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THE SUPPLY SERVICE OF THE NEW MEXICAN  
MISSIONS IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY<sup>1</sup>

FRANCE V. SCHOLES

The year 1609 is an important date in the history of New Mexico. In that year the government of the province was finally assumed by the Crown, and Don Pedro de Peralta was appointed governor with instructions to found a new villa and to reorganize the political administration of the province.<sup>2</sup> At the same time the Crown also assumed full responsibility for the support of the missions. Reports concerning the success of the friars in converting the Indians had probably saved the province from being abandoned, and henceforth the mission phase of New Mexican life was the most significant. It was evident, however, that the missions must have support from without, so the Crown made them a charge on the treasury of New Spain. It is not surprising, therefore, that Torquemada hailed the change, rejoicing that the strong arm of the king was now

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1. The sources for this study consist in the main of—

a. Numerous manuscripts in the Biblioteca Nacional, Mexico City, in a series arranged by the author of this study. For convenience this series is called *Manuscritos para la Historia del Nuevo México*. For a hastily made calendar of these papers, see the author's "Manuscripts for the History of New Mexico", *New Mexico Hist. Rev.*, Vol. III, no. 3 (July, 1928), pp. 301-323. The general series will be cited as Bib. Nac. Mex., M. H. N. M.

b. A general report on the supply service in Archivo General de Indias, legajo 58-4-9 (old system). The title of this report is: *El Virrey de la Nueva España informa a S. M. del asiento de los carros del Nuevo México con testimonio de los autos y acusa recibo de una cédula de 12 de Octubre de 1665*. The report covers the period from 1631 to 1666, and includes copies of some of the important items on the supply service in Bib. Nac. Mex., M. H. N. M. The report will be cited as *Informe*, A. G. I., 58-4-9.

2. For Peralta's instructions, see *New Mexico Hist. Rev.*, Vol. IV, no. 2 (April, 1929), pp. 178-187, in which will be found Spanish text and English translation of the instructions which are in A. G. I., 58-3-16.

actively supporting missionary enterprise in New Mexico.<sup>3</sup>

For the first twenty years following the adoption of this policy, there is little information concerning the details of the system of royal support. Supply trains were supposed to be sent out every three years, but, at times, the interval must have been longer than that. For example, one of the supply trains probably arrived in New Mexico in the autumn of 1621, and one member of the party was Fray Miguel de Chavarría, the predecessor of Benavides as Custodio;<sup>4</sup> the caravan returned to Mexico the following year.<sup>5</sup> It appears that the next caravan did not arrive in New Mexico until December of 1625, or very early in January, 1626. It was this despatch that brought to New Mexico both Fray Alonso de Benavides, the newly-appointed Custodio of missions and the first Commissary of the Inquisition in New Mexico; and Don Felipe de Sotelo Ossorio, the successor of Governor Eulate.<sup>6</sup> The next supply train was probably the one in which Fray Estévan de Perea, re-elected prelate of missions to succeed Benavides, returned in 1629.<sup>7</sup> Benavides himself testifies to the long intervals between the arrival of the caravans. “. . . five or six years pass without our knowing in New Mexico (anything) of the Spanish nation until the dispatches go which are assigned for the succor of the Religious and churches which Your

3. *Monarchia Indiana*, (ed. 1723). I, 678.

4. Documents in the papers of the Inquisition in the Archivo General y Público de la Nación, Mexico City, give valuable hints concerning the points discussed in this paragraph. That Chavarría preceded Benavides as Custodio is indicated in letters of Perea and others in *Inquisición*, Tomo 486, ff. 45 *et seq.* See also Bib. Nac. Mex., *M. H. N. M.*, leg. 9, núm. 8.

5. *Inquisición*, Tomo 486, ff. 45 *et seq.*

6. Benavides was elected Custodio in 1623. Bib. Nac. Mex., *M. H. N. M.*, leg. 9, núm. 8: His appointment as Commissary of the Inquisition was probably made soon afterward. As Commissary, he had jurisdiction over the Cuéncame-Santa Bárbara region as well as over New Mexico. He exercised inquisitorial jurisdiction over the Cuéncame-Santa Bárbara region from late August to mid-October, 1625, and then set out for New Mexico. *Inquisición*, Tomo 356, ff. 318-370. The first document in the Inquisition papers written after his arrival in New Mexico is dated Jan. 6, 1626. *Ibid.* f. 291. The edict of the faith was read in Santa Fé, Jan. 25, 1626. *Ibid.* ff. 291, 292.

7. Benavides, *Memorial*, (Ayer edition, Chicago, 1916), *passim*; Perea, *Verdadera Relación*.

Majesty supports with so Catholic zeal! For though it is true that this dispatch is assigned and determined to be made punctually every three years, five and six (years) are wont to pass without the Royal officials bethinking themselves about us—and God knows what is costs to remind them".<sup>8</sup>

The growth of the missions made the supply service more and more important. The gradual increase in the number of friars serving in New Mexico and the heavy freighting charges paid for the transport of supplies made the cost of the caravans a considerable sum. For the caravans sent prior to 1620 the cost was about thirty eight thousand pesos.<sup>8a</sup> In 1626 Benavides appealed for more friars, and the Crown assumed the extra cost of providing them. These new missionaries went out to New Mexico with Fray Perea in 1629," but, even with this reinforcement, the number of friars was found to be insufficient to care both for the older missions and for the new conversions among the Hopi, Zuñi, Ácoma, Piro, and Jumano. Consequently Perea appealed for still more friars to carry forward the rapidly expanding missionary enterprise.

This plea was presented to the viceroy in 1630 by Fray Tomás Manso, Procurator-General of the Franciscans in New Mexico, who seems already to have had general charge of the supply service. This new request for more friars forced the viceroy and treasury officials in Mexico to consider the situation carefully and to effect economies in the service. The cost of the 1629 caravan, which had provided for forty six friars, had been more than 81,000 pesos, but, despite this very considerable expense, the friars had not been satisfied with the service. In order to watch expenses and to improve the service, the treasury officials and the superior authorities of the Franciscans re-considered the

8. *Memorial*, (Ayer edition), pp. 14, 15.

8a. *Carta del Virrey Marqués de Guadalcazar a S. M. sobre hacienda y gastos en el Nuevo Mexico*. Mexico, 19 Febrero, 1620. A. G. I., 58-3-18 (old system).

