Picture Yourself...

... In Alexandria-Pineville
Kent Plantation House, circa 1796

Hot Wells Health Spa

One of many industrial plants
Welcome To Rapides Parish
... A Land of Variety

It is a land of many sounds — the reassuring hum of factories breathing industrial life into the area ... the thump-thump of oil wells bringing riches to the surface ... the sound of tractors plowing in the fields ... and airplanes flying overhead.

It is a land of music — the clear ring of church bells on Sunday morning ... orchestras tuning up for a performance ... guitars strumming out country-western tunes ... and families singing together on the front porch after supper.

It is a land of waters — rivers being readied for ports to bring in the wonders of the world ... lazy bayous hiding the big bull 'gators ... lakes used for varied recreations ... and crawfish holes along the roadsides.

It is a land of color — the green heads of hundreds of mallards coming in low for a landing ... the silver flash of a fish leaping high above the blue waters ... red Hereford, golden Charlais and black Angus cattle polka-dotted across lush pastures ... brilliant leaves and gray moss in profusion.

It is a land of history — pathways beaten out by the "greats" of several centuries ... people with names like LaSalle, DeSoto, Lee, Grant, Taylor, Sherman, Custer, Eisenhower, Patton ... gravestones marking the sites of bloodshed during the Civil War ... and plantation homes reflecting lifestyles of another era.

It is a land of many languages — French, Spanish, African, German, English, Oriental, Indian, all of which have added to the traditions and cuisine, enriching our culture.

It is a land you will love ... to visit ... or to live in.
Esler Airport keeps busy

Fishing is a family affair

Agriculture ... dawn to dusk operation
Alexandria's quaint brick streets

Thirty miles of National Trails System

Alexandria Zoo and Park
TOUR CENTRAL LOUISIANA

Make Alexandria-Pineville your headquarters when you come to Central Louisiana. The many fine motels and restaurants will make your visit comfortable and memorable.

You can spend many leisure hours relaxing on the lakes and bayous, fishing in the streams, camping with the family. Or you can spend the days sightseeing, visiting some of the old plantation homes and pre-Civil War churches. Historic Natchitoches to the north, and "Cajun Country" to the south, are less than an hour away.

For information on group tours of the area, contact the Alexandria-Pineville-Rapides Convention Commission, Box 992, Alexandria, Louisiana 71301. They will be happy to get you in touch with guides, attractions, and other necessities to make your stay a pleasure.

Bring your camera ... and picture yourself in Rapides Parish!