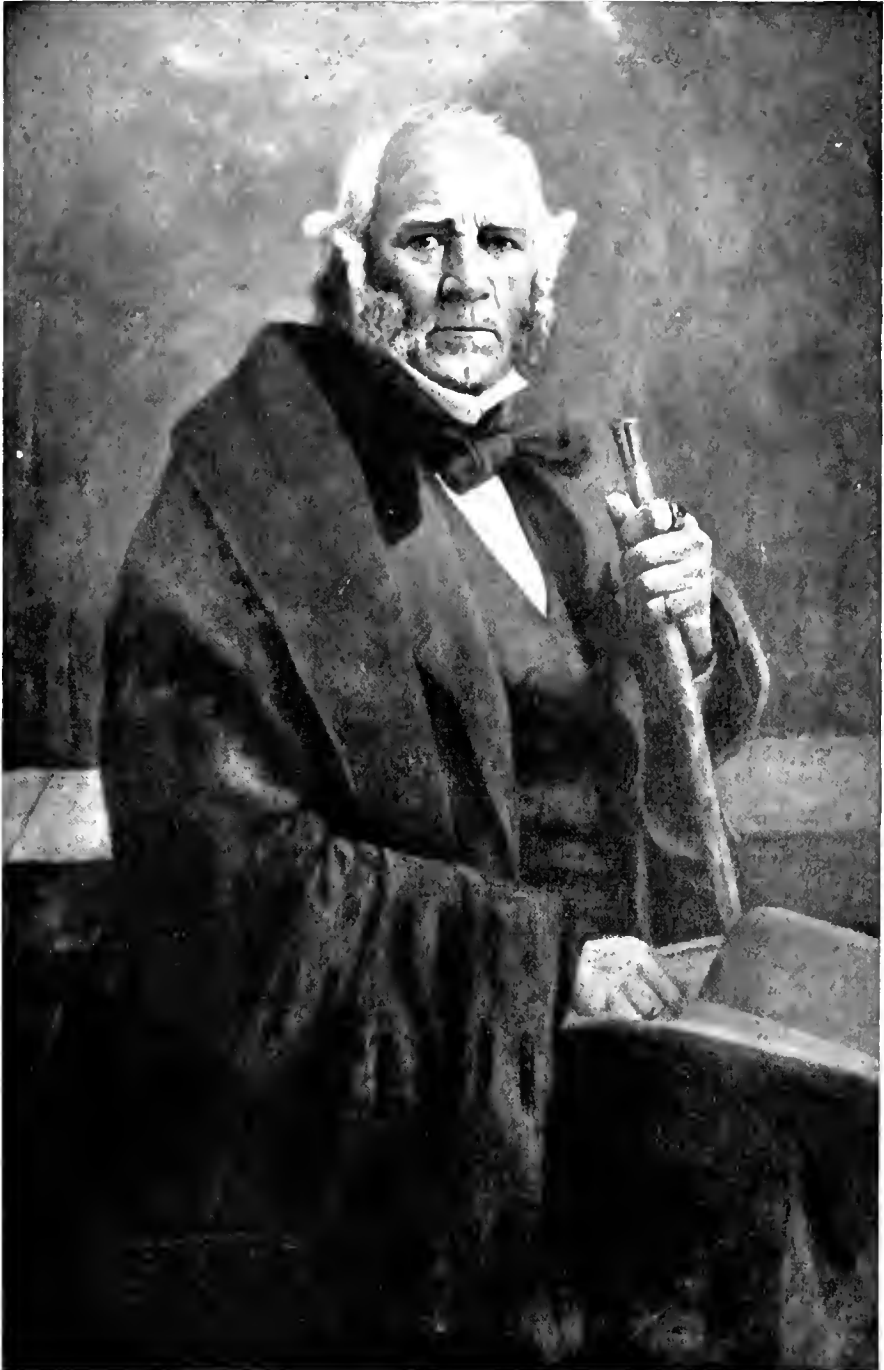
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From copyrighted portrait by S. Salomon, San Antonio, Texas

GEN. SAM HOUSTON

THIS BOOK is presented to its readers as a permanent record of the progressive era upon which Houston is entering.

Its inspiration came with attendance upon the inaugural and dedicatorial exercises opening the Rice Institute in October, 1912. Houston has many other beautiful and substantial features, and in addition to depicting in detail the Institute, an endeavor is made to describe by views and text other principal features of Houston which are in keeping with the magnificence and importance of this newest treasure.

The story of Houston as a commercial center, a wonderful place for investment returns, has been told and repeated to the ends of civilization. The purpose of this book is to tell the story of Houston as a desirable dwelling place: a place where a child may begin its education in kindergarten and complete it in one of the world's greatest institutions of learning; where the best instruction in music and art is available, the love of it daily inculcated in every school child of Houston, and stimulated by yearly visitations of many of the world's greatest interpreters; where there is splendid organization of social and moral uplift touching every phase of civic life; where health consideration is vital, and public comfort, pleasure and recreation receive definite provision.

The compilation of a book to contain every feature worthy of representation would consume many months. In view of this fact, and of the phenomenal rapidity of Houston's growth, consecutive editions will be printed, and new features and developments added in succeeding editions.

The first edition is printed exclusively on a subscription basis for progressive citizens who have recognized the need of such a book.

The Publisher.



The Rice Institute Campus from the Main Approach



WILLIAM MARSH RICE



Dr. Edgar Odell Lovett, President

History of Rice Institute

THE late William Marsh Rice, a native of Massachusetts, but for many years a resident of Houston, was approached about twenty years ago by several public-spirited citizens of the community with the request that he bear the expense of building a new public high school for the City of Houston. This direct gift to the city's welfare Mr. Rice was unwilling to make, but a few months later he took into his confidence a half dozen friends, to whom he made known his desire to found a much larger educational enterprise for the permanent benefit of the city and state of his adoption. These gentlemen were organized into a board of trust for the new foundation, which was incorporated in 1891 under a broad charter granting the trustees great freedom in the future organization of a non-political and non-sectarian institution of liberal and technical learning to be dedicated to the advancement of letters, science and art. As a nucleus for an endowment fund, Mr. Rice at this time made over an interest-bearing note of two hundred thousand dollars to the original board of trustees, consisting of himself, the late Messrs. F. A. Rice and A. S. Richardson, and Messrs. James A. Baker, Jr., J. E. McAshan, E. Raphael and C. Lombardi. Under the terms of the charter this board is a self-perpetuating body of seven members elected for life; the several vacancies which have occurred since its organization have been filled by the election of Messrs. William M. Rice, Jr., B. B. Rice and E. O. Lovett.

It was the unalterable desire of the founder that the development of the work which he had conceived should proceed no



The Trustees

- Messrs.
Jas. A. Baker
E. Raphael
J. E. McAshan
C. Lombardi
Wm. Rice
B. B. Rice

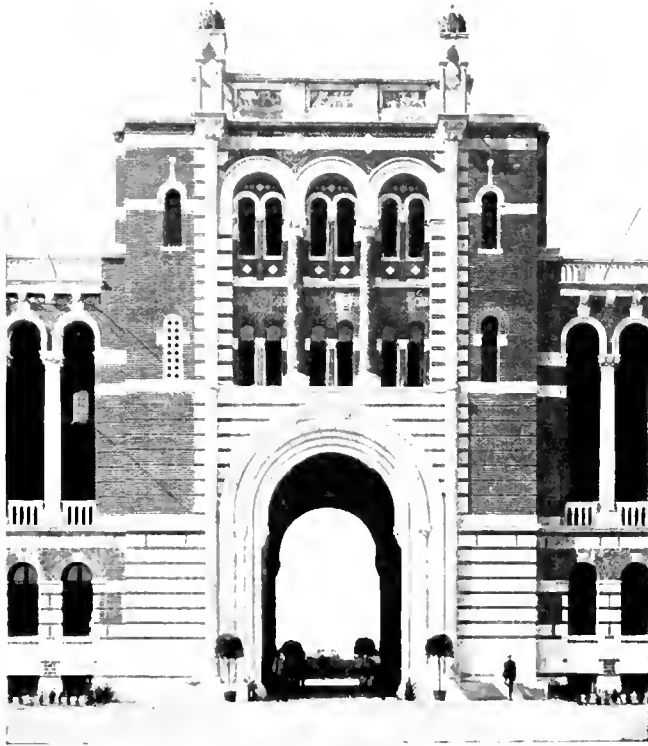


History of Rice Institute

—Continued

further during his lifetime. However, in the remaining days of his life he increased the endowment fund from time to time by transferring to the trustees the titles to certain of his properties, and in the end made the new foundation his residuary legatee. Upon the termination of the long years of litigation which followed Mr. Rice's death in 1900, the board of trust found the Institute in possession of an estate whose present value is conservatively estimated at approximately ten million dollars, divided by the provisions of the founder's will into almost equal parts available for equipment and for endowment, respectively. While proceeding to convert the non-productive properties of the estate into income-bearing investments, the trustees called Dr. Edgar Odell Lovett, of Princeton University, to assist them in the realization of the founder's long-deferred plans. Before taking up his residence in Houston, President Lovett visited the leading educational and scientific establishments of the world, returning in the summer of 1909 from a year's journey of study that extended from England to Japan. About this time negotiations were completed by which the Institute secured a site of three hundred acres situated on the extension of Houston's main thoroughfare, three miles from the center of the city—a tract of ground universally regarded as the most appropriate within the vicinity of the city.

In their consideration of the problems confronting them, the trustees very early decided that the new institution should be housed in architecture worthy of the founder's high aims; and upon this idea they entered with no lower ambition than to establish on the campus of the Institute a group of buildings conspicuous alike for their beauty and for their utility, which should stand not only as a worthy monument to the founder's philanthropy, but also as a distinct contribution to the architecture of our country. With this end in view they determined to commit to Messrs. Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson, of Boston and New York, the task of designing a general architectural plan to embody in the course of future years the realization of the educational program which had been adopted for the Institute. Such a general plan, exhibiting in itself the most attractive elements of the architecture of Italy, France and Spain, was accepted by the board in the spring of 1910. Immediately thereafter plans and specifications for an administration building were prepared, and in the following July the contract for its construction was awarded; three months later the erection of a mechanical laboratory and power house was begun, and by the next autumn the construction of two wings of the first residential hall for men was well under way. Among the additional buildings for which tentative plans have already been studied are special laboratories for instruction and investigation in physics, chemistry and biology, and



Driveway
from Main
Entrance

Sallyport and
Tower of
Administra-
tion Building

Gateway at
Main
Entrance





Cloister of Residential Hall

History of Rice Institute

—Continued

in the applications of these sciences to the arts of industry and commerce. In the preparation of these preliminary laboratory plans the Institute has enjoyed the co-operation of an advisory committee consisting of Professor Ames, director of the physical laboratory of Johns Hopkins University; Professor Conklin, director of the biological laboratory of Princeton University; Professor Richards, chairman of the department of chemistry, Harvard University, and Professor Stratton, director of the National Bureau of Standards.

Of the four main entrances to the campus, the principal one lies at the corner of the grounds nearest the city. From this entrance the approach to the Administration Building is a broad avenue several hundred yards long, to be bordered by oaks and flanked by wide-spreading lawns, ending in a fore-court, which will be bounded on the left by the School of Fine Arts, on the right by the Residential College for Women. The main avenue of approach coincides with the central axis of the block plan, and from the principal gateway opens up through the vaulted sally-port of the Administration Building a vista of more than a mile within the limits of the campus. After dividing at the fore-court the driveway circles the ends of the Administration Building and continues for half a mile in two heavily planted drives parallel to this axis and separated by a distance of seven hundred feet. Within the extended rectangle thus formed the pleasing effect of widening vistas has been realized. On passing through the sally-port through the fore-court, the future visitor of the Institute will enter upon an academic group consisting of five large buildings, which with their massive cloisters surround on three sides a richly gardened court measuring three hundred by five hundred feet, planted in graceful cypresses. Beyond this group is another academic court of still greater dimensions planted in groves of live oaks; this great court in turn opens into extensive Persian gardens beyond which the vista is closed at the extreme west by a great pool and the amphitheater of a Greek playhouse. The principal secondary axis



Cloister of
Administra-
tion
Building

of the general plan, starting from the boulevard and running north perpendicularly to the main axis, crosses the lawns and courts of the liberal arts and science groups into the Mechanical Laboratory and Power House, the first buildings of the engineering group. The fourth entrance on Main street leads to the athletic playing fields and to the residential group for men. While each unit of the latter group has its own inner court, the several buildings themselves together enclose a long rectangular court bounded at the eastern end by a club house, and on the west by the gymnasium, which opens upon the athletic stadium in the rear. North of the men's residential group and across the great court, lying between the botanical gardens and the laboratories of pure and applied science, appears the splendid quadrangle of the Graduate School and its professional departments.

Although designed to accommodate the executive and administrative offices when the Institute shall have grown to normal dimensions, the Administration Building will be used during the first few years to meet some of the needs of instruction as well as those of administration. The building is of fireproof construction throughout; it is three stories high,



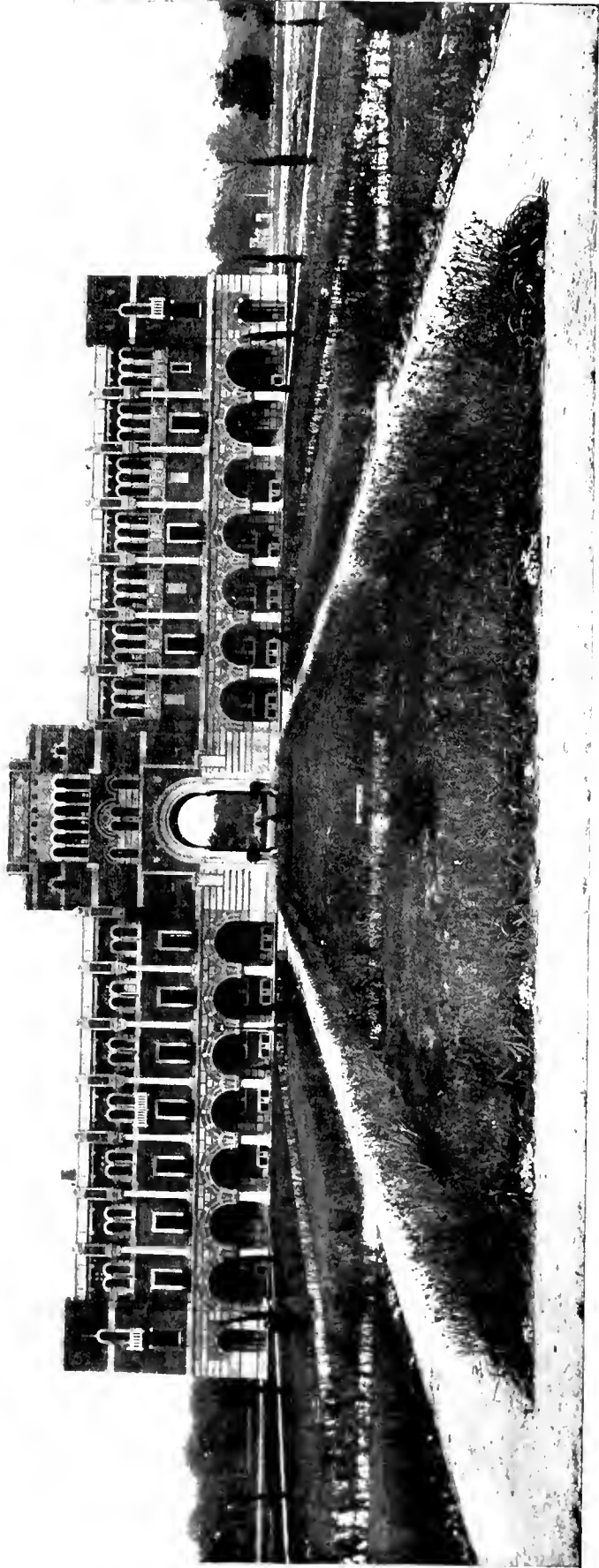
Cornerstone of Administration Building

History of Rice Institute

—Continued

three hundred feet long and fifty feet deep, with a basement running its entire length. Through a central tower of four stories a vaulted sally-port thirty feet high, leading from the main approach and foregarden to the academic court, gives entrance to the halls of the building and opens the way to the broad cloisters on the court side. On the first floor, besides offices of registration, there are lecture rooms, class and conference rooms. In the north wing of the second floor the temporary plans make adequate arrangements for library and reading rooms; the second and third floors of the south wing are given to a public hall, which, with its balcony, extends the height of two stories. A little later on in the history of the Institute this assembly hall will become the faculty chamber. The remaining part of the third floor provides additional space for recitation and seminar rooms, and offices for members of the teaching staff. The meeting room of the Board of Trustees and the office of the President of the Institute will be located in the tower.

In its architecture the Administration Building reveals the influence of the earliest periods of the Mediterranean countries: vaulted Byzantine cloisters, exquisite Dalmatian brickwork, together with Spanish and Italian elements in profusion; in all a richness of color permissible only in climates similar to our own. The dominant warm gray tone is established by the use of a local pink brick, a delicately tinted marble from the Ozark Mountains, and Texas granite, though the color scheme undergoes considerable variation by the studied use of tiles and foreign marbles. To meet the local climatic conditions, the building has been pierced by loggias and many windows, while its long shaded cloister opens to the prevailing winds. On the seventy-fifth anniversary of Texan Independence the trustees laid the cornerstone; the inscription is a Greek quotation in Byzantine lettering from the *Praeparatio Evangelica* of Eusebius Pamphili, which in English translation reads: "'Rather,' said Democritus, 'would I discover the cause of one fact than become King of the Persians,'" a declaration made at a time when to be king of the Persians was to rule the world.



Administration Building from the Court Side



Residential Hall for Men

History of Rice Institute

—Continued

Of the students' residential group for men, the first building, consisting of a dormitory and a commons, is placed southwest of the Administration Building, its front approach leading from the fourth campus entrance on the Main street boulevard. The residential wing is a long, three-story, fireproof structure with a tower of five stories, a broad cloister on the front, and a basement extending its entire length. It opens to the south upon a garden, and on the north upon its own court. In arrangement and equipment the building is modern and in every way attractive and convenient. Accommodations for about two hundred students will ultimately be offered in single and double rooms and suites. Lodgings have been provided for several preceptors and two large halls have been set aside for the temporary use of literary and debating societies. The floors of this wing are so planned as to insure for every room perfect ventilation and absolutely wholesome conditions. There are lavatories, shower baths and sanitary connections adequate to the needs of each floor. The power for both light and heat is received from the central plant. An arcade rather more than one hundred feet in length leads from the dormitory wing across the inner court to the commons which constitutes the northern boundary of the quadrangle. The commons proper is equipped with every detail necessary for the perfect service of all the men living in the residential group, and at the same time is of sufficient size and capacity to serve other members of the student body. In addition to the dining hall and its equipment this section of the building contains club and reading rooms. It is graced also by a handsome clock tower, four stories high, surmounted by a belfry; the several floors of the tower have been arranged in suites of rooms to be reserved for the use of graduate students and instructors. As has been intimated already, the other buildings under way propose to reveal in brick and marble some of the more subtle suggestions of the southern architecture of Europe and the East, and at the same time to realize the fundamental principles of their sources in a distinctive style of academic architecture for all the future buildings of the Institute. Consistent with the architectural style thus evolved, a pleasing and harmonious variation appears in the treatment of the first residential group, whose studied tower and cloisters in brick and stucco are designed to produce an effect characteristically Venetian.



Mechanical Laboratory and Campanile of Power House

Located at the northern end of the principal secondary axis of the general architectural plan are groups of scientific and technical laboratories. The first buildings of this section of the campus, namely, the Mechanical Laboratory, Machine Shop and Power House, have been erected north of the Administration Building at the end of a long direct driveway from the third Main street entrance. The Laboratory, a two-story, fireproof building, two hundred feet long and forty feet deep, with a cloister extending the full length of its court side, is built of materials similar to those used in the construction of the Administration Building. The space of its floors is given to scientific laboratories, lecture halls, recitation rooms, departmental libraries and offices for instructors in charge, while its basement affords additional rooms for further apparatus. Through the Machine Shop the Mechanical Laboratory connects with the Power House, where are installed equipment for complete steam, refrigerating and electric generating and distributing systems. The lofty campanile of this group, visible for miles in every direction, will probably be for many years the most conspicuous among the towers of the Institute.