9. Benavides, *Memorial*, p. 5.

But aq<sup>d</sup>, Contaduría 728 shows that only 21 came with Perea.

whole problem, and the service was reorganized on a formal, efficient basis. By patent of the Provincial of the Franciscan Province of the Santo Evangelio, Fray Manso's position was formalized, and he was authorized to arrange with the treasury officials for the amount of the royal aid and for the organization and management of the supply trains. The second step was the formulation of a viceregal decree in which the details of the contract with Fray Manso were set forth.

The documents in which these arrangements are described are so important that they are presented below in translation.<sup>10</sup>

#### VICEREGAL DECREE CONCERNING THE CONTRACT

Don Rodrigo Pacheco Osorio, Marques de Cerralvo, of the Council of War, Viceroy . . . . . etc.

Inasmuch as it has been customary since the time of Marqués de Salinas,<sup>11</sup> in conformity with orders of His Majesty, to send to the Province of New Mexico every three years the customary aid, not only the friars of the Order of St. Francis requested for the new conversions being made and for preaching and administration of the sacraments to the native Indians of the [province], but also of wine tapers, oil, ornaments, and other things necessary for the said ministry, and [also] the clothing and maintenance for the friars who are serving in that Custodia and for those going out for the first time; in accordance with past custom, the period of the said three years since the last dispatch was made in August, 1627,<sup>12</sup> having terminated, Padre Fray Tomás Manso, Procurator-General of that Custodia, by order of his superiors sought the said customary dispatch.

He [also] brought me letters from Don Francisco Nieto de Silva, Knight of Alcántara, the present Governor and Captain-General of

10. The documents are in *Informe*, A. G. I., 58-4-9, ff. 65-82, and also in Bib. Nac. Mex., *M. H. N. M.*, leg. 1, núm. 9. The title of the latter item is: *Traslado del asiento . . . . se hizo por el fiscal de su magestad y oficiales Reales con el Padre Fray Thomás Manso. . . sobre el inuio que cada tres años se haze para aquellas prouincias . . . . 1631.* The translation is based on the A. G. I. copy. Any variations in the Bib. Nac. Mex. copy will be described in the notes.

11. Luís de Velasco (son of the second viceroy) had the above title during his second term as viceroy of New Spain, 1607-1611.—L. B. B.

12. The grant of funds was made in August, 1627, and it was from that date that the three year term ran. The caravan did not leave Mexico until later, and reached New Mexico in the spring of 1629. (It was assembled at Zacatecas, starting north from there in September 1628.—L. B. B.)

the said New Mexico, and from Padre Fray Estévan de Perea, Custodio of the [province], in which they relate and describe the state of the province. And in petitions presented by the said Padre Procurator I have been given an account of fourteen conventos newly founded in various localities in addition to the eighteen that [the Custodia] had; that several thousand souls of the provinces of Zuñi, Moqui, and the Piros have been converted, and [also] those of the Rock of Ácoma who are newly baptized; that [the friars] are about to do the same for a great number of people of the Apache nation and the Jumano who live a hundred leagues from the Villa of Santa Fé at the portal of the much-sought-for Kingdom of Grand Quivira; that from the said province of the Jumano twelve captains came to ask for friars to baptize them and teach them the Christian Doctrine, and that to this end two priests were sent [to them]; but that there are not enough workers, for the agreement [of 1627] did not provide for those needed by the Jumano nation, and the forty six friars — thirty five priests and eleven lay-brothers — at present serving in the said province can not take care of all. [Therefore], I have been requested to authorize the sending out of twenty more friars — eighteen priests and two lay-brothers — which would be a sufficient number of missionaries for the said new *conventos* and conversions which have been made, in which there are more than 60,000<sup>13</sup> souls who have been baptized and, in addition, a great number who seek Holy Baptism; also that I grant the customary dispatch of clothing for all the friars, both for those who remained in the said province and for those going out for the first time, and of the supplies it has been customary to send, conforming to the statements of past dispatches and to those newly presented.

Consequently, I ordered that the Padre Commissary-General of the said Order should make a formal statement, which should be sent to the *fiscal* of His Majesty, and, with the latter's comment, to the *acuerdo de hacienda*.<sup>14</sup> And in the [*acuerdo*] which I attended, together with its members, on August twentieth of the year 1630, I ordered that all the papers should be turned over to the *oficiales reales*<sup>15</sup> of this city, in order that the statement of supplies and other things which have now been requested might be compared with the [statement] of what was granted in the last dispatch, separate statements to be made of what is asked for [now] over and above [the last grant], and, [after] conferring with the said Padre Procurator con-

13. An obvious exaggeration.

14. Members of Audiencia and Treasury officials meeting to discuss fiscal problems.

15. Treasury officials.

cerning the reason on which is based the request of such a large number of friars, the one and the other to be reduced to what seems to be absolutely necessary; so that in this occasion, on the basis of clear and exact information concerning the amount of the last dispatch, both the cost in this *Real Caja*<sup>15a</sup> and that of Zacatecas, and after further consideration in another *acuerdo de hacienda*, it might be decided what is necessary.

The said *oficiales reales* having carried out the orders of the said decree, it appears that the cost of the last dispatch which provided for the forty six friars — thirty five priests and eleven lay brothers — who serve in those conversions, and including the thirty two wagons [in the caravan], and the two *mayordomos* for the same, and the twelve soldiers and captain who were the escort, was eighty eight thousand one hundred eighty *pesos*, five *tomines*, and ten *granos*.<sup>16</sup> Nevertheless, the Padre Procurator-General in various petitions and memorials has represented to me that the said friars suffer great inconvenience due to the delays usually experienced in those dispatches because the supplies are bought at auction, and nearly a year is used up in this way; that for this reason the caravan can not leave this city in time to make the journey with ease, with the result that the friars are in need of wine, tapers, oil, and other things necessary for the administration of the Holy Sacraments; that the supplies purchased at the said public auctions were neither so good nor so favorably priced as those which could be obtained if a special endeavor were made in seeking them out, with the result that in each dispatch His Majesty could be saved a great sum of money. Therefore, he requested that a contract should be made, once and for all, to determine what is necessary, not only for this dispatch, but also for others to be made [in future], and which shall stipulate the sum of money to be given for the three year term to each friar already serving in those conversions, and also to each one of these being sent out for the first time, and also for the cost of the wagons, their preparation and upkeep, in conformity with what was granted in the last dispatch; and [he stated] that the said friars would assume responsibility for the care and management of the [wagons] to be granted both for this dispatch and for all the others.

The request having been submitted to the *acuerdo de hacienda*, and having been considered in the [acuerdo] which I attended, together with its members, on March eleventh, [1631], the eighteen priests and two lay brothers, who were requested by the Padre Pro-

15a. The Treasury.

