

SAN BENITO

in the LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY OF TEXAS is in the very heart of the

BEST SUGAR CANE REGION

on this Continent

(No. 5)

In former announcements in this series you have learned something about general conditions in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, and have had an explanation of the San Benito Gravity Canal System. You have also been informed as to the men who are back of the San Benito enterprise and who are giving it their personal attention. In the third announcement you saw the letter from Mr. Powell about his cabbage and in the last one you read the letter of Burress Brothers about their onions which they are now harvesting. The last car shipped by Mr. Powell brought him \$45 a ton. This is better than he expected and his profits will be larger than any of us anticipated. It looks now like he would clear not less than \$500 an acre on his ten acres of cabbage. Later on we will let you know exactly what he clears. We will also inform you as to what Burress Brothers and others make on their onions and cabbage.

SUGAR CANE

This time we want to tell you something about the sugar cane industry in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Sugar is a staple. Did you ever notice that the price of sugar varies less than that of almost any other product? The production of sugar cane is a staple industry. The quality and quantity of the yield is determined by the soil the cane grows in and the climatic conditions under which it flourishes.

At San Benito we have ideal conditions for the growing of sugar cane. We have an all-the-year-round climate so mild and conducive to the growth of this product that we can allow the cane to stand a full year, or longer, and thus have time to fully mature and take on all the saccharine matter possible. We have in this Delta Country a soil so rich and deep that it is practically inexhaustible. And this soil is especially adapted to the growth of sugar cane. We have an abundance of water for irrigation from our big Gravity Canal System. We also have an abundance of good laborers who are willing and anxious to work at reasonable wages in the cane fields. These five conditions, Staple Price, Suitable Climate, Fertile Soil, Abundance of Water when needed, with no danger of too much when not needed, a Plentiful Supply of Good, Cheap Labor, combine to make the Lower Rio Grande Valley by far the best sugar cane region to be found anywhere in the United States.

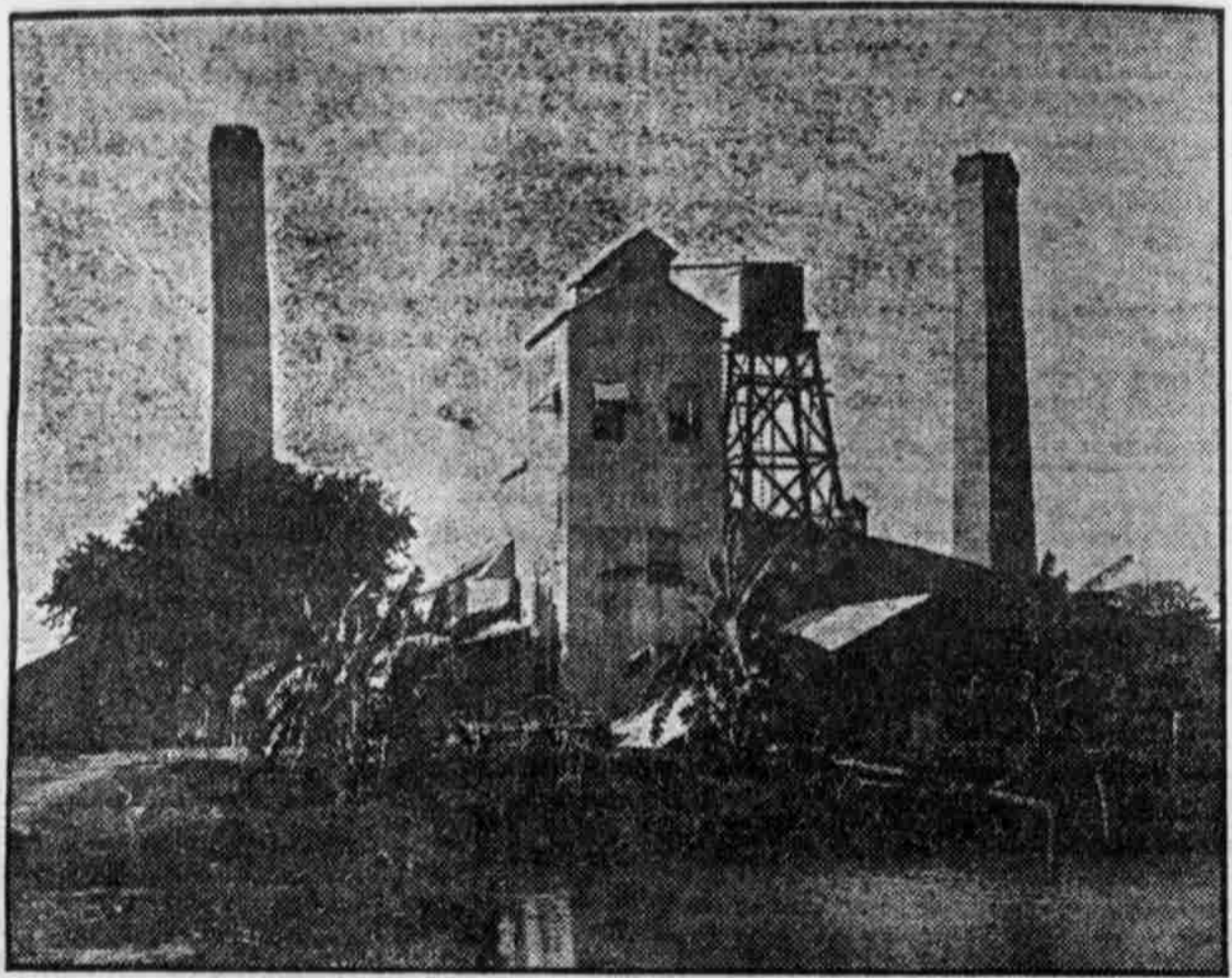
To appreciate this let us compare it with the Louisiana Cane Belt.

