







HIGHLIGHTS AND SIDELIGHTS FROM YOUR STATE CAPITOL

By VERN SANFORD, Texas Press Association

Austin.—From the Panhandle to the Valley, a good, safe topic for a rousing speech right now is "The Tidelands — They're All Ours."

Texans haven't been stirred up on this issue since 1953. That was the year Congress passed the Submerged Lands Act which recognized the coastal states' ownership of off-shore lands to their "historic boundaries."

Texans won title to land three leagues (10½ miles) from shore in its independence treaty with Mexico. Texans, at least, were convinced, this was the "historic boundary." Hence, the state began operating in the three-league territory, leasing tracts to oil, gas and sulphur companies to gain money for the public school fund.

Now the fat's in the fire again. Last year outgoing U. S. Atty. Gen. Herbert Brownell filed suit in the U. S. Supreme Court contesting Texas' claim to more than three miles of tidelands. Other 7½ miles, he said, belong to the federal government.

Of this claim, Texas officials have this to say:

Atty. Gen. Will Wilson: "It was Louisiana who knocked over the off-ice pot."

Things were going along fine after passage of the 1953 law, explained Wilson, until Louisiana (limited to three miles of tidelands) decided that if Texans could have three leagues, so should they. Louisiana filed suit for the extra land. Federal government replied that "no state" owned more than three miles out.

"This," observed Wilson, "struck Texas in a tender spot."

But neither Louisiana nor other coastal states have the same sort of case as Texas, he emphasized. At the time Louisiana entered the Union, the commonly accepted boundary of a country was the distance a cannon could fire from shore — or three miles.

Texas, however, said Wilson, won right to three leagues in 1836 War for Independence, and U. S. officials recognized this when the state entered the Union.

Today the value of the contested lands is estimated at \$500,000,000. Rucfully, Wilson noted he's been allotted only one hour before the court to argue for it.

Land Commr. Earl Rudder: If U. S. court knocks down Texas' claim to the 10½-mile shoreline, then "Russia, Mexico or anybody else can claim it."

Rudder took note of reported discussion among Mexican attorneys. Their view: if Texas did not get title to the territory from Mexico in 1836, then Mexico still owns it. Urging that the title not be clouded, Rudder pointed out that the land is not only valuable for its minerals, but vital to defense.

Gov. Price Daniel: "This lawsuit is another step in the process of chipping away the authority of the states. It seeks not only to repudiate solemn treaties by which Texas entered the Union, but to destroy the legislative intent of Congress.

"The President has by every public act acknowledged this boundary. Yet his own attorney Governor Daniel has expressed the belief that Brownell, who fil-

ed the Texas suit on his last day as attorney general, acted out of pure spite.

**READY FOR BUSINESS** — A new state board has opened shop. Its business: to lend money for dams and reservoirs to hold some of the water that has been rushing wastefully into the Gulf.

Water Development Board instructed its executive secretary to notify some 1,000 cities and water districts that it's ready to start considering applications for funds. Board can lend up to one-third the cost (with \$5,000,000 limit) of a water conservation project.

Newly-organized Development Board met jointly with an older group, the State Board of Water Engineers. Members of the two boards promised to work harmoniously with no trespassing on each other's territory. Development Board will pass on the legal and financial angles of a proposed project; Board of Water Engineers will study from the engineering viewpoint.

**NEW "TRAFFIC DIRECTOR"** — Brad H. Smith, Rio Grande Valley newsmen, and past president of the Texas Press Association, becomes Texas' first state traffic safety director on Feb. 1. Governor Daniel said that Smith will spearhead one of the most intensive traffic safety campaigns in the state's history. Daniel has made war on road deaths one of the prime goals of his administration.

Smith will work with the Texas Traffic Safety Council created by the Legislature last spring to coordinate the safety activities of state agencies. He has been doing volunteer work for 18 years.

**"WEAKEST LINK"** — Bearing on the same problem, speakers at a traffic courts conference in Austin said the courts must command respect for the law.

Traffic courts conducted by laymen or part-time judges in ill-housed courtrooms may be partly responsible for the casual attitude many have toward traffic offenses, said one speaker. Such courts, it was charged, are the "weakest link in the traffic enforcement chain."

