CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	90356
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	NL
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# WESTERN UNION TELERAM

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	亦物歷經
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	NL
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words) this is a telegra wise its character is indi	cated by the

Form 1204

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MB CARLTON, PRESIDENT GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDE

BECEIVED AT BRANCH OFFICE, 437 WEST PICO STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

DOUGLAS ARIZ 1020A OCT 14 1921

AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA \$ 55

1344 SOUTH FIGUEROA ST LOSANGELES CALIF

PHOENIX DID NOT SEND REPRESENTATIVE TO MEETING OF DIRECTORS IN TUCSON
YESTERDAY BUT INSTEAD SENT WRITTEN OFFER FROM AUTOMOBILE CLUB
OF ARIZONA TO SIGN BANKHEAD HIGHWAY THROUGH ARIZONA FREE OF
CHARGE BUT THEIR OFFER WAS DECLINED PRESIDENT SUTTER AND MYSELR
AUTHORIZED TO GO TO PHOENIX FOR FINAL CONFERENCE WITH DEMAND
THAT THEY REPUDIATE RECENT ACTION AND CARRY OUT PLEDGE
MADE AT DOUGLAS RESOLUTION PASSED PLEDGING ASSOCIATION TO SIGN ROAD
FROM ELPASO TO YUMA BY AJO IF PHOENIX CONTINUES TO
REFUSE YOU PERMISSION TO SIGN IN MARICOPA WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE
FOR SUTTER TO GO TO PHOENIX UNTIL MIDDLE OF NEXT

Form 1204

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBO
Telegram (	Service Control
Day Letter	Blue
Night Meisage	Nite
Night Letter	NL
If none of these thre appears after the check words) this is a telegra- wise its character is indic	(number o

### WESTER UNION TELECRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDE

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	品种和品
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	NRe
Night Letter	TEN LO
If none of these thre appears after the check words) this is a telegra- wise its character is indic symbol appearing after	(number of m. Other- cated by the

RECEIVED AT BRANCH OFFICE, 437 WEST PICO STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

WEEK WRITE US WHETHER YOU WILL SIGN ROUTE FROM TUCSON

TO YUMA BY AJO IN CASE WE CUT OUT PHOENIX LETTER FOLLOWS

ELY MARTIN

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HOME 60259 MAIN 4406

#### Automobile Chiboti Southean Culifornia

SAN DIEGO COUNTY OFFICE

137 BROADWAY,

SAN DIEGO, CAL.

October

19

Col. Ed. Fletcher, San Diego, Calif.

My dear Colonel:

Attached hereto please find correspondence referring to the signposting of the Bankhead National Highway from San Diego to El Paso which may be helpful to you on your forthcoming trip.

I am turning the original correspondence over to you and request that same be returned to us when you return from your forthcoming trip.

Very truly yours,

AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA,

By

Field Secretary.

CEM/MN

C.E.McStay.

DAVID R. FARIES COURSEL VAN KELSO, ASSOCIATE COURSEL J. B. LIPPINCOTT, COMMITTED ENGINEER



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### Antomobile Chiboti Southean Colifornia

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS - 1344 SOUTH FIGUEROA ST. - LOS ANGELES

SAN DIEGO COUNTY OFFICE 137 BROADWAY, SAN DIEGO, CAL.

October

19th

1921

Col. Ed. Fletcher, San Diego, Calif.

Dear Sir:

RE: SIGNPOSTING BANKHEAD NAT'L HIGHWAY from SAN DIEGO to EL PASO

Following our conversation this morning I conferred with Mr. Mitchell over the phone and I am authorized to state to you that our organization is ready and willing to signpost the Bankhead National Highway from San Diego to El Paso either via Phoenix or via Ajo, in accordance with the agreement made at the Douglas meeting in May last, or we are willing to withdraw entirely from this controversy. The decision rests entirely with the authorities along the routes mentioned.

You are therefore authorized to make this offer in the name of the Automobile Club of Southern California and we will await with interest advices from you whether to immediately proceed with this work or to abandon the plans therefor.