LOUISIANA	SAN BENITO
Produces an average of less than 20 tons per acre.	Produces from 30 to 60 tons per acre.
Chemical analysis shows 12 per cent to 14 per cent of sugar.	Chemical analysis shows 18 per cent of sugar.
Produces 2 per cent of glucose, or objectionable matter.	Produces one-fourth of one per cent of glucose.
Cane must be planted every third year.	Must be planted only once in six to eight years.
Cane must be harvested prematurely to escape frost.	Cane may be allowed to stand a full year or more.

ASSISTANCE FURNISHED

In planting sugar cane we plant the STALK itself instead of a seed. If you wish to come to San Benito and begin the growing of cane you can avoid the expense of buying the cane to plant, thus saving yourself an investment of about \$16 per acre in this way:

The Texas and Ohio Sugar Mill, located between San Benito and Brownsville and only sixteen miles from San Benito, will loan you the sugar cane stalks for planting, to be returned by you, amount for amount, the following year, or out of your first crop. They will also at the same time enter into a contract with you to take all your cane for a period of six years at a price determined as follows: They will pay you ninety cents a ton for the cane for every cent sugar is worth in the New Orleans market the day you deliver the cane to the mill. That is, if the sugar is worth four cents a pound (and it never varies much from that price) they will pay you \$3.60 a ton for your cane. There is a special freight rate of 29 cents per ton authorized by the Texas Railroad Commission from San Benito to the Ohio-Texas Sugar Mill. But by the time you could come to San Benito and raise a crop of sugar cane there will be a home market for all that can be produced, as there is already a movement on foot for the erection of a large and up-to-date sugar mill on the banks of the big canal at San Benito.



Closner's Sugar Mill in the Lower Rio Grande Valley between San Benito and Sam Fordyce. Cane from Closner plantation took first prize at the St. Louis World's Fair in competition with the world.

\$236.25 PER ACRE FROM SUGAR CANE

Man From Minnesota Makes This Handsome Showing From His First Experience With This Crop

Mr. Alba Heywood, San Benito, Texas. March 31, 1909.

Dear Sir: Replying to your recent inquiry asking how I came out with my sugar cane, will say that I harvested my entire crop about the first of January, and weighed it all up as it left the field. The average tonnage was 45 tons to the acre, and I sold it all at San Benito for seed purposes at the price of \$5.25 per ton. This cane was planted a year ago last December. It was my first experience with sugar cane, in fact I never saw any until that time, having come here from Minnesota. My land is located two miles from the San Benito tract. I believe that any man with good common sense can count on making an average of at least forty tons to the acre on any of this land where he has good drainage.

Yours truly,
W. B. HINKLY.

