

#### THE MODERN HIGHWAY

An organization to foster the construction of the modern highway was formed at Mobile, Alabama, in 1915. The national headquarters was transferred to San Antonio, Texas, in 1916. In 1922 the Washington Declarations gave the project national recognition and importance. The new highway was dedicated at Saint Augustine, Florida in 1929 as a completely opened travelway. The monument and the three days' dedication pageantry cost Saint Augustine \$16,000. The Spanish Government sent Don Rafael Casares Gil as representative of the King of Spain. A motorcade to the dedication ceremonies, led by a large delegation from San Diego, California, crossed the continent averaging 271 mi. a day for 11 days, ~~keeping to~~ *keeping to traveling on a* schedule like a railroad train, thereby establishing before the world the progress of the great construction work connecting the two oceans across the big rivers and bays in the East and the princely cattle ranches of Texas and the mountains of the West. Marral Yrus, ten years Managing Director, now President, was decorated by Don Pablo de Ubarri in the name of the King of Spain with the Cross of a Knight Commander of the Royal Order of Isabel la Católica of Spain, at a diplomatic ceremony at San Antonio, Texas. Colaris

The modern highway has cost to date (1932), including funds in hand for present work, over \$100,000,000. Complete paving across the continent and all bridges, including the bridge over the Mississippi River at New Orleans to cost \$19,000,000, are financed and progressing toward completion.

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