Yours very truly,

AUTOMOBILE CLUF OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

0000

1600

from or

BI

AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
San Diego County Office
137 Broadway,
San Diego, Cal.

October 19th, 1921

Col. Ed Fletcher, San Diego, Calif.

Dear Sir:

RE: SIGNPOSTING BANKHEAD MT'L HIGHWAY from SAN DIEGO to EL PASO

Following our conversation this morning I conferred with Mr. Mitchell over the phone and I am authorized to state to you that our organization is ready and willing to signpost the Bankhead National Highway from San Diego to El Paso either via Phoenix or via Ajo, in accordance with the agreement made at the Douglas meeting in May last, or we are willing to withdraw entirely from this controversy. The decision rests entirely with the authorities along the routes mentioned.

You are therefore authorized to make this offer in the name of the Automobile Club of Southern California and we will await with interest advices from you whether to immediately proceed with this work or to abandon the plans therefor.

Yours very truly,

AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF SOUTHERN GALIFORNIA

CEM/MN

By C. E. McStay, Field Secretary

CEM/MN

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Tologram	實法流過
Day Letter	Blue *
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	SNLW
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wise its character is indic symbol appearing after	ated by the the check.

## WESTER UNION TELESRAM

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Night Letter ... Nite

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RECEIVED AT25 So. Main St., Yuma, Ariz.

83GS CN 99 BLUE

LOSANGELES CALIF 1048A OCT 22 1921

COL ED FLETCHER

20

HOLD YUMA ARIZ

ADVICES FROM DOUGLAS AND ELPASO STATE SUPERVISORS\*MARICOPA COUNTY HAVE
AGREED TO OUR SIGNPOSTING PHOENIX ROUTE PROVIDING WE USE NAME ARIZONA
AUTO CLUB WITH OUR NAME STOP WE WILL DO THIS IN ALL COUNTIES WHERE SAME
IS AGREEABLE TO SUPERVISORS AND COMMERCIAL BODIES WHO PARTICIPATE IN
EXPENSE STOP WE STRONGLY FAVOR SIGNPOSTING BOTH AJO AND PHOENIX ROUTES
AND URGE YOU SO ARRANGE IF POSSIBLE ALSO INSIST UPON SANCTION OF STATE
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AS WELL IN ORDER WE MAY NOT BE PLACED IN POSITION

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
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Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	NL
if none of these thre appears after the check words) this is a telegra- wise its character is indic symbol appearing after	number of n. Other- cated by the

### WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

CLASS OF SERVICE SYMBOL

Telegram

Day Letter

Night Message

Nite

Night Letter

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If none of these three symbole appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED MES So. Main St., Yuma, Ariz. 83GS CN SECOND SHEET FLETCHER YUMA ARIZ.

OF FORCING OURSELVES IN THE STATE ALSO HAVE YUMA COUNTY FORMALLY.
AUTHORIZE SIGNPOSTING THERE STOP REGARDS

C E MCSTAY

1240P

CLASS OF SERVICE SYMBOL

Telegram

Day Letter

Night Message

Nite

Night Letter

N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwiselts character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

## WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	(0.25%)
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	NL
if none of these thre appears after the check ( words) this is a telegra- wise its character is indic symbol appearing after th	number of n. Other- exted by the

RECEIVED AT 20-22 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

1921 OCT 25 PM 1 2

A152GS 75 5 EXTRA BLUE

F LOSANGELES CALIF 1132A 25

COL ED FLETCHER

214

CARE ADAMS HOTEL PHOENIX ARIZ

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR ACTION AND WIRE STOP PLEASE LET ARIZONA
CLUB OFFICIALS AND PHOENIX PEOPLE UNDERSTAND WE HAVE NO
SELFISH MOTIVE AND WILL COOPERATE NOT ONLY IN DEVELOPING TRAVEL TO AND
THROUGH ARIZONA BUT ASSIST THEM IN EVERY POSSIBLE MANNER IN BUILDING
UP THEIR OWN ORGANIZATION STOP WE REALIZE WHAT BENEFITS OUR NEIGHBORS
BENEFITS ALL OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND THIS IS EQUALLY TRUE
AS IT APPLIES TO THEM REGARDS

AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALLF C E MCSTAY FIELD SECY.