16. *Tomín*—eighth part of a *peso*. Cf. *real. Grano*—twelfth part of a *tomín* or *real*.

curator for the new conversions, were authorized; and I ordered the *oficiales reales*, in conjunction with the *fiscal* of His Majesty, to negotiate with the said Padre Procurator concerning the contract to be made for this dispatch and for the others to be made in future, and, on the basis of the advices which have been communicated and presented, to arrange in detail for whatever is deemed to be necessary.

And in order that the said contract might be negotiated with greater formality, the said Padre Procurator presented a patent and permit from Padre Fray Francisco de Velasco, Provincial of this Province of the Santo Evangelio, to which the said Custodia of New Mexico is subject. And in fulfillment of my order and in virtue of the said patent the contract was made in the following form.

Patent of the Provincial to Fray Tomás Manso  
Authorizing him to make the Contract.

Fray Francisco de Velasco, of the Order of the Friars of the Regular Observance of Our Seraphic Father St. Francis, *Calificador* of the Holy Office, *Lector Jubilado* in Holy Theology, Minister-Provincial of this Province of the Santo Evangelio, Custodias of Tampico and New Mexico, and Sisters of Santa Clara, etc.

To Padre Fray Tomás Manso, Preacher, and Procurator of the Custodia of the Conversion of St. Paul of New Mexico, health and peace in Our Lord Jesus Christ:

Inasmuch as His Excellency, Marqués de Cerralvo, Viceroy of this New Spain, and the members of the *Real Acuerdo de Hacienda* have agreed to make a contract for the dispatch which is made every three years for that our Custodia in order to avoid the difficulties due to purchase in the public auctions and other delays which have occurred, resulting in loss to the *Real Hacienda*, and [in loss] of time and inconvenience for the friars; and it being necessary to make certain valuations, contracts, and agreements concerning the supplies to be granted and transported for the said friars who serve in the said Custodia and [who] administer the Holy Sacraments in the new conversions; and having complete confidence in the religious character of Your Reverence, and because other dispatches made for this purpose have been sent out in your charge, and [because of] the complete knowledge you have of all these things:

[Therefore] by these presents, signed by my hand, sealed with the great seal of our office, and countersigned by our secretary, I grant to Your Reverence our authority to appear before His Excellency and the members of the *Real Acuerdo de Hacienda* and before any other tribunals whatsoever that it may be necessary concerning the aforesaid, and in them to make and execute whatever

pacts, agreements, and contracts, and to execute whatever legal instruments may be necessary and applicable to the efficient dispatch of the alms which His Majesty gives and sends to the friars of the said new Custodia.

All that Your Reverence shall and may do in this regard I will consider well done, as if done by myself; and for all and to all appertaining thereto I give and concede our said authority.

Given in Our Convento of San Francisco, Mexico, the eighth day of the month of February, one thousand six hundred thirty one.

Fray Francisco de Velasco,  
Minister-Provincial.

By authority of His Paternity,  
Fray Antonio Vázquez, Secretary.

(The Contract)

- I. Statements of Supplies to be given every three years to each Friar-Priest [already] serving in the Conversions of New Mexico, for the Administration [of the Mission], for Clothing, and for the Infirmary.

Forty five gallons of sacramental wine.<sup>16a</sup>

Eighty five and a half pounds of prepared candle wax.

Twenty six gallons of oil for illuminating the Holy Sacrament.

Eight gallons more for the friar.

Four gallons of vinegar.

One hundred yards of sack-cloth.

Twelve yards of Rouen-cloth.

Twelve yards of linen.

One ream of paper.

Two blankets.

Two *declas*<sup>17</sup> of butcher knives.

Two pairs of scissors.

One pound of domestic yarn (or thread).

One dozen awls with handles.

One dozen angled (or square) needles.

One dozen coarse needles.

Also two dozen ordinary needles.

16a. Many of the terms used in the Spanish version of these lists are difficult adequately to translate. Some are obsolete, others are Mexican, and in the case of others it is almost impossible to find a good English equivalent. In many cases, therefore, the Spanish term is left in the text, and an English equivalent, where one can be used, is given in the notes. In some cases, however, the Spanish term is used currently and no note was necessary. In dealing with terms for weight and measure, the English equivalent is given in the text for *arroba*, which was twenty five pounds weight, or four gallons liquid measure.

17. *Decla*—a set of ten.

One dozen horseshoes.  
 Three pairs of sandals.  
 Two pairs of woolen stockings.  
 One friar's hat.

One *candado que llaman de fraile*.<sup>18</sup>  
 Six common rosaries.  
 Two bundles of plaited cord.  
 One white *cedazo*, and a black one.<sup>19</sup>  
 One pair of spurs and a Jérez bridle.

Thirty five *pesos*' worth of medicines.  
 One sheet [made] of Rouen-cloth.

One shirt.  
 For the infirmary. One pillow.  
 One blanket.  
 Six and a half yards of coarse linen.

Five boxes of conserves.  
 Six and a half pounds of sweetmeats.  
 Twenty five pounds of sugar.  
 Three ounces of saffron.  
 One pound of pepper.  
 Six ounces of cinnamon.  
 Ten and a half pounds of raisins.  
 Six pounds of almonds.  
 Five pounds of conserves in syrup.  
 Two jugs of Campeche honey for the entire infirmary.  
 For every two friars, the price of copper cupping instrument.  
 For every two (friars), one syringe.  
 For every two (friars), one razor.  
 For every two (friars), one lancet.  
 For every two (friars), one pair of barbers' scissors.  
 For the entire infirmary, one grindstone.  
 Also two stills for distilling water.  
 Four pairs of razor hones.  
 One large brass basin.  
 One box of *loza de Puebla* (Puebla tile or porcelain).

## II. Statement of other supplies to be given at each dispatch for general use during the journey.

Three tin-plate flasks for transporting the Holy Oils.  
 Two tin-plate lanterns for saying mass.  
 One rug for the base of the altar.  
 Table and benches with which to construct an altar.  
 Six staffs with iron mountings for the awning [covering for the altar].  
 Two cruets of tin-plate.  
 Two tin-plate funnels.  
 One large brass basin.

18. *Candado*—padlock or pendant.

19. *Cedazo*—usual meaning, a strainer, filter, or sieve, made of horsehair.

