

GADSDEN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

QUINCY, FLORIDA

February 10, 1923.

Mr. E.B. Ayres, Managing Director,
Old Spanish Trail Association,
Mobile, Ala.

My dear Mr. Ayres:

Pardon delay in writing to you. I have been very busy getting petitions circulated to call an election to continue tick eradication in this county, and we are still hard at work on getting signatures.

I enclose clippings. If Mr. Miller will hold true to the OST and help to get State Road No. 1 improved, and do other things for the Association, all right; but if you get him on record in a letter, that he must do other things first, would it not be well to quietly ignore him further, and look to St. Augustine for another Councillor and real help? I think so.

As I told you, St. Augustine will be glad to have your convention. Pensacola should be willing to try for it? If Tallahassee can have the convention on a reasonable basis, I feel sure they will be glad to have it; but Tallahassee has just been solicited for \$25,000 to get a new hotel put up there, --had to raise this sum, I was informed yesterday, to induce the corporation that owns a chain of hotels to build there. There are so many demands for funds, I fear Tallahassee will not undertake anything costing more than \$300 to \$500, and perhaps not then. I have not seen any of the people there about this, so this is merely my own opinion, but I am fairly familiar with conditions there. The main thing, it seems to me, is--to renew attention and interest in the OST project: if this is done, the rest can be secured. And I think it would be worth while to not demand a heavy gift of funds from any town for the convention, but enough to safely cover your own expenses and memberships to organize a local OST Club, to which more members would be added later on? The publicity and invitations should insure a fairly good attendance at the convention. May is a beautiful month at Tallahassee, and April is usually good. I am willing to resign as Councillor and have you to appoint Hon. Y.L. Watson, leading attorney here, who is interested in the Trail. Mr. W.F. Coker, former State Highway Engineer, is coming back to Tallahassee, and will give us a square deal on State Road No. 1. Let me know what you decide to do. I will help in any way that I can. With best wishes, I am,

Very truly,

F. R. S. Phillips