

For thousands of young campers each year, summer fun and friendships start as soon as they board a Southern Railway train. Months of railway planning in advance assures them a pleasant journey to and from the camp they have chosen from among the many woodland retreats in the South. Here, a group of girls bound for Camp Greystone in the Western

North Carolina mountains wave good-bye to their families and friends before boarding their special car at Jacksonville, Fla. They are accompanied by R. H. Lawrence, Southern's division passenger agent in Jacksonville, and Lorrainne Mattox (at his right), Greystone counselor-chaperone.

On a Southern Railway train southbound from Cincinnati, Ohio, one morning early this summer, an elderly lady laid her magazine aside and began counting, half aloud, the children filing through her Pullman car toward the diner. When the car porter passed in the line, she motioned for him to stop.

"Where did all these children come from?" she asked with mild curiosity.

"I don't know where they all came from, lady," the genial porter replied, "but I sure know where they're all going." He grinned in evident enjoyment of the youthful chatter and laughter.

"Everyone of 'em is headin' for camp somewhere down South. Yes, mam, summertime is with us again."

With summer officially under way, other Southern trains, too, carried the usual throngs of children and teen-agers from all parts of the East, Midwest and South heading for the rugged and beautiful North Carolina mountain country where summer camps abound.

Excited children aboard the Southern's coaches and Pullman cars in the first few days of summer were already looking forward eagerly to swimming and boating in stream-fed lakes, hiking and horseback riding along mountain trails, and the other pleasures of camp life.

But railroaders had been planning for months to make sure that getting to camp would be part of the summer's fun. Many of the youngsters would be making their first trip on a train.

To ensure a happy, carefree vacation from start to finish, Southern Railway passenger representatives started their camp-bound movement planning months ahead. Working closely with camp officials, they decided on times and routes as early as February and March. In the intervening months reservations were