Mr. C. E. McStay, Automobile Club of Southern California, Los Angeles, California.

My dear Mr. MeStay:

V

Answering your letter of O ctober 31st, which I find on my desk on my return from San Francisco, will say that Yuma, Pima and Cochise counties will pass formal resolutions, and forward them in a few days, authorizing the Automobile Club of Southern California to put signs on the Ajo route, and Mail probably call it the "Borderland Route".

I had a talk with the state engineer, Mr. Maddock, also with the Chamber of Commerce of Phoenix, and they confirmed the arrangement whereby the Auto Club is to put the "Auto Club of Southern California" and the "Auto Club of Arizona" on the same sign, and sign the Bankhead highway thru Pinal and Maricopa counties.

Regarding the exact location of the route between Phoenix and Yuma, I would suggest that you leave that matter entirely up to Mr. Maddocks, the state engineer and sign-post the temporary route.

came out in the papers the next day, that the highway would be in good passable shape between Phoenix and Yuma in two years. I believe Phoenix is going to get busy. While I was in Tucson nearly every organization endorsed a bond issue of \$250,000 in Pima County to complete the highway to the Yuma county line, 80 miles of which is already constructed. Between Tucson and Ajo we made 50 miles an hour, a fine piece of work.

We are assisting Yuma county in selling its bonds at par. \$250,000. With which to complete the road, with federal aid money, to the M aricopa County line, and also to put in a good passable road to the Pima

#### Page Two/

County line via the Ajo route. I do not think you will have any more trouble over in Arizona.

I will send you the official resolutions as acted on by the boards of the Yuma, Pima and Cochise counties, as soon as I receive them.

Yours very truly,

EF:KLM .

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GENERAL OFFICE PHONES HOME 60259 MAIN 4406

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS - 1344 SOUTH FIGUEROA ST. - LOS ANGELES

November 12, 1921.

Col. Ed Fletcher, Fletcher Bldg., San Diego, Calif.

My dear Colonel:

I would very much appreciate a report from you on the signposting situation in Arizona as the result of your meeting at Tucson. We have received considerable correspondence from various parties interested, but I wish to have your understanding of the situation in order that I may present same to our Board of Directors at its next meeting, my action in requesting you to act as our representative in this matter having been confirmed by the Board.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Field Secretary. (C. E. McStay)

Mr. Carl McStay, Field Mngr., Automobile Club of Southern California, Los Angeles, California.

My dear Mr. McStay:

Answering yours of November 12th, will say we reached a unanimous agreement at Tucson, and on the following basis:

That the Automobile Club of Southern California was to sign the Borderland Route from San Diego to El Paso, via Ajo, and have it marked "Borderland Route".

That the counties in Arizona thru which is passes would pass formal resolutions to that effect, that all signs bear the words "Auto Club of Southern California" and would also express a desire whether or not they wanted the words "Auto Club of Arizona" put on.

I will soon furnish you with the official resolutions of the Boards of Supervisors.

As regards the Bankhoad Highway, it was agreed that the route to be signed was from Yuma to Phoenix and Phoenix to Tucson, via Florence, thence East to El Paso; that in any event the "Auto Club of Southern California" was to be put on the signs, also "Auto Club of Arizona" in any counties where the counties themselves formally requested it.

San Diego and Imperial Counties will want the Automobile Club of Southern California to sign-post to Yuma via El Centro and Holtville and have on the signs "Borderland Route and Bankhead Highway". Each county from Yuma via Ajo and Tucson to the New Mexico line will want the words "Borderland Route" in any event, and will express themselves as to whether or not they want the words "Bankhead Highway" in addition. I have recommended that they put on the signs both "Bankhead Highway and Borderland Route" from Tucson to El Paso.

We have no authority to mark it Bankhead Highway from Yuma to Tucson via Ajo.

December 20, 1921.

Automobile Club of Southern California, 1344 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, California

Attention Mr. McStay.

