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6941

The Citizens National Bank

CAPITAL \$100,000.00

Spencer, Iowa, July 16, 1924.

Captain J. F. Jaudon,
321 Northwest Fourth Avenue,
Miami, Florida.

My dear Captain:-

I have been greatly interested in the clippings which you have been sending from time to time and also in your views as indicated by your letters.

The editorial of the Post seemed to me a very strong showing.

You must have been putting in some hard, consistent and successful work in getting these papers lined up as well as you have and from this distance it seemed to me as though the pendulum was swinging our way. We can only hope it does n't get to the furthest point and swing back before election day.

I had thought perhaps the Sugar Company was mixed up with Collier in trying to belittle the Tamiami Trail so that the main travel could be directed north running in a fairly direct line from the Sugar Company over to Everglade. I have seen some clippings which seemed to indicate the Sugar Company imagined that their interest did not jibe with ours but it may be that Collier is the main figure in the opposition to us.

I note what you say about the Metropolis article of July 1st and that it contains several counts on which libel suit could be started. Of course, this sort of thing makes one pretty sore and a libel suit would be good enough for them. However, the best way to win the election is to be the abused party and attacks which are proved to be unfounded and uncalled for are our best ammunition. We will get even with them better by carrying the election than by wetting up a libel. If we lose out on the election we might talk about it, but I don't believe it would be wise to even intimate that we considered such action until after that time. This man Collier is a fighter who will use any weapon, and he has a good many, of course, with his backing and influence with Florida politicians.

Captain J. F. Jaudon-2

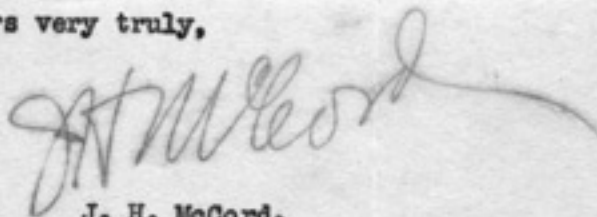
I expect you are right in your argument that we will be in a little stronger position to face the election if we were not advertising and selling land along the Trail and if the Chevelier Corporation could finance itself or make some arrangement to pay its obligations, interest, etc., it might be a good thing to hold off until Fall on the land selling propoganda. However, financing in that amount seems a little hard to accomplish just now. About the only thing we can do, I suppose, will be to make some sales along to keep ourselves in ammuniton. Financing will have to be put over anyhow but that will have to be done when opportunity offers.

I am glad to hear that the Commissioners are going to spend the money which they have on hand which can be turned on to improving and completing the Trail. \$25,000.00 ought to do a lot of good if judiciously expended in smoothing off the surface so as to make our transportation problems less difficult.

I agree with you that the best way to handle the election propoganda is to get our friends and the friends of the Tamiami Trail to put it out. We, of course, would not want to have the election hinge on the character or resources or plans or profits of the Chevelier Corporation. The less said about the Chevelier Corporation the better off we are, if we want the election to turn on the question of whether Miami wants to follow up the plan of building an east and west road across the state which would deliver tourists and commerce at her doors and develop a big agricultural country tributary to it.

I saw Nansen for a minute in Milford the other day. Have not had a chance as yet to have a visit with him.

Yours very truly,



J. H. McCord.