

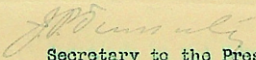
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 17, 1917.

My dear Sir:

The President directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of April 14th, and to assure you that he deeply appreciates the invitation which you extend to him. While he wishes it were possible for him to accept, he greatly regrets that his public duties are so pressing as to prevent him from making engagements of this kind for the present. He asks me to thank you and all concerned most heartily for your kindness in the matter.

Sincerely yours,



Secretary to the President.

Mr. F. R. S. Phillips,
Convention Secretary,
Old Spanish Trail Association,
Tallahassee, Florida.