Further improvements of the campus are being gradually effected. An extensive concrete waterproof tunnel has been constructed to transmit power from the central plant to all the buildings on the grounds. With a diameter sufficient to admit a man standing erect, the tunnel has ample space for all wiring and piping in positions easy of access, thus insuring perfect care of the equipment and a resultant increase in efficiency. Progress has also been made in the installation of complete sanitary and drainage systems, which, with an unlimited supply of wholesome water, should give assurance of perfect physical conditions at the site of the Institute. The most important driveways, including the main approach to the Administration Building, the drives along the axis leading to the group of scientific laboratories and to the students' residential group, and the long roads enclosing the academic court, have been built with deep gravel foundations and are surfaced with crushed granite. The planting of double rows of oaks, elms and cypresses along these drives and the assembling of ledges, shrubs and flowers within the gardens and courts of the present groups will subsequently impress even the casual visitor both with the magnitude and with the beauty of the general architectural plan.



Trustees and Initial Teaching Staff

History of Rice Institute

—Continued

On the side of the intellectual and spiritual prosperity the progress has been quite as striking. The actual work of instruction of the first academic year began on the 23rd day of September, 1912, the anniversary of the death of the founder. In the presence of the trustees of the Institute, members of its initial teaching staff, and representative citizens of the community, the first class of students was received in the faculty chamber of the Administration Building with appropriately impressive ceremonies on September the twenty-sixth. It had been decided to limit the scholastic work for the first academic year to a single class of freshmen of a standard of preparation as high as the best public and private high schools are capable of producing.

However, for the present it is proposed to assign no upper limit to the educational endeavor of the new institution, while the lower limit is placed no lower than the standard entrance requirements of the more conservative universities of the country. These entrance requirements may be met either directly by examination or wholly or partially on certificate of graduation from an approved private preparatory or public high school. It is also proposed that a group of selected graduate students be afforded opportunities for study and research.

The initial teaching staff of the Institute is being organized for university and college work in a faculty of science and a faculty of letters. Under the former of these faculties it is hoped to establish a school of pure and applied science of the highest grade. With a view to liberalizing the technical courses of the curriculum, there will be constituted as rapidly as may be possible a faculty of letters, in which will be developed incidentally fine facilities for elementary and advanced courses in the so-called humanities, thereby enabling the Institute to offer both the advantages of a liberal general education and those of special and professional training. The courses of instruction and investigation are open to young men and to young women. There are no charges for tuition and no fees; rooms in the residential hall and board at the commons are furnished at the actual cost of maintenance and provision. Further, for a limited number of meritorious students of promise undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships will be available.

In seeking the best available instructors and investigators



Campus
Scenes
Day of
Inaugural
Ceremonies



History of Rice Institute

—Continued

wherever they may be found the trustees confidently hope to assemble a group of unusually able scientists and scholars, through whose productive work the Institute should speedily take a place of considerable importance among the established institutions of the country. The programmes of study are being arranged with a view to offering a variety of courses leading, after four years of undergraduate work, to bachelor's degrees in arts, in science, in letters, and in the applications of pure science to the arts of engineering, agriculture, industry and commerce. Extensive general courses in the several domains of scientific knowledge will be offered, but in the main the programs will consist of subjects carefully co-ordinated and calling for considerable concentration of study. For the advanced degrees every facility will be given properly qualified graduate students to undertake lines of research under the direction of the Institute's resident and visiting professors.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the tenth, eleventh and twelfth days of October, the formal opening of the Institute was observed with appropriate ceremonies in an academic festival which was held under the most favorable conditions of weather, most generous co-operation of the community and commonwealth, and the heartening encouragement of several hundred scholars and scientists who came to Houston to assist in the launching of the new university. Chief among these distinguished representatives of life and learning were the twelve foreign savants who had consented to participate in the inaugural program by preparing series of lectures in the liberal humanities of philosophy, history, letters and art and the fundamental sciences of mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology. A full account of the proceedings occupying the four days devoted to this celebration is now being prepared for publication in permanent form. In these volumes will be published in full the inaugural lectures of Professors Altamira of Madrid, Borel of Paris, Croce of Naples, DeVries of Amsterdam, Jones of Glasgow, Kikuchi of Tokio, Mackail of London, Ostwald of Gross-Bothen, Poincare of Paris, Ramsay of London, Stormer of Christiana, and Volterra of Rome. There will also appear the various invitations extended by the Institute, the responses from American and foreign universities and scientific societies in the form of letters and cablegrams and elaborately embossed parchments in English, French, German, Russian, Italian, Latin and other tongues; the addresses of Governor Colquitt, Chief Justice Brown of Texas, Bishop Gailor of Tennessee, the inaugural ode of Dr. Henry van Dyke of Princeton, and the dedication sermon of Dr. Charles F. Aked of San Francisco; together with the speeches delivered by the presidents or other official representatives of Amsterdam, Glasgow, London, Oviedo, Paris, Rome, Baylor, Chicago, Columbia, Lehigh, Princeton, Texas,



Distinguished Representatives

- Professors
- Ramsay, London
- Poincare, Paris
- Jones, Glasgow
- Kikuchi, Tokio
- DeVries, Amsterdam
- Croce, Naples
- Altamira, Madrid
- Mackail, London
- Volterra, Rome
- Ostwald, Gross-Bothen
- Borel, Paris
- Stormer, Christiana



History of Rice Institute

—Continued

Vanderbilt and Virginia Universities, and a variety of other literary and artistic performances which are not easily classified in a rapid resume.

Of the several hundred handsome responses received from other universities and learned societies the following may be singled out as typical of those which are written in English:

The Polish University in Lwow (Lemberg), Galicia, Austria, wishes to convey to the Rice Institute in Houston, Texas, on the day of its inauguration, its greetings and heartiest wishes for a favorable development. We have with pleasure received your communication with the news of the founding of a new splendid temple dedicated to knowledge and education on American soil, where so many Poles are living. Founded by the liberality of your noble countryman, William Marsh Rice, erected and organized with foresight and care by your great citizens and scholars, it will become a fruitful fount of educational work through which you fill old Europe with amazement. Blessed is that land which possesses such sons. Happy is the country in which, thanks to the liberality of its citizens, palaces are erected for cultivating and extending human knowledge. United to you by the bonds of common aspirations we send across the sea to the hands of your most honourable president, Edgar Odell Lovett, the old Polish wish of *szezesc boze* (good luck) for your work in furthering the greatest good of mankind. Signed: Adolf Beck, rector.

Princeton University.—To the Rice Institute, Houston, Texas. Gentlemen: On behalf of the authorities of Princeton University I have the honor of acknowledging your hospitable invitation asking that our academic body shall be represented on October 10, 11 and 12 at the ceremonies formally inaugurating the Rice Institute of liberal and technical learning. It therefore gives me great pleasure to notify you that Princeton University has appointed William Francis Magie, Henry professor of physics and dean of the faculty, and Henry van Dyke, Murray professor of English literature, to attend in person as our delegates, to present our congratulations to the Rice Institute on the auspicious occasion of its formal dedication and to extend to your president, our former colleague in Princeton University, the assurance of our remembrance and good will. May this new-born institute of liberal and technical learning, ever keeping faith with the high intent of its founder, equal the best desires of those who are guiding the opening years of its career, enrich the intellectual life of the great State of Texas and of our nation, and help to elevate mankind for generations to come, even for as long as men shall care for the cause of truth and knowledge. Signed: John Grier Hibben, President.

University of Sydney.—The Chancellor and Senate of the University of Sydney to the President and Trustees of the Rice Institute, Houston, Texas: In the name of the senate of the University of Sydney, I thank the president and trustees of the Rice Institute for the invitation to send a representative to the inaugural ceremonies that are to celebrate the beginning of its career. At this great distance it is difficult to make the necessary arrangements for availing ourselves of the honor, but we have appointed one of our number, William H. Warren, LL. D. Wh. Sc., M. Inst. C.E., Challis professor of engineering, now traveling in Europe and America, to act as our delegate, if his arrangements permit. Should this be impossible, however, and should we fail to be personally represented, we nevertheless in all sincerity desire to transmit our cordial greetings and good wishes to the new university, and to express our hopes that the splendid auspices under which it is established may be overshadowed by the celebrity that it hereafter attains, and that its portion of promoting the intellectual interests of mankind may be realized in the achievements of its future teachers and alumni. Nor can we refrain from congratulating a kindred community which, though older than those in the Southern seas, is, like them, a new growth in a new world, in the enlightened liberality of its private citizens that has in so many

History of Rice Institute

cases led to the munificent endowment of culture and research, and that now once more receives so conspicuous an illustration. We trust that in remote generations the Rice Institute may still be fulfilling its beneficent mission in all prosperity and fair fame. Signed: Henry Normand MacLaurin, Chancellor.

Yale University.—The president and fellows of Yale University extend their congratulations to the trustees of the Rice Institute on the auspicious arrangements that have been made for the inauguration of its important work. They feel that the election of Edgar Odell Lovett as president is a guarantee that the foundations of the Institute will be laid in the thorough and liberal way designed by the late William Marsh Rice. Yale University welcomes the Rice Institute into the brotherhood of American institutions of learning. Its officers assure the president and trustees of their desire to be of service in any way in their power, and bespeak from the State of Texas and from the City of Houston every possible support in aiding the Institute to become a center of inspiration and of learning. May it carry out the founder's ideal by "the advancement of letters, science and art" that not only the Southwest, but the Nation, may be helped by its activities. Signed: Arthur Twining Hadley, President.

Under the caption, "Vale Rice Institute," Dr. Walter F. McCaleb of San Antonio, an alumnus of the University of Texas and a guest of the Rice Institute during its opening celebration, penned the following lines at the conclusion of the dedicatory exercises on Sunday, October 13:

The halls are silent—silent as with hush
Of angels come to view a glorious birth—
All silent as with awe, the pageant gone
Of the Immortals.

Corridor and nave
And alcove dim are dumb and tenantless—
Only stars and the mysterious eyes
Of centuries look on the sacred place.

The halls are silent, save where cling the tones
Of Altamira's eloquence; are void
Save for Volterra's magic worlds; are bare
Save where the morning flowers are newly set
Drawn from th' enchanted garden of De Vries;
Are dark, save where the violet helium lights
Of Ramsay fall in fadeless radiance.

Hark! what sounds roll down the corridors?
What winds of even stir the echoes? Lo,
The spirit feet of thousands yet to come
Are heralded by pipes of all the winds
That blow from earth's remotest ends.
It is as if the humming bees again were in
The trees, even as the laureate sang, but now
To mark the coming of the children, who
Shall conquer as they take the paths of day.

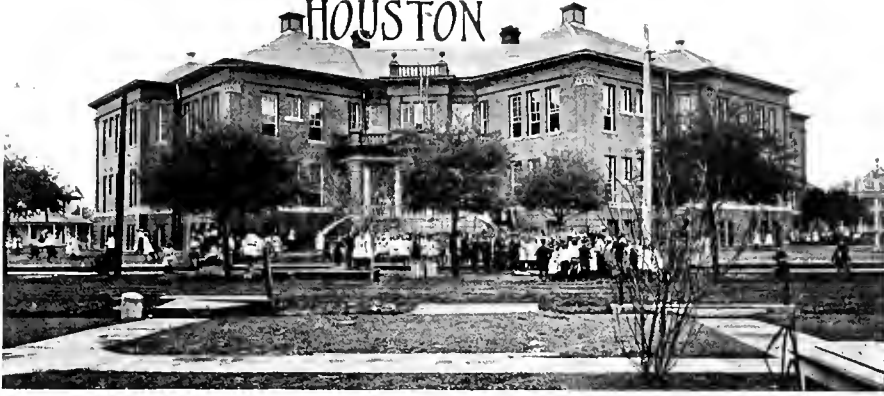
The halls are silent, but the dawn shall find
The traces of the great who went before,
And one who waits (serenely sure and sure
As fate) to lead them through the golden door.





P. W. HORN
Superintendent of Schools

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF
HOUSTON



and
OTHER EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES



History of Public Schools

ON February 7, 1913, the City Schools of Houston had enrolled for the year 14,492 pupils.

On the corresponding date, 1912, they had enrolled 12,867 pupils.

This was an increase of 1,625 pupils in one year. Some growth, is it not? Perhaps, too, it throws some light on the question as to why the schools cost more year after year.

For the year ending in June, 1913, the schools will enroll fully 15,000 pupils. For the year 1902-3 they enrolled 7,864. This shows an increase of almost 100 per cent in the ten years just past.

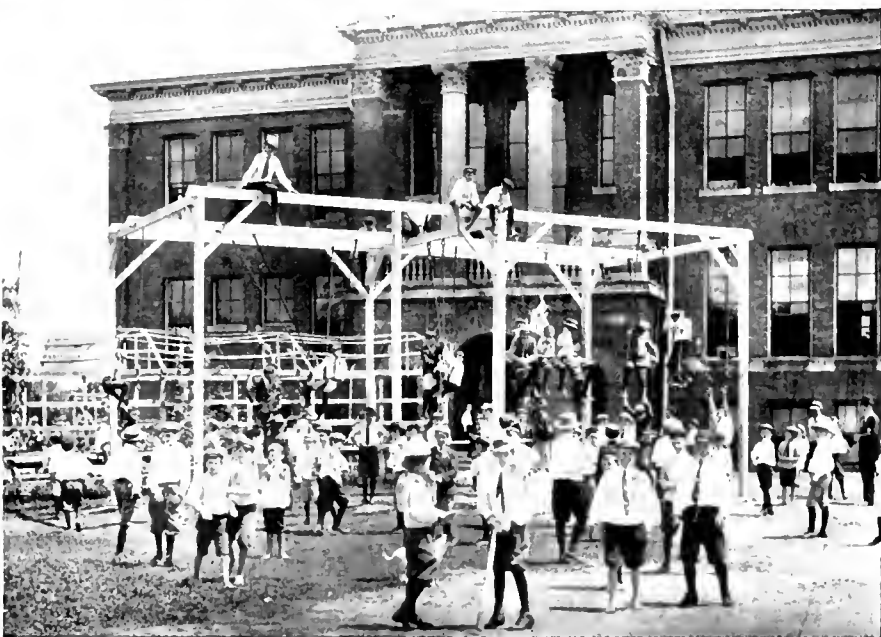
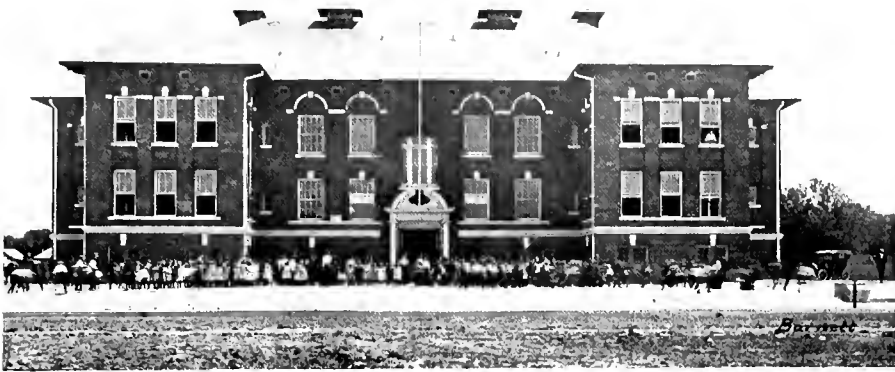
In 1902-3 the schools employed 179 teachers. In 1912-13 they have employed 372 teachers. Thus they have a little more than doubled the number of teachers employed in the past ten years.

In 1902-3 the schools cost the City and the State, together, \$127,647.32. For the year ending February 28, 1913, they cost \$330,715.16. While the schools have been practically doubled in size, the expense of maintaining them has almost trebled. This is on account of the largely increased salary schedule and the more liberal equipment now being provided. The maximum salary paid to grade teachers then was \$630 as opposed to \$810 now. The maximum salary then paid to ward principals was \$1200, as opposed to \$1600 now. These increases are not even yet as large as they ought to be, but they show that the trend of things has been in the right direction.

These things are not said by any manner in disparagement of the schools as they were ten years ago. They were then good schools for their time and their opportunity. But the world has moved on in the past ten years. It is the desire of this article merely to show that the schools have kept pace with this movement.

New subjects have been introduced into the course of study to prepare the boys and girls to meet new conditions in life. Among these subjects are manual training for the boys and domestic science for the girls. These have been in the schools of Houston for the past seven years.

There are twelve school buildings equipped for teaching manual training. Here the boys are taught to use the saw



History of Public Schools

—Continued

and plane and hammer, to understand the use of tools, and to make things with their hands. There was a time once when boys learned these things at home. However, with the changes that have come into modern life, the average boy would not learn these things if he did not learn them at school. The things that the boys make would be a credit to skilled workmen. There are tables, and chairs, and desks, which would be ornamental and useful in any home in the city.

All the boys in the elementary schools above the fourth grade take this work. All in the first year of the high school are required to take it, and above the first year in the high school it is optional.

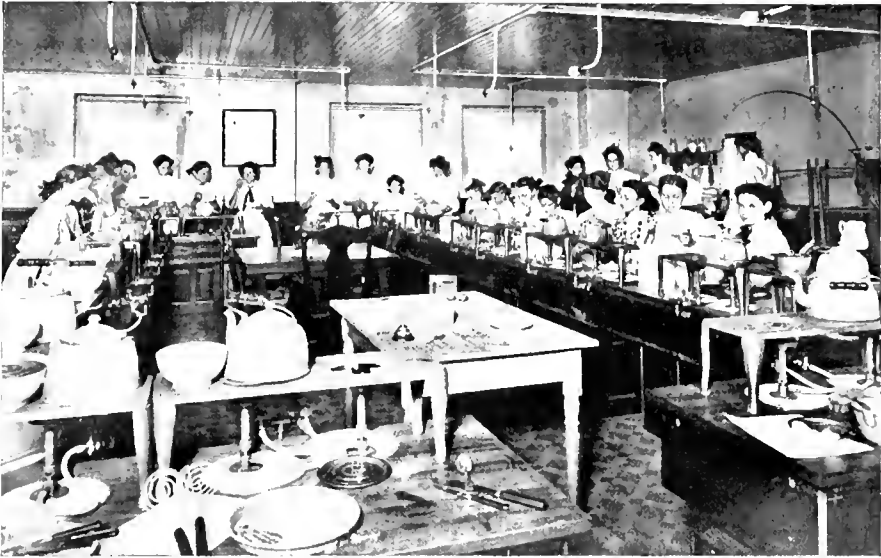
In addition to the cabinet-making there is wood turning, pattern making, forging and machine shop work. Along with these go mechanical drawing. It is the effort of the school to give the boys such skill in using their hands as will to the greatest extent possible assist them in dealing with the practical affairs of life.

Nor have the girls been forgotten. The work in domestic science and art has been established for them. All girls in the fourth and fifth grades are taught sewing, and all in the sixth and seventh grades are taught cooking. These subjects are taught again in the high school. Here they are required of all girls in the first year, though they are optional above the first year of the high school. They have cooking, sewing, dress-making and millinery.

The night schools, too, are a development of recent years. They are for those people who are so situated that they cannot attend school in the day time, but who, nevertheless, are desirous of improving their educational advantages. There are four of these schools for white pupils and three for colored.

In these schools an effort is made to give in the most practical form possible the elementary branches of an English education, and those other subjects which will be of the greatest practical value to those attending. The attendance at night schools is not limited to children of school age. In fact, no child under twelve is admitted, because children below that age ought to be in the day school. One never gets too old to be received in the night school. Many of those attending are in middle life, and a few are well advanced in years. The oldest one on record is a negro woman 85 years old, who is attending one of the night schools in order that she may learn to read the Bible. Many grown men and women attend who have only recently come to America from foreign countries and who wish to learn to speak and read and write the English language.

The night schools also have classes in stenography and typewriting and book-keeping. They have classes in wood







History of Public Schools

—Continued

work and in iron work. There are classes which grown women attend in order that they may learn to cook and to sew. There is also a class in Spanish.

These things are mentioned to show that in the past ten years there has been an earnest effort made to change the course of study so that it will meet the demands of the practical age in which we live.

However, the cultural side has not been neglected. There is in the grades a course in picture study, whereby the children are made acquainted with the masterpieces of the world's art. There is also a course in memory work, whereby the children are led to commit to memory selections from the world's masterpieces of literature. They are also taught the lives of the great musicians, and are taught to know and to love the world's masterpieces of music.