Six *bateas de Mechoacán*.<sup>20</sup> One dozen *jicarillas*.<sup>21</sup>  
 Two barrels for transporting water.  
 Two *metates*.  
 Two table cloths and twenty four napkins.  
 An hundred weight of tallow candles.  
 Two iron spoons for the kitchen.  
 One tin grater.  
 Two mountain axes for cutting wood.  
 Three spits, one of them large.  
 Two sieves.  
 Four dozen hens for those who may be sick during the journey.  
 Two suits of clothing, with shoes and shirts, for the two Indians who accompany the two friars in charge of the dispatch.  
 Thirty yards of sackcloth.  
 Twelve yards of linen, two pairs of sandals, two [pairs] of shoes, and a hat, for a Spanish lay-brother named Diego Gomez.  
 Boxes needed for packing the aforesaid; rawhide thongs; *Jergas*<sup>22</sup> for the covered hampers; coarse *sarapes*; and a warehouse in which all the aforesaid may be collected and loaded.  
 In addition, things to replace [ecclesiastical] ornaments and things for the sacristy, and other necessities.

According to information concerning the past dispatch, all the aforesaid cost six hundred two *pesos* and six *tomines*; and [the cost] is now reduced to four hundred fifty *pesos*. 450 *pesos*.  
 For each lay-brother who is serving in those conversions, there will be granted the same supplies, except for the wine, tapers, and oil for illuminating the Holy Sacrament. In the past dispatch the cost for each [lay-brother] was four hundred *pesos*, and is now reduced to three hundred *pesos*. 300 *pesos*.  
 400 *pesos*.

Statement of Ornaments and other things for Divine Worship to be given each Friar-Priest the first time that he goes to those Conversions.<sup>23</sup>

One ornament of Chinese damask. Chasuble, stole, maniple, frontal and frontal trimming, and bundle of corporal-cloths.  
 One alb [made] of Rouen-cloth.  
 One surplice.  
 One pair of altar-cloths [made] of Rouen-cloth, each six yards in length.  
 One embroidered altar-cloth.  
 Some coarse corporal-cloths.  
 One missal, with the office of the Order.

20. *Batea*—wooden bowl. Sometimes painted or lacquered.

21. *Jicarilla*—small Mexican bowl. Frequently made of gourd. Also word for chocolate cup.

22. *Jerga*—coarse woolen stuff.

23. The Bib. Nac. Mex. copy adds: "and also things for founding his church."

- One enameled silver chalice, the paten and cup gilded.  
 One small bell to sound the *Sanctus*.  
 One bell, two hundred pounds in weight.  
 Iron framework from which to swing the bell.  
 One pair of gilded wooden processional candle-holders.  
 One pair of brass candlesticks.  
 Snuffing scissors.  
 An oil painting [of saint], two and a half yards in height, with gilded frame.  
 Small chest with *crismeras*.<sup>24</sup>  
 Two papers of pins.  
 One pair of cassocks [made] of Chinese stuff.  
 One piece of damask to cover the altar.  
 Cupboard for the chalice.  
 One rug for the altar steps.  
 One copper vessel for the Holy Water.  
 One tin plate with *vinajeras*.<sup>25</sup>  
 One crucifix, with gilded brass handle.  
 One wafer-box. [For the unconsecrated host].  
 Three yards of Rouen-cloth for amices and *cornvaltares*.  
 Two and half pounds of incense.  
 Two and a half [pounds] of copal.  
 Three ounces of silk wicking.  
 Three pesos' worth of soap.  
 One white *cedazo*, and a black one.  
 For every five [friars,] two choir robes of chinese damask.  
 For every five [friars], two sets of *dalmaticas* [made] of the same stuff.<sup>26</sup>  
 For every five [friars], two carved images of the Christ.  
 For every five [friars], a ciborium.  
 For every five [friars], an iron utensil for making *hostias* [the wafer, or host].  
 For every five [friars], a brass lamp.  
 For every five [friars], a pall for the Holy Sacrament.  
 For every five [friars], a set of clarions and bassoons.  
 For every five [friars], a set of trumpets.  
 For every five [friars], three books of chants.  
 For every five [friars], three *mangas* of velvet with gold edgings.<sup>27</sup>  
 For every friar for building his church, ten axes *de la Calle de Tacuba*. [Bought or made in Calle de Tacuba, Mexico City.]  
 For every friar, three adzes.  
 For every friar, three spits.  
 Ten hoes.  
 One medium-sized saw.  
 One chisel with collar and handle.  
 One large latch for the church door.  
 Two augurs.  
 One plane and box for same.  
 Ten pounds of steel.  
 Six hundred tinned nails for the church doors.

24. *Crismeras*—small phials for the chrism.

25. *Vinajeras*—vessels for the water and wine used during mass.

26. *Dalmática*—ecclesiastical vestment.

27. *Mangas*—strip of cloth hanging from the shoulder of clerical cloaks.

Sixty nails *palmares*.<sup>28</sup>  
 Sixty nails *gemales*.<sup>29</sup>  
 One hundred nails *de a quinientos en suma*.<sup>30</sup>  
 Four hundred nails *de a mil en suma*.<sup>30</sup>  
 Eighteen hundred nails *de taxamanil*.<sup>31</sup>  
 Twelve hundred nails *de medio almud*.<sup>30</sup>  
 Eight hundred tacks.  
 Two small locks.  
 One dozen hinges for doors and windows.  
 One dozen hook and eye latches.  
 One pair of braces for the two doors.

All the aforesaid cost, in the past dispatch  
 one thousand one hundred nineteen pesos  
 1119 p. 4 ts. and four *tomines*; to be reduced in this  
 [dispatch] to eight hundred seventy five  
 pesos.

875 pesos.

III. Statement of Supplies to be given each Friar  
 in Preparation for the Journey and for Food the  
 first time that he goes to [New Mexico], and includ-  
 ing the Padre-Procurator and his companion.

One mule, with saddle and bridle.  
 Two pairs of shoes, and two of stockings.  
 Two blankets and two pairs of leggings.  
 Six yards of Rouen-cloth.  
 Saddlebags.  
 Nine yards of canvas for mattress.  
 One hat and box.  
 One wine-bottle.  
 One travelling canvas (or leather) bag for mattress.  
 One breviary.  
 One drinking jug.  
 One box and key.  
 One frying-pan and one *comal*.<sup>32</sup>  
 One grinding bowl.  
 Six pewter plates and two pewter bowls.  
 Fifteen yards of *jerga de Mechoacán*.<sup>33</sup>  
 One dozen *mecates de ystle*.<sup>34</sup>  
 For every three friars, one bronze *olla*.  
 For every three [friars], one bronze saucepan [or kettle].  
 For every friar-priest and for every lay-brother, fifty two pounds of  
 bacon.  
 Forty one pounds of cheese.

