

San Antonio, Texas
May 11, 1929

Mr. J. J. Tourist,
President Police Jury,
Lafayette, La.

Dear Mr. Tourist,-

Thank you for your letter inquiring about the statement sent out by Julian Report and W. H. Gill calling a meeting at Houston May 8th. I did not receive this until I returned from Houston. Mr. Report handed me a statement during the meeting but there wasn't time then to read it. I did not suspect its contents. ~~but~~ they ^{apparently} did not mail me a copy. The statements are false.

I attended the meeting at Houston expecting opportunity for constructive cooperation and found there beside Messrs. Report and Gill only F. V. Johnson of Lafayette and P. J. Fleisch of St. Martinville. There were present from Texas three men beside myself and the manager of the Houston Chamber of Commerce where no ~~one~~ ^{one} of the Texans is a supporter of the CDT work. One appears to be the Texas competitor judging by letters we in our possession. Evidently their following is really limited both in Texas and Louisiana.

They were trying to alogt a wonderful set of objectives and resolutions seeking the call of a national convention despite the fact a national convention has been under call and plan for several months. As soon as the St. Augustine celebration dates were fixed we issued the call for a convention meeting in connection. Two new letters were put out and a bulletin was mailed to every chamber of commerce explaining that the celebration formally completed our work of opening the highway across the continent and so felt new officers should be elected and travel development plans formulated. The rationale was our effort to tie the East and the West together and build up fraternity and goodwill across the continent. To allow ample time for all sections to arrange representation and have a really worthwhile convention we adjourned the St. Augustine meeting to a "time and place to be selected." April 27th we again put out a new letter to all our newspapers (copy herewith) again emphasizing the need and plan for a real convention. We again made it clear that we who had given so much should now be rallied. Oapparently a carefully developed convention does not suit Report and Gill so people were submitted to travelling, expense and loss of time and ~~cooperativeness~~ ^{and} ~~cooperation~~. Moreover the good will be essential if you are to tie in these people all across the continent for the common good ~~which needs to be done~~ ^{to be undermined}.

by that mentally dishonest document they sent out.