Nor has the physical side of education been neglected within the past ten years. There is a gymnasium provided at the High School, with an outdoor gymnasium at many of the ward schools. There is a physical director, with a woman assistant who gives special attention to the physical welfare of the girls at the High School. At every school building the pupils are organized into athletic teams. The effort is not merely to develop a small number at each school, but to reach as nearly as possible all of the children at the various buildings. There is folk dancing and organized games of many different kinds.

There is a medical instructor whose duty it is to examine the children, to call attention to any physical defect which the parents may not know about, and see that cases of contagious diseases are excluded from the schools.

Those children who are below the normal powers of intellect have not been overlooked. There is a special room for exceptional pupils, where a trained teacher makes extra effort to develop the intelligence of a few to whom nature has been sparing in her gifts.

There are at present four kindergartens taught in connection with our city schools, although in each instance the expense of maintaining them is borne by private individuals. Many of us hope that the time is not far distant when there will be free kindergartens maintained at public expense in all the schools in the city. This time has not yet come, but the drift of things is undoubtedly in that direction.

Perhaps the greatest of all the improvements made within the past ten years has been in the organization of mothers' clubs, and the Parent-Teachers' Association. These organizations have worked loyally and harmoniously for the advancement of the schools. In many instances they helped introduce manual training and domestic science into their respective buildings. During the year 1911-12, they raised \$7,248.93 and



History of Public Schools

—Continued

expended it for the good of the schools. That made \$45,319.60 which the mothers of the city had raised during the past six years, and expended upon the children in the schools. While the amount itself was distinctly worth while, the greatest good done was in the interest which was aroused among the people in the welfare of their own children. Too much praise cannot be given to the mothers for their work, and too much emphasis cannot be laid upon the importance of it.

While these changes have been taking place in the course of study, and in the school administration, progress has also been made in the material equipment of the schools. The first buildings erected were of wood. Then came an era when the buildings were of brick, but were not fireproof. At the present writing there are seven fireproof brick or concrete school buildings under course of construction, each one of which embodies the most modern ideas as to heating, lighting and ventilation, and each one of which is so planned as to be adapted to the widest possible use by the community as a whole.

The new Longfellow and Dow Schools are of the same general construction, and are now under way. The Taylor is now being planned. The North Side Junior High School and the South End Junior High School are thoroughly up-to-date buildings now under course of construction.

To pay for these buildings required the issuance of \$500,000 in bonds for ward schools, and \$500,000 for high schools. The people voted these unhesitatingly and at the request of the school authorities.

One of the most marked evidences of progress in recent years is in the amount of ground deemed necessary for a school site. A number of the earlier school buildings were erected on sites of half a block. The result was that the children had practically no playground, and that when it became necessary to put additions to the school buildings, it was either impossible to do this, or else it was necessary to pay large sums for the extra ground. In recent years the city has been buying acreage property for its schools. The sites for the new Junior High Schools have eight and one-half and ten acres respectively. At one elementary school there is a five-acre site. The new Taylor School is to be built adjacent to the Sam Houston Park, and have all the park as a playground. This shows some progress from the days when half a block was considered sufficient.

The two new Junior High Schools are to be better buildings and better equipped than any others in the South or Southwest. It is planned to take the children of the seventh grade and to keep them through the first two years of the High School. The industrial work is to be emphasized so that if children need to drop out at the end of the second high school year they will at least have a fairly good equipment for fight-

History of Public Schools

ing the battles of life. On the other hand, if it is at all possible for them to continue, they are to be encouraged to finish the Senior High School. After they do this, the great facilities of the Rice Institute will be free to them.

The Rusk and Crockett Schools are now completed. The Rusk takes the place of an old frame building that was burned down over a year ago. The Crockett helps relieve the Hawthorne School, which has been badly over-crowded. Each one of the new buildings has an auditorium, gymnasium, club room, manual training and domestic science rooms, and is adapted to social center work.

Rusk school is not only to be a wonderful elementary school; it is also to be the first social center in the city.

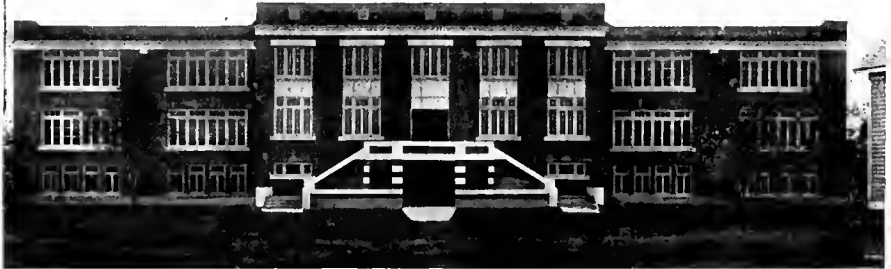
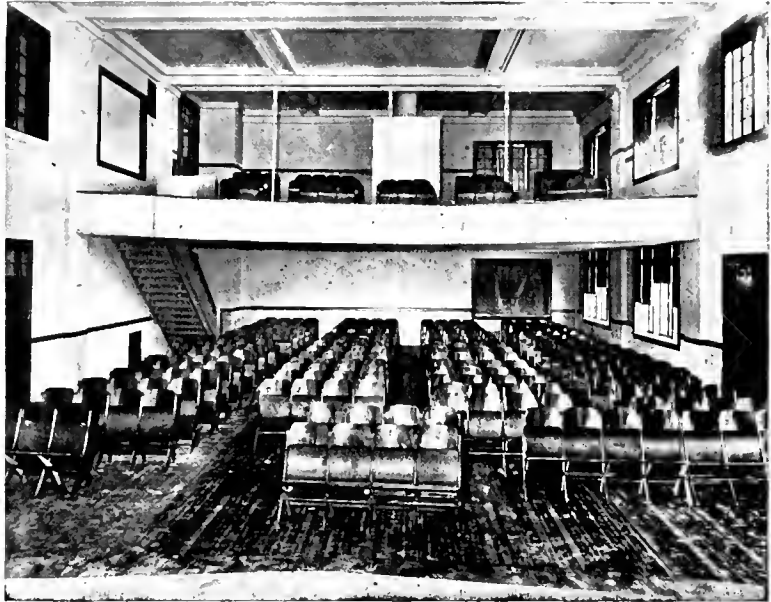
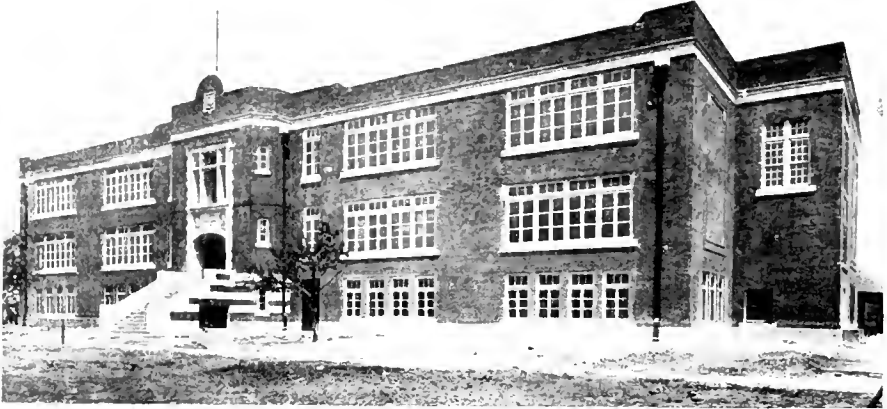
The architectural ideas are a synthesis of the best during the supremacy of the Tudor style in England covering a period beginning with the reign of Edward VI in 1408 and running up to an age of enervation, 1603, when the Gothic and Renaissance proved the fashion and caprice of the century. To this earlier school has been added the newer idea of window space. The honeycombing of the walls with glass panes gives to the structure an appearance of modernity.

The walls throughout the building are of a dove and mauve tint; a delightful substitute for the baneful effects of a glaring white. The panels and woodwork are in dark oak stain and in some of the rooms the woodwork is finished in mission style. What recommends itself especially to the housewife and the close inspector of corners is that every provision is made for sanitation, ventilation, heating and lighting. Many of these latter suggestions grew out of recommendations by Professor A. Caswell Ellis of the University of Texas.

In the structure dark brick of a brownish hue, somewhat flecked, is used, while outlines are sharply defined in concrete. The approach from the rear of the building is far more attractive than from the front, as the perspective is better, and the general treatment more pleasing.

The first story is on a level with the ground and will be used for the social work in the neighborhood, the lunch room, the domestic science, the manual training, the dispensary and the public library. The second floor, which is gained by two broad stone stairways, will be devoted to class rooms, the kindergarten and the auditorium. The third floor will be used exclusively for class work.

In the arrangement of the first floor the social life of the community is especially emphasized. It marks a step forward which can not be measured by any time periods and in its small way promises to be a great factor in economic and race progress. It is here, and in the auditorium, that the people of the neighborhood will meet upon a general level and learn the wisdom of co-operation and interdependence.



History of Public Schools

—Continued

An advantage of this lower floor is that all of the rooms are accessible from the street, while the auditorium is gained from an outside stairway in the rear.

The stretch of rooms in the rear include a machine room and a storage room for the manual training department; two large rooms for the domestic science activities. Adjoining the library is the boys' lunch room, next the kitchen, where noon meals will be served by the Mothers' Club, and adjoining that the girls' lunch room.

At the east end of the lower floor is the dispensary, which will also be used as a child welfare station. This dispensary will be under the direction of the Settlement Association and will carry out the same program in the neighborhood which characterized it while in the Settlement House.

On the second floor, upon the north side, are two spacious rooms which will be used for the Rusk School kindergarten. It, too, is an activity supported by the Settlement Association.

The most engrossing point of interest in the school life, however, is the auditorium, which is nothing short of a triumph. It is a splendid hall, possessed of a balcony and a stage that is equipped with scenery and dressing rooms. Everything that can contribute toward making it a people's theatre, and not too large to destroy the touch of intimacy which should characterize a people's theatre, has been done. It is here that the real social work of the community is to be accomplished. It is here that the neighborhood will gather in debates, in socials, in theatricals and in musicales. It may be the center of a local orchestra on one evening; a congress of mothers' clubs on another; a civic club on another.

There will be provision for dancing upon the hardwood floor of the auditorium. There will also be provision for motion picture shows on certain nights each week. These pictures will grow out of the social organizations rather than the school proper.

The temperature of the rooms is automatically registered. Cool, fresh air is pumped into the rooms and the bad air is drawn out through exhausts. Adjustable shades are at all of the windows.

A survey of the institution develops many points of interest. Every class room has its cabinet of steel lockers. Each child has his own compartment. Broad, double doors, which open both ways, lead from the class rooms to the corridors. Sanitary fountains are stationed in the corridors.

The completion of Rusk school marks a new era in scientific school building and equipment in Houston, and one to stimulate civic pride.



Music Art League

H OUSTON has for a number of years been recognized as the musical center of the Southwest. The commercial and industrial growth of the city, instead of proving an interference, has advanced the interest in musical activities, thereby showing that culture will ever follow in the wake of commerce, which prepares a path for it.

The musical clubs and organizations now existing in Houston are: The Women's Choral Club, Quartette Society, Treble Clef Club, Girls' Musical Club, Houston Heights Study Club, Saengerbund Society (the oldest organization), Mendelssohn Choir (oratorio).

The Choral, Quartette and Treble Clef Clubs are singing societies, giving three concerts annually, at which they present, as soloists, the great artists of the world.

The Girls' Musical Club, a study club, gives a series of open meetings and two artist recitals during the year, its aim being to present the younger artists and the higher type of chamber music to its patrons.

These clubs are supported by associate memberships, none of which exceed the sum of five dollars, for which from six to nine tickets are given. It will thus be seen that season-subscribers pay from forty-five to ninety cents per ticket for hearing the greatest available artists.

The approximate sum of twenty thousand dollars was expended by combined clubs and impressarios during the season of 1911-1912. In addition to this, the municipal government spent for free concerts and music furnished by the Municipal Band upon public occasions more than twenty-seven thousand dollars for the season closing May 1st, this year.

There are nearly a hundred churches in Houston, and in the majority of them there are excellent choirs.

A good lyceum course has provided interesting attractions.

The Art League has not confined its splendid efforts to the advancement of the appreciation of painting and sculpture, but has also given one concert each year, enabling Houstonians to hear such artists as Pachelmann and Ysaye. The announcements for next season's artists already include Paderewski, Slezak, Mischa Elman, Alma Gluck, Schumann-Heink, Ethel Parks, Clarence Whitehill, and the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. A partial list of artists, many of whom have appeared numerous times, is given below:

Nordica, Melba, Suzanne Adams, Tetrizzini, Gadski, Sembrich, Jomelli, Frances Alda, Charlotte Maconda, Rider-Kelsey, Florence Hinkle, Elena Gerhardt, Schumann-Heink, Janet Spencer, Hissem de Moss, Mme. Chilson-Ohrman, Marie Rappold, Mariska-Aldrich, Alice Sovereign, Anita Rio, Ellen Beach Yaw, Agnes Kimball, Lillia Snelling, Lucy Marsh, Calve, Christine Miller, Ella Courts Beck, Louise McMahon,



Music

Art League

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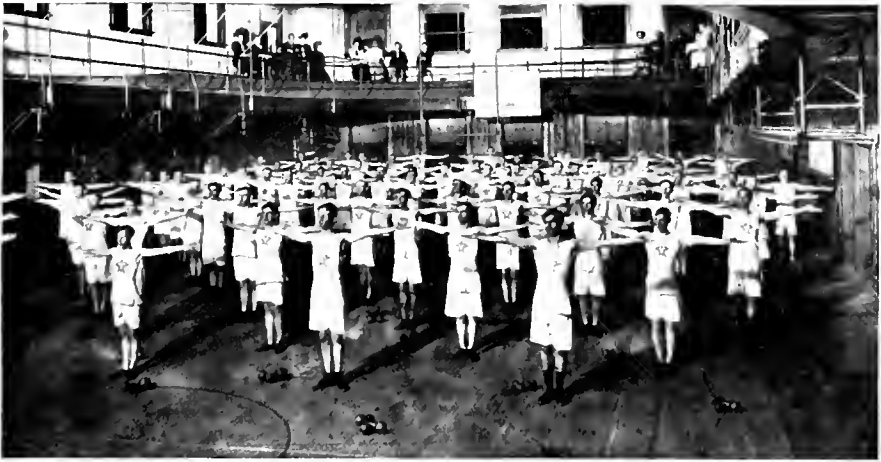
Mary Carson Kidd, Liza Lehmann, Zapelli, Herbert Wither-
spoon, Bispham, Gogorza, Glenn Hall, Van Hoose, George
Hamlin, Evan Williams, Julian Walker, Claude Cunningham,
Cecil Fanning, John Barnes Wells, Harold Meek, Bonci, Reed
Miller, Frances Rogers, Gilibert, David Dunbar, Frederic
Martin, Campanari, Carl Schlegel, Leon Rice, Olga Samaroff,
Fannie Bloomfield-Zeissler, Pachmann, Paderewski, Hoff-
man, La Forge, Charles Gilbert Spross, Ossip Gabrilowitch,
Hans Richard, Alexander Russell, Myrtle Elvyn, Pepito Ari-
ola, Helena Lewyn (local), Lhevinne, Clarence Eddy, Cannon,
Arthur Fisher, Yves Nat, Ysaye, Kreisler, Zimbalist, Arthur
Hartmann, Maude Powell, Kubelik, Leonora Jackson, Jules
Falk, Boris Hambourg, Paulo Gruppe, Elsa Ruegger, Kneisel
Quartette, Flonzaley Quartette, Blitz Quintette (local), New
York Symphony Orchestra, Russian Symphony Orchestra,
Pittsburg Symphony Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony Or-
chestra, Thomas Orchestra, Victor Herbert Orchestra.

The Russian Symphony Orchestra gave ten consecutive
concerts in the Auditorium, the world's record for a symphony
orchestra engagement. The school children of the city were
the matinee guests of a great lover and patron of music for
one of these concerts.

Opera Companies.—Full Metropolitan Opera and Orchestra
production of "Parsifal," under Conreid's direction; Savage,
French, Aborn, Alice Neilson and Bessie Abbott companies,
Chicago Grand Opera Company's production of "The Secret
of Suzanne."

A course of lectures by William Whitney Surette of Ox-
ford University is another of the musical privileges Houston
has enjoyed.

This is only a partial list of the artists that have been heard,
through the sincere and consistent efforts of clubs and im-
pressarios, but it gives a fair idea of what may be expected of
Houston in the future. It seems not improbable that it may
come to be the music center of the entire South.





Social Service Federation

"I think great thoughts strong winged with steel,
I coin vast iron acts,
And weld the impalpable dream of seers
Into utile lyric facts."

ALEXANDER JOHNSON, the grizzled veteran leader of social workers in America, after a visit to the metropolis of the Southwest, termed Houston a "socially minded city," and he was right. Few cities of her size have as many altruistic citizens of influence ready to turn their attention, their energy and their funds toward the social uplift, as Houston has. No worthy cause has gone without its earnest champion; no urgent need without a generous response to meet that need. Linked with the spirit of generous chivalry of the Southland has been the sterner spirit of determination and action of the land of frost, and agencies have developed—institutions have grown until almost every conceivable need is being met, in at least a modest way, and many of them are being met in a way that would do credit to a much larger city. Nor is this "spirit of brotherhood that maketh us all akin" alone manifest among the leaders of the business and social world. It permeates the mass of the populace and fosters a public opinion that is at once powerful and insistent and responsive.

Standing at the head of the agencies in the city which are giving a "social" service to the community is the Charities Endorsement Committee of the Chamber of Commerce. Business men who are members of the Chamber of Commerce are urged to withhold support from any appeal not bearing the approval of this committee, and a card is given a prominent place in the office of many business men bearing this inscription, "All Solicitors for Local Charitable Organizations are required to present an endorsement card from the Chamber of Commerce Endorsement Committee."

The Social Service Federation, known heretofore as the United Charities, a relief organization with four departments, is built on the most modern principles of charity work. The old charity now obsolete, in spirit at least, although still far too extensively practiced—was content to patch and palliate distress. It knew of nothing else to do. The charity of today, as shown by the work of this organization, while ministering to the needs of mankind more tenderly and intelligently than ever before, strives ever to discover and to remove the causes of distress and to prevent their recurrence. The heart of the work of this organization is its Department of Constructive Relief, and around this department and very closely allied to it are the other three: The Department of Health and Hygiene, the Employment Bureau, and the Children's Department. It is centrally located, having its office in the Court House, and receives any sort of appeal from any part of the city. It maintains a force of six trained workers and handled



funds to the amount of \$10,058.45 during 1912, together with a special fund of \$19,499.42 raised for the Fifth Ward fire sufferers.

The Houston Settlement Association is another strong agency and has its home in its own "Settlement House," in the Second Ward. It employs five trained workers, including a nurse, and is maintaining a free kindergarten, a dispensary, a reading room, etc. Its chief activities lie in neighborhood work, social center work and playground development.

The Houston Settlement Association has also started a summer baby camp for sick babies. A specially constructed house, built entirely open and properly screened, is provided, and the babies are always under the care of a trained nurse. The babies return home as soon as their condition will permit.

The Young Men's Christian Association is one of the most popular and one of the best supported agencies in the city. It is housed in a magnificent fireproof building of its own, with dormitory, gymnasium, baths, etc., and is handling in splendid shape the work usually covered by that organization. Its influence on the life of the young men of the city is an unquestioned power for good.



Social Service Federation

—Continued

The Young Women's Christian Association has been working under a serious handicap in that it has not as yet secured its own building. It, however, is now conducting a campaign by which it expects to secure the funds necessary to erect a building similar to that now used by the Young Men's Christian Association. Notwithstanding this handicap, it has been doing a great work for the young women of the city, especially the working girl. This association is maintaining a boarding home, a down town office with lunch room, rest room and reading room, and a travelers' aid secretary at the Grand Central Station.

Faith Home is a home for dependent children, which is at present taking care of about eighty children. A new fireproof building of three stories has just been completed. In this new home more than a hundred children can be cared for, thus giving many little ones a chance in life which they otherwise would never have. The women having this work in hand are rendering service in a field where there is every opportunity for rich results.