28. Nails the length of the palm.

29. Nails the length of a *geme*, which is the distance between the thumb and first finger when they are outstretched.

30. These terms probably deal with weight or measure and determine the size of the nail.

31. *Taxamanil*—having to do with the roof. Nails or cleats for the roof.

32. *Comal*—Mexican bowl or pan for cooking maize bread or cake.

33. Coarse stuff.

34. *Mecates de ystle*—ropes made of maguey fiber.

Twenty five pounds of shrimp.  
 Fifty four pounds of haddock.  
 Twelve and a half pounds of *tollo* [spotted dog fish].  
 Half a *fanega* of *habas*, and half a *fanega* of beans.<sup>35</sup>  
 Half a *fanega* of salt.  
 Two *almudes* of *garvanzos* and two of lentil.<sup>36</sup>  
 Six hundred pounds of flour.  
 Three hundred pounds of biscuits.  
 Two gallons of oil.  
 Five pints of vinegar.  
 Eight *fanegas* of corn.  
 Four *almudes* of chile.  
 Six pounds of oysters.  
 Twelve and a half pounds of lard [or butter].  
 Half a box of garlic and onions.  
 Ten heifers and ten sheep.  
 Thirty four yards of *jerga* for sacking.  
 Eight pounds of sugar.  
 Six pounds of raisins and four of almonds.  
 Four pounds of conserves.  
 Two gallons of wine.  
 One peso a day for the time that the caravan will be detained in Zacatecas,—at the least, two weeks.

478 pesos. All the aforesaid cost, in the past dispatch, four hundred seventy eight pesos; to be reduced in this [dispatch] to three hundred twenty five pesos. 325 pesos.

IV. Statement of the Cost of the Wagons in the past dispatch—including equipment, and food and salaries of the Indians and mayordomos.

In the past dispatch there were thirty two wagons, Sixteen of them were bought new, and each fitted out with sixteen mules. The cost was thirteen thousand one hundred eighty pesos. For fitting out sixteen others which His Majesty owned, and for equipping all the thirty two with everything necessary, the cost, during the year and a half taken up with the journey to New Mexico, the time the caravan remained there, and the return to this city, was nineteen thousand four hundred seventy five pesos; or an annual cost of twelve thousand nine hundred eighty two pesos and three *tomines*. This sum apportioned among the thirty two wagons, made an annual cost per wagon of four hundred six pesos. In the present dispatch it will be reduced to three hundred seventy four pesos, four *tomines*, as follows: 374 p. 4ts.

35. *Fanega*—dry measure, about 1.6 bushels. *Haba*—a variety of bean.

36. *Almud*—dry measure, about 1/12 bushels. *Garavanzo*—a kind of bean or pea.

## (A)

Forty yards of <i>jerga de Mehoacán</i> for each wagon for wagon top [or covering]. At four and a half <i>reales</i> [a yard]—total cost of twenty <i>pesos</i> and four <i>tomines</i> . The covering will last a year and a half, making a cost per year of fifteen <i>pesos</i> —	15 <i>pesos</i> .
Eight <i>mantas</i> of <i>jerga mexicana</i> for the eight mules usually hitched to the wagon. Four yards each <i>manta</i> , at two <i>reales</i> a yard—total—	8 <i>pesos</i>
One large <i>petate</i> , <sup>37</sup> at a <i>peso</i> and a half—	1 <i>peso</i> 4.
Six small <i>petates</i> for each wagon, at two and a half <i>reales</i> each—	1 <i>peso</i> 7.
Three dozen ropes [lassos] each wagon, for cinches and <i>uncideras</i> , <sup>38</sup> at six <i>reales</i> a dozen—	2 <i>pesos</i> 2.
Two dozen headstalls each wagon, at twelve <i>reales</i> a dozen—	3 <i>pesos</i>
Eight sheepskins each wagon for collars, at three <i>reales</i> [each]—	3 <i>pesos</i>
Eight cowhides each wagon, for packing the supplies; also for whips, halters, and for thongs for the wagon tongues. At two and a half <i>pesos</i> each—	20 <i>pesos</i>
Two sacks each wagon for transporting supplies. Four yards of <i>jerga</i> [each sack] at four and a half <i>reales</i> a yard—	3 <i>pesos</i> 3.
Three pounds of cord for sewing the wagon top, sacks, <i>petates</i> , and <i>mantas</i> , at a <i>peso</i> the pound—	3 <i>pesos</i>
Four needles each wagon, at one <i>tomín</i> each—	4
Twenty six two-pound tire nails for each wagon; three twenty-seven-pound tires for each wagon; four <i>hujas</i> , two large ones of twenty pounds weight and two of fifteen pounds; for two-pound harping irons; six two-pound cleats; four two-pound washers; two five-pound bolts; four pound-and-a-half lynch-pins; two seven-pound <i>costillas</i> : total of two hundred seventy one pounds, at two <i>reales</i> a pound—seventy <i>pesos</i> and two <i>tomines</i> —	70 <i>pesos</i> 2.
A total of one hundred thirty one <i>pesos</i> and six <i>tomines</i> ; to be reduced to one hundred twenty <i>pesos</i> —	120 <i>pesos</i>

37. *Petate*—fiber mat.38. *Uncidera*—some thing that unites or joins, Part of the harness.

## (B)

Statement of annual general expense for the caravan.

The wagons are divided into two main *cuadrillas* (sections,) and each of these into two more. To the leading wagons are given eight bells each wagon.<sup>39</sup>  
At two pesos each, a total of thirty two pesos— 32 pesos

For the mules of these leading wagons, eight *rebozos* each wagon. At a peso and a half each, a total of twenty four pesos— 24 pesos

For each *cuadrilla*,<sup>40</sup> two bronze *ollas* thirty seven and a half pounds in weight, and capacity of half a *fanega*. At seven *reales* the pound, a total of one hundred thirty one pesos and two *tomines*— 131 pesos 2.

For each *cuadrilla*, two more *ollas*, twenty pounds each, for cooking meat. At the same price [as above], a total of seventy pesos— 70 pesos

For each *cuadrilla*, two twenty-five pound copper kettles for cooking *atole*<sup>41</sup> and other things. At the same price [as above] a total of eight seven pesos and four *tomines*— 87 pesos 4.