Gentlemen:

Confirming our understanding, inclosed herewith find authority of the Board of Supervisors of Yuma County, dated November 25th, 1921, also the authority of the Board of Supervisors of Cochise County, dated November 22d, 1921, together with letter of November 28th, 1921 of the Southwestern Bankhead Highway Association, guaranteeing the cost, also authorization of the Board of Supervisors of Pima County, dated November 8, 1921 - all giving the Automobile Club of Southern California authority to sign the highway from Yuma via Ajo to the New Mexico line, same to be sign-posted "Borderland route", and payment of same guaranteed at the rate of \$1.25 per mile.

I inclose also copy of letter from the County engineer of Yuma County dated December 5th, 1921, all of which is explanatory.

Under date of December 16th, 1921, I received the following information from Douglas, Arizona. It was a letter written to the Southwestern Bankhead Highway Association by the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, gist of which is contained in the following paragraph:

"The Board of Supervisors of Maricopa
County have agreed to the arrangement for having
the road signed by the Southern California Automobile Club, with the request that the market of
the Automobile Club of Arizona be placed on the
signs in Maricopa County. It is probable that
other counties will be glad to have the Arizona
Club's emblem on the sign in addition to the emblem
of the Southern California Club. This is, however, a
matter for each individual county to decide for itself."

As Yuma County, Pima County and Cochise County have not asked for the Automobile Club of Arizona's insignia to be put on these signs, you will please eliminate them and only put the Auto Club of Southern California sign on? However, if it is satisfactory to the Boards of Supervisors of any of these counties mentioned to later on add the Auto Club of Arizona insignia, this is satisfactory to us.

Please let me know at an early date how soon you

are going to get into action.

Yours very truly, ED FLETCHER

December 20, 1921.

Automobile Club of Southern California, 1344 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, California

Attention Mr. McStay.

Gentlemen:

Confirming our understanding, inclosed herowith find authority of the Board of Supervisors of Yums County, dated November 25th, 1921, also the authority of the Board of Supervisors of Cochise County, dated November 22d, 1921, together with letter of November 28th, 1921 of the Southwestern Bankhead Highway Association, guaranteeing the cost, also authori-Estion of the Board of Supervisors of Pima County, dated Hovember 8, 1921 - all giving the Automobile Club of Southern California authority to sign the highway from Yuma via Ajo to the New Mexico line, same to be signposted "Borderland route", and payment of same guaranteed at the rate of \$1.25 per mile.

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are going to get into action.

Yours very truly,

I expect to send the formal resolutions to you in a few days from Yuma, Pima and Cochise counties.

EXALT REDUCTION OF CONTRACT OF THE PROPERTY.

While in Phoenix I had a conference with Mr. Maddock, the state engineer, and in the presence of Mr. Conway, the county engineer of Yuma County, the above arrangement was agreed to.

Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter, I am

Sincerely yours,

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HOME 60259
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#### Automobile Chibati Southern California

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS - 1344 SOUTH FIGUEROA ST. - LOS ANGELES



Jan. 3rd, 1922.

Col. Ed Fletcher, Fletcher Bldg., San Diego, California.

My dear Col. Fletcher:

Your communication of Dec. 20th referring to the project of signposting the Bankhead Mational Highway, etc., from San Diego to El Paso, is before me.

A situation has developed which I fear will retard if not altogether prohibit our organization carrying out this project.

In a conference with Mr. Harry Welch of the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce recently it was brought out that first, the Arizona Automobile Association has already placed its signs across Maricopa County; therefore, any work that we might do in that section would merely duplicate that already done; second, that it is the announced intention of that organization to replace any signs that might be erected by our organization in the State of Arizona as rapdily as their funds would permit.

It was also brought out that the Arizona organization is endeavoring, with some measure of success, to handle the situation in that State themselves; therefore, we do not wish to be placed in the position of antagonizing or interfering with a body doing a similar line of work.

I take the position, and I feel sure that Mr. Mitchell and our Board of Directors will sustain me, that we have no right to spend funds

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derived from the members of this body, unless such expenditures can provide for the perpetuation and maintenance of a through and complete system of signs that will tend to develop travel to Southern California.

