

St. Augustine where we could reach out and touch the buildings from our car seats. A fleet of cars had crossed the continent averaging 271 miles a day for 11 days, keeping all appointments, excepting in West Texas, indulging in numerous festivities enroute and had arrived at our destination at St. Augustine on schedule. Everyone was in as good physical condition as though traveling by train and every car in as good condition as at the time of the departure. It was this stupendous exhibition of road dependability that gripped everybody. The evidence of this remarkable reaction began to show at Mobile.

He cost was \$11,000
The three days celebration and dedication ceremonies cannot well be described; they were in their ancient type and character, colorful, splendid and memorable. They portrayed the landing of Ponce de Leon in costume; they had a replica of his ship; the priests of Florida reenacted the religious ceremonies.

They reenacted the settlement of St. Augustine by Menendez. They had Spaniards, priests, Indians and all manner of participants portrayed in costume.

They reenacted the various changes of flags, down to the present day, a very beautiful ceremony.

Finally, they put on a fireworks bombardment of old Fort San Marcos that reenacted the capture of St. Augustine by Oglethorpe and the English from Georgia. That display was generally characterized as a very remarkable picture. The night was dark and the gloomy old fortresses withstanding the bombardment of the fireworks was a thrilling picture. At one point they flashed in the fireworks "WELCOME OST." At this the immense throng burst into a salvo of applause.

There was a night water carnival by the fleet of fishing boats and private yachts. There were so many intermediate functions the party kept busy trying to see and enjoy so much. There was a banquet to the motorcade people at the Alcazar Hotel; this was our last function together and we made the most of it.

On arriving at St. Augustine a key was given to each member of our party and that key opened the St. Augustine doors and hearts to our people. There was no charge to us for anything. The hotel rate, crowded though the city was, was \$2.00 each.

The zero monument stands on a little triangle park amid some palms. The monument is a globe 6 ft. in diameter of coquina rock, native of Florida. The ceremony had all the acclaim naturally incident to a function where a representative of the King of Spain and Old Spanish Trail officials were present, and also this delegation of people that had traveled so many thousands of miles and many of whom had crossed the continent from California.