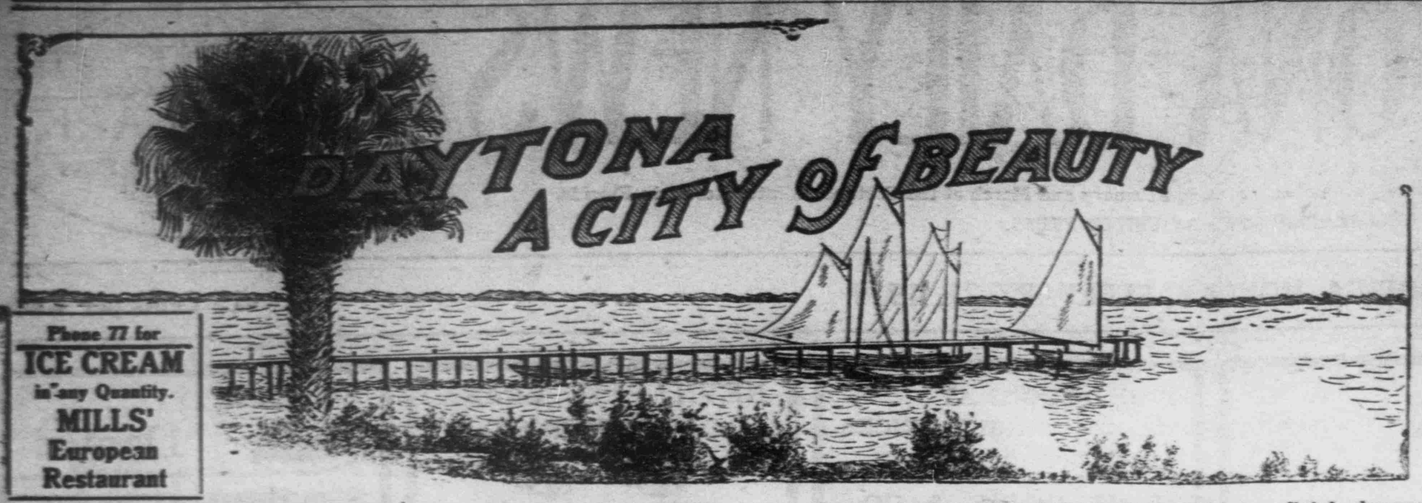

By L. C. DEMAREE.

One of Daytona's crowning glories is her incomparable beach. No one who ever set foot upon its smooth, packed sands; no one who ever pedaled a bicycle over its expanse; no one who ever drove a prancing pair of horses and listened to the popping of their steel shoes upon its asphaltum-like face; no one who ever steered a high-power automobile down the broad stretch of wave-washed and surf-packed sand but realized that it is a world-beater, a world-wonder. Go stand upon this wide speedway and see the happy souls flit by in joyous mood, and answer whether this is not one of the seven modern wonders.

The Placid, Pellucid Halifax River.

Where think you is water with more picturesque surroundings? Nearly a mile wide, fringed with tropical vegetation, artistic cottages with roomy verandas looking out upon her bosom, gamey food fishes in countless numbers beckoning, as it were, to those with rod and reel; her bosom flecked with duck and coot and snowy-winged sea birds, which sit about as if for the sport of bobbing upon the waves; watch that lubberly old white headed pelican pouch a fat mullet, and that fish hawk struggling upward with his floundering load he snatched from the water.

See the beautiful launches, spick and span, their hampers and lockers bulging with refreshments both solid and liquid ready for a cruise upon th beautiful surface. Take out your fiel glass and sweep the river from Ormondg bride to Ponce Park light house, then say whether the Halifax isn't a thing of beauty and a joy forever, and one of the modern wonders.

The Enchantingly Picturesque Ridgewood.

Ridgewood avenue is upon the crest of a broad ridge, straight as the crow flies and the wide-spreading branches of the heavy-trunked live oaks extend their giant arms across the magnificent vista, forming an arch, and from these extended arms great festoons of Spanish moss sway as the trade winds from the tropic seas fan them . Looking straight ahead down this white shell street one has the impression of a fairy path with elfish draperies, but as you move along and cast an eye first to the right and then to the left you see distinguished cottage homes in the most delightful settings.

See the glistening leaf of the grand magnolia which nature has varnished as no artists' brush ever could; and the cabbage palms with their burdens of showy fruit and swaying palms; see the lovely holly with its exquisite berry; see the climbing vines run riot in the trees; see the cryptogamons forms which gain a foothold on the great oaks and stately palms, and surely you will join in the chorus and say that this is a world wonder for beauty .

Surpassing Beauty of Our Cottage Homes.

No one of Daytona's attractions, perhaps, commands more nearly universal attention and praise than does the artisic cottages . The owners of these charming villas hail from every corner of the country and they bring their own architectural plans and build upon them, and, as the architecture of one section of the country differs from the architecture of another, so do our homes differ in outward appearance and structural beauty fror one another. There are no monotonous rows of strikingly similar buildings but the eye, as it sweeps by, is treated to a kaleidoscopic change which keeps the mind wondering, "What next?"

It is not only the exterior of many of thsee homes which rivets attention; within they are models of convenience, and the finishing and furnishing give evidence of the elegance and cultivation of those who worked it all out. Indeed, it is the interior arrangement and artistic furnishing and shading, more than the exterior appearance that gives a surpassing charm to Daytona homes . This feature justly merits prominence as another wonder.

Streets and Pavements the Most and Best.

Why the Architect oof the Universe chose to give Daytona the most admirable, the most picturesque natural setting of all the cities of the South is not revealed, but that such is a fact must be apparent to the most superficial observer. With such lavish wealth of natural beauty it became an easy thing for the hand of man to give the finishing touches which have wrought out the colors and outlines of the big picture.

