

San Antonio, Texas,
February 9th, 1922

Dear Marral:-

Replying to yours of the 5th am surprised at what you say with reference to Ft. Bend County. I gave you this information immediately upon my return from Ft. Bend. Colonel Crecelius with the commissioners court and three or four of the citizens of Richmond and Rosenberg accompanied us over the direct route right down the railroad track and I was very much surprised to find that the commissioners court had already put up one of the best grades I nearly ever saw, ranging from a foot and a half to three feet high almost the entire distance from Rosenberg to E. Bernard, and the grade of course being on the upper side of the railroad from the river gives it the railroad track for protection. They have the necessary drainage and Colonel Crecelius says that when the water gets over that road to such an extent that it will damage it that the town of Rosenberg Junction will also be under water. The Government will accept this grade as being entirely satisfactory and since the Government will have to maintain the roads the people of Ft. Bend County should not worry over it if the State Highway Department and Government are satisfied. The fact of the business is it was the opposition to the bond issue that had been making such a fuss about this lake proposition. The ~~Water~~ ^{State} is practically satisfied now that we will be able to carry the bond issue without much trouble. It is true it is going to take some work, but I am going to make that Houston bunch kick in with some money first. I am working on a plan I am going to submit to you as soon as I get it worked out to my own satisfaction, and it will get the money too.

The Brownsvillerroute is about as last reported, except Judge Burmeister, after looking over the political field and having just held a conference at Jourdanton with he and others, advises that hs is absolutely pledged to the Campbellton-Three Rivers route and that he was afraid to try to take it thru McAllen County because he had promised Jordan Campbell that he would stand by this route to the last ditch, and since there will be no advantage in the Duval end of it to make the change by Tilden he suggests that he will go to San Diego with me and we will try to get Senator Parr to agree to a road district in the upper corner of Duval County in order that the people getting the benefits will be the ones to pay for it, at the same time not putting a bond issue on any of Senator Parr's property. Judge Burmeister had a case in court at Pearsell Tuesday and expected to have been back here in the city and he and Judge McCrory and Col. Crecelius and myself were going to make the trip over the route and spend the night at San Diego and try to complete the arrangements there tomorrow, but he has been delayed, but we will make a trip as soon as he can get back here.

With reference to the palm avenue thru the Valley, I am here- with enclosing you two more clippings from the Brownsville Herald and since Mrs. S. E. Tucker, wife of our good friend Tucker at Brownsville, is chairman of the Brownsville committee I am sure that part of it will be a success, but Mrs. Myrick of Harlingen