

They say "Florida has been favored with extraordinary publicity in the travelog and otherwise." Look in my travelog yourself; nearly 100,000 have been issued. You will find Louisiana in all of them more complete than Florida. In 1923 one edition of 20,000 was devoted to Louisiana.

They say approximately \$14,000 has been paid to us by Louisiana. At the Lafayette meeting we showed the total as \$11,439.00 Since then we have had the above stated \$1000.00 of the \$11,439.00 we are charged with \$625 in 1923---this includes the New Orleans convention fund which was handled by the New Orleans Association of Chambers, and the funds for visiting Louisiana, and for the 20,000 Louisiana special edition of the travelog, and for headquarters expenses at the N.O. convention, and general administration. This leaves an average of \$367.00 per year for the other years from Louisiana.

*(Signature)*  
B. much all this was open drift to be.  
Apparently there is not one honest statement in the bill-agent document. It seems useless to go on with these denials and explanations. If there is any further question please write me and be assured of my cooperation. There is nothing to apologize for; nothing that isn't an open book to any honest-minded man. I think Louisiana owes apology to the numerous fine people who have cooperated so well these ten years to accomplish all these works; there are many fine Louisianians in this number too.

The rarely now is for reputable Louisianians to get together and though this continual work is a burden to me I will come over with pleasure and help establish any facts you require. The O.S.T. people should have full assurance of the truth. Julius Dupont has told me he is not in sympathy with these statements nor with the confederate and his faith in meeting in some reasonable way Louisiana's share of the expense. If this is true his course is to call the Louisiana people in meeting and clear things up.

Respecting a convention...Old Spanish Trail people will not in my judgment meet in convention where such scuttling tactics are employed and Old worshipped by the people. The sector east of New Orleans and the sector west of St. Rose are independent of Louisiana. They will continue to get the travel whether it crosses South Louisiana or not. Their roads are good in the west and paved in the east. Their bridges are built. For years we have been building up their good will for the benefit of the whole Old Spanish Trail movement. I would be abusing their confidence if I now tried to bring them into territory poisoned as this territory is now being poisoned.

I have been anxious to cooperate with Houston to have the convention there. In March I made a special trip to Houston on this subject. I have conferred with Beaumont and other East Texas people on this. At Houston this week I agreed to help have Houston selected by our Board of Directors but I was not aware then of these Scuttling tactics. I am as sincerely as ever ~~interested~~ interested in seeing the Old Spanish Trail built up and its people and territory made prosperous. And though it is a financial hardship for us to continue to give up time to this work I would like to see all you clear-headed people with whom I have worked so long now brought together to try to work out future policy policies for the common good. I hope you folks there can find some way to help and will let me know.

Thank you again for writing to me.

Sincerely,