

C O P Y

JUN 12 1917

"Elmwood",  
Cambridge, Mass.  
June 7, 1917.

My dear Mr. LeBlanc:

Thanks for your letter of June 4th. I appreciate the strength of the arguments that you advance. Nevertheless whilst they are strong arguments I do not believe that efforts along the line of Congressional appropriations for one highway will be productive of results. I have been interested in road work for three generations in my family. I today have no personal commercial interest in road building, or in the profits growing out of road building, or the manufacture of machinery, or the supplying of materials. I am devoting my interest, time, and attention from the public point of view. I am giving my time and my money freely. The correspondence of this office covering this subject from the public point of view has amounted to 688 average communications daily incoming and outgoing during a period of 4 consecutive years. The more I have studied the problem from every angle and from every corner of the United States, the more convinced I am that we cannot get GOOD ROADS EVERYWHERE in these United States until we commit the National Government to the building of a system of national highways at the sole expense of the government to be maintained by the government at their sole expense. All other efforts will be a waste of time.

Now while I am so convinced please do not misunderstand me. We will cooperate with all and every effort along every line towards road development because whilst we have our own opinions, those opinions may be wrong. We are willing to admit that. Therefore, please command us in connection with the work that you are doing in any way possible and if we can furnish literature, maps, information, or any thing else that will be helpful for ~~for~~ your particular activity and your particular point of view, we stand ready to accord it.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) CHARLES H. DAVIS,

President.

Old Spanish Trail Assn.,  
Mr. S.A. LeBlanc, Sec.,  
Mobile, Alabama.

CHD/ACL