

MY EFFORTS TO RESIGN THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL WORK.

At the New Orleans Convention, March 1925, I had hoped to get the organization in shape so that I could soon thereafter see my successor elected. Instead, the convention elected me for life...see the minutes.

August 1, 1926 represented the completion of 7 years. I prepared the complete finance statement of that date (page) and the Year Book same date (page) and notified the Executive Board (see minutes). That Board ordered resolutions prepared (see page). The finance statements and year books were mailed to all members. Then letters were written to the officials and leaders. Before I could mail them friends persuaded me not to send them; they were later thrown in the scrap-basket. In October-November I joined Col. Fletcher on that trip from St. Augustine to San Diego and was again deep in the work.

During 1927 and 1928 I tried to arrange a big celebration somewhere, then resign. The St. Augustine celebration gave me the opportunity I sought... I began to prepare again for my leave-taking.

In the fall of 1928 I went to the New York and eastern editors and arranged the extensive publicity and understandings of the new conditions along the OST shown in these scrap books.

I issued the route marking and signing designs and directions shown p. and sent it along the highway.

I arranged the motorcade to come from California to St. Augustine so that complete understandings could be put over.

February 25, 1929 I released to the leading papers of the U.S. the news item reading "After 15 years of incredible costs" etc. See scrap books. and see also page where with a printed notice I informed San Antonio members of my purposes.

About the same time I had printed and sent along the highway the marking design sheet (page).

Also published in the San Antonio Express the map and article, as shown inside this sheet.

Then I printed this sheet and sent it to the leading members; and incorporating the motorcade notices with it.

March 1929, I issued the travelog, (p).

The scrap-books will show numerous articles released by me, all worded to show I was completing my responsibilities and would not serve after the St. Augustine meeting.

In March I appointed an auditing committee with the request they make a complete report entirely independent of me. Their audit and report is shown p. At St. Augustine they submitted a preliminary audit. I announced with that audit, the termination of my service. The Convention refused to accept. I published the "Final Report" in June, (p).

With no successor provided, and the work very much alive, I was held to the office. This despite the fact I closed the office, let the employees go, cut off the telephone, and kept my home phone out of the directory.

Then the California motorcade brought me back actively. Following that I was kept at many things until summer of 1930. All subscriptions stopped in 1929. None solicited after the reports went out. So I had to foot the expense except that a few helped with small contributions.