Sugar Cane Planters Will Have a Great Advantage at San Benito in the Transportation of Their Cane on Barges on the Big Canal

It is fair to assume that your crop will average forty tons to the acre year after year and that you will receive \$3.60 per ton. This makes the gross receipts per acre \$144. There is no question but what \$44 per acre per year will more than pay all expenses of planting, cultivating, watering, cutting, hauling, shipping and delivering to the mill, thus leaving you a net profit of about \$100 per acre per year.

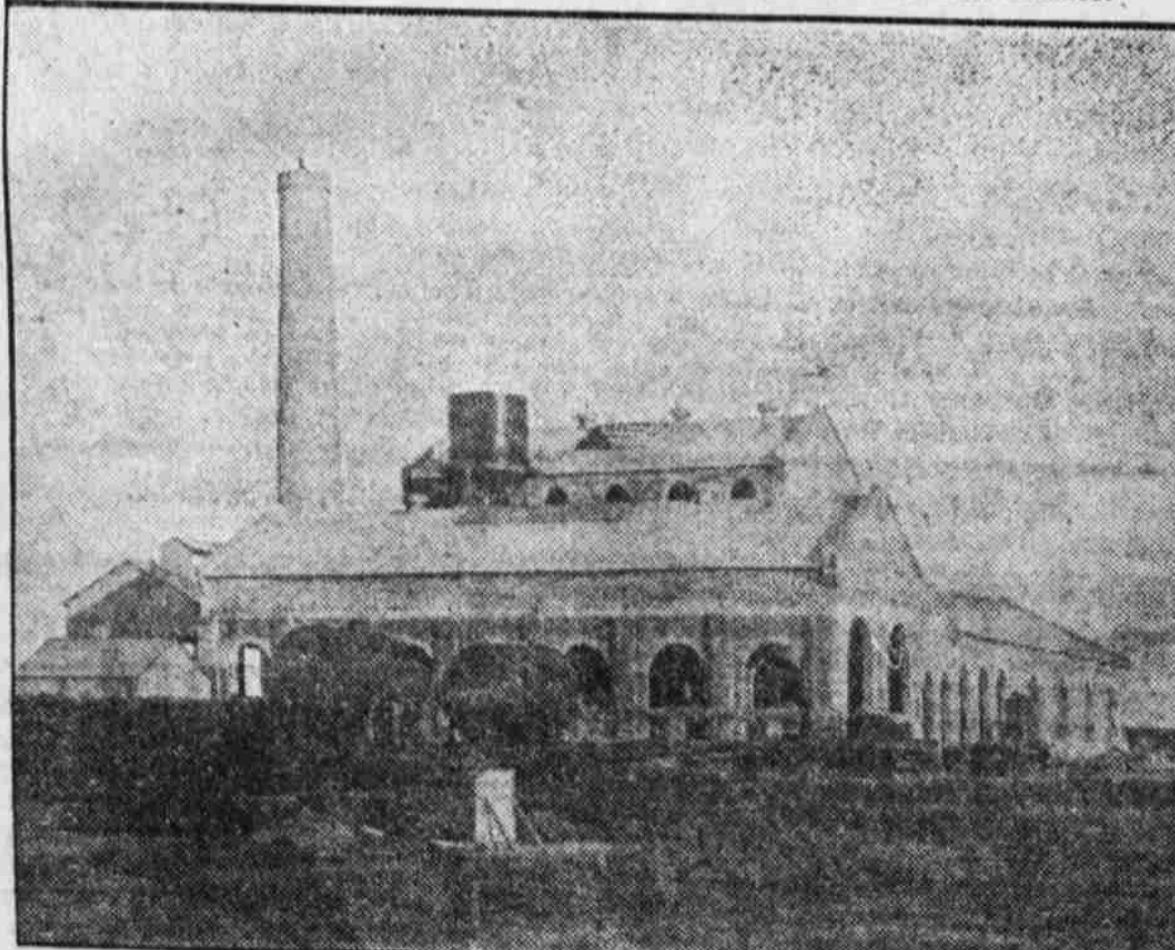
We publish herewith a letter from Mr. Hinkly, Cashier of the Bank of San Benito.

Write us for further information, and for booklet.

