301 GUNTER
November 3, 1933

Dr. Paul J. Foik,
St. Edward's University
Austin, Texas.

My dear Doctor Foik:

Your letter to me discussing Spanish history problems and principles was nicely responsive to mine of the 19th. I thank you, and pay tribute to you for what I believe to be a sound mental background for your work as chairman of the K.C. Commission. Your later does not necessarily call for reply, nevertheless it may help both of us in our thinking ahead if I write this. Our thoughts are so much alike I am sure I can express myself in this letter so that this sort of correspondence need not be kept up. The time you have already given has been gracious.

Basically, we are in agreement that this Spanish history must be built on exhaustless research and a capacity to properly interpret that which is turned up.

Your analysis of the Yanaguana Society and mine are in accord and need not be discussed further.

Concerning Chabot, whatever merit he may have for finding source material, he nevertheless lacks broad historical knowledge and geographical understanding. It happens that I have had fourteen years of contacts between St. Augustine, Florida and San Diego, California....the Old Spanish Trail. This has given me unusual geographical understanding and an unusually broad Spanish history background. Here in South Texas a group of us have our understandings buttressed by intimate acquaintance with the field, and by the detailed and complete maps in our possession. I am therefore qualified, I think, to observe quite easily the crude blunders Chabot makes as to general history. The local material he turns up therefore cannot be accepted, but must be studies. He understands Spanish quite well, I am told. He translates fairly well, I assume. I am not qualified to judge of these phases. His translations of botanical terms in his Morfi Memorias is criticized severely by an Agricultural Department scientist here. It is a pity therefore not to have a real history authority here and Chabot's virtues developed and his errors controlled.