

## THE RETURN TRIP

The California people scattered after the St. Augustine festivities. Various roads back to California were to be inspected. The Californians were a splendid company; they were amazed at the scenery and interesting things along the road. They stated to Col. Dickmann that the Old Spanish Trail was better in every way than the route through Memphis and Dallas. I have known this to be true for a long while. We have records that show travel over the Old Spanish Trail and through San Antonio is rapidly increasing in volume now all along the eastern sections; the various auto clubs report to us on this. One purpose of the motorcade was to help the West to understand what was transpiring in the East. The travel movement is changing to a southward course to the OST sunshine belt. Next winter San Diego will find travel in large volume centering in the San Antonio--St. Augustine sector. Its movement westward will depend much upon western cooperation with the East. The motorcade was basically a movement toward broader understanding and friendly cooperation among all OST people. The return motorcade will be a still more illuminating movement.

The San Antonio bus returned accompanied by a California car, an Alabama car, the Houston Chronicle car and the Times-Picayune car. The Houston Chronicle put Mr. Marshall Monroe, a splendid feature writer, on the trip and the Chronicle carried daily feature articles of highest order. Mr. Monroe also brought back to the Houston Chronicle management his personal reports. This representative stated to me he had traveled tens of thousands of miles with numerous political campaigners (he is the Austin staff representative of the Chronicle) and he had never seen such adulation as was manifested toward me and the OST party; I am simply quoting his statement. The New Orleans Times-Picayune man joined us at New Orleans in his car. The San Antonio Express detailed Mr. N. W. Burris who accompanied the party as far as New Orleans.

Returning the receptions were more cordial than going. The returning schedule and stops were arranged rapidly. Again at Jacksonville the Jacksonville officials greeted the party and conducted it on a two hours sightseeing trip around Jacksonville.

The first night was spent at Havana, Fla., in the heart of the tobacco growing section. The traffic officer was stationed far down the road to bring us in. The over night stop at Havana was at P. P. Haviland's farm homestead several miles out. There under big pecan trees the men and women of that section had spread their table and until 10:30 that night we enjoyed the first of those wonderful neighborhood parties which were kept up all the way back to San Antonio. The OST women were splendid in their talks that night. They were full of their trip. Each one was called upon and told what her greatest thrill had been, and also what most interesting sight she had seen. The party was housed by the Havana people that night and loaded the next morning with honey and syrup, and also samples of local tobacco which were later delivered to the Finck Cigar Company of San Antonio. The following is an extract from a letter from the secretary of the Havana Luncheon Club which expresses the