**SMALL FRY NOT WANTED** — Texas Board of Insurance has problem of deciding whether to grant permission to charge lower rates to casualty companies which avoid the "little business."

Five companies are requesting the special rates. They said they plan to insure only more expensive homes. Loss ratios are higher in the \$5,000 and under bracket, they explained, and cost of handling offsets commissions. Board recognized this, but asked, "Who is going to take care of the \$5,000 home owner?"

**CREDIT RULING CONTESTED** — An Amarillo insurance firm has filed suit to prevent new, lower credit insurance rules from going into effect March 1. State Board of Insurance had issued an order that would bring an estimated 50 per cent slash in credit insurance charges.

Attorneys for Cosmo Life Insurance Co. contend the Board exceeded its authority. Credit insurers say the order would wreck their business. Numerous state officials had urged the change on the premise that excessive insurance charges were being used as a means to charge borrowers exorbitant rates.

**NOTHING LIKE IT**  
Jones: "There's nothing like getting up at six in the morning, taking an ice cold shower and a run around the park before breakfast!"  
Bron: "How long have you been doing it?"  
Jones: "I start tomorrow."

**EASY TO FIND**  
On entering the pantry mother found little Bobby hunting feverishly for something. "What is it you're looking for?" she asked.  
"Oh, nothing," replied Bobby.  
"Well, if that's all you want," said mother, "you'll find it in the jar where the cookies were."

**NEEDED FIXING**  
"Why did you stop singing in the choir, Thomas?"  
"Well, one Sunday I was sick, and didn't sing, and a lot of people in the congregation asked if the organ had been fixed."

**A SHY LOVER**  
A shy lad wanted to marry the girl, but he felt he would choke if he tried to mention the word marriage. So, after giving much thought to the problem, he asked her in a whisper one evening, "Julia, how would you like to be buried with my people?"

**WORKS, TOO**  
The fancy questionnaire a household appliance company used to survey Iowa housewives brought equally fancy replies. To the question, "What make of garbage disposal unit do you use?" one woman wrote, "Four hogs."

**PUZZLEMENT**  
Policeman: "You saw this lady driving toward you. Why didn't you give her half the road?"  
Unhappy driver: "I was going to, just as soon as I could find out which half she wanted."

**FRESH SUPPLY OF FEED**

Acorn Horse and Mule Feed, 100 Lbs.	\$3.40
Shell Corn, 100 Lbs.	\$3.00
Cottonseed Meal, Shorts, Maize Sunglo Feeds	

**G. W. Bartlett**  
BOGATA, TEXAS

JOHNTOWN HAGANSPORT CUNNINGHAM

**By MRS. G. A. VAUGHAN**

Visitors during the week end of Mrs. J. A. Watts and Mr. and Mrs. Travis Watts were Mrs. Jewel Gowan of Diana, Mrs. Jennie Jennings of Marshall, Mrs. Dixie Maxwell, Shreveport, La., daughters of E. P. Watts of Dallas and the late Mrs. Myrtle Eaves Watts, principally reared in the home of her grandmother after the death of their mother. It was the first time all three had visited her together in several years. Mr. and Mrs. James Watts of Greggot and Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Allums of Dallas, were visitors Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Dryden of Longview, visited Mrs. Irene Pew, Friday night and Saturday. Jim Williams of Humble, visited his wife, who was ill at her home here Thursday night.

Friends were happy to hear that the condition of Mrs. Bobby Watts of Odessa, is reported improved by Mr. and Mrs. James L. Watts.

Jim and Sam Hervey were called to Oklahoma City by the sudden death of their brother, Douglas Hervey, Wednesday, who died at a hospital there.

Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Hervey of Paris, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Cox, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hervey, over the week end.

Bob Smith, who spent the past week with Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Pirtle at Longview, returned to his home Saturday, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Drue Pirtle, who visited relatives here and at Bogata Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Sale have received a message regarding the injury of their son, Sam Sale, in a mine accident in Bisbee, Ariz. Doctors have reported his back is broken and his condition as critical.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wilson of Martin community, visited Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Vaughan, