

Brownsville, Texas.
Feb. 1st, 1940

Mr. L. B. Lawson,
International Boundary and Water Commission
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Mr. Lawson:-

Thank you very much indeed for your letter with its information of Jan. 28th, regarding certain facts of the Rio Grande. You might possibly recall that you furnished me other data more than a year ago while I was still in Santa Fe.

The river distances you have given me interest me greatly. If it is 1241 miles by river from El Paso to the gulf, certainly it must be considerably more than 550 miles from the top of Stony Pass to El Paso! I have always been told that the Rio Grande was 1800 miles long, the third longest river in the U.S. the Missouri first the Mississippi second with something like 25 or 75 feet difference between them, and the Rio Grande third.

My pictorial book of the river will be put this year. I have been down here getting some last material on this lower region.

I am delighted to get the information on the mountain ranges contained in your letter and I am pleased to pass on to you that I find that the range near Corralve is called "la Siera de Planchos". And I note what you say as to designated areas as to title. I have on led the section from Del Rio to Roma "The Flat Country" there being less than 1000 feet between the elevations of Del Rio and Brownsville and town (from Colorado) it is Very flat! This is comparative and based on the appearance of the country. One reason I want to call this last section the Delta is that of course it is what it is first, and second those people down here dont seem to think there is any other valley of Rio Grande, and to call this region "the Rio Grande Valley" seems to me very much of a misnomer. I enclose a copy of my TABLE OF CONTENTS which I think explains my calling this last part the Flat Country. At first I had the delta included in that category. I want to separate it.

Thanking you very kindly for all your trouble and effort, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Permanent address
Box 1173
Santa Fe, New Mexico.

FOLLOW THE RIO GRANDE

B
LAURA GILPIN.

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TEXAS & MEXICO

Perhaps I had best change The Flat Country to The Hill Country
except that the hills are so far from the river. Isnt the Hill
Country back toward San Antonio?