

BOUNDARY WATERS: BANCOS IN RIO GRANDE

Convention signed at Washington March 20, 1905; protocol of signature done at México November 14, 1905

Senate advice and consent to ratification February 28, 1907

Ratified by the President of the United States March 13, 1907

Ratified by Mexico March 15, 1907

Ratifications exchanged at Washington May 31, 1907

Entered into force May 31, 1907

Proclaimed by the President of the United States June 5, 1907

35 Stat. 1863; Treaty Series 461

Whereas, for the purpose of obviating the difficulties arising from the application of Article V of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, dated February 2, 1848,¹ and Article I of the Treaty of December 30, 1853,² both concluded between the United States of America and Mexico—difficulties growing out of the frequent changes to which the beds of the Rio Grande and Colorado River are subject—there was signed in Washington on November 12, 1884,³ by the Plenipotentiaries of the United States and Mexico, a convention containing the following stipulations:

“ARTICLE I. The dividing line shall forever be that described in the aforesaid Treaty and follow the center of the normal channel of the rivers named, notwithstanding any alterations in the banks or in the course of those rivers, provided that such alterations be effected by natural causes through the slow and gradual erosion and deposit of alluvium and not by the abandonment of an existing river bed and the opening of a new one.

“ARTICLE II. Any other change, wrought by the force of the current whether by the cutting of a new bed, or when there is more than one channel by the deepening of another channel than that which marked the boundary at the time of the survey made under the aforesaid Treaty, shall produce no change in the dividing line as fixed by the surveys of the International Boundary Commission in 1852, but the line then fixed shall continue to follow the middle of the original channel bed, even though this should become wholly dry or be obstructed by deposits.”

¹ TS 207, *ante*, p. 791.

² TS 208, *ante*, p. 812.

³ TS 226, *ante*, p. 865.