

THE BAKER HOTELS

OPERATING

THE BAKER, DALLAS, 700 ROOMS, 700 BATHS
THE TEXAS, FORT WORTH, 600 ROOMS, 600 BATHS
THE GUNTER, SAN ANTONIO, 550 ROOMS, 550 BATHS
THE BAKER, MINERAL WELLS, 450 ROOMS, 450 BATHS
THE GOODHUE, FORT ARTHUR, 200 ROOMS, 200 BATHS
THE STEPHEN F. AUSTIN, AUSTIN, 250 ROOMS, 250 BATHS

Written from The Gunter 301 Gunter: March 10, 1932
San Antonio, Texas

My dear Mrs. Browne:

Our talk last night and your suggestion about a carefully prepared book for the Alamo directs my mind into a channel that, I believe, should enable you to have the best historical book for tourists of any city from Florida to California. Talking things over, like last night, always prompts better thinking.

A little book of pictures, diagrams and maps can be prepared, with the historical reading coupled with each picture, so that any tourist, student or casual reader can be led to each old scene and get the history story with each place. This has been my method with the Old Spanish Trail publications and it has been popular. I have photographs, etchings, plates, and associates, to assure such a publication. It would probably require two months or more to whip it all together because care should be exercised to state carefully that which is known history and that which is only legend....and also to reduce everything to brief, simple statement; writing briefly and clearly is hard.

No city in these Spanish Borderlands (and this includes all California) has such a wealth of material as San Antonio. A book of 30 or more old historical illustrations is possible here; it would be difficult to get together 10 such illustrations in any other city. Saint Augustine and New Orleans might reach 10 such pictures.

Once the illustrations and the historical data are carefully assembled the Alamo association would have a book valuable for all time. Then your suggestion that the Alamo have its own postcards becomes possible and could be worked out. With nothing sold at the Alamo except your approved publications, the intelligence, dignity and integrity of you Alamo leaders would be established in a way for you to be proud of.

Profits from these sales would continue steadily thru the years. Merchants, missions, tourist offices and others in San Antonio should be glad to handle an official and attractive publication; if so, both your service to San Antonio and your Alamo income would be enhanced.

I have never suggested anything like this, although frequently in mind,

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