

will insist on road being maintained. I think the Old Spanish Trail has enough arguments in its favor to justify its being built, and we are now in the same position, trying to keep the IDRA alive and to keep it slowly changing to a F&C.

This has taken a great deal more of the writer's time than he ever intended to give, and more than he can afford to give, and if he could see any chance of showing it off on anybody he thought would give the necessary time, he would do it. Until such time he has felt that he is the "goat".

We think if the government is willing to appropriate towards completion of roads along the borders and between forts, to the extent that the localities have already appropriated funds, this would be a fair proposition and would enable highways to be built.

The writer was struck by plan adopted in California, where the State voted the bond issue, but only spent the money in the locality buying the bonds. In other words, the state pays the interest and the community furnishes the money. Of course, the state eventually has to pay the principal also, but the increase in taxes makes this a cheap proposition for the state.

If the government would even do this and insist if they did this, the money was to be spent under supervision of a government engineer, I think results would justify government paying interest, and I think the money for the building of the highway would be forthcoming.

Do you think anything along these lines would be possible?

Yours truly,

SECRETARY.