

VOLUME II

KENTUCKY STATE FAIR

CHAPTER I

ORGANIZATION AND GROUNDS

THE CURRENT SCENE

Louisville, home of the Kentucky State Fair of today, is located in north-central Kentucky, on the Ohio River. The main railroad lines of the east, north, and south converge upon it. US 60, main east-west highway through the State, here meets the northern highways that, like the spokes of a wheel, connect Louisville with St. Louis, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, and all intermediate points. In similar fashion, Knoxville, Nashville, Memphis, and points beyond find entry into Louisville over all-weather roads that center upon Louisville. Bowman Field has connections with the national network of airlines that are represented at that airport by Eastern and American Airlines. Hotels and tourist homes are found to suit any pocketbook. Reservations are advisable. Parking lots, restaurants, and the shopping districts center upon Fourth Street, between the river and Broadway.

The fairgrounds are reached from this downtown district either by way of the city car and bus service direct to the fair gates or, if preferred, by auto, with ample parking accommodations both outside and within the grounds. The most direct auto route is west on Broadway to Cecil Avenue, thence south on Cecil.

Immediately to the left of the entrance, via Cecil Avenue, is the racecourse, and directly ahead the Grandstand, which houses the displays of the Agricultural College and Experiment Station. In the distance, and to the right, are the stock barns, ranged along the western side of the grounds. The oval building in the center of the grounds is the Hippodrome, scene of many of the leading stock-judging events of the week, particularly that of the Horse Show. Directly behind the Hippodrome and, close to the city transit system entrance, is the Merchants and Manufacturers Building, known as the "M. & M." Near the M. and M. is the Old Log House, a reminder of early Kentucky days; and, all within comfortable walking distance, are the Forestry Building, the Poultry Building, the broad acreage devoted to out-of-doors machinery and equipment displays, the hog, sheep, cattle, horse and mule barns, and the colorful, always exciting Midway.

Within the grounds, good meals are served at reasonable prices, and good water, comfort stations, excellent fire protection, and emergency hospital, and efficient policing all assure the visitor more than the ordinary degree of freedom from personal anxiety. The gates open early and close only after the long evening's entertainment features have subsided for the night.