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**BROWNSVILLE
HARDWARE COMPANY**

A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Will Organize to Protect City from Fire.

Citizens Awaken to Necessity of Protection, Now Almost Wholly Lacking, and Will Organize by Time Water is Available.

Before water is flowing through the mains now being laid by the city it is highly probable that a volunteer fire company will have been organized by a number of young men of Brownsville and will be ready for work. This project is now being talked over and definite action probably will be taken within a few days.

"We certainly need some fire protection," said H. J. Kirk today. "With the high winds that sweep through here occasionally a fire would eat its way from end to end of the district in which it started. The little of machinery now here would be of no avail whatever. Even the bucket brigade which forms to combat the little fires would amount to nothing. This is a matter which requires immediate attention. The water system will not be in operation for some time yet, and by the time it is finally here it will be possible for a volunteer company to have organized."

A HERALD reporter today asked Mayor Combe what apparatus for a fire department the city has.

"At present we have 1000 feet of new hose, which we received about three weeks ago and which is now stored away," said the mayor and also two hose reels. We also have a hook and ladder wagon, but this is of an ancient type and will probably have to be disposed of.

"Our fire department is as yet not even in its infancy, you might say. But we intend to take immediate action in this regard and go ahead as rapidly as possible."

Dr. Combe said that he understood that a movement was under way to form a volunteer company, but added that the city had taken no official steps in action along this line.

It is the idea of those who are back of the proposed company to secure an appropriation of some kind from the municipality itself and to canvas the city for additional funds. With the money thus secured it is proposed to purchase a combination chemical and hose wagon. It is said that the price of a steamer would be prohibitive, these machines running up past the \$5000 mark. But a combination chemical and hose wagon, costing in the neighborhood of \$3000, could be easily procured.

A combination wagon in a city like Brownsville would be of much more value than a steamer. These wagons contain immense tanks in the forward part, each being filled with a chemical which, when combined with another chemical by a simple turn of a wheel, forces a fire-killing fluid through a long hose of small diameter to a great distance.

"A minute saved in getting to a fire is worth an hour's work after getting there," is an adage of the New York fire department.

Steam is hard to raise in a steamer, unless a steam line is always connected with the boiler, as is the case in engine houses where the cities have paid fire departments. But a chemical wagon is always ready for work and, unless the fire has gained great proportions, extinguishes the flames immediately.

With the chemical apparatus in front and long lines of hose in the rear part of the wagon, ready for attachment to the fire plugs, a volunteer company would be able to accomplish great work.

BROWNSVILLE MAY BUILD NEW HOTEL

Man With \$100,000 Wants To Build.

Came Here Several Weeks Ago With Offer, But Business Men Were Not Ready at that Time.

If the plans of Publicity Agent H. E. Herman of Brownsville materialize this city will, within a short time, have one of the largest hotels in the Gulf Coast country. Mr. Herman is now in communication with a man who has \$100,000 to invest in an up-to-date place.

This man came into Brownsville several weeks ago and saw a number of prominent citizens relative to securing a site for him. His proposition was that if Brownsville secured a \$25,000 site for him he would erect a hotel to be electrically lighted, have baths and running water and would be modern in every particular.

Owing to the fact that there was no organization in Brownsville which could act as a unit in this matter the deal fell through, but not before the capitalist said that he would be ready at any time to renew his offer.

Mr. Herman is of the opinion that a site can be easily secured, now that the real estate men have got together in an organization to further the interests of the city. He will at once communicate with the man from the north and in the meantime it will be taken up at this end of the line.

The Right Kind.

The sidewalk building microbe is at work in Bryan. May he live, multiply and prosper.—Bryan Eagle.

Still There's Hope.

There is one reason why the cotton producer need not altogether despair as yet. Cotton seed has advanced 50 per cent in price within the last three weeks. That's going some.—Paris Advocate.

Just Lets 'Em Pass.

Eagle Pass does not need a board of trade. When things come up that require unanimous public action we get along all right. We just let them pass. It's easy. Now that public sewer matter—well?—Rio Grande News.

College women of California have just organized a league, the object of which is to secure the ballot for women. Similar College Equal Suffrage leagues exist in New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Rhode Island and Illinois.

SEE SAN BENITO

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San Benito:--A new town rapidly building 19 miles north of Brownsville on the

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There is at Run the largest settlement of American families at any point in the valley, with a school of over forty pupils. A canal has been in operation for several years, and this will be used to furnish water to those who want to go to work at once. THE NEW CANAL IS BEING BUILT, A SUGAR MILL is already contracted for, and a switch will be built from the Railway at Donna to the site of the Sugar Mill, thus giving railway facilities to the purchasers of land, convenient to all.

For further particulars, or sales contracts, call on us.

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