

tacting with many people that have local data, using local newspapers before and after liberally. I know how to do it. Many persons will be found that have information that can be checked in or checked out by our maps and records which we would have with us. Many helpful associations could be fostered, and many contacted who would go to work locally, once properly directed, and once supplied with such aids as would be of use. You could find value in that trip also, I am sure.

But such a trip will not be profitable until there is an organization here that everyone can feel pride in supporting. Such a trip is essential in order to put over to the public at large a proper understanding of that Spanish century in Texas, and of the spread and coordination of works of those empire builders. San Antonians and South Texas today have a local and provincial viewpoint; their present lack of interest is due this restricted view.

Many San Antonians gave me money to put over the Old Spanish Trail because I kept before them a high purpose and vision. Ninety large subscribers in San Antonio averaged \$231 each in support over the whole period; several hundred more averaged around a hundred each. This Spanish Trail work was not a local hobby; there were no local bad roads or irritating rivers or ways to block traffic. So San Antonians can be led to support something that is not local selfishness, and so can other Texan

Many of the problems and perplexities are real. I well know it. They can be overridden and generous cooperation acquired by some such method as above. But not in these times. Probably the most that can be acknowledged for me now is that I am following the ground, awaiting the day when the seed can be sown; and that here in this workshop I am getting machinery and equipment into shape.

Some years ago I thought the research around here would be relatively easy for me. I have learned now how vast and weed-grown the field is. Nevertheless have preferred to stick to this research as much as possible in preference to publishing improperly digested material.

I began a year ago to build up a book around the San Jose Mission because that mission would serve nicely as the keystone to San Antonio history, and because the Texas Centennial was in the offing, and because the Margil canonization year was approaching, and because that mission should be preserved and sentiment educated and aroused to carry such preservation forward. The other day I sent you several chapters and the table of contents for that book to show you how that work broadened. This San Jose study again confronted me with a consciousness of the magnitude of this Spanish story in South Texas.

Was glad you offered to go through the chapters on Teran and Ramon periods. It will help me to know how well or poorly I am handling such things. Somewhere along the line I must establish a recognition among San Antonians as an interpreter