

May 13, 1929

Mr. W. G. Jones,
Motor League of So. Texas.

Dear Walter,-

You wanted the cost of the monument at St. Augustine. They write it cost \$500 00 It is made of coquina, the native stone of which old Fort San Marco and many old buildings there are constructed.

I understand the celebration cost about \$17,000.00 We have one of the souvenir programs if you would like one.

That was a snappy letter to Al Gardner. Your argument is sound. But doesn't Gardner and the westerners consider their best bet is to back the Broadway of America and let South Texas and South Louisiana get the travel as they can? Travel that gets down to the Old Spanish Trail will get to them any way, if it goes westward. In other words the people west of El Paso and east of New Orleans will get the travel no matter what route they start on; Florida and the east and California and the west are well entrenched. I put on the motorcade to tie the east and the west in with us. I have been fostering the return motorcade to build up stronger the fraternal tie. In all this, have been trying to lead up to a convention backed by a real ~~transcontinental~~ transcontinental sentiment. I know these various sections and how the people think. You, Ike Ashburn (if I estimate him right), and myself would feel a keen regret if a convention was called at Houston and the East and the West stood off and watched. Al Gardner sort of reflects the ideas I am trying to describe.

On the other hand Gill of Crowley and Furlong are destroying the very good will we have been building up and which, more than anything else, will make eastern and western attendance and cooperation possible. A successful convention is not possible if the Gill-Furlong tactics continue. If there is no convention the East and the West will go on alone and feel entirely content. Whether Ike Ashburn understands these eastern and western attitudes I do not know. Gill and Furlong do not understand them.

Sincerely,