

Mobile, Ala
May 3, 1922

Mr. I. P. Dickey,
Secretary Board of Trade.
Tampa, Fla.

Dear Mr. Dickey,-

I wish you would read chapter I of the enclosed PROGRESS OF THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL and advise me if a route around the Gulf from Tallahassee is practicable, and if anything could be gained by efforts calculated to give life and status to such a route. Our maps show our connections to South Florida via. Lake City but we are not interested in that route; besides we have done nothing to give us claims on that route.

Within two years there will be an entire change in the flow of traffic. Highways from the North are financed and building to Pensacola, Mobile, New Orleans, Lake Charles, Houston, San Antonio, etc., and connections are branching to the towns that lie between. Northern traffic will then drop directly to the Old Spanish Trail. Whether much of this traffic will then go to Florida will depend upon the attractions and hospitalities Florida offers in competition to the midland sections of the OST, and all of these sections are rich in playground and historical attractions. *interest*

Developing new routes and new country entails long and expensive work. We are burdened everywhere because of the great construction-activity along the OST. Nevertheless there are historical reasons why Tampa should be a terminus on this system of highways.

Very truly,

Managing Director,
At Eastern Headq. Battle House,
Mobile, Ala.