



TELEPHONE CROCKETT 2260

PRESIDENT—DR. FRED B. JOHNSTON, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

VICE PRESIDENTS:

FLORIDA—F. W. MARSH, PENSACOLA, FLORIDA
ALABAMA—JOHN CRAFT, MOBILE, ALABAMA
MISSISSIPPI—H. S. WESTON, LOGTOWN, MISS.
LOUISIANA—MARTIN BERHMAN, NEW ORLEANS, LA.
EAST TEXAS—W. E. LEA, ORANGE, TEXAS
WEST TEXAS—WALTER SCHREINER, KERRVILLE, TEXAS
WESTERN—A. H. GARDNER, TOMBSTONE, ARIZONA

MANAGING DIRECTOR—H. B. AYRES, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

SECRETARY—HERBERT BAYLISS, LAKE CHARLES, LA.
TREASURER—M. G. MCNAIR, GULFPORT, MISS.
FIELD ENGINEER—HARRY LOCKE, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.
DIRECTORS—S. H. PECK, MOBILE, ALABAMA
R. H. FLEMING, NEW ORLEANS, LA.
H. A. McDONALD, BEAUMONT, TEXAS
J. C. BAUMGARTEN, SCHULENBURG, TEXAS
MRS. JULIE RIEGLER, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

January 6th, 1921

Mr. H. B. Ayres,
Battle House,
Mobile, Alabama.

Dear Mr. Ayres:-

You have at last succeeded in getting your President to do a little work. I came in yesterday. Mr. Colp had phoned for Baird to go to Beaumont immediately, so I produced the \$20 and sent him on his way rejoicing. I also found that Mr. Knight had left his resignation and gone to Arizona to accept a more lucrative position. I do not know with whom. Of course Mr. Colp is still in the East and I suppose is somewhere around Houston. Your letter for Mr. Knight I took the liberty of opening to see if there was anything that Miss Huey and I could attend to. Miss Huey will immediately make you copies and enclose them in this letter to you.

Of course we are going to have to get someone to take Mr. Knight's place and the idea has just occurred to me that Tommy Thompson might not be a bad one for us to consider. As you know Tommy is well versed in almost everything, a good conversationalist and from the past years experience with him I am inclined to think would make good. He has done all kinds of painting and is a man who would carry out your orders to the letter and would not think for a moment of carrying out any of his own ideas without first taking it up with this office. We can get Tommy to go out for us and I am positive he would make a success.

Another reason why I suggest Tommy, I know he is a good conscientious worker, needs the work and would not be raising the devil with us in the event we were not able to pay him his salary the day it was due. All of these matters considered I wish you would think it over and if you think it necessary I will put Tommy in the car, give him all the instructions I can, also furnish him a copy of the letter you have just written Mr. Knight, and I feel sure common sense will help him out a great deal.

In regard to the dinner I have had several talks with Mr. Tyrell and we have concluded that it will be much better to pay him \$1.50 per cover and let him get all the food necessary, getting as much of everything from the Valley as possible, and advertising same on the menu. Regarding the exhibit, Mr. Nave is very optimistic but from past performances of the Valley people I am a little bit afraid that this will not amount to very much. The Chamber of Commerce however have promised me they would do everything they could to make ~~it~~ it a success,