One dozen large strainers and half a dozen small ones. The large ones at a peso each, and the small ones at a *toston*<sup>42</sup> each. Total— 15 pesos

For each *cuadrilla*, one dozen *bateas de Mechoacán*, and another [dozen] *jicaras*. The *bateas* at six reales each and the *jicaras* at one *tomín* each, Total of twenty one pesos— 21 pesos

For each *cuadrilla*, four twenty-pound iron pans. At four *reales* a pound, a total of eighty pesos. These will last for three years, so that the cost per year will be twenty six pesos and three *tomines*— 26 pesos 3

For each *cuadrilla*, one dozen *metates* and two of *metapiles*. At fourteen *reales* each, a total of forty two pesos— 42 pesos

Eight water barrels. At two pesos each, a total of sixteen pesos— 16 pesos

Sixteen axles. At two pesos each, a total of thirty two pesos— 32 pesos.

39. That is, eight bells for each leading wagon of the two main *cuadrillas*.

40. Each of the two main *cuadrillas*.

41. *Atole*—a gruel.

42. *Toston*—half a peso.

One hundred fifty spokes. At one <i>tomín</i> each, a total of eighteen <i>pesos</i> and six <i>tomines</i> —	18 <i>pesos</i> 6
Thirty two <i>camas</i> . <sup>43</sup> At a <i>toston</i> each, a total of sixteen <i>pesos</i> —	16 <i>pesos</i>
Sixteen yokes. At three <i>pesos</i> , a total of forty eight <i>pesos</i> —	48 <i>pesos</i>
Thirty two mules for the entire caravan to replace those which may be lost or may die. At twenty five <i>pesos</i> each, a total of eight hundred <i>pesos</i> —	800 <i>pesos</i>
One box of twelve dozen fabricated horseshoes. At six <i>pesos</i> a dozen, a total of seventy two <i>pesos</i> —	72 <i>pesos</i>
Two tool chests. At six <i>pesos</i> each, a total of twelve <i>pesos</i> . These can serve for three years, making a cost per year of four <i>pesos</i> —	4 <i>pesos</i>
Five hundred pounds of tallow for greasing the axles. At ten <i>pesos</i> an hundred weight, a total of fifty <i>pesos</i> —	50 <i>pesos</i>
For each <i>cuadrilla</i> , one thirty-pound sledge hammer, and one twenty-five-pound crowbar. At two <i>reales</i> the pound, a total of twenty seven <i>pesos</i> and four <i>tomines</i> . These can serve for three years, making the cost per year nine <i>pesos</i> and one <i>tomin</i> —	9 <i>pesos</i> 1
For each <i>cuadrilla</i> , half a dozen adzes at twenty <i>reales</i> each; half a dozen carpenters' axes at three <i>pesos</i> each; four mountain axes at twenty <i>reales</i> each. Total of eighty six <i>pesos</i> —	86 <i>pesos</i>
For each <i>cuadrilla</i> , three center-bits at ten <i>reales</i> each; three [ <i>barrenas</i> ] <i>de estornija</i> at two <i>pesos</i> [each]; three [ <i>barrenas</i> ] <i>de perno</i> at three <i>pesos</i> each. Total of thirty seven <i>pesos</i> and four <i>tomines</i> —	37 <i>pesos</i> 4
For each <i>cuadrilla</i> , four chisels with collars. At three and a half <i>pesos</i> each, a total of twenty eight <i>pesos</i> —	28 <i>pesos</i>
For each <i>cuadrilla</i> , one large saw at six <i>pesos</i> and one small [saw] at four <i>pesos</i> . Total of twenty <i>pesos</i> —	20 <i>pesos</i>
Two large callipers. Three <i>pesos</i> —	3 <i>pesos</i>
Two twenty-five-pound <i>barretas</i> for emergencies at two <i>reales</i> a pound, total of twelve <i>pesos</i> and four	

43. *Cama*—bed, Truck-bed or wagon-bed. Also straw litter for animals.

*tomines*. These can serve for three years, making the cost per year four *pesos* and one *tomín*— 4 *pesos* 1

[For] each [*cuadrilla*], half a dozen pick-axes for emergencies at three and a half *pesos* each. Total of forty two *pesos*— 42 *pesos*

Four banners with the royal [coat of] arms for the four wagons<sup>44</sup> at fifteen *pesos* each. Total of sixty *pesos*— 60 *pesos*

Forty *pesos* for the entire caravan for fish and vegetables for Fridays— 40 *pesos*

Four hundred *pesos* annual salary for each of the two *mayordomos*. Total of eight hundred *pesos*— 800 *pesos*

Four plains Indians at seven *pesos* a month. Annual cost of three hundred thirty six *pesos*— 336 *pesos*

Two *pesos* a day for corn [for the laborers in the caravan]. Total of seven hundred thirty *pesos*— 730 *pesos*

Six head of cattle a month [for food for the same] at six *pesos* each. Total of four hundred thirty two *pesos*— 432 *pesos*

Ten *fanegas* of chile at five *pesos* each. Total of fifty *pesos*— 50 *pesos*

Six *fanegas* of salt at ten *pesos* each. Total of sixty *pesos*— 60 *pesos*

Grand total of four thousand two hundred forty six *pesos* and five *tomines*— 4246 *pesos* 5.

Apportioned among the thirty two wagons, this make an annual cost per wagon of one hundred thirty one *pesos* and four *tomines*— 131 *pesos* 4.

## (C)

One hundred and eight *pesos* annual salary, at nine *pesos* per month, for the *chirrionero*<sup>45</sup>— 108 *pesos*

## (D)

Also fifteen *pesos* per year for each wagon for *media yndia* [sic]<sup>45a</sup>— 15 *pesos*

44. The Bib. Nac. Mex. copy reads: "cuatro" carros capitanes," the four leading wagons.

45. *Chirrionero*—driver of the mule team.

45a. That is, an Indian women at 30 *pesos* per year would serve two wagons.—  
L. B. B.

[Total annual cost per wagon. Sum of costs stated  
in (A), (B), (C), and (D)]— 374 pesos 4

General Summary of Costs in the past dispatch for each Friar-Priest [already] serving in the Conversions of New Mexico, and also for those who went out for the first time; and [summary statement] of the reduction and contract made herein for the dispatches to be made in future.

