

HISTORY & FOLKLORE



From Liberty Gazette, Thursday, April 15, 1971 –

Patsy Aucoin, home from college for the Easter holidays, goes shopping with younger sister, Barbara, and their mother, Mrs. Carl Aucoin of Dayton. It's another case of the little sister catching up with the one who always towered over her before.



From Liberty Gazette, Thursday, January 13, 1971 –

Don Royder, Dayton Eagle Scout, got his pin in December of 1970 in his sophomore year. He believes a boy should get in early to avoid the rush of the junior and senior years when so many drop out because of the heavy schedule. His achievement has been a guide to the boys who got their Eagle pins last week. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F.B. Royder.

From Texas Illustrated, April 1999 –

Of Interest to Autoists: Pen Picture of Route from Houston to Anahuac

Note: The following article, gleaned from the Houston Post and reprinted Friday, November 29, 1912, in the local newspaper, "The Progress," describes the manner in which automobile drivers travelled in Chambers County years ago. Such difficulties as encountered by the Post reporter seem quite amusing to those of us who are accustomed to highway travel today.

by a Post Writer

"Do you believe in ferries? You will after you have negotiated those that intersect the highway between here and Anahuac.

"There are several ways of getting to Anahuac, but none of the several offers a complete roadway on the terra grata. By proceeding to Cedar Bayou, which has the appearance of being the shortest route, the autoist encounters the necessity of taking three boat rides. One of the three is by sailboat and consumes anything from one to three hours in one passage.

"A second way is to turn south from Liberty on the Wallisville road, cutting through the woods to Turtle Bayou, where there is the inevitable ferryman. A third course is to follow the Beaumont road to Devers and turn south from there across the prairie.

"The Wallisville road and the Devers road will be second to none in the near future if the counties concerned continue to improve as they have started.

"From Devers, almost the entire distance into Anahuac, a grade has been made and the natives will assure the motorist that the highway is a bit rough at present. It gets better after one crosses into Chambers County, where it has been established longer and has had a chance to settle.

"There are some features connected with the Devers road that are there through no act of the county engineers who laid out the course. For miles and miles after turning south from the Beaumont road, the driver sees a glistening river in the road before him. Then, just as he is wondering whether the road spans or parallels the water, the river disappears and the dry, black highway stretches ahead until lost in the timber at the skyline and he knows he has been tricked by a mirage.

"The Chambers County end presents as scenic a bit of roadway as one could find. The timber is almost of jungle density and crowds the pathway to the very edge of the grading. In some places where the great trees cross branches overhead, the course resembles a trip through a tunnel lined in green velvet, but all the time the way is wide enough to permit the passage of two cars.

"Anahuac itself is a picturesque place. It has a splendid view across Galveston Bay, a magnificent courthouse and a little restaurant that understands well the art of serving French-fried potatoes. There is no railroad into the town, though one is now being projected, and it has become a port city in the very sense. Even the mail is carried by packet from Galveston.

"The road between Liberty and Wallisville is similar in structure to that between Devers and Anahuac, but because of the cut across Turtle Bayou, is some ten miles shorter. It has been graded its entire length and the placing of shell already has been started.

"Like the Devers road, much of it lies in timberland. All the creeks and gulleys have been spanned with substantial little steel bridges and before many months a better auto highway will not be found in Southeast Texas.

"The bad feature of this route is that one portion of it cannot be traversed after nightfall without a guide. In daylight, it would be fairly easy to follow the path through the timber from the Liberty-Wallisville road to Turtle Bayou. It is a composition something similar to shell that has lain in neglect a long time, and, in a good light, stands distinct from the multitude of little lanes and cow paths that branch out from it.

"At night, however, there is no road. In the glare of the headlight every trail, every opening between the trees looks like a substantial passageway and more than one autoist has been compelled to spend the night in the timber, vainly searching for a way out.

"There is little danger of losing the road between Liberty and Houston except for one deceiving turn just on the Houston side of Dayton. The autoist should keep an eye out for the railroad at his side. If he gets away from it he is likely to come to grief. – *Houston Post.*"

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