Man did all this in the laying out of the streets with their wide margins of parkage. The entire city becomes a great park, with driveways intersecting. miles upon miles of driveways so good as to attract motorists from all over the continent.

And as for the pavements, pavements that look and act like granite, —where else between the eastern and western seas are so many miles in proportion to inhabitants? The pavement question stands with the street as one of the chief drawing cards. Till some unheard of place reports more and better, Daytona throws down the gauntlet to the world.

Squirrels, Flowers, Birds and Frut.

Whatever oone's shortcomings and however indifferent or even callous one may be to many things, the mere mention of "flowers and Squirrels, birds and fruits" will send a thrill that is reflected in distended pupils and pricked ears.

For every visitor with a spare goober there is a bunny ready to come and accept your gift. He will sit bolt upright and knaw into the meat, casting furtive, saucy glances at you meanwhile.

Flowers. Usually fresh and blooming the year 'round You are reminded of Goldsmith's couplet where

Smiling spring its earliest visit paid
And summer's lingering blossoms
are delayed.

In one yard roses of varigated hues predominate; another household has a penchant for the poincetta and the premises are aflame; another is hidden in a jungle of tall cane. Variety is the spice of life and here is where you find it.

The birds flit in, and with their joyous notes help to give fullness and symmetry to the picture .

As for fruits, choice citrus fruits, Daytona yields the palm to none for quality and quantity per acre. There are scores of citrus groves in proximity to the city, branches bending to the earth with their burdens of luscious golden globes, which for beauty, proflicacy and all desirable qualities would truly astonish you.

The Fastest Autos and The Finest Out.

The seventh world wonder, do you ask? Come, whether from Missouri or from Maine, from Kalamazoo or Timbuckto, and you will be "shown." Here is where the world's record for speed is broken with every recurring season. Autos, the biggest, the fastest, and the finest are on daily parad and the big show is as free as the pure artesian water from the thousands of flowing wells. It is a continuous show with constantly shifting scene.

Everything goes, from a 2-horse power, up to a 200-horse power, and all degrees of speed from acanter to a two-mile-a-minute clip. You will probably catch the spirit, when you do the roads and the beach are yours. The Florida sunshine is free, the balmy ocean breezes are free, the birds and squirrels and flowers are free, the sparkling fountain water is free and you will have to go down into your wallet only for coin for auto. and bed and board.

This is no fanciful picture; it's all here. It is drawing other thousands and holding them enthralled, it will charm and hold you. Come and see.

SEABREEZE and DAYTONA BEACH, two enterprising and pregressive towns on the Halifax Peninsula, are geographically one although incorporated as separate municipalities. The towns parallel the peninsula north and south for a distance of from three and one-half to four miles, and extend east and west from the surging seas of the Atlantic Ocean to the Halifax River, the beautiful tide-water stream that sets them apart from Daytona with which they have close communion by means of three bridges, as well as a half-hour ferry service.

Seabreeze and Daytona Beach are essentially summer and winter resorts and are making hundreds of new friends every year among those who desire to escape the discomforting extremes of heat and cold, and their hotels and boarding houses are now receiving splendid patronage from the most discriminating class of tourists.

The mean average temperature, 80 degrees in the summer and 70 degrees in the winter, with an occasional extra rise or drop of a few days' duration, marks this as one of the most healthful locations in any section of the country, north, east, south or west.

The ocean itself, with its marvelous beach, hard as macadam and smooth as a floor, is the greatest attraction, although earth and air and sky seem to have entered into a combination to enhance its every charm. The beach is the famous automobile race course where every world's straightaway recond has been made, and all these records it continues to hold without rivalry.

The sand of this famous speedway is composed largely of the shells of the coquina clam, which are about one-half inch long and very thin. For ages Nature has been rolling them up, washing them back into the surf and pulverizing them. Examined under the microscope each particle is round, unfit for mortar, builders say, because its smoothness prevents its holding together, yet, strange to contemplate, the very moment a wave leaves the wet, apparently soft beach, these round particles settle down into a cement almost as hard as asphalt, beyond the comprehension of one who has not seen it. Repairs are unnecessary, as twice each 24 hours it is entirely rebuilt by the tides. The beach has a width of 300 to 500 feet, and can be used from two hours after until two hours before high tide, thus giving an average of seven or eight hours for automobiling some part of each day.

Seabreeze and Daytona Beach each have a permanent population of approximately 1500. Sanitary ordinances are strictly enforced, streets and sidewalks are well kept, and new streets are being opened as fast as the increasing population demands. Besides hotels and boarding houses there is ample cottage accomodation for all winter visitors.

Seabreeze contains a handsome opera house and a Congregational Church; at Daytona Beach is a M. E. Church. An excellent high school is situated near the division line between the two towns. Both towns have enterprising business establishlishments, as is evidenced by the advertisements on the left and right.

All the attractiveness of Seabreeze applies to Daytona Beach, the two towns being so similarly situated. The development of Daytona Beach has been fully as phenominal as its sister on the north, and each year there is a substantial growth. The great sand dunes have been leveled and handsome homes have been built for both winter and all-year-round occupancy. Flowering shrubs have been planted, which are covered with a wealth of bloom both summer and winter.

Work of rebuilding the Clarendon hotel is now in progress. This magnificent fire-proof structure, which is to contain 250 rooms, when completed will be the peer of any hotel in Florida. The site is immediately north of the clubhouse of the Florida East Coast Automobile Assocsation.

The Ocean Pier is a great attraction to fishermen and it is lined summer and winter with enthusiastic disciples of Izaak Walton, who find it nothing unusual to land fish weighing several hundred pounds.