The Co-operative Home is a boarding home for working girls in the Fifth Ward. The building, which is of fireproof material, has a capacity of caring for about eighty girls. Respectable working girls who have no other protection in the city are given their board and lodging, and at the same time all of the conveniences and protection that could be thrown around them in a private home. This is provided at a very small cost.

The Star of Hope Mission is one of the most interesting institutions in the city. Its problem is that of the "down and out," and the man who is homeless and without funds can find a place to sleep and can get a bite to eat at the Mission. After his immediate needs are provided for he is assisted in securing work. Hundreds of men take advantage of the help offered by this organization.

The City Emergency Home attempts to do a similar work for women and girls. Any woman or girl who finds herself in the city alone and destitute is welcome at the Emergency Home.

Bayland Orphan's Home is an institution that restricts its work entirely to the field of orphans, and is supported by an endowment.

The Houston Anti-Tuberculosis League is attempting to arouse interest in the movement to stamp out the Great White Plague. It is maintaining a dispensary, and while its chief work is that of education, yet it is also doing a limited amount of relief work and employs a visiting nurse. It is providing means for any indigent person who is suspicious of the state of his health, to obtain quickly, and without expense, reliable information concerning his condition.



Emma R. Newsboys' Association is doing an interesting work in the city among the newsboys. Club rooms are maintained under the supervision of a trained worker. The boys have an interesting civic organization, having their own mayor, commissioners, police, etc. Runaway boys from other cities are taken care of and sent back home.

The Home for Delinquent Boys, which is an institution maintained jointly by the city and the county under the direction of the Juvenile Court, is now placed at Seabrook, Texas, with seventy boys in the school. The county has purchased one hundred and thirty acres with one-quarter-mile frontage on Clear Lake, and will soon erect modern buildings suitable for a school of this type. A similar school for girls is being planned.

Both city and county have begun extensive reforms in the handling of prisoners. The county now maintains a police matron at the county jail, while the city has a man whose sole business it is to look after the humanitarian features of city police work.

Among the other organizations in the city, each of which is endeavoring to do its part in the social uplift of the community, are the Crittenton Home, Civic Club, many Catholic, Protestant and Jewish charity organizations, Salvation Army, The Woman's Protective Association, Shepherd Fund, Art





Social Service Federation

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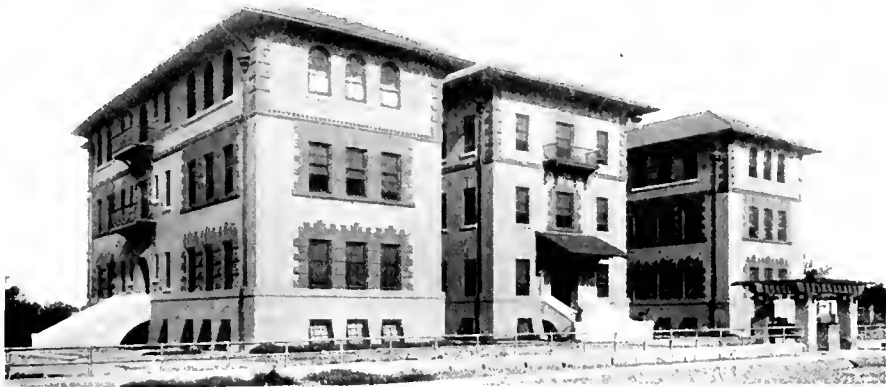
League, Parent-Teachers' Association, Juvenile Protective Association, Consumers' League, Industrial Home and Day Nursery, Kindergarten Association, Council of Jewish Women, and Harris County Humane Society.

Not less than fifty social agencies of this city were represented recently at the meeting of the Conference of Charities and Corrections in the City Auditorium. Conservatively speaking, this conference served to bring 2,000 men and women together who are engaged directly or indirectly in social service.

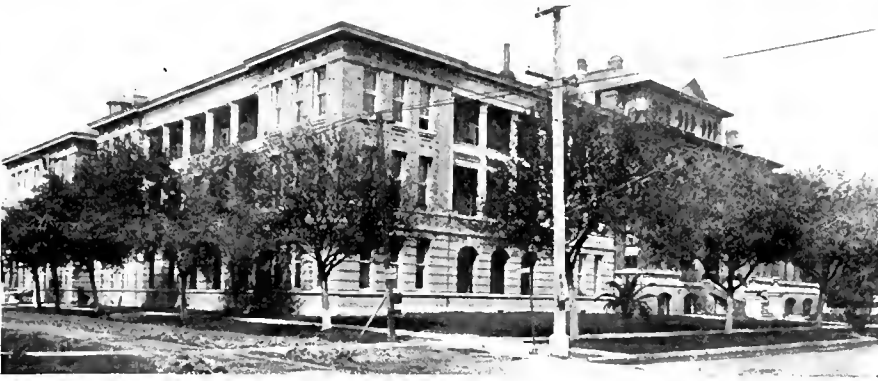
And thus, Houston in her struggle for commercial and industrial supremacy in the great Southwest, has not forgotten her obligation to those who are unfortunate and those for whom the struggle for existence has been too strenuous.

Many a kind thought, many a generous deed is mingled with the arduous activities of business and society, and never a day passes but that many a home of the poor is touched by the hand of the rich. Never a night but that some lonesome child or heartsick mother breathes a blessing upon someone who has put into execution a dream of helpfulness and kindness.

"At night when all the world is still
And the crescent moon swings low,
With drowsy feet on the poppy hill
A little dream shall go,
Then out beyond the silvery waves
That kiss the slumber shore,
And in your sleep you'll smile because
My dream is at your door."









SOCIAL CLUBS OF
HOUSTON

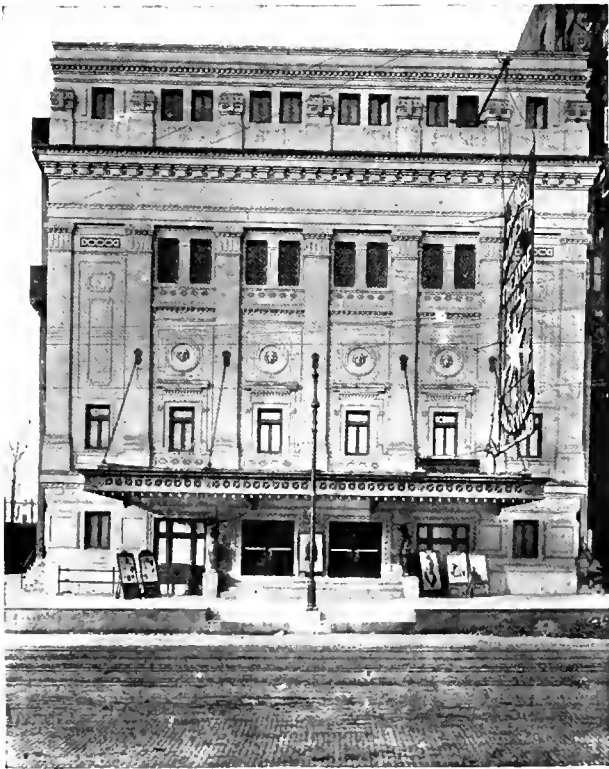


AMUSEMENTS ▾ PARKS ▾ RECREATIONS





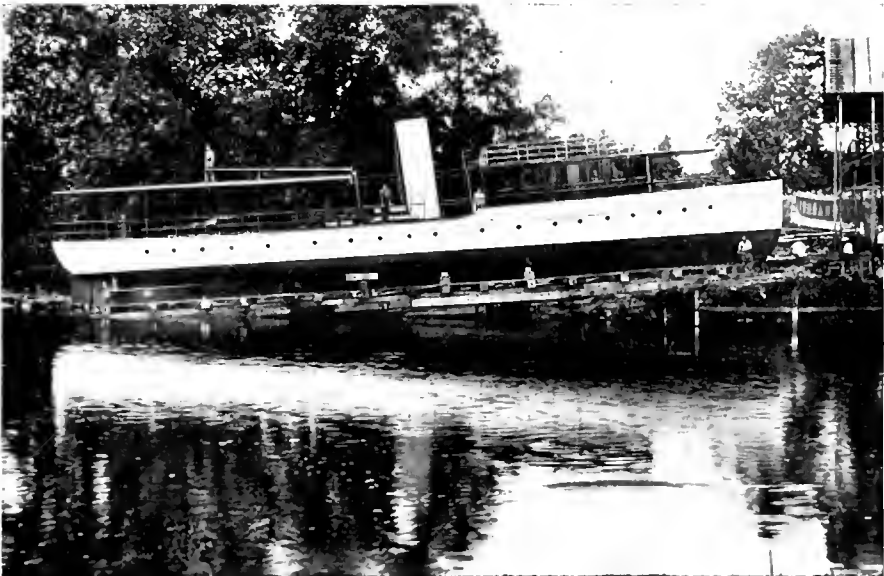






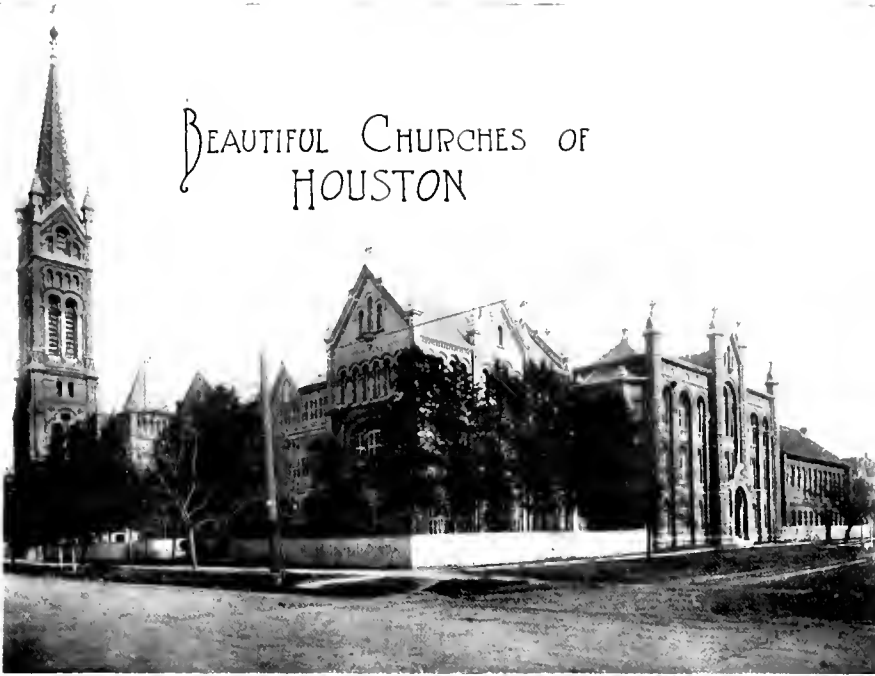








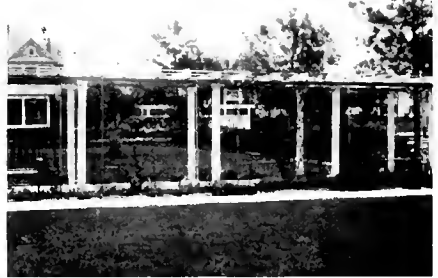
BEAUTIFUL CHURCHES OF
HOUSTON

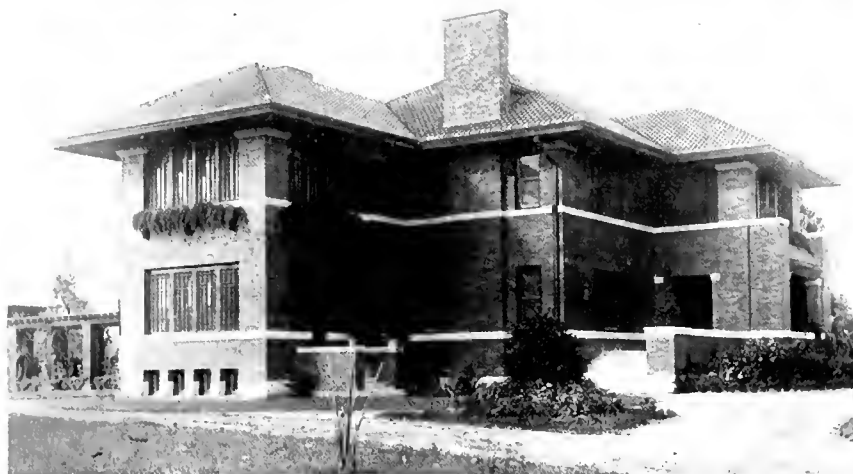






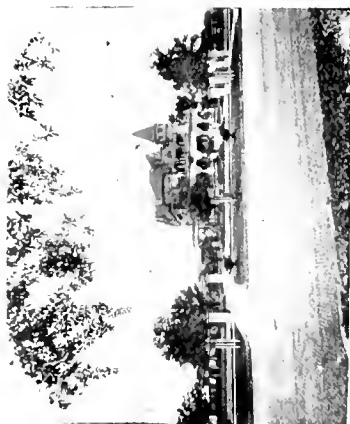
LOVELY HOMES AND SUBURBS







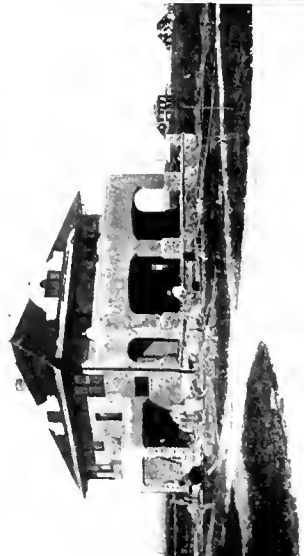
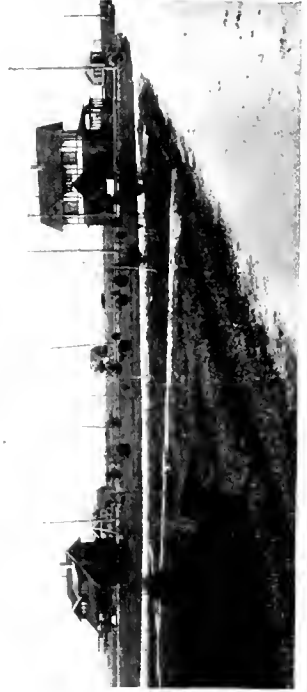










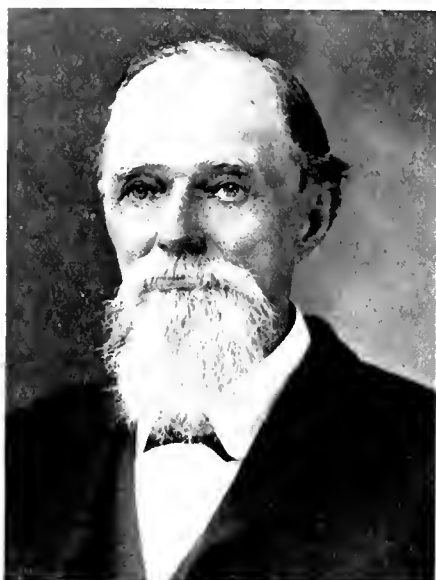
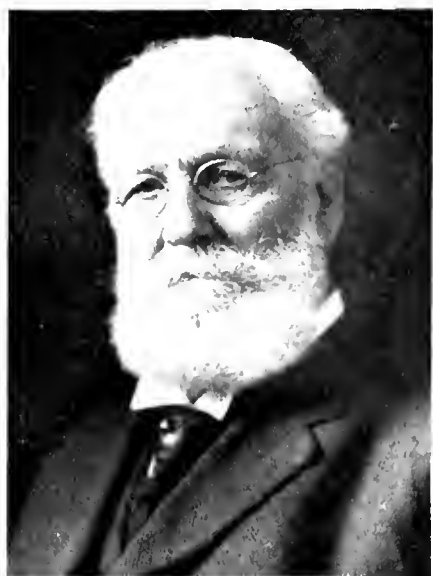