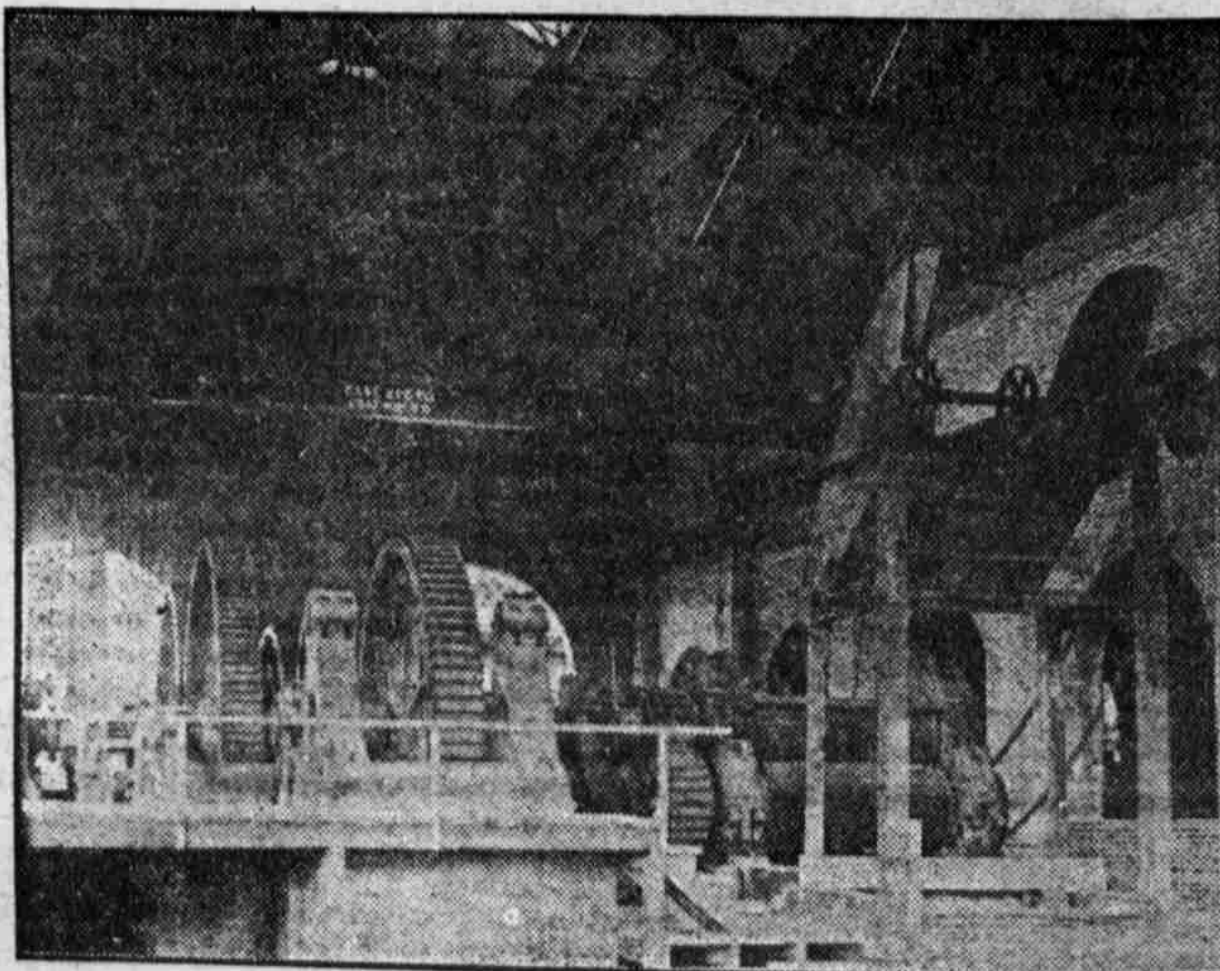
SAN BENITO LAND AND WATER COMPANY,

Box "B," San Benito, Texas

ALBA HEYWOOD, President and General Manager



Ohio-Texas Sugar Mill Between San Benito and Brownsville. This mill will buy cane from the San Benito farmers, paying them 90 cents per ton for each cent sugar is worth on day of delivery.



Interior view of one corner of the Ohio-Texas Sugar Mill. This is one of the best equipped mills in the United States.