

National Convention Edition

The Old Spanish Trail is now opened to good all-year driving, and the development of this southern country is now the outstanding feature in national progress, therefore the great national organizations are turning to this country for their convention meetings.

The following conventions will draw over 400,000 to these Southern Borderlands. Traveling by auto in this Old Spanish Trail land is now more pleasant than traveling by train. Completed road and bridge construction totaling \$70,000,000 now welcomes you. More millions are being spent in improvements.

FLORIDA

The Masons—Miami, May 1—3.

The Elks—Miami, July 9—13.

HOUSTON, TEXAS

Democratic Party—June 26 and following days.

National Foreign Trade Council—April 25—27.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Junior Chambers of Commerce—May 13—16.

General Federation of Women's Clubs—May 23—June 1.

The American Legion—October 8—12.

EL PASO, TEXAS

American Association of Engineers—June 4—6.

Greeters Association of America—June 18—20.



The Old History

The old Spanish history of the American occupation is not easily gathered together for brief statement. Many old records are in Spanish and in foreign archives. In developing these historical statements nice cooperation is enjoyed from the OST State universities and from historians of authority. Many communities carelessly publish matter for which no basis can be found in history. Cooperation is asked that Old Spanish Trail material may always be correct in statement and in spirit.

Mobile, Alabama

A Port City of Importance for Many Generations

The Port of Alabama

The State of Alabama is spending \$10,000,000 and constructing at Mobile the most modernly equipped port facilities in the world. The channel is but 26 mi. to deep water at the Gulf of Mexico and has a controlling depth of 30 ft. The extensive inland waterway system in Alabama, operating all the year, serves the port and connects with the vast coal and ore mines of the State. All docks will permit placing cars under ships' tackle. An industrial canal, extensive industrial sites, and ample rail and switching facilities are provided. Mobile is the cheapest bunkering port on the Gulf of Mexico. Quick service and low cost feature ship repairs by numerous shipyards. Waterfront facilities for new plants are extensive and convenient.

The Mobile Bay Bridge

Mobile Bay is nine miles wide. While serving as a port of unexampled usefulness, the normal land connections with the outside world have been seriously broken. Old Spanish Trail officials in 1922 and subsequent years pressed the necessity for this bridge so that an unbroken trunkline could be opened across the Southern Borderlands. Mobile responded. \$2,500,000 were provided. The bridge was opened June 1927 with ceremonies and attendance that touched half of the United States. It is a combination of steel bridges, concrete trestles, and earth causeways, 10½ mi. long. Mobile Bay embraces three bays and five rivers. The lift span over the Mobile River rises to 135 ft. in 112 seconds, clearing the largest vessels. With Mobile Bay now bridged an extensive system of paved highways is projected which will make Mobile a gateway to California or Florida or to the Gulf attractions. Mobile is surrounded by proven lands for winter truck, satsuma oranges and pecan nuts. Its bays, inlets and gulf offer finest fishing and hunting. This is a country of natural resources and outdoor life.

Inquire of the

MOBILE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mobile's Finest Hotel Is THE BATTLE HOUSE

It is absolutely fireproof, modern, well furnished, accommodates 400, has new grill rooms, ladies and gentleman's restaurants, and a coffee room open all night. Its lobby and lounge are artistic and restful.

Rates are \$2 and upwards for rooms without bath; \$3.50 and upwards for rooms with bath.

Operated by the S. H. Peck Hotel Co., Inc., S. H. Peck, President, F. Taylor Peck, Manager.

S. H. Peck is President of the ORI Spanish Trail Association.

MOBILE

Refer to pages 14 and 15.