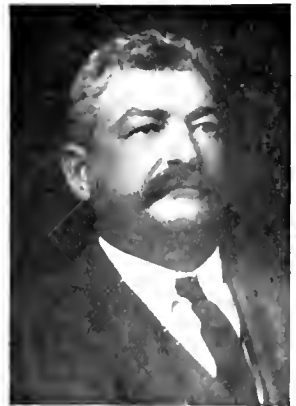


REPRESENTATIVE MEN
OF
HOUSTON

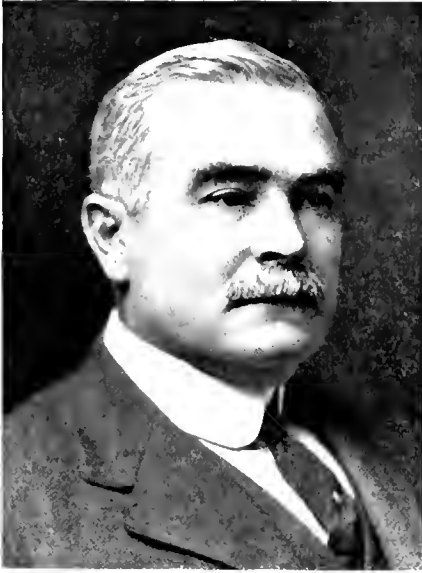


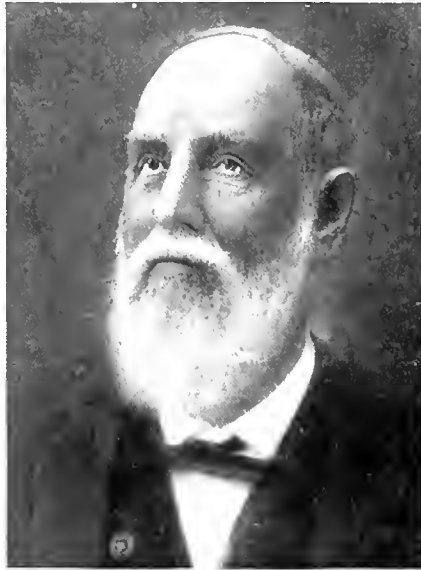
MAYOR BEN CAMPBELL

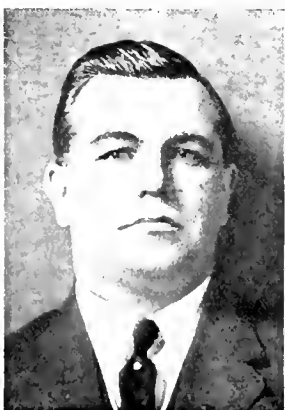






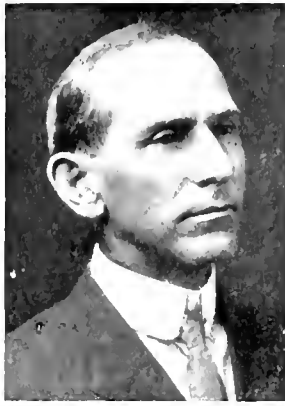


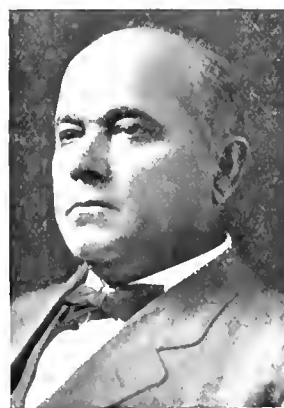


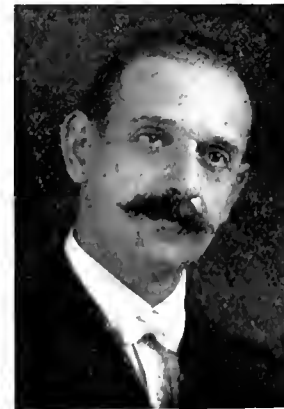


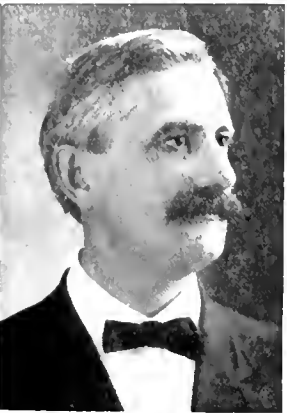




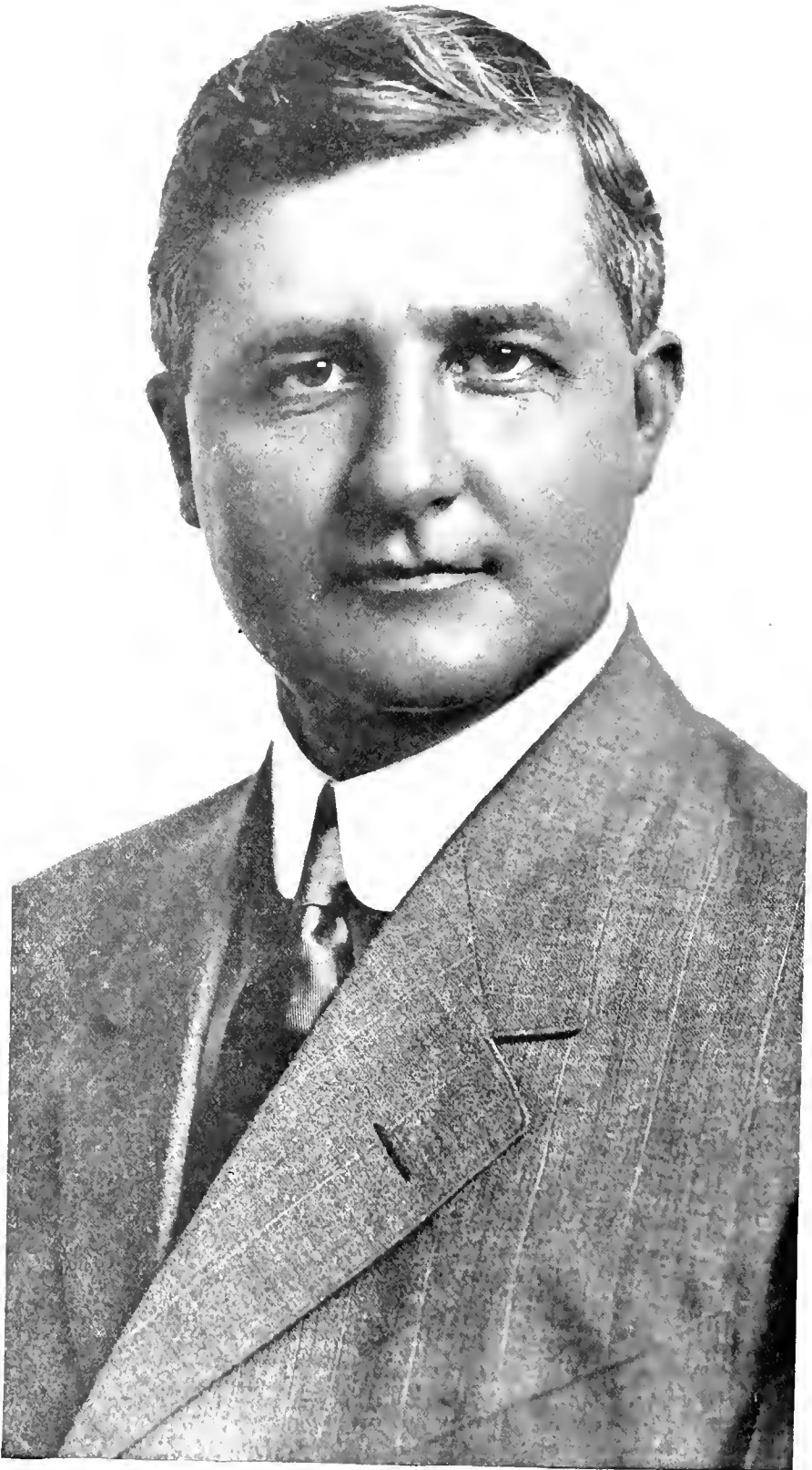








THE RICE HOTEL
and ITS BUILDER



JESSE H. JONES



1913



1837



1882

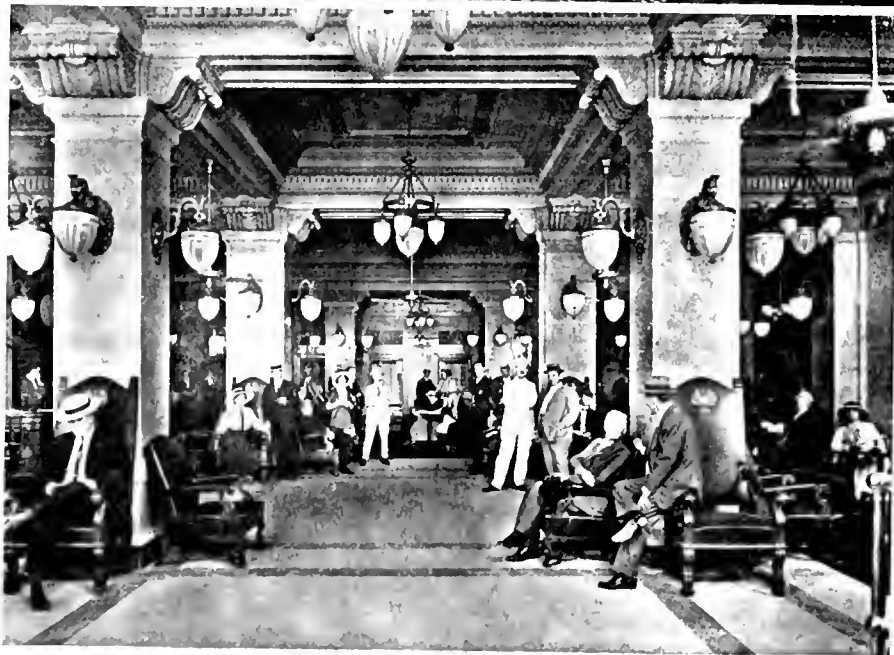


The Rotary Club Banquet, Given in the Ball Room; the First Service of the New Rice

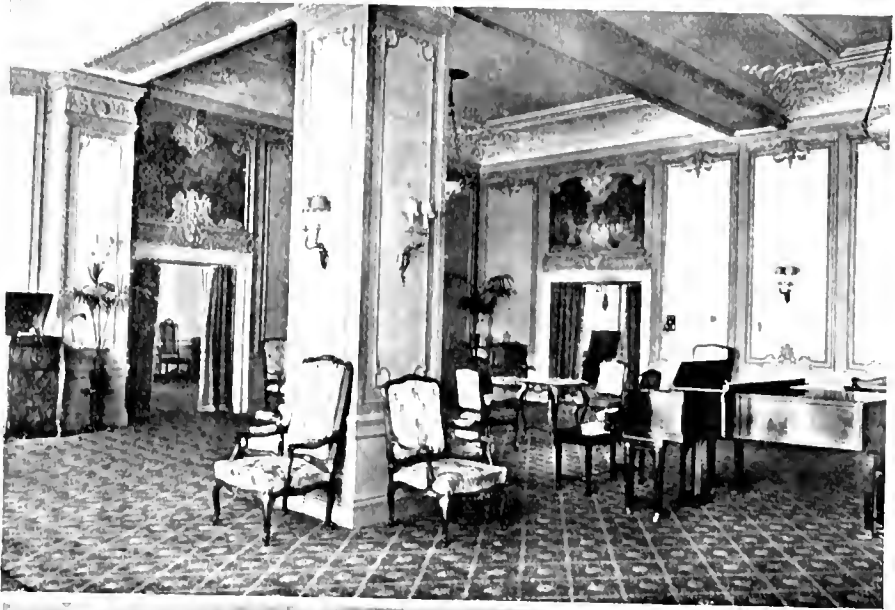


Lobby from
Main Street
Entrance

Mezzanine
Floor



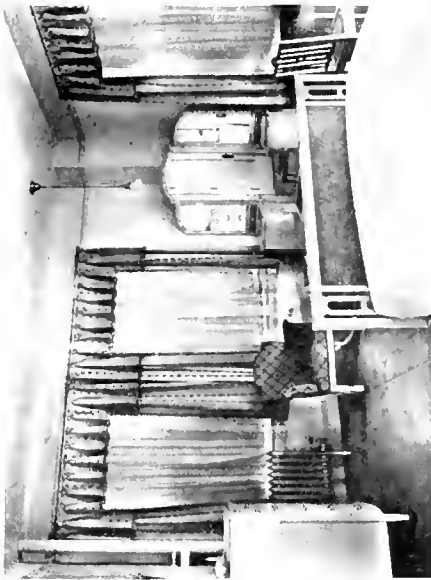
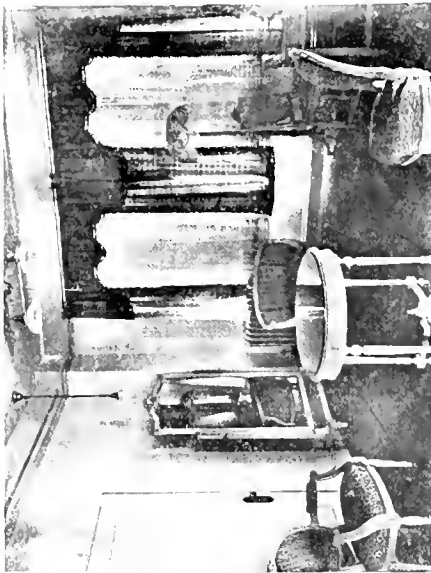
Lobby from
Texas Avenue
Entrance



Ladies' Parl
Ball Room
Sun Parlor



Main Dining
Room
Grill Room



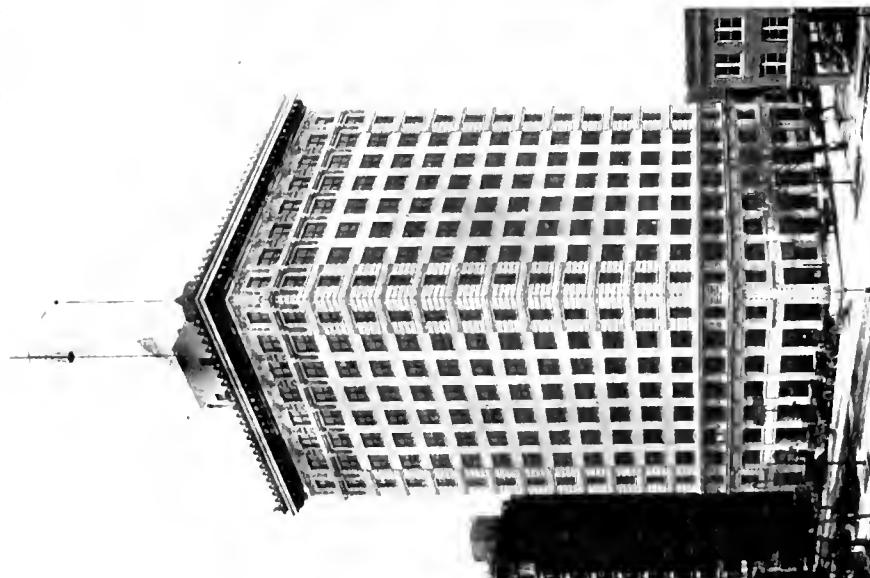
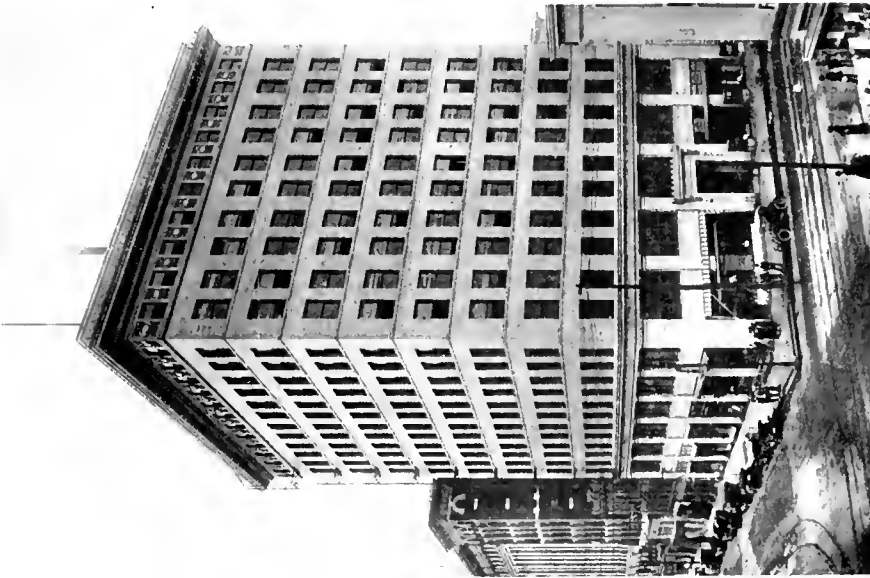
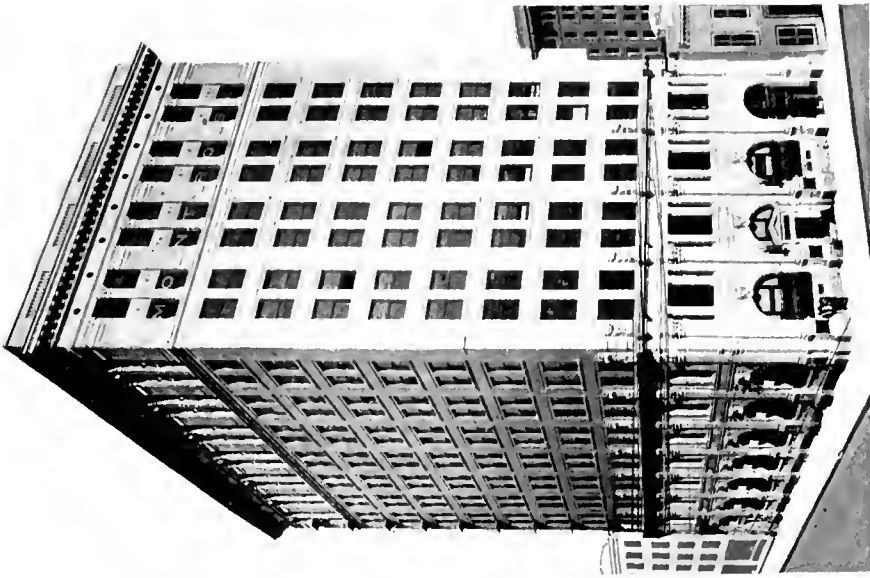
Bridal Suite (Blue Room); Bed Room (Pink Room) of Another Suite; Portion of Billiard Room; Roof Garden; First Sample Room

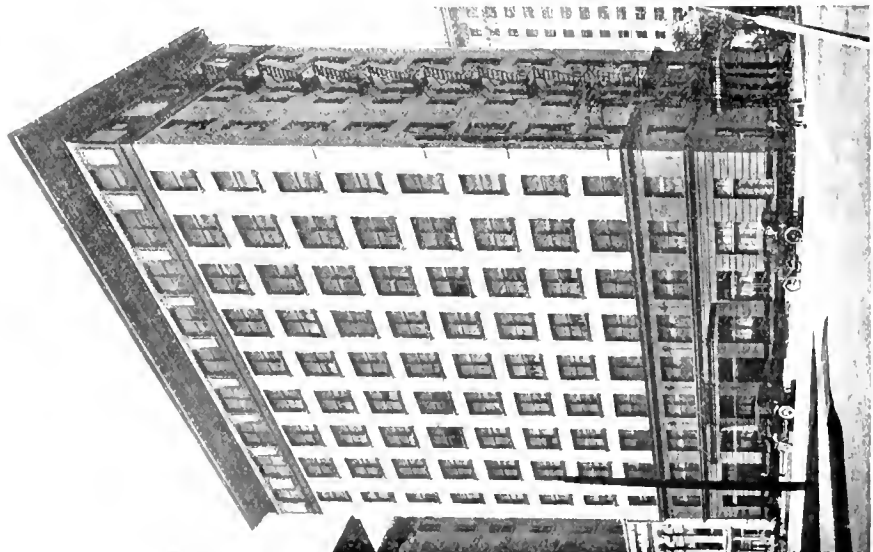
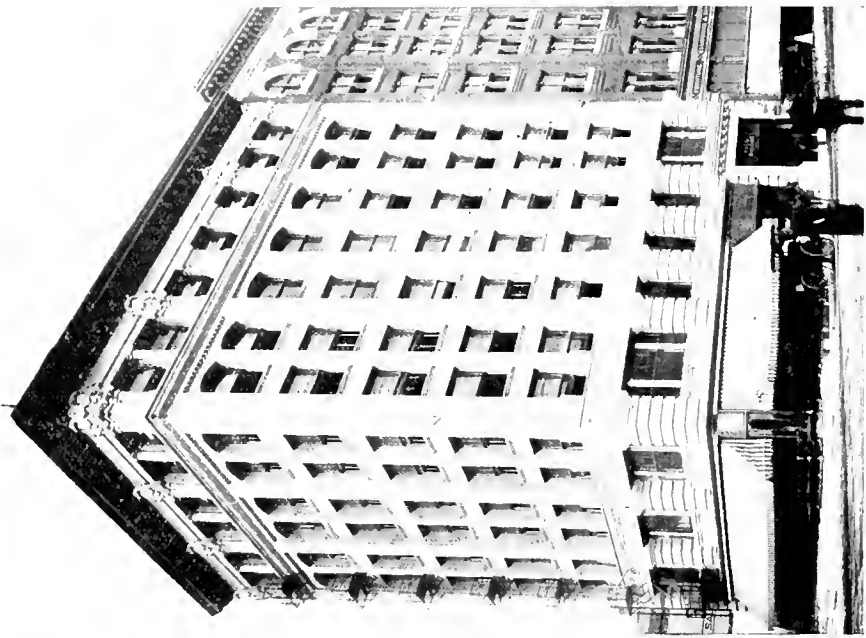
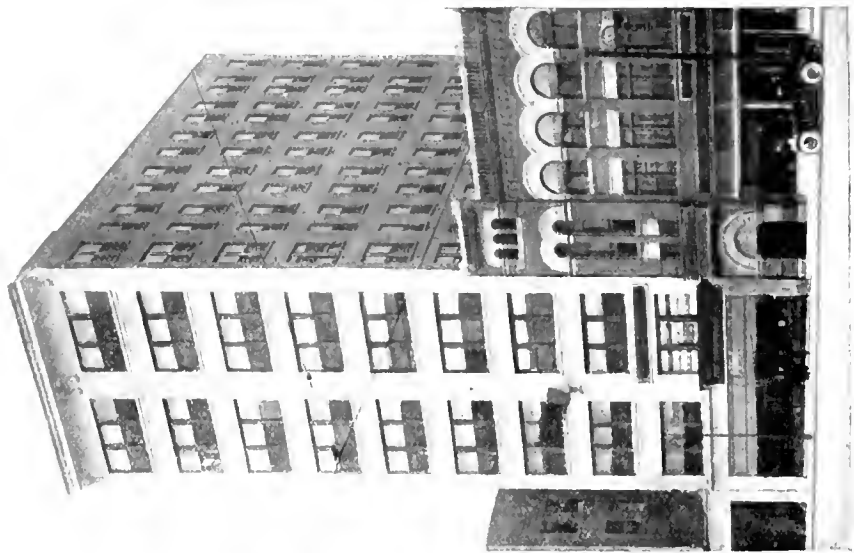


