

Miami Fla July 9th 1924

Mr. Telfair Knight
Executive Counsel to George E. Merrick
Miami Florida.

Dear Mr. Knight:-

Let me thank Mr. Merrick for his thoughtfulness in having you write me in answer to my letter relative to Tamiami Trail, and I appreciate your letter of July 8th.

As you know we have secured the order that the convicts be put on the Trail work at once, the county has \$7,000 in cash to expend; Commissioner Coachman advises me that they will make this money go as far as possible.

The J. B. McCrary Company owes the County an additional \$18,000 (awarded by the Board of Arbitration), and both Commissioner Coachman and Chairman of the Board want to secure this money and immediately expend same in the needed repairs, but there is no assurance that they can immediately collect from McCrary or his bond.

May I suggest that Mr. Merrick propose that he will loan the County this \$18,000 and await payment (of course being safely secured) until the McCrary money is paid or until he can be repaid from next years taxes; in this connection let me say the Chevalier Corporation is using a steam shovel (A Marion) and other equipment owned by the McCrary Co (for which we have offered them \$8,000) I am sure McCrary Co. would give a mortgage on this equipment to secure a loan that far by Mr. Merrick; at any rate if Mr. Merrick elected to loan the County the \$18,000 (as stated he being safely secured) it would make the available funds for immediate improvements on the Trail a total of \$25,000.

The County Commissioners yesterday called the Bond Election with the item of \$125,000 to surface the entire Trail (this is ample so engineer Crabtree states to bring the Trail up to Dade County's fine roads), the Miami Herald, Life, Tribune, Homestead and Coconut Grove papers are with us, as is the citizenship generally except the Miami News-Metropolis and President E. G. Sewall---but we will carry the bond election by a large majority----I hope my suggestion as to immediate financing is a good one and workable----I am at your service in this matter at all times.

Cordially yours