

December 5, 1922

Mr. W. E. Lee, Mayor,  
Orange, Texas.

Dear Mr. Lee:

I am very glad indeed to be in receipt of your letter of December 1st expressing your hearty cooperation, and wish to say that the committee, of which I am Chairman, with Dr. Johnston, the President, and the managing director are trying their very best to set a foot-holding to the management of the association, which has proven very difficult. We have had considerable troubles locally, which we hope will disappear under what we expect to give in the way of efficient management and control of the Association.

The Committee does not believe it advisable to call a convention at this time, as the Association as a whole is not in position to go before a convention with credit, but we hope to have it in good working order within the next sixty to ninety days. The Committee was not advised by the President, or anyone else, of the calling of a convention.

We assure you the Committee is going to do its level best to make the Old Spanish Trail Association a creditable organization, and no member of this Committee desires any honor, money, or any other compensation out of the Association, but is trying to put it on its feet for the good of the entire territory from the Atlantic to the Pacific. We have not yet been able to put the local office in good working order, having just discharged all employees of the Association, with the exception of Mr. Thompson whom we consider a very capable man. At the present the only local officers of the Association are the President, Managing Director and the Committee. We are trying now to employ a good correspondent who can take charge of our local office and get out sufficient data to the members and other officers of the Association who are not residents of San Antonio. We are not in position to take over the work of calling a convention at the present, nor have we gone into the work sufficiently to make recommendations to the convention as to constructive legislation for the good of the Association. We hope to be able to make such recommendations when the convention is called that the present condition in which we find ourselves will not again occur.

We assure you that we appreciate your letter and further assure you that anything this committee in San Antonio can do for the furtherance of the Old Spanish Trail in Orange or for the furtherance of any project for the good of Texas and the South will be forthcoming. We believe that the Old Spanish Trail has needed and must have a committee composed of at least five business men in the City where the headquarters are, and we believe this would have avoided the present difficulties of the Association. We are going to try to place in the office a competent man who will keep you and the other officers of the Association circled.