## (A)

In the past dispatch the cost for each friar-priest who, according to the contract, was  
602 pesos 6 serving in the Conversions of New Mexico, was six hundred two pesos and six *tomines*. To be reduced in this [dispatch] to four hundred fifty pesos— 450 pesos

## (B)

The cost for the lay-brothers is the same, except for the wine, tapers, and oil for the lamp [which illuminates] the Holy Sacrament. In the past dispatch the cost was  
400 pesos four hundred pesos each. To be reduced in this [dispatch] to three hundred pesos— 300 pesos

## (C)

According to statement number two above, each friar-priest who was sent out for the first time received [in the past dispatch]  
1,119 p. 4 one thousand one hundred nineteen pesos and four *tomines* for the construction of his church, for church bell, chalice, ornaments, and other things for Divine Worship. To be reduced in this [dispatch] to eight hundred seventy five pesos— 875 pesos

## (D)

According to statement number three above, the cost of supplies and food for the journey for each friar-priest and also for each lay-brother being sent out for the first time, and including the Padre Procurator and his companion who have charge of the caravan, was four hundred seventy eight pesos each. To be reduced in this dispatch to three hundred twenty five pesos— 325 pesos

## (E)

In the past dispatch the annual cost of the wagons used in transporting these alms was nineteen thousand nine hundred eighty two *pesos* and six *tomines*. Apportioned among the thirty two wagons, this made an annual cost per wagon of four hundred six *pesos*. See statement number four above. To be reduced in this dispatch to three hundred seventy four *pesos* and four *tomines*— 374 *pesos* 4

406 *pesos*

The Conditions of the Contract are the Following:

## (A)

For every two friars [already] serving in New Mexico and [for every two] going out for the first time, there will be given, for the transportation of these alms, one wagon and sixteen mules—as in the past dispatch . . . . The friars are under obligation to provide for the upkeep of [the same and] with the said number of mules, providing others in the place of those [mules] that may die or be lost, and branding them with the brand of His Majesty, like the others.

His Majesty, as is customary, will provide the necessary [military]escort.

## (B)

The friars are under obligation to deliver over the wagons, after their return from the journey to New Mexico, in such condition that His Majesty may use them as he wishes in His Royal Service during the time that they may be detained in this city until needed for another dispatch; it being agreed that there will be no obligation [on the part of the friars] to incur any expense except that stated above.<sup>46</sup>

## (C)

The caravan will take a year and half for the journey to New Mexico, the time it remains there, and for the return to this

46. That is, no expense except furnishing new mules in the place of those that die or are lost.

(Between dispatches to New Mexico, these wagons were later used repeatedly to send shipments of quicksilver from Mexico City to Zacatecas.— L. B. B.)

city. The costs for this period as stated above will be paid to the friars in advance so they can outfit; and on the return to this city another half year will be paid them, and at the end of that time the year remaining.

(D)

It should be stated that the four hundred pesos given to each friar-priest for the three year term is understood to be for wine, tapers, oil, and for the infirmary, and for replacing the things in the sacristy, and for other ordinary and extraordinary costs such as are customarily incurred for the said friars.

Done in Mexico the thirtieth of April, one thousand six hundred thirty one. This contract will continue indefinitely until His Majesty or the Viceroy, for reason, may be pleased to change it.

Mexico, April thirtieth, one thousand six hundred thirty one.

Don Juan González de Peñafiel—Diego de Ochandiano.—Don Gabreíl de Moscoso.—Fray Tomas Manso.

The Viceroy Approves the Contract and for the future until His Majesty or the Viceroy for reason may change it.

Seen and considered in the *acuerdo de hacienda* which this day I attended, [and] in which were present Licenciado Don Juan de Alvarez Serrano, *Oidor* of this *Real Audiencia*, Doctor Don Juan González de Peñafiel, *Fiscal* of His Majesty in the [*Real Audiencia*]. Don Juan de Cervantes Casaus, Knight of the Order of Santiago, *Contador* of the Tribunal of Accounts of this New Spain, and the said *oficiales reales*, *Contador* Diego de Ochandiano, *Factor* Martín de Camargo, and *Tesorero* Don Gabriel de Moscoso; and being informed concerning all [the aforesaid] and concerning the benefit and saving which would result to the *Real Hacienda* and concerning the means of avoiding embarrassment and delays in these dispatches; therefore, for the present, I approve the said contract, the same to be executed and fulfilled as herein set forth, both for the dispatch now being made and for those to be made in future until His Majesty or the Viceroy in his name for reason may be pleased to change it.

And I order you, the *jueces oficiales* of the *Real Hacienda* of this New Spain, that in regard to whatever is or may be under your control with respect to the expense accounts of the Chichimecas and of New Mexico, instead of the supplies in kind which it has been usual to give to the said friars, you will turn over to the said Padre Procurator Fray Tomás Manso, understanding him to be the legiti-

mate person to receive them, the sums of money due the forty six friars—the thirty five friar-priests, including the Padre Procurator and the companion who came with him from New Mexico, and the eleven lay-brothers—whom the said Padre Provincial has certified to be in the said Custodia of New Mexico; and also for the twenty friars—eighteen priests and two lay-brothers—now being sent out to the said provinces,—making a total of sixty six.

In regard to the twenty eight wagons which His Majesty has at his account in this city out of the total of thirty two which made the past journey to New Mexico, it being stated that four of them remained in the hands of the said governor of that province and for which he must make an accounting; you will buy the wagons and mules necessary to fill out the number needed for this dispatch at the rate of one wagon for every two friars, including both those already in New Mexico and those being sent out for the first time, and turn them over to the said Padre Procurator; and also the other supplies for the fitting out of the caravan as set forth in the said contract, which will begin to run from the third of August of the past year, 1630, which was the date when the three-year term of the past dispatch terminated.

You will execute this order as soon as you may have finished with the business of the fleet of General Miguel de Chazarreta which is at present anchored in the port of San Juan de Ullua; ensuring that the friars may not be detained in this city and that they may make their journey in good season; *que con este mandamiento recibo del dicho Padre Procurador y los demás recaudos que se an necesarios y bastantes se os pasará en datta lo que montare.*<sup>47</sup>

Done at Mexico, the sixth of May, one thousand thirty one.

Marqués de Cerralvo.

By order of His Excellency,

Luis de Továr Godínez,

(Certified copy of the contract which is in the *Libro de la Secretaría del Gobierno*, from which it was copied in order to present it to His Excellency. Mexico, May nineteen, one thousand six hundred forty eight.

(Pedro de Auncarri. (Rubric)

47. "[So] that with this order, [the] receipt of the Father Procurator, and the other validating papers which are necessary and sufficient, the [total] which may result shall be credited to you in *datta*."

The officials of the *Real Hacienda* kept their accounts in the two main divisions of *Cargos* (receipts, debits) and *Datta* (expenditures, credits.) It was the regular procedure to justify every expenditure by vouchers or supporting documents, as above. Unless a disbursement was so justified, the officials were personally accountable.—L. B. B.

The documents presented above in translation are of unique importance for New Mexican mission history. They were drawn up only after prolonged discussion, and they incorporated the lessons and experience derived from some twenty years of supplying the far-away frontier mission posts. For this reason, they became the basis of all later arrangements for the supply service. Several changes were made by the viceroys who followed Cerralvo, but the fundamental principles remained essentially the same.

