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An illustrated guide-book to Heidelberg its castle and environs

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Round the town

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world, and there were several firms of considerable im portance. A fountainpen industry of importance was developed in the adjoining district. That Heidelberg played a leading part in the Hotel business is obvious, for the enchanting beauty of its position, the reputation of its University and the romance of its world-famous Castle brought an ever-increasing number of visitors and friends to old Heidelberg.

ROUND THE TOWN

The Main Railroad Station is a modest building but not devoid of a certain artistic quality in the enclosure of its approach by a row of vaulted arches. Opposite stands the General Post Office and a few steps farther we come to Bismarck Platz, finished off on the south by a row of arcades.

From Bismarck Platz the electric trams run in all directions, eastward to the Old Town and the Neckar Valley; northward across the Neckar to Neuenheim and Handschuhsheim, in which direktion the O.E.G. runs along the Bergstrasse as far as Weinheim; westward, the same company runs fast trams to Mannheim and the Municipal trams run along Bergheimerstrasse to Wieblingen or to Schwetzingen. To go southward to the "Bergfriedhof" (Hillside Cemetery) or to Rohrbach, Wiesloch or Kirchheim, it is best to take a tram from the R.R. station.

From Bismarck Platz and the adjoining Bismarck Garden one can get to the Motor Speedway (Atobahn) by Bergheimer Strasse or along the Neckar by the Schurmanstrasse. On the other side of the Neckar lie the suburbs of Neuenheim and Handschuhsheim, the Brückenstrasse (Bridge Street) leading there. In the plains lie fruitful

fields and on the orther hand the slopes of the Heiligen Berg, (Holy Mount) are covered with fruit trees. South of the Neckar, as far as the railway line, extends the Bergheim quarter, in which the University hospital buildings stand, and which stretches as far as Wieblingen and the garden colony of Pfaffengrund, grown up since the first world war.

The wide angle from south of the railway line up to Gaisberg, is filled by the houses of the Rohrbach quarter, which were built during the spell of prosperity of the latter end of the last century. From Sophien Strasse which passes one side of Bismarck Platz, in a triangle the apex of which, pointing East, is finished off by Karl's Tor (Gate), lies the Altstadt (Old Town). Above this the Castle ruins are enthroned on a steep cliff. Bihind the Illu-Altstadt towers the Königstuhl (King's Seat) clad in forest No. 2 green and Heiligenberg (Holy Mount) on the other side of the river, which form the gates through which the Neckar breaks from the mountains into the plain. A thin line of houses stretches upstream on both banks, on the right as far as Ziegelhausen, on the left, up to and past Schlierbach to Ziegelhausen Bridge.

Four streets run from the Sophien Street trough the Old Town parallel to one another: the Neckarstaden, following the river to the Karlstor, Haupt Strasse, the backbone of the Old Town, the Plöck and Leopold Strasse, also called the Friedrich-Ebert-Allee. The latter leads directly to the Castle, which one can see in the distance as soon as one turns into the street. This is the shortest way to the Castle. From it two roads lead up to the Königstuhl; one, the Wolfshöhlenweg and the other, leading over the railway line up the Klingenteich. Half-way between the two a foot-path leads up to the "Riesenstein" (Giant's Stone).