

History of El Paso Chamber of Commerce, 1899 to 1920, As Set Forth in Summarized Annual Reports of All the Past Presidents

(d) Securing of the International Farm Irrigation Congress to meet in El Paso in October of 1915.

(e) Holding of the annual 19th meeting of the American National Live Stock Association in El Paso.

(f) Securing of the annual meeting of the Associated Advertising Clubs of Texas, also the annual meeting of the State Editors.

(g) A wider use of the hall and rooms of the Chamber for meetings of business men and public bodies.

(h) Beginning of agricultural exhibit with first unit saved from Soils Product exposition.

(i) Beginning of a mining exhibit.

(j) Revision of By-laws and broadening of scope of Chamber in its work; inclusive of provision for increasing board from 9 to 15 members.

(k) Recommendation of placing Chamber on managerial basis.

(l) \$45,000 set as a budget fund with \$43,000 paid in; with provision for Budget Fund Board of Trustees.

(m) Three main activities during year (1) Traffic; (2) Publicity; (3) Executive.

(n) Many changes in El Paso rates were ordered by the Interstate Commerce Commission, necessitating nearly all of the time of the Traffic Manager; publication of a second edition of the El Paso rate book.

(o) Publicity work carried out by George H. Clements, with Henry S. Beach as Chairman of the Advertising Committee; much nation-wide publicity during this year.

(p) Crediting special exhibit, costing \$700, at Denver, for influencing the bringing of 1916 meeting of Farm Congress to El Paso.

(q) Issuance of first authentic road map of main roads and highways within a radius of several hundred miles of this city; publication of Borderland Route map also attributable to financial support of Chamber—as service to travelers between California and Midland, Texas.

(r) Overtures to consolidate El Paso Auto Club with Chamber. (This has been realized during the early part of 1920.)

(s) By sending delegates to conventions the following were secured at a cost stated: International Farming Congress and Exposition, less than \$700; American National Live Stock Convention at a cost of less than \$300; special advertising through Adelub at conventions in Kansas City and Chicago; excursion of delegates to Wilcox, Arizona, to be present at opening of Mascot Mining property; several popular excursions to Elephant Butte Dam.

(t) Special publicity in campaign to secure Moose Tuberculosis Sanatorium; and in connection with the El Paso Elk's delegation at convention in Los Angeles.

(u) Vigilance in legislative matters affecting El Paso and her trade territory.

(v) Routing of Liberty Bell via El Paso, through efforts of Chamber of Commerce and military tournament under direction of General Pershing.

(w) Standing committee on military affairs

pertaining to the welfare of the army and possible enlargements of Fort Bliss.

—1916—

A review of the year's activities of the Chamber of Commerce for 1916 by President R. B. Orndorff, and recommendations to the new board, are summarized as follows:

(a) Strengthening the Chamber in the esteem of the general public.

(b) Curtailment of publicity program due to the border situation during this year; as well as activities of other departments, as it was not deemed wise to spend money to attract attention to the city, or the irrigated valleys, or to El Paso as a manufacturing center under circumstances then existing; the money this saved was diverted to other channels.

(c) Bringing of 50,000 National Guardsmen to El Paso.

(d) Re-establishment of publicity department on August 15, upon the return of Mr. Clements, the publicity director, from Mexico.

(e) Special assistance in the way of photographs, thousands of words of text descriptive of El Paso and the Southwest resources; to the newspaper men and correspondents on the border, resulting in much being used in the papers over the country regarding El Paso and read by millions of people watching the Border Patrol and interested in their friends and kinsmen of the militia.

(f) Suggesting that the best means of advertising El Paso—conventions bringing immediate results.

(g) Mr. Orndorff states that during the six years he has been identified with the Chamber, El Paso has not gone after a single convention but what it got it.

(h) Entertainment of the Associated Advertising Clubs of Texas; The Texas Press Association; International Soil Products Exposition; Farm Congress and Irrigation Congress.

(i) Argument and presentation of reasons for new membership campaign.

(j) In meeting the suggestion that all offices of the Chamber be made to produce revenue, Mr. Orndorff suggests exception to the County Farm Demonstrator.

(k) Recommendation for the establishment of a mining bureau.

(l) A manufacturers' bureau operating along lines similar to those obtaining in Nashville.

(m) Making the Chamber a clearing house for the welfare, growth and prosperity of the community.

(n) Recommendation for the establishment of an automotive and highways department.

(o) Improvements in collections, and also recommendation that an expert be brought on to conduct the 1917 budget fund drive.

(p) Suggestion that the Chambers of Commerce be brought together with view to closer co-operation.

(q) Establishment in Chamber of permanent agricultural and mining exhibits.

(r) Continued sympathetic co-operation from the city and county officials.

—1917—

A review of the activities and recommendations of President John M. Wyatt, covering the year of 1917, brings out the following interesting facts and recommendations:

(a) Co-operation of the Chamber of Commerce with all war activities so ably supported during this year by the business men of El Paso.

(b) Success in bringing a number of new industries to El Paso; successful trade excursion into New Mexico and Arizona.

(c) Aid in the construction, maintenance and signing of roads in the Southwest.

(e) Publicity with road men, bringing new industries, tourists and foreigners to El Paso and the El Paso Valley. Most of this publicity was issued in the form of reading matter and prepared copies for newspapers and magazines.

(f) Entertainment of the Panhandle and Southwestern Stockmen's Association, during the early part of this year.

(g) Entertainment of the Texas Bankers' Association from May 15 to 17.

(h) Sending of delegates to the Good Roads Convention at Midland and Amarillo, Texas, and Clovis, New Mexico, resulting in El Paso securing a share of the Ozark trails, and was named as the terminus of state highway from Orange, Waco and Brownsville, Texas. In this connection, El Paso was placed on the European Coast-to-Coast highway from British Columbia to Maine.

(i) Instrumentality in establishing at El Paso a Summer Normal.

(j) Giving offices in the Chamber of Commerce Building to the College of El Paso.

(k) Increase of membership to approximately 1000; issuance of passports by the Chamber of Commerce to travelers by train and auto into Arizona, thus meeting with State and Federal requirements existing during the war.

(l) Active work to secure the construction of the proposed Santa Fe track to El Paso via Carlsbad.

(m) Entertainment during this year of distinguished guests, among whom were General John J. Pershing and Newell Dwight Hillis, and many European speakers in connection with the various war measures.

(n) Aid to Company K of El Paso in establishing its barracks prior to going on duty at Elephant Butte Dam; also much splendid work during this year in the way of recruiting.

(o) The publicity department of the Chamber of Commerce during this year also became publicity agents for the Red Cross.

(p) Vigorous campaign with the Food Administrator in connection with bigger production of war crops.

(q) The Traffic Department during this year was a direct assistance in relieving freight congestion in this city; leadership in sending out the Pep, Push and Progress excursion; much work dealing with the problem of increased rates; co-operation with other Texas Chambers of Commerce in connection with the Texas-Shreveport rate case; leadership in