The plan as originally laid out by our engineers included the signposting of the main route of travel north and south through New Mexico from Socorro (the junction point with the National Old Trails Road) to El Paso, thence westward from El Paso to San Diego. This would provide a channel of travel southward from Eig Springs, Neb., on the Lincoln Highway, to Trinidad, Colo., Socorro, New Mexico. to El Paso, Texas, by means of which travel could conveniently find its way over the southern route. This was a part of the original plan of transcontinental signs laid out in 1914 and our signs have been standing and under constant maintenance from Eig Springs, Meb., to Socorro, New Mexico, for seven years.

That portion of the project which is of so much interest to San Diego, however, we have been unable to accomplish, first, by reason of a lack of interest on the part of the authorities and organizations along the route, and latterly, because of the attitude taken by the Arizona Automobile -ssociation.

If you can suggest any feasible means by which this can be overcome without leaving Phoenix and vicinity out of the plan entirely (which in my opinion would incur a bitter feeling, detrimental to the trade interests of all of Southern California) we certainly would like to hear from you.

In assuming the greater portion of the expense for the work contemplated (the cost of same would actually be several times the \$1.25 per mile charge fixed) we must have very definite assurance that the signs erected will be permitted to remain, otherwise our organization would be wasting a considerable sum which this project involves.

I will await with much interest your reply here to.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Field Secretary.

CEM:W

January Twenty-four 1 9 2 2

Mr. Carl E. McStay, Automobile Club of Southern California, Los Angeles, California.

My dear Mr. McStay:

Answering yours of January 3d, enclosed find the original letter from Thomas Maddock, state engineer of California, whose consent you asked me to get in the matter of sign-posting thru the counties of the state of Arizona.

I have secured the formal consent of Pima, Cochise and Yuma counties. The State Engineer of California has approved.

You wired the meeting at Tucson, stating I had full authority to speak on behalf of the Automobile Club of Southern California. I have delivered my part of the contract, and I want to know at an early date whether or not the Automobile Club of Southern California is going to do as it agreed to do.

You make a mistake, McStay, if you give me a negative answer on this matter, for I am deadly in earnest, and I am only hoping that the Automobile Club of Southern California will put this route on the map, and immediately.

May I have a reply at the earliest possible date?

Yours sincerely,

ED FLETCHER

EF:KLM

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HORACE O. MILLER, 200 VICE PRESIDENT
STANDISH L. MITCHELL, BECRETARY
SIDNEY H. ELLIS, JR. ASST. SECRETARY

DAVID R. FARIES, COUNSEL IVAN KELSO, ASSOCIATE COUNSEL J. B. LIPPINCOTT, CONSULTING ENGINEER



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H. J. NICHOLS, POMONA

GENERAL OFFICE PHONES HOME 60259 MAIN 4406

### Antomobile Chiboti Southean California

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS - 1344 SOUTH FIGUEROA ST. - LOS ANGELES

April 7, 1922.

Col. Ed Fletcher, Fletcher Blig., San Diego, Calif.

My dear Colonel:

Your communication of the 30th ult., to Mr. Mitchell, enclosing therewith letter from Dr. Johnson of the Lee Highway Association, was referred to me and I made an effort to see you while in San Diego attending the ceremonies of the commencement of construction work on the signposting system between San Diego and El Paso, but found that you where out of the city.

Inasmuch as the signs have already been made up and shipped to the necessary points along the road and the construction outfit is already engaged in the work of construction, it will not be possible to make any change in the type of sign. Two types of signs are being erected, the route sign showing the Bankhead Highway and Borderland Route names where both routes traverse the same road. The second and more important sign is the direction sign with its arrows, names of communities and mileages thereto. This sign carries no other matter, our idea being to condense it as much as possible in order to provide large, readable lettering.

I note with satisfaction that Dr. Johnson expresses his willingness to eliminate Lee Highway signs on all sections of the road between San Diego and El Paso where the same route which we are now sign-posting is traversed, and I believe this will eliminate the possibility of any controversy.

