

Brownsville Daily Herald.

VOL. ELEVEN.

BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 1903.

NUMBER 395.

CONSOLIDATED IN JULY 1893, WITH THE DAILY COSMOPOLITAN, WHICH WAS PUBLISHED HERE FOR SIXTEEN YEARS

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TALKING ABOUT BROWNSVILLE.

Colonel Cleary Tells of Bright Prospects and Activity Here.

San Antonio Express, June 7.

"Land values and speculators are increasing every day in the Brownsville territory," said Col. Peter J. A. Cleary, assistant surgeon general of the United States army, to a reporter for The Express Saturday. Colonel Cleary had just returned from an inspection of Fort Brown, and was greatly impressed with the spirit of activity that he witnessed in the usually quiet old town at the mouth of the Rio Grande.

"Crops are in good shape," said the colonel, "and the people are happy in the early prospects of a railroad. Strangers seeking investments are moving to and fro in this territory and the fever of commercial activity has taken hold of everybody.

"Rice is standing well and it is expected that the district will produce five times as much rice as last year. A rice mill is being erected in the City of Brownsville, and a mammoth irrigation plant is to be put in on the Rio Grande up the valley.

"The travel to Brownsville by sea is much pleasanter now than ever before. The steamer Manteo makes the trip regularly once every ten days, Captain Peterson in command. The boat carries thirty first-class passengers, and is neat and clean, while the attention paid to the individual passenger is better than I have found it on the big ocean steamers."

MEXICO GETS CONTROL.

Government Becomes Controlling Power in the National Railroad.

Mexico City, June 6.—Chandos Stanhope of London today left for New York on business connected with the railway deal whereby the Government becomes the controlling power in the National Railroad Company and the virtual consolidation of the National Railroad and the Inter-oceanic Road is effected. Mr. Stanhope signed papers on behalf of Messrs. Speyer, New York and London bankers.

An American syndicate purposing to build a large modern hotel here has begun negotiations for the purchase of a lot near the Paseo de la Reforma, which will cost \$486,000 or \$81 per square yard. The lot is one of the most suitable for a modern hotel and it is proposed to build one of steel frame and provided with all modern conveniences.

The merchants of Mazatlan have petitioned the Federal Government to declare the port once more open to commerce on the ground that the plague has completely disappeared. The merchants state in their petition to the minister of the interior that for five months they have paid their taxes, although their business was practically ruined by the plague and the necessary preventive measures.

On the 22nd instant the people of Mazatlan will hold a public religious service in gratitude for the disappearance of the pestilence.

ST. LOUIS, BROWNSVILLE AND MEXICO RAILWAY.

Charter Filed at Austin—Uriah Lott President—Leading Land Owners the Incorporations.

Austin, Tex., June 6.—The attorney General today approved and the Secretary of State filed the charter of Colonel Lott's railroad to Brownsville.

The name of the corporation is the St. Louis, Brownsville & Mexico Railway Company, with principal office at Kingville, Nueces county. The capital stock is \$1,000,000. Its purpose is the construction, maintenance and operation of a railroad of standard gauge from a convenient point within one mile of the county court house at Sinton, San Patricio county, crossing the line of the San Antonio & Arkansas Pass at that point and continuing southwest through the counties of San Patricio, Nueces, Hidalgo and Cameron to the Rio Grande river at the city of Brownsville, with a branch line starting from some convenient point, not less than twenty-five miles nor more than thirty-five miles north of Brownsville, through the county of Hidalgo to the Southeast corner of Starr county, a total estimated distance of 200 miles. The incorporators are: Robert J. Kleberg, A. E. Spohn of Corpus Christi; Robt. Driscoll, Sr., Uriah Lott, R. King of Nueces county; John G. Kennedy, James B. Wells, Francisco Yturria, Thomas Carson of Cameron county; Robert Driscoll, Jr., E. H. Caldwell, Geo. F. Evans, Caesar Kleberg of Nueces county; John B. Armstrong of Cameron county and John J. Welder of Victoria, Texas. The first nine named constitute the first board of directors. The officers given are, Uriah Lott, president; Robert J. Kleberg, vice president; John G. Kennedy, secretary, and Robert J. Kleberg, treasurer.

In connection with a railroad for the city of Brownsville it will be noticed that the road chartered today proposes to build from Sinton, while the Aransas Pass was to be an extension of its branch from Alice, where it intersects the Texas-Mexican. The Alice branch leaves the main line at Skidmore and its terminus, Alice, is farther south than Sinton.

It is understood that the company chartered today is a Rock Island-Frisco project.

CHANGED THE SUBJECT.

Anna and Hilda were two dear little girls who were neighbors. They were never known to quarrel. One day Hilda's mamma, seeing them playing together so beautifully, asked how it happened that they never had dissensions. "Oh," replied Anna, "whenever we begin to dispute about anything, Hilda changes the subject, and then it is all right again."—Exchange.

The pope will be the godfather of the ninety-three children born at Rome on March 3, which was the twenty-fifth anniversary of his succession to the papacy. It is singular that the number of children born on that day should be the same as the number of years of the pope's life. The pope has given each child an outfit of clothes and 100 lire.

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