

November 7, 1918.

President S.M. Williams,
Highways Industries Association,
Lima, Ohio.

My dear Sir:

Your letter with enclosures reached me just before leaving for a short trip, and I avail myself of the first opportunity to write to you. I hope the telegrams reached you in time to include The Old Spanish Trail Association in the official call which you will issue for the Chicago convention.

President Palmer Billans, of the Old Spanish Trail Association, resides in Mobile, Ala., and that is really headquarters of the Association; but as Assistant Secretary for the Old Spanish Trail Association for the East, headquarters Tallahassee, Fla., I answer many inquiries about routine matters, and knowing that President Billans and Secretary S.A. LeBlanc would be only too glad to co-operate with you in this matter, I sent you the wire as requested by you. I have refer of your letter to President Billans, also sent a copy of same and the enclosures to Secretary LeBlanc, Mobile, asking them to communicate with you and also attend the convention. During the war, the Association has not done active work, but through this office we have endeavored to keep up publicity and interest in hastening the completion of the Ocean-to-Ocean highway. At my request, Governor Catts wrote to the Governors of all the States along the Old Spanish Trail Highway, asking them to speed up the construction of the Highway, especially the bridges, in their states, and to write him urging the completion of the bridge across the Apalachicola river, in Florida. This they did, and Governor Catts gave me the original letters to take to Quincy, Fla. when the Board of County Commissioners met to open bids on the bridge. The letters were read and had great influence in making the Board take a broader view of the necessity for this bridge,--showing that it concerned not only Florida, but the United States, to have this bridge built, for the highway along the Southern border of our country will