

SUGGESTED SUBJECTS FOR THE ANNUAL CONVENTION
Old Spanish Trail

NOTE--In the appointment of the Finance Committee it is provided it should "help formulate plans to be submitted to the national convention for the future administration of this work." The following are subjects in mind. With the Finance Committee acting, this subject-matter can be submitted to the Advisory Board, then to the Board of Directors (which should soon be asked to meet), finally these subjects to be incorporated in the Call for the Convention.

Committee reports needed:

On Amendments to the Constitution

On an Annual Budget, this committee to have eastern and western representatives

On Present Finances

Each of these committees will have serious and complex problems to consider. Familiar local customs do not apply to a transcontinental organization of this type.

September

1922

HBA

1 In local community work an administration functioning thru a Board of Directors, with an orderly budget, is attained with reasonable effort, but such an administration is difficult where directors are scattered over such extended territory, and where there is no assurance as to the amount or date of receipt of funds.

Heretofore our whole status has been formative and uncertain. Our constitution was purposely made flexible. The organization itself has been without cohesion. The work was too big for a unified organization to come together quickly. Most OST localities are still without even local roads; they have been working on these and this big transcontinental project has been but a dream. Now that the Washington declarations have established the project with a national recognition, and the past three years have given us experience, we should now try to establish a working national administration that will function thru either stress or prosperity. The constitution was wisely amended at the Gulfport Convention, January 1921, so that now the functioning of directors on state questions is provided for thru Vice-Presidents, state directors and councilors, but some states are not well officered.

The time is ripe to further strengthen the constitution, but unless we have a really representative attendance at the convention we will not get a representative Board of Directors.

A meeting of the B of D has been prohibitively expensive. A fair attendance would cost about \$1,000 in railroad expenses, and some 60 to 70 days total time for a one day's meeting, and \$300 to \$500 for hotel and dining expenses.

This can be helped by conferring more definite powers on the Advisory Board of the Headq. city. Headquarters should have the steady influence of such a board; this board to co-ordinate with the Board of Directors by mail vote, and by report and recommendation at Board meetings. As the work develops mileage can be allowed the Directors

in every possible way to secure effective state highway laws and an adequate state highway fund.