Concerning the signposting of the route by way of Phoenix, you are probably aware that Phoenix has so far declined our offer to

signpost that route as well as the route by way of Ajo. I expect to go to Phoenix for a conference with their Chamber of Commerce and Automobile Club officials about the 15th inst., at which time our offer to signpost this route will be renewed. By that time, however, we hope that our construction outfit will have completed the greater portion if not all of the construction work in Arizona along the Ajo Route.

My best efforts will be given to trying to induce the people of Phoenix to co-operate, as our organization has no desire to influence travel away from that section. We are, however, committed to signpost the route from San Diego to El Paso and that is being rushed to completion as rapidly as possible.

Frankly, I do not believe that we will suffer the loss of any travel or in any other manner retard the development of the Lee Highway by reason of not having its markers placed along the route between El Paso and San Diego, and if you will use your efforts to discourage the demand for same it will be appreciated.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Field Secretary. (C. E. McStay)

April Eleventh 1922

Mr. Carl. E. McStay, Automobile Club of Southern California, Los Angeles, California.

My dear MeStay:

Answering your letter of the 7th, do I understand from your letter that no arrangements can be made to put the words "Lee Highway" on the Automobile Club of Southern California signs from San Diego to Phoenix, via Yuma, even if we pay for it? Or, will it be necessary for us to put up independent signs?

I hope the Auto Club will cooperate with us in this matter and will appreciate an early reply.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

DAVID R. FARIES, COUNSEL IVAN KELSO, ASSOCIATE COUNSEL J. B. LIPPINCOTT, CONSULTING ENGINEER



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### Automobile Chiboti Southean Culifornia

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS - 1344 SOUTH FIGUEROA ST. - LOS ANGELES

April 13th, 1922.

Col. Ed Fletcher, Fletcher Bldg., San Diego, Calif.

My dear Colonel:

I just returned from Phoenix this morning following a conference with the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, the Automobile Club of Arizona and the Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County, regarding the signposting of the route by way of Phoenix, and I find your letter of the 11th inst., on my desk.

The signs have already been erected from San Diego through to Tucson, the construction outfit reaching the latter point last night; therefore, I do not see how it would be possible for us to make a change in the present system of marking. All of the signs from Tucson eastward to El Paso and from El Paso to Kent, Texas, an important junction point of western Texas Highways, and from El Paso northward to Socorro, N. M., the junction point with the National Old Trails Road, have already been made up and shipped to points along the route for the construction outfit; therefore, it would not be possible at this time to make any change in same.

I am returning herewith the letter from Dr. Johnson on this matter, the sixth paragraph of which I quote herewith:

"In case it should seem best to all concerned, this organization is entirely willing to have Bankhead Highway signs placed and to omit Lee Highway signs on all sections between San Diego and El Paso where the Lee Highway is routed over the main line of the Bankhead Highway".

It would seem, therefore, advisable to allow this matter to rest, at least until maintenance work or changes in the route require reconstruction and the sending of equipment over the route again, for you know that travel will follow the signposted route regardless of what it is called, and the only signposted route connecting El Paso with any Southern California point

-2-

will be, at least for some time to come, the route which we are now marking between San Diego and El Paso. There is no likelihood of our organization signposting any other road, nor does it seem likely that any other organization as yet formed would be able to undertake such an expense.

We trust, therefore, that we may have your co-operation in this matter.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Field Secretary. (C. E. McStay)

CEM: W

P.S.

At the conference held in Phoenix yesterday we again offered to signpost the route by way of Phoenix as well as the Ajo Route, in order that
there might be no feeling on the part of the people of Phoenix that we were
attempting to divert travel away from that point. The matter is now under
consideration by the Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County and we expect
advices from them within a very few days.

Considerable surprise was manifested by the representatives of the organizations present at the speed which we had shown in getting the work under way via Ajo, and it appeared to me that the Phoenix people would also get into line. If they do I feel that the demand in that section for a more direct connection with Los Angeles will be somewhat a bated, and I trust that this will be the result for I can see no way by which another through road project can be successfully carried out for some years to come, and personally I would very much dislike to see another factional fight started.

C.E.M.

ic - Johnson

AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA 1344 South Figueroa St. - Los Angeles

April 20, 1922.

