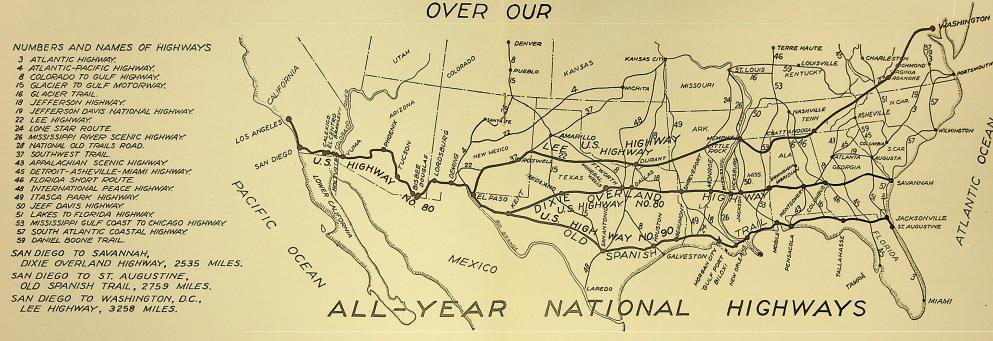
SAN DIEGO AND LOS ANGELES WELCOME YOU TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA





Colonel Fletcher and his party in front of the New Mexican Building, Balboa Park, San Diego, ready for the Trans-continental record-breaking run,

state, county and city officials, who cooperated so well and made possible this record trip.

I wired the result of our trip to Mr. Thomas H. MacDonald, chief of the bureau of public roads and engineering, at Washington, D. C., and received his congratulations. Within a few weeks we were delighted to have the United States Government officially approve the Dixie Overland highway as Route No. 80, U. S. Highways, from Savannah, Georgia, across the continent to San Diego.

The next day we motored from Savannah to Jacksonville. Florida, and starting the following afternoon, October 25th, at 2 p. m., we made the run from St. Augustine, Florida, over the Old Spanish Trail, to San Diego, our actual running time being 75 hours and 35 minutes, total mileage—2809 miles. This distance has since been reduced to 2759 miles by new cut-offs completed. We distributed 15,000 pieces of San Diego Chamber of Commerce literature on our return trip, held sixteen highway meetings, and found the great enthusiasm for the completion of the Old Spanish Trail.

Over \$75,000,000 has been spent already on the Old Spanish Trail, and the country traversed can well be called "The Playground of America". Over fifty per cent of the highway has already been paved or under contract from St. Augustine to San Diego, and the work is rapidly progressing to com-

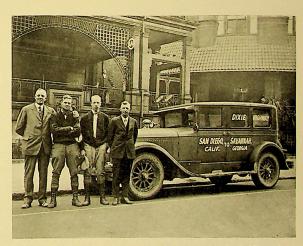
pletion. Anyone can make with safety today, the trip over the Old Spanish Trail, the Dixie Overland Highway, or the Lee Highway, and within five years we hope to see every foot of it paved over all three of the East and West National All-Year highways.

It would be unfair for me not to say a word of praise for the wonderful boys who made this record trip possible. Not a cross word was said; every man gave the best that was in him. There was a determination to succeed. There was one hundred percent cooperation, and every man did his bit.

Our old Cadillac sedan made a remarkable run, and made the round trip across the continent and back, in two weeks to a day (under the most adverse conditions on our return trip) all without delaying us for a moment.

Kelly-Springfield balloon tires delivered the goods. We did not have a single blow-out, and only seven punctures caused by seven nails, on the round trip.

The object of this trip was to awaken the South to the possibilities of a transcontinental highway completed at an early date. We feel our object was attained, and at an early date I hope to have the pleasure of travelling over a paved highway joining the Atlantic to the Peafic, and similar in character to the magnificent paved highway already completed on the Pacific coast from the Mexican border to British Columbia.



Arrival in Savannah, Georgia, 71 hours and 15 minutes after leaving San Diego. Left to right: Colonel Fletcher, Ed Fletcher, Jr., La Verne Kingsbury, and J. E. Graves.