

THE SUNDAY GREEK COAL COMPANY

OUTLOOK BUILDING
COLUMBUS, OHIO April 11, 1923

JOHN S. JONES,
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Mr. J.F.Jaudon,
c/o Leon Hotel
Tallahassee, Fla.

My dear Jaudon:

I am sorry that Garber is layed up with a sort of a case of grip and is not well enough to go to Tallahassee, but he is conferring with me here each day and has read all of your telegrams and letters and believes you are working on the right lines. Of course, it is hard to advise at such a long distance without knowing many of the details that go to make up one's mind in endeavoring to do the right thing at the right time, and you being there on the ground and knowing more about the actual things in connection with the whole matter than anyone else, I am relying largely upon you to handle the matter.

Crayton will work with you in his own way the best he can I am sure, but I am anxious to know where Judge Wilkinson stands in the matter when it comes to a show-down and also what the result of Crayton's interview was with Alderman so as to find out where the Atlantic Coast Line stands in this deal, as that will have much to do with what is most important in your mind and mine, and that is, the final connection between Fort Myers and Miami by railroad. But first, we must be able to find out whether they are really sincere and going to build 22 miles to Bonita Springs. I am firmly of the opinion that if they will build into Bonita Springs this year, they will either extend the line into Naples this year or do so next year, and you and I know if we can get the county seat and get a road down to Naples, it means only a question of time until

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it goes on and finally reaches the destination you are most interested in, Miami, and if the Atlantic Coast Line dont do that and we get them as far as Naples, there will be another way in doing it later on, all of which you and I have discussed and I think understand the matter alike.

One question in my mind now is, how to accomplish the best results in this fight at Tallahassee, and I am going to depend largely upon you to work it out.

It seems to me that when the Fort Myers people realize what it will mean to Fort Myers to have Collier get the county seat down in the timber, they will join with us in helping to locate it at Naples rather than have it go down there. He is making pledges to Immokolle and to any other inquiries that come to him as to what he is going to do for Southern Florida. There is no question where the Senator and Representative stand, as they have already been arranged for and several others that Collier has had to do with, but it seems to me that when the business deligation arrives from Fort Myers you should spend some time with them giving them honest facts in order that they may understand what Collier is trying to put through by this legislative act.

If General Halderman arrives there, which I understand you to say you think he will, I would not hesitate to go to him and explain the whole situation and I believe if the General understands the facts and sees what Collier is trying to do, he will join with us rather than see the county seat go to Everglade.

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You can readily see now and I think can show others what an extravagant thing Collier's plan is for the honest taxpayer in years to come. He is laying broad plans there that are going to make it hard for the residents to carry out for some time to come, whereas our plan is to start and work our way through.

We will have to agree later on no doubt to the division of another county beyond us, as there should be another county seat some where between Naples and Miami and that should be taken up and given consideration after we have advanced along the lines we are now working on.

It seems to me that the Atlantic Coast Line's interest if properly viewed, would lie with us rather than with Collier and I do not believe that these rumors that are about Delano's relations with Collier are true, because I think the Atlantic Coast Line people do things more carefully than a scheme of the kind rumors indicate would bring about.

These are all matters for you to work out in your own way on the ground, and in view of the knowledge you have of the whole situation, I believe you are going to have quite a following, thinking on your lines before you go through.

Yours very truly,