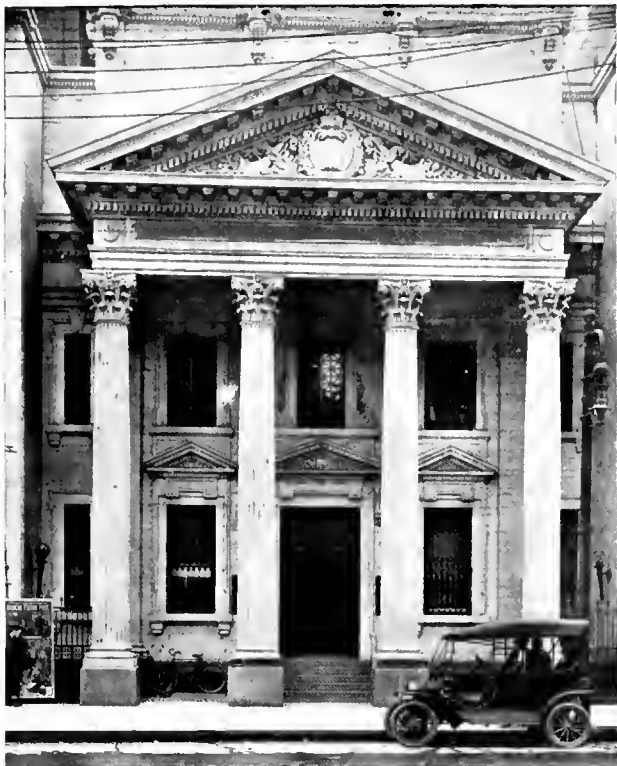
BIG BUILDINGS
HOTELS

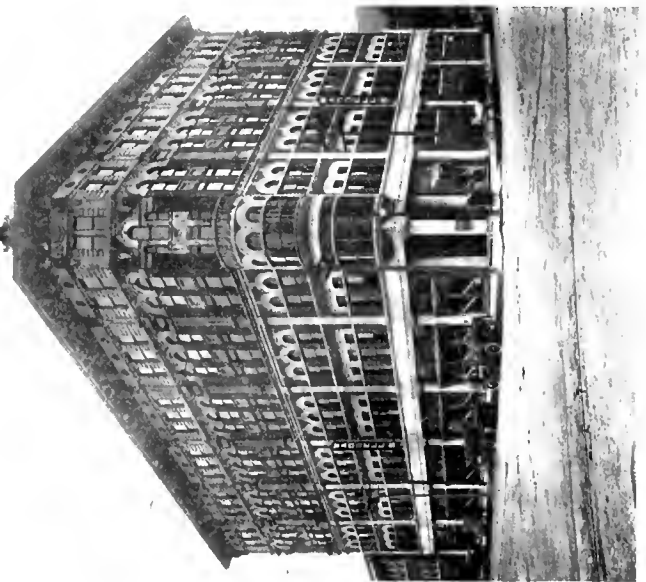
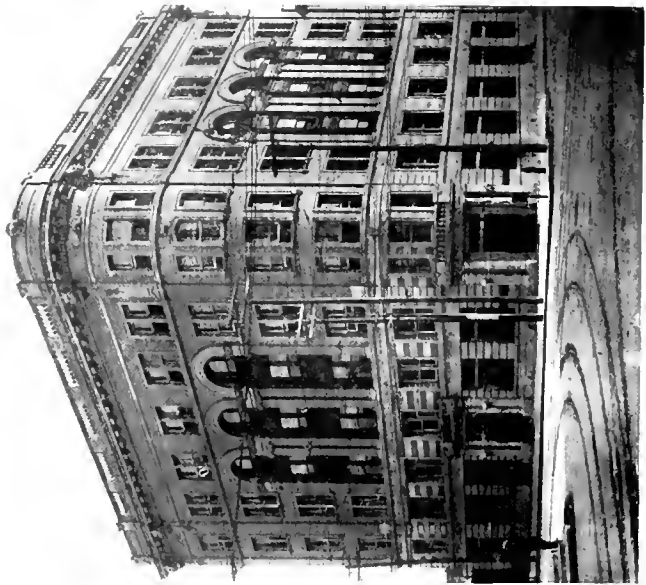
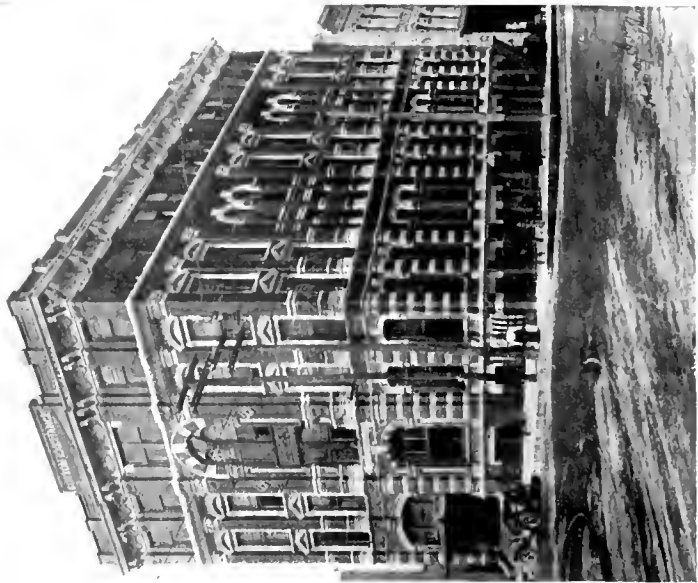


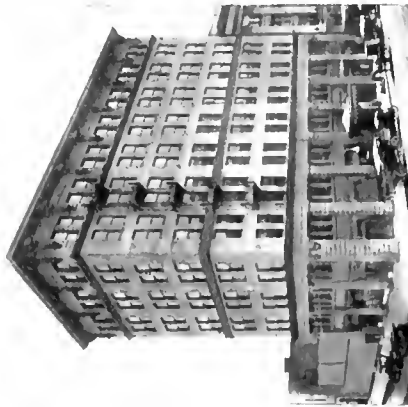
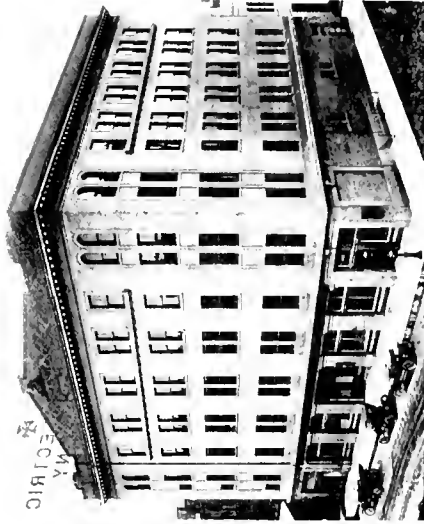
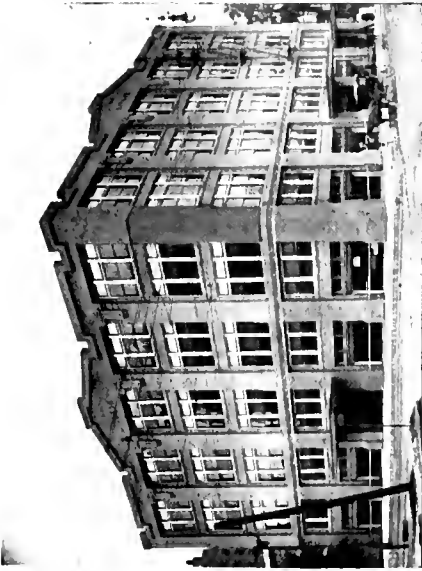
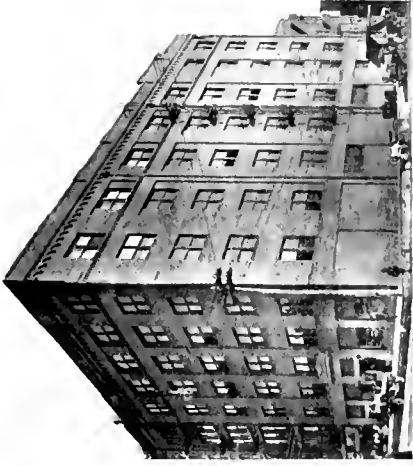
AND APARTMENTS OF
HOUSTON

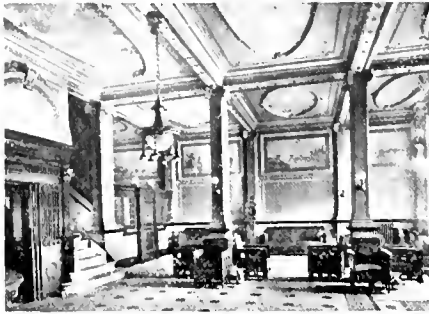




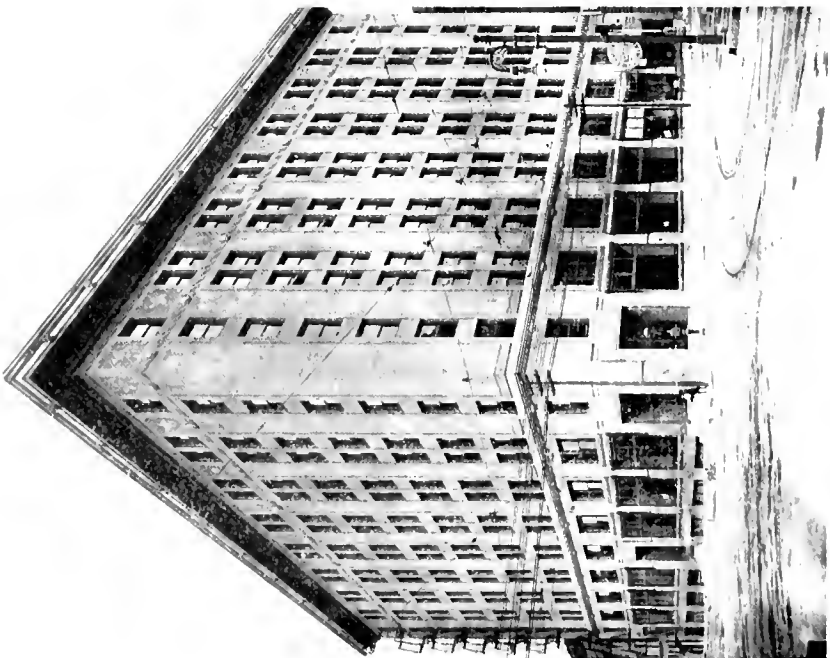
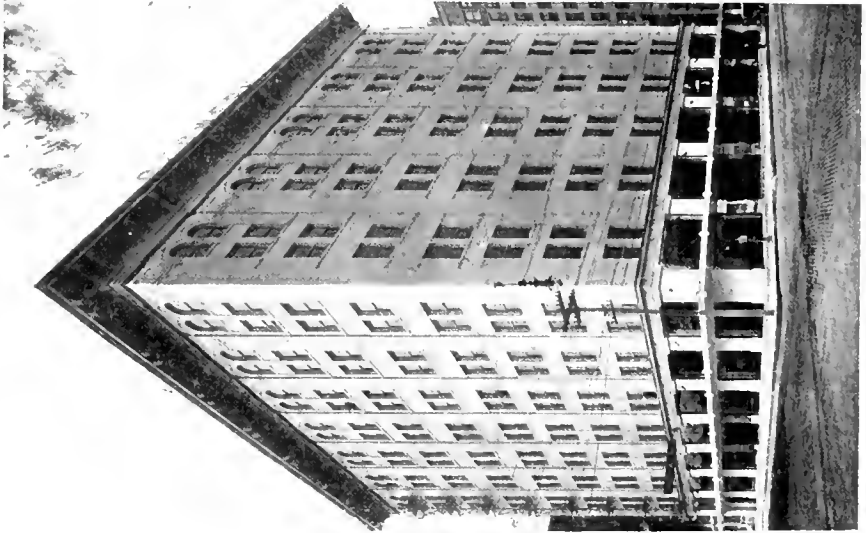
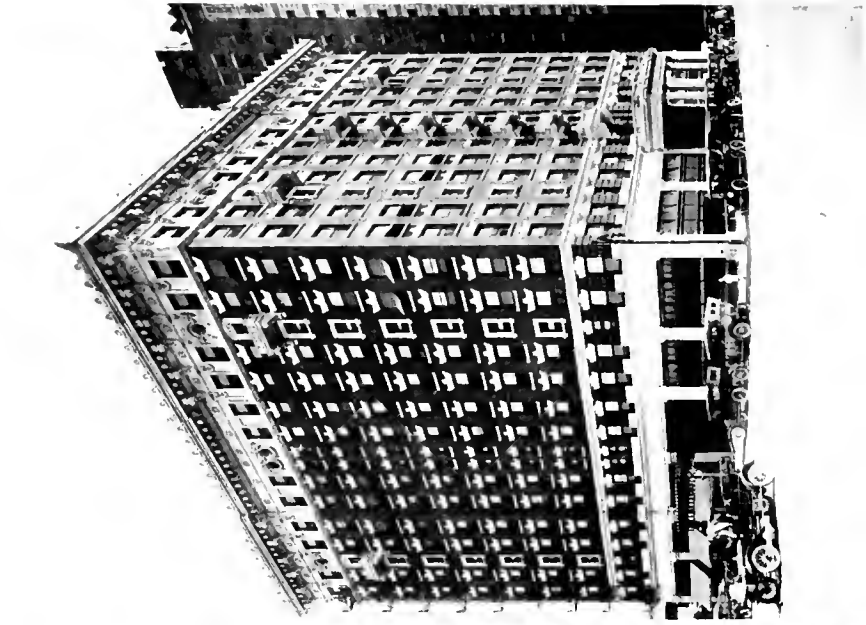


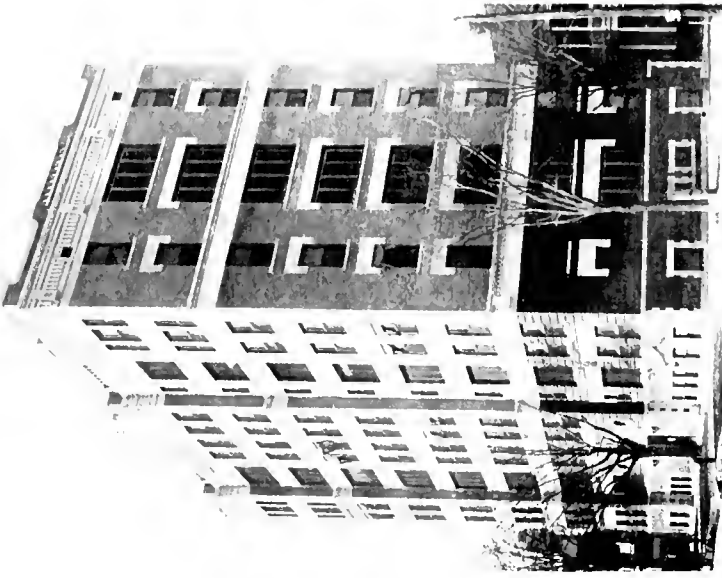














FORMER MAYOR H. BALDWIN RICE
Who Inaugurated the Commission Form of Government



Commission Form of Government

THE commission form of city government is a business concern conducted along modern business lines. Among its numerous accomplishments since its inauguration June, 1905, that go to mark its superiority over the old system may be mentioned the wiping out of a floating indebtedness of \$400,000, with current revenues, the first year.

The building of an Auditorium, seating capacity 7500, at a cost of \$345,000.

The completion of four modern school houses at an aggregate cost of \$315,000, not to mention the cost of the ground and the going construction of two others at a cost of \$90,000;

The purchase of seventy acres of ground for parks and boulevards in different parts of the city.

An increase of the revenue through the water department of over \$200,000 in one year, and at the same time a reduction of the consumption through the meter system.

Placing the payment of all employes on a cash basis and without delay.

A reduction of the tax levy from \$2.00 to \$1.40 on the \$100.00 valuation.

Cutting the cost of water from thirty to fifteen cents the 1000 gallons, or fifty per cent.

A continuous supply of unadulterated artesian water; the complete closing of gambling houses.

The abolishment of variety theatres; the closing of saloons on Sundays and at midnight every day in the week.

The opening of three new parks.

The adoption of the front-foot paving plan, one-third and intersections paid for by the city.

The voting of \$1,250,000 bonds for deepening the Ship Channel to twenty-five feet; the reduction of the duration of city council meetings to an average of less than ten minutes to the session.

The completion of a viaduct across Buffalo Bayou, length 1650 feet and width 70 feet, at a cost of \$350,000.

The construction of a reinforced concrete bridge over White Oak Bayou at a cost of \$60,000.

The removal of all telegraph and telephone poles and wires from overground in the central or business portion of the city.

The purchase during 1911-12 of fifty acres of additional public school grounds.

The inducement of millions of capital to enter into the construction of modern metropolitan buildings and other improvements of a similar character.

The establishment of over a hundred new manufacturing enterprises.

Doubling the strength and effectiveness of the fire department, through the most improved fighting apparatus.

The establishment of a municipal publicity magazine that



has spread the fame of Houston and assisted in the inducement of thousands of capital to invest here and in the surrounding country.

The introduction of the Sommers system of equalizing tax assessments.

The plan to acquire wharfage facilities that commerce can operate without being burdened by a wharf tax.

The formation of a high class police force, equal in effectiveness to that of many much larger cities.

The dispatch of a special commissioner to Europe to investigate the forms of government in the most successfully managed cities of Europe, and make report on the same.

The employment by the year of a high class band of thirty pieces to give free concerts for the people at an average of five a week, and the only city in the South doing it.

The purchase and control of the waterworks.

The commission form of city government brought down to its final analysis, lives and is growing because it is conducted on strictly business principles. It is on a footing with the most successful business firms or corporations of today. If it should in any instance fail to stand the comparison it is because of some defect in the management or the machinery, either of which may be remedied by the people. Among the hundreds of cities that have adopted it, hardly one is exactly like another. This is attributable to the varying views of those persons who framed the several charters and governing laws. All of the framers, however, admit that the principle is sound. The birth of the commission form of government grew out of one of the most appalling disasters of modern times,



Commission Form of Government

—Continued

viz: that which almost swept the good city of Galveston off the face of the earth—the great storm of 1900, that drowned over 7000 of her people. The State had to take charge of the terrible situation as it stood the day after the storm, September 9th of that year. The city was first under martial law, soon followed by the appointment by the State of a commission to take charge of it. The commissioners were men who had been successful in business. They had no political debts to pay nor personal obligations to hinder them. The idea that dominated them, was to rebuild their once beautiful city. They moved in obedience to this patriotic inspiration. However, the law of local self government had to later take the situation in hand, and the people elected their own commissioners, but adhered to the business ideas that had at first controlled. Its success was so manifest and so gratifying that Houston took the cue, and during the first administration of former Mayor H. B. Rice the change was made, the mayor himself leading the campaign that preceded that election that gave Houston the commission form of government. Mr. Rice quickly saw the advantages of the new system. He was backed by the business men of the city, and today Houston has a form of government that is better seen in the marvelous growth that it has taken on, since that time, than can be told in words. The millions of capital invested; the thousands of people added to the population; the expansion of the residential, as well as the business district, are monuments that will please the eyes of generations to come, as well as those of today.

Houston's form differs in some respects from that of Galveston. Des Moines' differs from that of Houston and Galveston, both. And other cities have their special features, but the principle is the same in all. One of the main features in each one appeared to be an earnest effort to eliminate politics, with all of rottenness and corruption, from the management of the city's affairs.

The waterworks, which were purchased by the city from a private corporation at a cost of approximately a million dollars, became a source of revenue to the government instead of a costly burden to the citizens. The quality of water was much improved. Before, it was measurably a menace to the health of the consumer. After the change it became a source of health. And there is now no better water in the whole country. The supply is ample for fire fighting purposes, as well as for domestic use.

All things considered, it is due here to state that the commission form of government, under the administration of former Mayor Rice, has made of Houston an up-to-date and prosperous city. It removed the city from the classification of a large country town and placed it in that of a thriving, grow-



Commission Form of Government

—Continued

ing city. By outsiders it has been termed the Chicago, the New York and the Atlanta of the Southwest. Its future is so bright that it has given expression that it would, in the course of a few years, become the greatest city in the Southwest and South.

Former Mayor Rice, in response to an invitation, delivered an address before the Chicago Commercial Club on "The Commission Form of Government of Cities." The club selected the subject.

After some introductory remarks, he indicated the course of his address in the following statement:

"The essential difference between the form of municipal government which has prevailed in Houston since the passage of the charter of 1905 and the old form of municipal government, which has generally prevailed throughout the United States heretofore, are three: The substitution of a smaller number of aldermen, elected from the city at large, in place of a large number of aldermen elected from different wards or subdivisions of the city, vesting of a co-ordinate power in the Mayor as in the City Council to dismiss any officer of the city government, except the Controller, at any time, without cause, and the essential provisions safeguarding the granting of municipal franchises.

"Instead of a body of twelve aldermen, elected from different wards or subdivisions of the city, under the Houston system four aldermen are elected from the body of the city by the vote of all the citizens in the same way in which the Mayor is elected. These four aldermen, together with the Mayor, constitute the City Council or legislative department of the city government. The executive power is vested in the Mayor, but by an ordinance for the administration of the city's affairs, a large portion of executive or administrative power is subdivided into different departments, and a committee is placed over each department, and one of the four aldermen nominated by the Mayor is what is known as the active chairman. The Mayor and all four aldermen are members of each committee. The active chairman of the committee practically has control of the administration of the department, unless his views upon the matter are overruled by the whole committee; but by the organization of the committees the active chairman does his work to a certain extent under the supervisory direction of the Mayor, who is in the last analysis the head of each committee and the person in whom the executive power of a municipal government ultimately rests."