Mr. Frank J. Belcher, Jr., President, First National Bank, San Diego, California.

Dear Mr. Belcher:

Replying to your letter of the 19th inst., concerning markers of the Lee Highway:

We are desirous of co-operating with any and all of the highway associations interested in the development of transcontinental routes leading to Southern California and we regret that the matter of recognition of the Lee Highway was not taken up with us in sufficient time for this to be given consideration in the work now in hand. Our construction outfit has reached El Paso and is now moving northward connecting the routes leading to San Diego with the balance of the transcontinental signing system of the Club, and it is not likely that we will have another construction outfit over that road during the remainder of this year.

We are, however, communicating with the Lee Highway Association to ascertain the type of marker used by them and to determine to what extent they would be willing to co-operate with us when replacements and changes in the system just built are made. Naturally we do not favor the idea of other bodies using the posts erected by our organization, as in many places several different transcontinental routes use the same section of road and a confusion and multiplicity of signs would result. We will, however, give the fullest consideration to the Lee Highway or any other well organized and responsible highway association for whatever benefit they may be to this section of the country as well as the benefit which we may do them by a mutual co-operation.

Thanking you for taking this matter up with Mr. Fletcher, I am

Very truly yours,

(SIGNED) C. E. McStay, Field Secretary.

P. S.

I know that you will be glad to know that we have just received word from the authorities of Maricopa County authorizing us to erect our signs through Phoenix, thus connecting up that important loop with the transcontinental routes terminating in San Diego.

April 25, 1922.

Automobile Club of Southorn Calif. 1344 South Figueroa Street. Los Angeles. Calif.

My dear Mr. Mestay:

I have read your letter of April 20th to Mr. Belcher. Will you kindly answer the following questions:

Highway sign can be made and attached to your signs already installed between here and Phoenix. it being simply a matter of expense in making the signs and attaching same to your signs already erected. Is this true or not, and if true, what will it cost to make the Lee Highway signs? Now many will it take, and what will it cost to attach same to your posts already erected?

2nd. All the Automobile Club of Southorn California allow this to be done?

done? Srd. Now long will it be before it can be

I would appreciate an early reply from you on this subject

The funds can be raised to do this work, and if the Automobile Club of Southern California will not cooperate, individual signs will have to be made, but we do hope that we will have your cooperation in the matter.

Yours vory truly.

BF: AH

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### Automobile Chiboti Southern Chlifornia

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS - 1344 SOUTH FIGUEROA ST. - LOS ANGELES

May 2, 1922.

Col. Ed Fletcher, Fletcher Bldg., San Diego, Calif.

Dear Col. Fletcher:

In reply to your letter of April 25th, it is not practicable to make any change in the signing system between San Diego and El Paso at this time, nor can we grant permission to attach additional signs to the posts already erected. If an exception is made to this rule in many localities where several transcontinental routes use the same piece of highway, the clear, concise and amply sufficient signing system of the Club would be rendered useless by a multiplicity of signs.

We have communicated with the Lee Highway Association and are awaiting information from them pertaining to the general type of sign used by them and the exact location of their route between El Paso and San Diego, and when reconstruction and maintenance work becomes necessary, if it is then thought advisable, the name of that organization can either be substituted for one of those already designated on our signs or can be added thereto as may be thought most desirable.

Very truly yours,

Field Secretary. (C. E. McStay)

CEM: W

16 e 76) nmer. 3Beller.

#### COPY

#### AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

October 21, 1922.

Mr. J. E. Franklin, President, Yuma National Bank, Yuma, Arizona.

Dear Sir:

Our Mr. Salisbury advises me of his talk with you concerning construction of the state highway from the California line westward.

One of the chief causes of delay in the carrying out of this project is the apparent change in the plans of the present California Highway Commission, which, according to publicity given out by Division Engineer Patch of that body, contemplates a change in the route from the Plank Road to the lower or southerly end of the sand dunes in Mexican territory.

The Automobile Club of Southern California is vitally interested in the completion of a road to the California border over each of the more important transcontinental routes and we class the route by way of Yuma as a route of exceeding importance to this state, as shown by the extensive sighposting work done by the Club along this route from San Diego to a point east of El Paso and the carrying northward from El Paso of this signing system to a junction with the National Old Trails road near albuquerque, New Mexico.

