

May 11, 1929

Mr. J. L. Mapes,
Beaumont, Texas.

Dear Jim,

Hannell writes me you want information as to plans for the OST. The enclosed news-letter sent out April 27 states things about as far as I know. Personally I cannot stand this financial drag, and I am personally tired of the personal begging I have had to do. I have hoped a convention could be gotten together but I do not believe the people are much interested in a convention. New Orleans and eastward, and El Paso and westward, do not care much about the central section. Their construction problems are well worked out and they will get the travel no matter which way it comes. South Louisiana and South Texas cannot seem to realize what they are up against. I put over the motorcade from San Diego and the celebration at St. Augustine as a final effort to tie the West and the West together. I adjourned the convention meeting we opened at St. Augustine to some time and place to be selected hoping some central city would get behind the movement seriously. I dare not undertake to put on a convention for they would pass on the expenses to me as far as they could; they always have in previous conventions. The people promise most sincerely; but they do not pay in full.

Individually, these ten years have exhausted me financially. I had no business gambling with my old age that way but no crying about that. I must go to work somewhere new. The Old Spanish Trail has been put across and that is what we set out to do.

Some fool stuff has broken out in Louisiana that makes a convention now seem still more unlikely. I enclose a copy of letter just written; don't know how illuminating it may prove. Dark alley attacks are hard to handle.

Hope you are keeping well.

Sincerely,

Jimmie →