



THE RUA PAYSANDU WITH ITS DOUBLE ROW OF ROYAL PALMS

tastão (about $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents). It is not an uncommon thing for the *Carioca* to consume in this way from one dozen to two dozen cups of black coffee a day. If one pays a social visit, calls upon the president, any cabinet minister, state or city official, or even business acquaintance, it is a signal for an attendant to serve coffee. *Cafe au lait* (usually two-thirds milk and one-third coffee) is popular in the morning, but, except for this service, milk or cream is never used. In Brazil, as in the Orient, coffee is a symbol of hospitality.

In Rio one meets for the first time those wonderfully sweet oranges for which the country is becoming famous, the marvelous papáya, and many other luscious fruits. But the best, to my thinking, is the papáya, which, in Portuguese, becomes *mamão*. What a fruit! I recall that Somerset Maugham, in describing it, said, "Papáya is like a beautiful woman whose conversation is instructive and elevating."

RIO'S EXOTIC SETTING

Louis R. Gray once said to me, "There isn't much to see in Rio but nature." There was a twinkle in his eye. He works in Rio, but lives in Petropolis. He knows his Rio—he also knows Brazil. We found him right about the city—all the things worth while in Rio have to do with nature, and in her most bounteous mood.

I have already referred to the famous water gateway to Rio, dominated by Sugar Loaf Peak,

Brazil's Rock of Gibraltar and natural Eiffel Tower, 1,212 feet high. The entrance is effected through a narrow, bottle-like channel, opening into an impressive expanse of tranquil water (12 miles wide, 18 miles long) dotted with islands, the whole scene dominated by the awe-inspiring mountains and peaks more perfectly revealed as the morning mists pass away.

Rio de Janeiro today has a population of 1,730,000. The great majority of the residents, of course, are Brazilians, but, as in all important cities, there is a foreign and floating population numbering many thousands. The city takes its name from that of the first month of the year, as on January 1, 1531, Martim Affonso sailed into the great bay about which the city clusters and, thinking he had entered the mouth of a mighty stream, christened it Rio de Janeiro (River of January). The official name of the city is São Sebastião do Rio de Janeiro, usually shortened to Rio.

Politically, Rio de Janeiro is situated within a Federal District, the latter about eight times larger than the District of Columbia. The city itself covers an area of 61 square miles. It lies spread along narrow shelves of winding shore, out upon tongues of land, and runs up into little valleys and ravines and the folds of the bright, steep hillsides. To make room for the houses, small hills have been cut down and marshes reclaimed and built upon, and through a rocky mountainside guarding the entrance to the bay a tunnel has been cut giving access by way of the beach road to the open waters of the South Atlantic.

The city has streamed out along this new series of seductive beaches. Fine tree-shaded, asphalted roads lined with pink and white houses rise in these newer quarters in a few months. The sumptuous dwellings of the Avenida Atlântica, along the Leme and Copacabana beaches, are already being rivalled by newer buildings. The Avenida Niemeyer and the great "fill" that has replaced the old tropic swamp surrounding the Lagoa Rodrigues Freitas mark the southerly extension of Rio. Thousands of men who work daily in Rio's business section return at night by ferry to the city of Nictheroy, on the east side of the bay, facing Rio, take the train to the pretty summer resort in the hills, Petropolis, or spend half an hour in reaching a shady, blossom-hung house up the slopes of Tijuca or Gavea or the Santa Theresa hill.

The traveler who enters the Bay of Rio upon a clear day sees lovely color as well as graceful outline. The bay, 240 square miles in extent, with an entrance one mile wide, opens to show a cobalt surface. The sides of the sentinel rock, the Pão d'Assucar (Sugar Loaf) are purple-gray. The city is freshly white and very clean, and the in-