The above brief excerpt simply conveys the idea of the strong working base upon which all questions are or could be handled.



The Municipal Entertainment

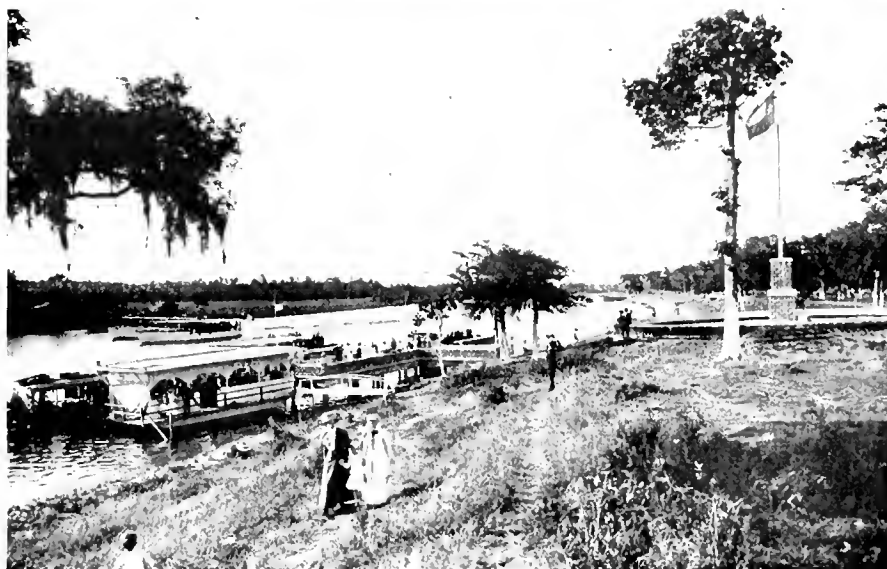
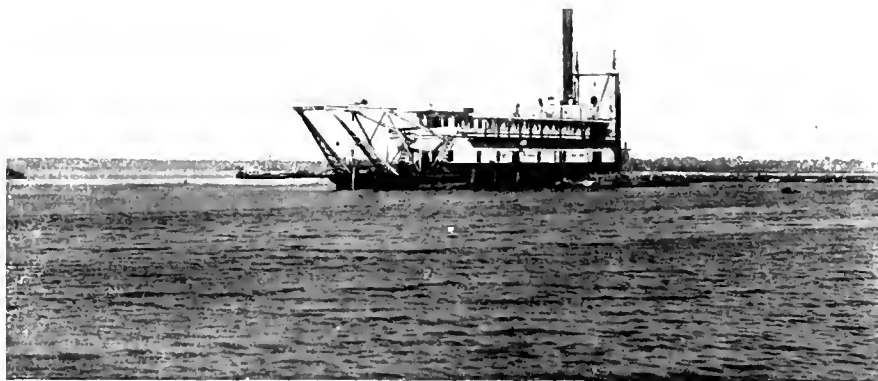
THIS movement originated in Houston about a year ago as a result of a survey that was made a few months previous of the various places of amusement. It was discovered in this survey that the average attendance on Sunday upon the places of amusement was about 20,000 out of a population of 105,000, or about one-fifth of the people. The amusements were the usual type of vaudeville, motion pictures and the average type of small theatre performances. Few, if any, of these were really the type that would give anything of virtue to the attendants.

Amusement is as necessary as food and drink, and the question is, What kind shall it be? The amusement should furnish a stimulus in proportion to the ratio of the dullness of the employment. In other words, something was needed that would not only be recreative and amusing, but would be intellectual and helpful, as well. To this end an entertainment has been provided on Sunday afternoons in the new City Auditorium consisting of high grade music, lectures, readings. The highest grade entertainers and artists appear at these entertainments, offering to the people something that is intellectually, morally and physically uplifting, instead of leaving them to the petty things of the show business. In short, this is an educational movement for social uplift.

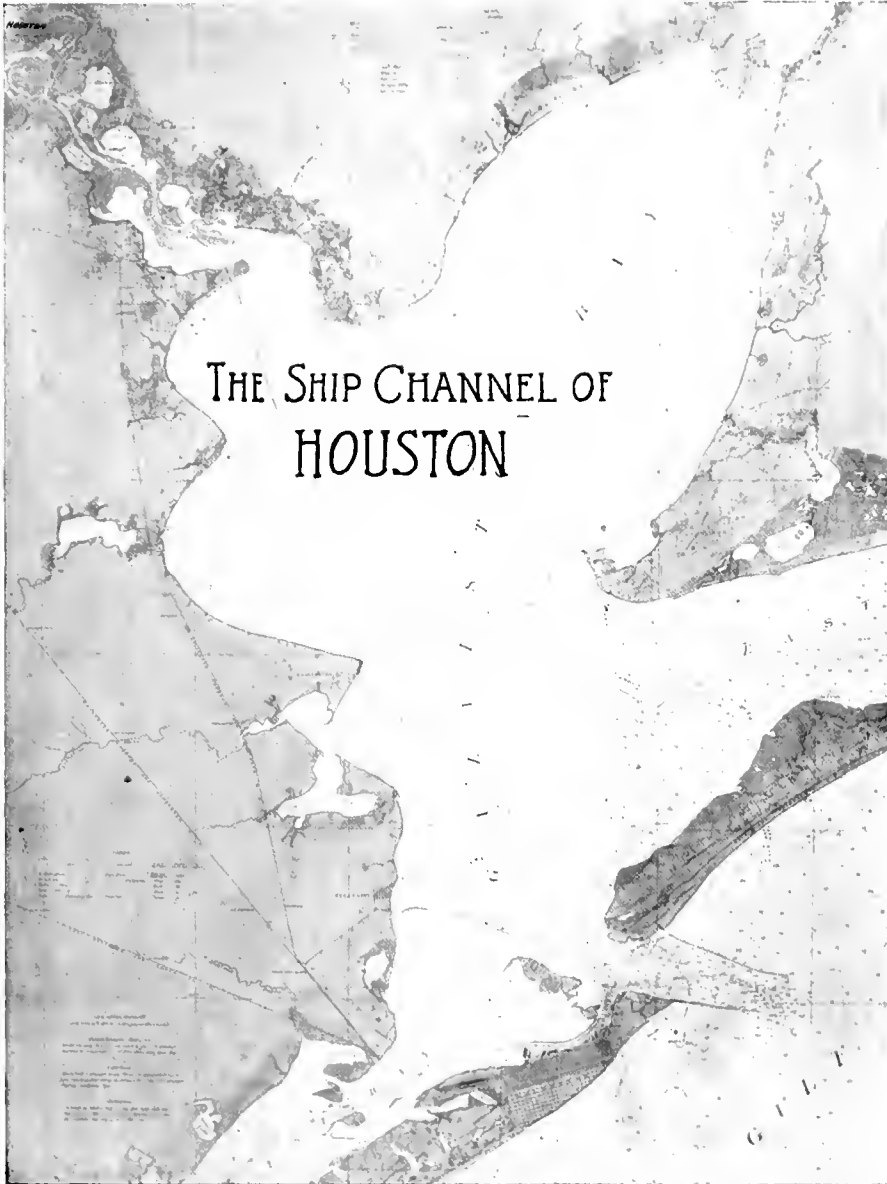
The start was made the first Sunday in May, 1912.

For the first five numbers of this entertainment it was estimated by conservative people that the average attendance was 5,000, which proved two things—first, the people approved of the class and kind of entertainment that was being offered, and second, the social demand for such an entertainment. Before it had been running thirty days, articles concerning it had been written up as syndicate newspaper articles. Many magazines and the great religious journals of the country have written favorable editorials commenting upon it. Letters galore, from all over the United States, and from some foreign countries have poured in upon the Superintendent.

The thought, in the beginning of the movement, was that it would be largely for the working people, but as it has progressed all classes, working men and professional men alike, are to be found among its regular patrons; the old and the young, the rich and poor are to be seen there every Sunday. It has come to be generally understood in the city that "Every Sunday there is something good at the Municipal Entertainment." It has taken a high place in the estimation of the people of the city, and the great good that it is doing, both in a negative, as well as a positive way, is hard to estimate.



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Houston Ship Channel

SEVENTY-SIX years ago, when the Allens and others founded a settlement at the head waters of Buffalo Bayou and named it Houston in honor of Texas' illustrious general, no little thought was given to the strategic position of the new town on the course of a navigable stream.

In those days travel was restricted to horse, wagon and boat. Along the coast of the new Texas Republic commerce practically was monopolized by boat, and in consequence the coast country offered more inducements and attraction for settlement than interior sections. Yet the open coast line proved somewhat hazardous for safe harbors for the small craft of coastwise shipping, and when Houston was founded at the head course of a navigable stream, with a natural safe harbor, it soon became the center of commerce of the section, and later was made the capital city of the new-born republic.

The farsightedness of its founders has made the City of Houston of today. While small boats thronged the placid bayou years ago, carrying the products of a broad coast country, the Houston of today is preparing to bring the greatest ships of ocean commerce over the waters of the same placid stream to the protected land-locked harbor which dollars and the efforts of man have made possible.

Buffalo Bayou—renamed the Houston Ship Channel—is a natural waterway—an arm of the sea. While its greatest source of supply is from the sea—hence the term "bayou"—it is also fed by two small courses converging at Houston. In natural depth it varied from eight to fifteen feet, and since the early '40s has been navigated by steamboats.

It is no exaggeration to say that the foresightedness of the founders of Houston has made possible the Greater Houston of today. If it were not for the Ship Channel, Houston would go back ten years in development. That ribbon of water extending from Houston fifty miles to the Gulf of Mexico is Houston's greatest commercial asset. It is the most potent factor in Houston's commercial life, for it compels lower



Houston Ship Channel

freight rates, which Houston would not enjoy were it not for the channel.

Today over \$50,000,000 in commerce annually traverses the Ship Channel by small boats and barges. That is the actual commerce of the stream. In traffic between Houston and other seaboard points it compels a lower railroad rate, which annually saves millions of dollars to Houston industry and shipping. To the cotton planters of Texas alone it affords a saving of \$6,000,000 annually, as for a distance of fifty miles it cuts the cotton rate from twenty-one cents to six cents per hundred pounds.

Even in this limited use the Houston Ship Channel has proved its usefulness and absolute necessity as a commercial factor for Houston. What its full and unrestricted use will mean may be gleaned from a study of Manchester, England, a city which dug a ship canal to the sea and became a world seaport.

Houston is situated much like Manchester was. Manchester had great industries, many railroads, and a river to the sea. The Mersey River was a sluggish stream, sometimes barely getting over the sand, and in other places about three feet deep. Energetic Manchester raised ten million or more dollars and started digging a canal to the sea. The course followed the Mersey, but in places the canal was blasted and cut through solid rock. Years of work and great expenditure finally brought the sea to Manchester and great ships followed.

Houston made a study of Manchester and determined as did Manchester that as the town could not be moved to the sea, the sea must be moved to the town. But Houston had a better foundation upon which to work. Old Buffalo Bayou was much deeper than the Mersey and the bayou defined a course straight to the Gulf of Mexico. Previous expenditures of several thousand dollars had greatly improved the bayou, but a task rivalling that of Manchester was determined upon and put through.

A minimum depth of twenty-five feet and a straight course



Houston Ship Channel

—Continued

was decided on and the matter put up to the government. Two years of effort brought an appropriation from the Government of \$1,250,000, contingent upon Houston raising a like amount. When Houston asked for bonds to that amount January 10, 1911, they carried nearly unanimously. A few months later the money was deposited to the credit of the Secretary of War and the work was started.

Under this \$2,500,000 appropriation dredges are now at work dredging the channel to a minimum depth of twenty-five feet. It is believed the work will be completed by June, 1914, for opening simultaneously with the Panama Canal. The task of dredging is much easier than that which faced Manchester, for the Houston project needs but to dredge mud and silt from the bottom of a defined stream and cut off a few bends. Where Manchester expended \$10,000,000, Houston need expend but \$2,500,000 with the same results, and Houston will become a world seaport, with a greater number of railroads than any other city in the South.

When the channel is completed the greatest ships of ocean commerce will come direct to the City of Houston. Free municipal wharves are being arranged for by the City of Houston, which will be forever maintained as free wharfage. This is a provision in the contract with the Federal Government.

The fact that the Houston Ship Channel work is the largest inland waterway now under way by the Government, is evidence of the interest of the Federal authorities in providing at the outlet of seventeen lines of railroad a seaport which will handle the vast commerce of the Central and Central-Western States. The Texas coast provides nearest tidewater to this great producing area, and the seventeen trunk lines of railway entering Houston radiate from this great section. It is only logical that ocean commerce should touch direct the termini of these railroads, and the completion of the channel will connect the last link in a great international route from the Trans-Mississippi States direct to every port on the Globe.

What the Ship Channel is to Houston is not conjecture; it is not an exaggerated fact. The channel is Houston's greatest commercial asset—the most potent factor in the development of Greater Houston. It means the construction around this natural land-locked harbor, safe from storms, of a coming great world port and a great trade mart of the land. What deep water has done for Manchester it will do for Houston, and the parallel is uniquely drawn by the Chamber of Commerce in its apt slogan for Houston: "The Manchester of America."

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF
HOUSTON



FINANCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT



W. C. MUNN
President Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce

WITH one exception the Chamber of Commerce of Houston, probably, is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, organization of its kind in the South.

The exception noted is the Matagorda (Texas) Chamber of Commerce, the original organization of which today is out of existence. Both were chartered by the Congress of the Republic of Texas in 1840, and the Chamber of Commerce of Houston of today can trace its origin back to the day when President Mirabeau B. Lamar attached his signature in approval of the articles of information of the Houston Chamber of Commerce January 28th, 1840.

Thus in 1913 the present Chamber of Commerce of Houston is seventy-three years old. This does not mean that the active operation of the organization continued over that period in the same manner the work is being carried forward today. There was a period of relapse, which continued for a few years, but about sixteen years ago the organization was revived and later chartered as the Houston Business League.

A little over two years ago, or a year following the succession of Adolph Boldt, as secretary, the charter was amended and the name changed to that of the Chamber of Commerce of Houston, Texas, returning to the same title given the initial organization nearly four score years ago.

Yet the purposes of that early organization and the one obtaining today are practically the same. The charter of the first organization as granted by the Texas Congress "authorized the need of the Chamber of Commerce as tending to diminish litigation and to establish uniform and equitable charges and considering that the establishment of a chamber of commerce may thus tend to the general advantage of the citizens of this Republic as well as the furtherance of the commercial interests."

This creed is unchanged today, a larger organization dividing the work and forcing the energy as one man did those several years ago. The growth of the organization has kept pace with the expansion of the city it serves and promotes, and the perfection of organization attained by the present Chamber of Commerce is declared by persons who know to be unexcelled in the South. In fact, some say the Houston Chamber of Commerce is better organized and is attaining greater and more beneficial results than any other Southern city is securing from its similar organizations.

Ten persons now direct the several departments of the greater Chamber of Commerce. The work of building a city is systematized and is conducted on the same plan as the promotion of a business enterprise. In all respects the sale of a commodity and the sale of a city is the same. Similar organizations must be maintained, and the larger the enterprise to



Chamber of Commerce

—Continued

be promoted the larger and more efficient must be the organization.

The enlargement of the Chamber of Commerce soon followed the succession of Adolph Boldt as the active head of the organization as secretary a little over three years ago. Resourceful and energetic himself, he energized and put new life into the then struggling League. The membership when he took charge was about 385, and two persons actively administered the affairs of the Chamber. He increased the scope of the organization and added to the efficiency of the Chamber by placing the different departments in charge of experts well qualified for that particular department.

The Houston Traffic Bureau was taken over from the Cotton Exchange and operated as a part of the Chamber; a comprehensive Bureau of Publicity in charge of a newspaper man was installed, while an expert in agriculture and a man well informed on immigration problems were secured to handle the Agricultural and Immigration Bureaus which Secretary Boldt established. Later Convention and Industrial Bureaus were installed and the entire work of the Chamber systematized. Thus in a little over two years' time the actual working force of the Chamber of Commerce was raised from two persons to ten persons actively engaged, while in the meantime the membership was increased from 385 to 1,500 members.

The practical operation of this great Chamber of Commerce machine is like clockwork. Traffic problems are handled by the Traffic Bureau, the City of Houston is forever kept in the eye of the world by the Bureau of Publicity, the welfare of the farming interests of the Houston District are under the watchful eye of the Agricultural Department twelve months in the year, while the Immigration Department concerns itself with the attraction of desirable immigrants to the Houston District. The Convention Bureau is eternally campaigning for conventions, while the Industrial Bureau concerns itself with the



attraction to Houston of every phase of industry. The whole is under the supervision of the president, Mr. W. C. Munn, and the secretary.

Detail work, aside from the various bureaus, is done through committees, there being twenty-six committees on the calendar. The larger problems are handled by the Board of Directors, which in effect is the governing body of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber of Commerce is indeed the "powerhouse of the city." It originates movements for the good of the city and puts them through. When any public issue is before the people for decision, an issue which is for the public good, it is the Chamber of Commerce that devotes its entire time to the campaign to put the issue successfully through. Of the front-foot paving plan, school bond issues, clean-up campaigns, the Ship Channel and viaduct bond issues—all started by the Chamber of Commerce—each went through with large favorable majorities and without doubt due to the comprehensive effort and wide publicity given the movements by the Chamber of Commerce.

Of necessity any city that aspires to any pretensions must have a Chamber of Commerce or some central working organization which has at heart the general welfare of the city. The Houston Chamber of Commerce is non-political and seeks rather the benefit of the city as a whole than any individual or class. Yet any public spirited movement before the city, if investigated, probably will find the Chamber of Commerce as its sponsor or influential adherent. It is the one central organization or power which is vital to the success of a public issue or movement, and in Houston the Chamber of Commerce occupies that sphere.

The annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce is held in May of each year, when officers and directors for the ensuing year are elected.



Financial and Industrial Development

—Continued

HOUSTON—A city of 125,000 population, including suburbs; the financial center of the Southwest; annual bank clearings of \$1,898,054,746; aggregate wholesale trade, \$130,575,000; bank deposits, \$45,000,000.

INDUSTRIAL CENTER—The workshop of Texas. More factories, more wage earners and largest payroll in the Southwest. Lowest rate on raw material. Distribution by rail and water. Large consuming territory. Manufactured products, \$50,000,000 annually.

LUMBER MARKET—Center of the great pine and hardwood forests of Texas. Shipments for export via the Houston ship channel. Annual sales are \$40,000,000.

COTTON—The largest inland port cotton market in the world. Handles two and a half million bales annually. Storage capacity, 500,000 bales. Largest compresses and oil mills in the South. Splendid opportunities for cotton mills and allied industries.

SEVENTEEN RAILROADS—The greatest railroad center in the South; concentrating and distributing point for the entire Southwest. Greater number of points reached by one-line haul. Quicker distribution over a larger area. Largest repair shops in the South.

DEEP WATER PORT—Houston's Ship Channel brings the trans-Mississippi country 500 miles nearer to the sea than the Atlantic and Pacific ports. Lower freight rates from East and seaboard. Two and a half million dollars have been provided for its improvement.

RICE CENTER—Largest primary rice market. Seven modern rice mills. Value of annual product over \$6,000,000.

OIL CENTER—Headquarters for Texas petroleum. Annual Texas production, 13,000,000 barrels. Pipe lines to Texas and Oklahoma fields.

The best organized and most active Chamber of Commerce in the South, composed of the principal business interests of the city, linked into a compact organization working for the interests of a Greater Houston.

A traffic over its Ship Channel which totaled \$50,000,000 for

Financial and Industrial Development

the last twelve months, an increase of \$1,500,000 over the traffic for the preceding year.

Five cotton compresses. Houston compresses more cotton during the season than any other city in Texas—the largest inland port cotton market in the world.

The general offices of the four railroad companies of the Frisco, East and West lines, the Sunset-Central lines, the Trinity & Brazos Valley Railroad Company, and the Houston Belt & Terminal Railway Company, International and Great Northern Railway Company.

Aggregate assessments on the city tax rolls of \$100,000,000. The Harris County tax rolls register a total assessment of \$145,000,000.

Forty skyscrapers of six stories and over, ranging up to eighteen stories. Houston challenges comparison with any city in the world of equal size to show as many tall buildings.