The statements of costs indicate clearly the very considerable expense which the Crown had assumed in supporting the New Mexican missions. The total cost of the dispatch provided for in the contract was more than sixty thousand pesos; and, in addition, there was the expense of the military escort, the amount of this charge not being stated in the contract.<sup>48</sup> It is estimated that during the period between 1609 and the Pueblo Revolt the total cost of the missions must have been more than one million pesos,—a considerable sum for that time, and very much larger if considered in terms of modern money values. The cost of the missions, as a charge on the treasury of New Spain, was much larger than that of the civil and military government of New Mexico during the same period, although it should be noted that the cost of military defense in New Mexico was largely taken care of by the use of the *encomienda*. That the Crown was willing to assume a considerable expense, especially for a province which returned little, if anything, to the treasury, is an excellent example of the effectiveness of the religious motive in Spanish colonial enterprise.

For the student of the history of overland transportation, the seventeenth century caravans should have a rare interest. Two centuries before the Santa Fé trade was started, New Mexico had an overland freight service of

48. The cost of the escort in the early 1660's was 4,000 pesos. See *Certificaciones de los Jueces Oficiales Reales de la Ciudad de Mexico* . . . . . 1663. f. 45. A. G. I., 61-1-17 (old system).

considerable proportions. The caravan with its thirty two wagons, its more than five hundred mules, its herds of livestock, and its military escort is in every respect worthy of comparison with the later overland freight services. The journey from Mexico City to New Mexico presented quite as many difficulties as the Santa Fé trail, even the problem of hostile Indians which harassed the caravan on the route between Santa Bárbara and the Rio Grande. In one respect, this seventeenth century service was unique: it was not a service for profit. It is true that the governors of New Mexico tried to use the return service for shipping salt, hides, and cotton cloth to the mines of New Spain, but this phase of the service was secondary to the real end—the supplying of the missions.

The seventeenth century supply service deserves to be included in the list of famous overland and transcontinental freight and mail services that blazed the trail before the coming of the "Iron Horse."

(To be continued)

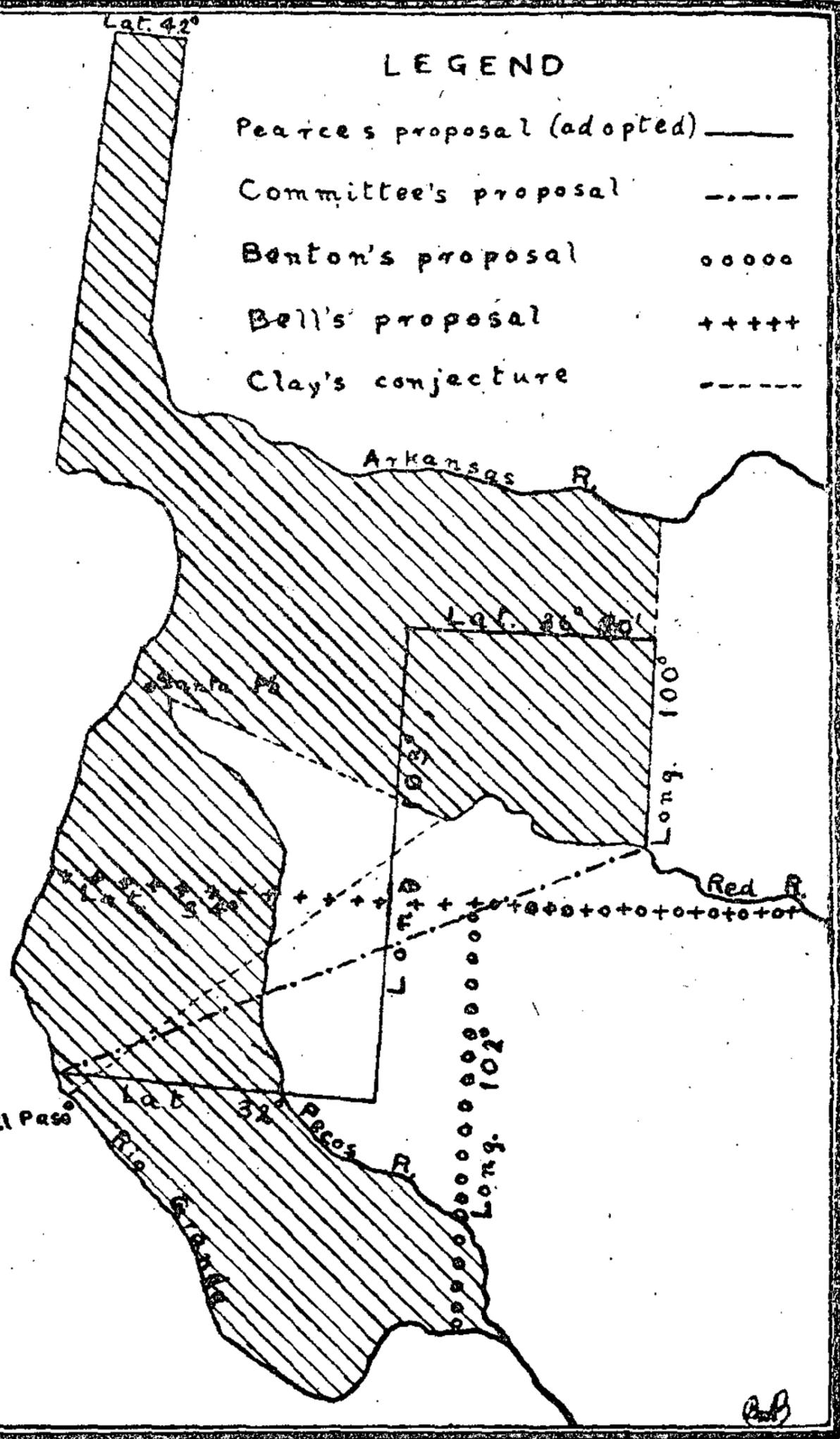
## E R R A T A

Pages 3 to 15. For page-heads, *read* Kearny and "Kit"  
Carson.

Page 32, lines 2-3 belong on page 33, following line 2.

Page 112, in signatures to the contract, *read* Don Juan  
González de Peñafiel, Don Gabriel de Moscoso, Fray  
Tomás Manso.

The cross-hatched area is Santa Fe county, Texas, as created by act of the Texas legislature, March 15, 1848.



PROPOSALS FOR TEXAS-NEW MEXICO BOUNDARY, 1850