The purpose of this signposting system is to divert travel to the more southerly route, which we realze is travelable throughout the year, where the more northerly routes are at times blocked on account of weather conditions.

Our organization has taken exception to the methods employed by the present Highway authorities in this state, not only as to the type of roads being built, but more particularly to their failure to complete the trunk line and inter-state roads. This piece meal construction program we feel has been unfair, not only to the states bordering California but it has seriously affected transcontinental travel and we hope and trust that the contemplated change in administration, which is assured following the coming election, will bring a greatly improved and aggressive program of construction.

The opposition of the Automobile Club of Southern California to the so called Plank road was based on the belief of our engineers that it was not practical or feasible to build and maintain a road thru the sand dunes but when the Highway Commission of the State of California definitely decided upon that route, all opposition thereto by this organization ceased and at no time since the adoption of that road by the Highway Commission, has a single objection thereto been offered by the Club. Now that their own engineers have reached the conclusion that the proposed route is impractical, we find ourselves in the same position that we occupied

in 1913, at which time the engineers of the Club made a careful survey of the conditions of the way from Nilands to and below the border.

The writer expects to be in Imperial Valley within the next couple of weeks and if it is the desire of yourself and others at Yuma interested in the completion of this important road, I will be glad to make the trip to Yuma and to discuss ways and means for furthering this important project.

Awaiting your advice, I am

Very truly yours,

C. E. MCSTAY

Field Secretary

Telegram

Day Letter

Night Message

Night Letter

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired:
OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE
WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A
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### WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT TO THE GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Cago of 99 blue

HOS AUGRIES CALLY 1048A OUT 22 1981

COL ED PLETCHER

HOLD YUSS ARIS

ADVICES PROM DOUGLAD AND BLOADS STATE SUSSESSIONS BATTCOPA COUNTY HAVE AGREED TO OUR SIGNADURES PROMISE ROUTE SHOULDES WE USE HAVE ARRESTED AND COMMERCIAL HOUSES WHO PARTICIPATE IN MASSESSE. WE STOOKGET PAVOR SIGNADURING DOCK AND AND PROBRISE ROUTES AND UNGS TOU SO ARRANGE IF FORSIBLE ALSO INSIET UPON SANCTION OF STATE DIGHTAT DEPARTMENT AS WELL IN ORDER OF MAT NOT BE PLACED IN POSITION OF FUNCING DURESTAYS BIGHTOSTERS IN THE STATE ALSO HAVE YURA COUNTY POSMALLY AUTSORISE BIGHTOSTING THERE. REGARDS.

C. E. MOSTAY

December Twelfth, 1 9 2 2.

Mr. Carl McStay, Field Secretary, Automobile Club of Southern California, Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mr. McStay:

With reference to your trip to Yume and the explanations we have given concerning our view-point of the road:

We feel that Arizona, and particularly Yuma County, has done its full share in connection with the building of the transcontinental highway.

We took you over a completed practical rock road built at a minimum cost and we believe that the trans-continental tourists are entitled to a passable road into California, and by passable we mean one that an ordinary motorist would not be afraid to drive in any kind of weather.

We believe that the judgment of the California Commission, as to what type of road should be put in, will be satisfactory to us, and we do not care the route the road takes, whether by Andrade, across the sand hills, or the most practicable route that may be determined - but we do believe that Arizona and the trans-continental tourists are entitled to a better road than they now have, and that we are entitled to it as quickly as it is practicable to get it. We believe that earnest effort should be made to complete a passable road within the year, and I would strongly urge that you use your efforts and the efforts of the Automobile Club to accomplish this.

The traffic that is routed over the southern route is enormous and there is no reason why the great State of California should not get behind a movement to complete a short gap that leads them into the State.

with personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

J. E. FRANKLIN.

JEF:F

#### **Ed Fletcher Papers**

1870-1955

**MSS.81** 

Box: 18 Folder: 7

#### General Correspondence - McStay, C.E.



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