Apartment houses completed during the year at a cost of over \$1,500,000.

A half-million-dollar Federal building, which houses the postoffice and the Federal Courts.

The largest trust company or financial institution in the State is the Bankers' Trust Company, capitalized at \$2,000,000, with surplus of approximately \$1,000,000. In size it is surpassed by but three banks and trust companies in the South. It is active in the development of the Houston section, it being estimated it has brought in over \$5,000,000 foreign capital during the past three years.

Over 400 incorporated companies, whose aggregate capital stock is in excess of \$150,000,000.

Eight infirmaries and sanitariums and a new railroad hospital operated by the Southern Pacific.

Municipal water works, which includes forty-five artesian wells with a daily capacity of 33,000,000 gallons, which is supplied to consumers at a rate of 15 cents per thousand gallons.

The produce market of the rich Gulf Coast Country of Texas, Houston being in the center of the richest section of Texas.

The only elevator and esculator factory in the South.

A fire department comprising twelve stations, with property valued at \$300,000. Fifty-five horses and 110 men compose the fire-fighting force.

A manufacturing and industrial activity which totals \$20,000,000 in capital, 11,000 in number of employes, \$10,000,000 in pay roll and \$66,000,000 output.

An annual fall fete (the No-Tsu-Oh Carnival) which attracts thousands of visitors from Texas and Louisiana.

A mean annual temperature of 68 degrees, giving healthful climate, with an annual death rate of but 13.5 per thousand.

Financial and Industrial Development

—Continued

Commission form of municipal government, which governs the city on a business basis without regard to politics and in the same manner a great private corporation is conducted.

The largest produce market in Texas, whose business last year totaled \$5,200,000.

The Rice Institute, a university with an endowment of \$10,000,000, opened in fall of 1912.

Forty-nine lumber companies, making Houston the lumber center of the Southwest. Its annual lumber business aggregates more than \$40,000,000.

A patriotic population imbued with the spirit of progression which epitomizes the resistless energy that is making Houston the greatest city of the South.

Twenty-three oil companies with an aggregate capital stock of \$85,000,000. The largest producing petroleum district in Texas, the Humble field, is seventeen miles from Houston.

The financial balance of power in the Southwest and clearing weekly more net than any city in the South, with the exception of New Orleans.

Direct connection with the Brownsville Railroad with the trade territory of Mexico, and already is connected by steamer with Mexican ports.

A wholesale trade that totaled \$125,000,000 last year.

Six National banks, with total deposits of \$45,000,000.

A free library with 35,000 books.

Expended over \$100,000 last year in extensions and improvements of the water works system.

The general shops of the Texas & New Orleans, the Galveston, Harrisburg & San Antonio, the Houston & Texas Central, the Houston East & West Texas, and the Houston Belt & Terminal Railway Companies.

An electric railway company which operates over sixty-one miles of track, and employs 465 persons.

Twenty-four public school buildings which, with their grounds and equipment, represent an investment of \$1,043,314. The scholastic population is 20,685, cost of buildings and equipment, \$1,043,314; salaries of teachers, \$190,302. In Harris County there are 26,525 school children.

A retail trade whose volume last year was \$51,000,000.

Headquarters for the Texas Company (a \$50,000,000 corporation) which operates in Texas and Oklahoma petroleum fields.

A half-million-dollar County Court House, built of granite and iron and brick.

Five express companies employing 200 men and having an annual payroll of \$200,000.

Six cotton seed oil mills with an aggregate capital of \$2,500,000, employing 1,500 men, and an annual output of \$5,740,000.



Nearly 2,000 commercial houses with a combined capital of \$211,500,000.

Two of the three car wheel factories in Texas, and these two are among the largest in America.

An area of sixteen square miles, with many suburban districts.

Three general shops of railways whose activities here last year employed 2,700 men, paying them \$1,607,200 in wages, and representing an output of \$2,405,000.

Two slips on the turning basin of the Ship Channel which are just being completed at a cost of \$150,000. With the sheds and warehouses they will provide free wharfage facilities in the new harbor.

A Ship Channel to the Gulf which is being dredged to a minimum depth of twenty-five feet under a \$2,500,000 appropriation.

The third great orange belt of the United States within the Houston district. This industry is just beginning, but is already making shipments East.

The postal receipts at the Houston office for 1910, 1911 and 1912 were as follows:

1910	\$423,726.23
1911	486,092.49
1912	519,692.84

The receipts for January and February, 1913, were \$95,812.30, while the receipts for the corresponding months of 1912 were \$83,107.57, thus showing a \$12,704.73 increase in favor of 1913 over 1912.

Five rice mills with a total daily capacity of 7,600 bags.

One hundred passenger trains operated in and out of its railway terminals in a day.

Invested in lumber mills and furniture factories, \$1,039,500, with an output last year of \$2,409,690.

Foundries and machine shops with a total output last year of \$4,699,254.



Financial and Industrial Development

—Continued

The first consideration in moving to a new town to live is, what kind of drinking water is available? In addition to the municipal artesian water supply, Houston has one of the finest water distilling plants in the United States, making the purest possible water for drinking purposes, manufactured by the same process that the Government uses in the army and navy stills. Aqua Pura is extensively used in Houston and is shipped all over the state.

Railroad investments of \$12,685,100, employing 5,000 men, with an annual pay roll of \$3,906,220. The railway terminals alone represent an investment of \$4,000,000.

Manual training and domestic science departments in its city schools.

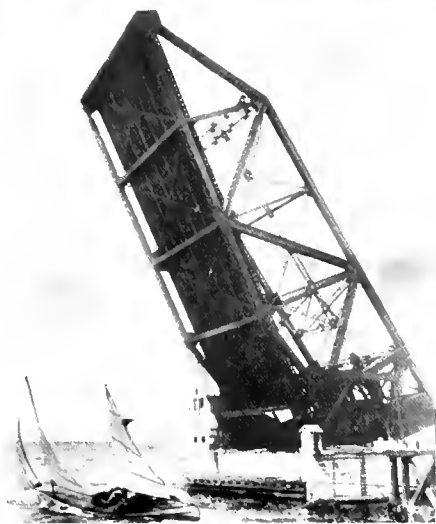
The largest storm sewer in the South, with a diameter at its mouth of thirteen feet, which provides water drainage for the Third and Fourth Wards. It cost \$225,000. An additional \$225,000 was expended during the year in extending the sanitary sewerage system.

Its own dredge boat, "The Tom Ball," operating on the Houston Ship Channel, the first of the fleet of dredges that the city will have in the service on its waterway.





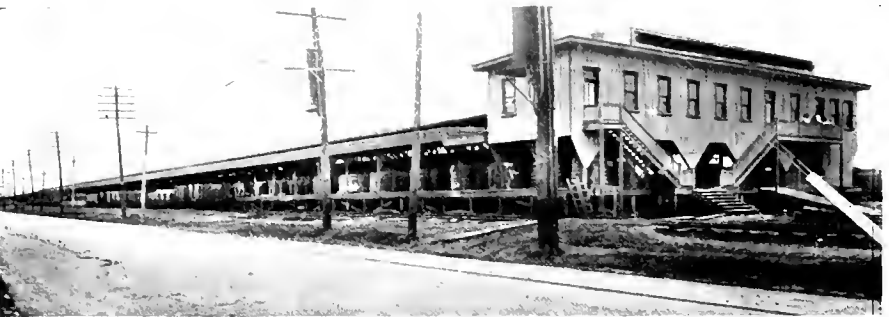
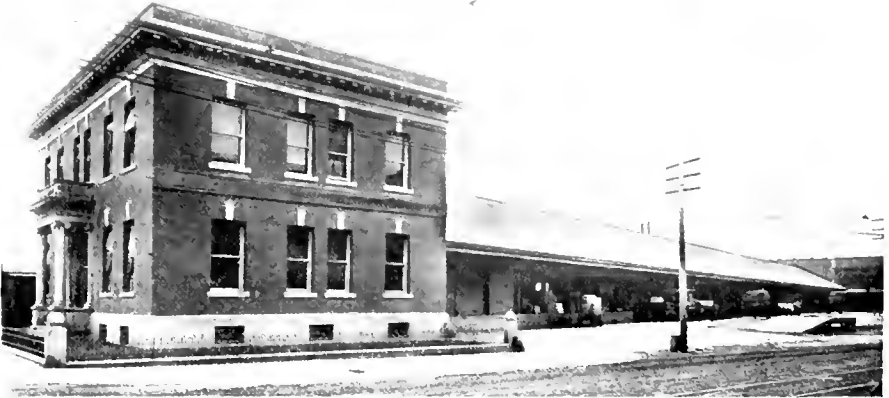


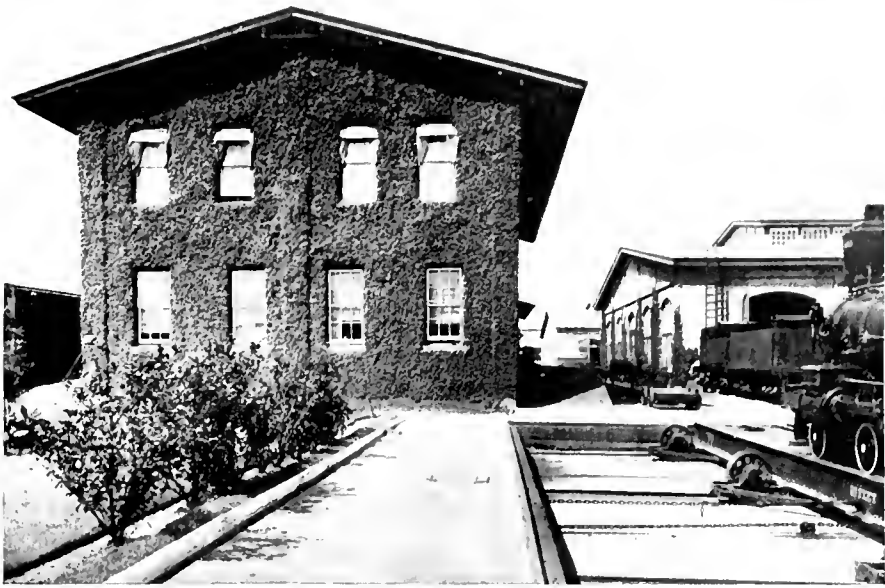




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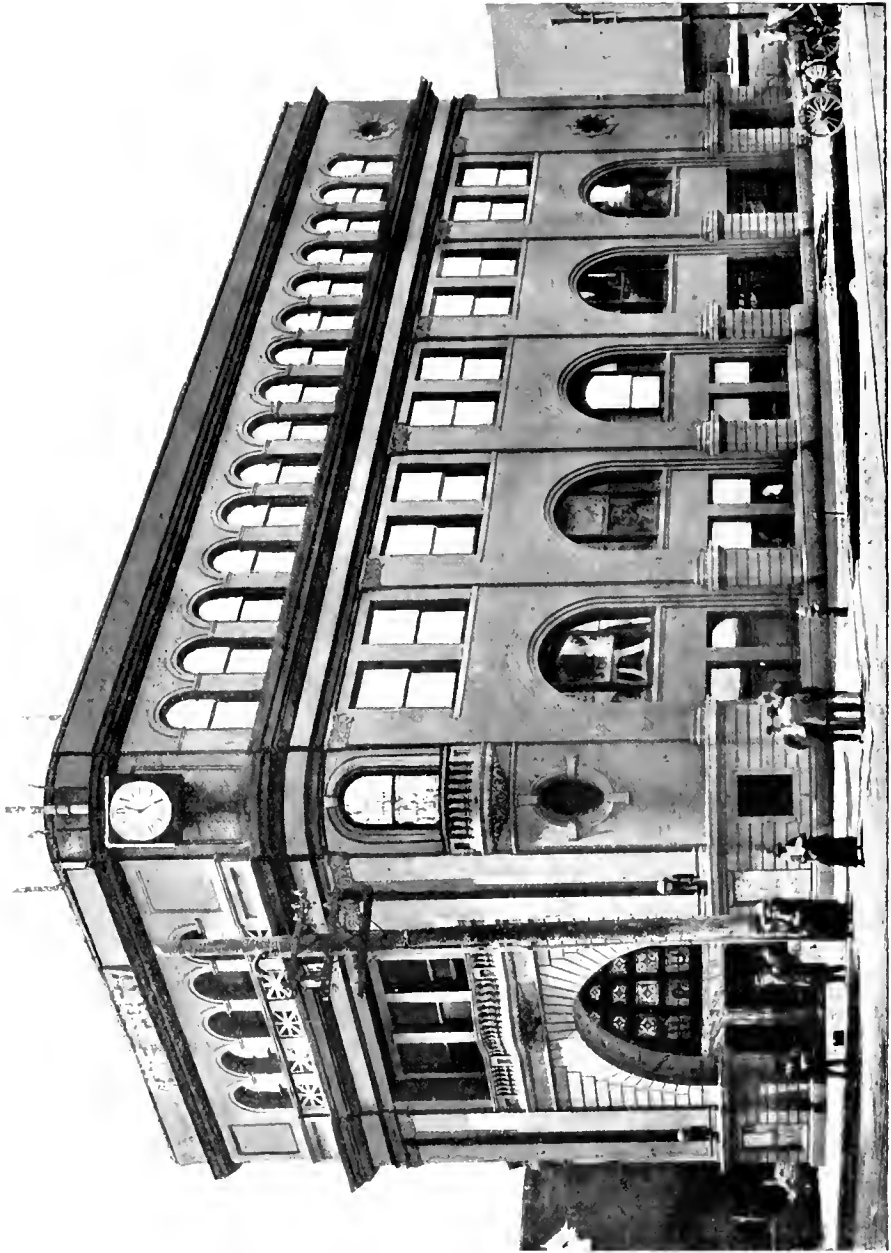






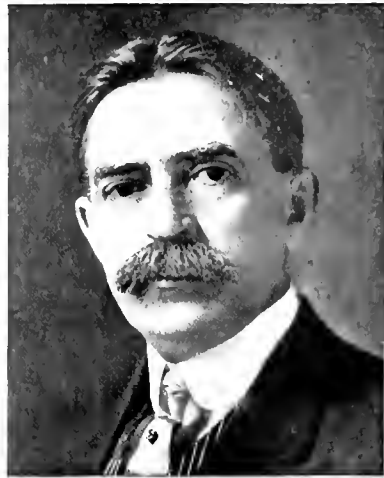


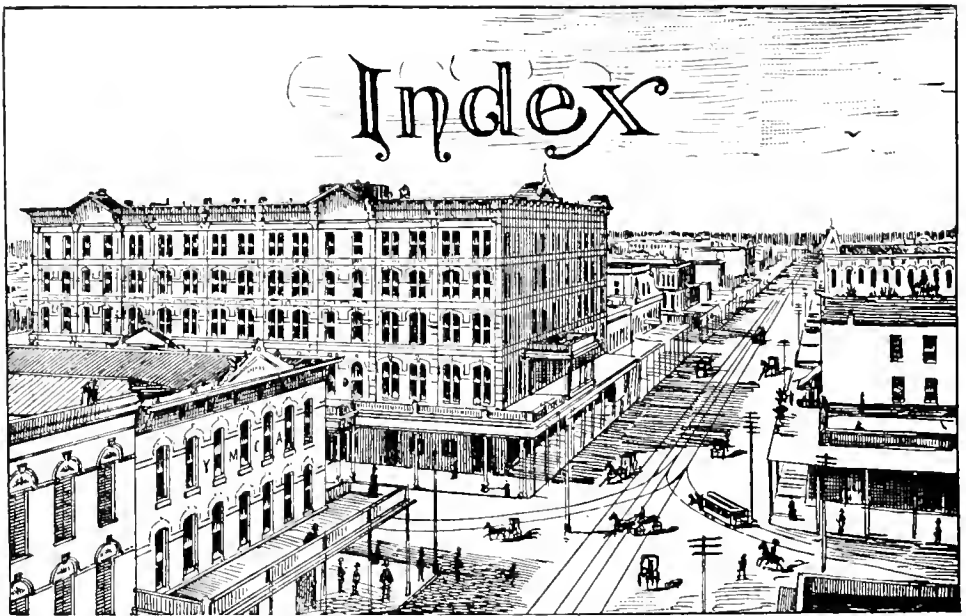
THE PRESS
of HOUSTON











View of Main Street in 1891, the year Wm. Marsh Rice endowed the Rice Institute.
 The above etching is reproduced from a wood cut used in a book on Houston
 printed that year by George W. Englehardt of St. Louis. The book is
 rare from a comparative, pictorial and statistical standpoint.

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*Deceased.

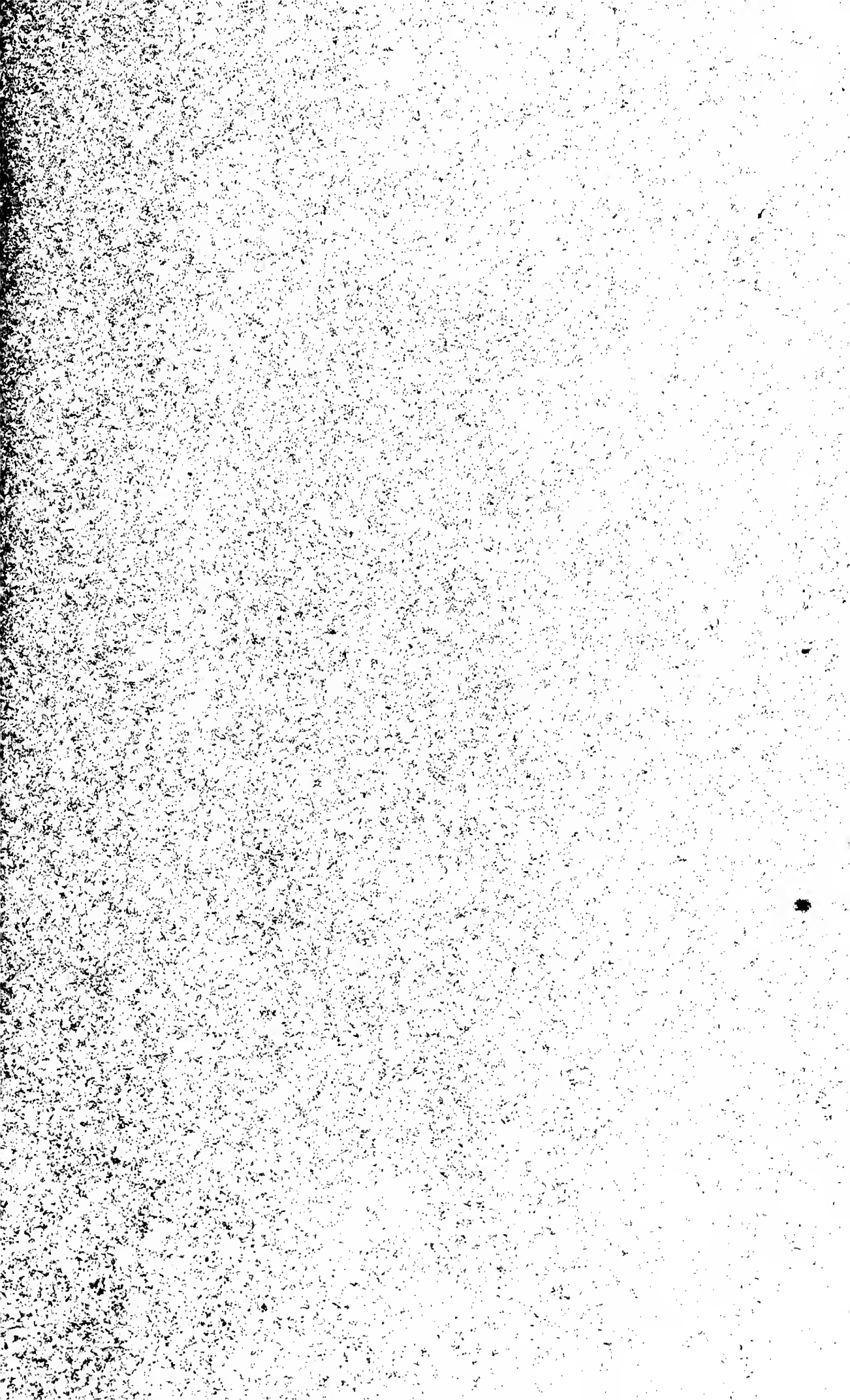
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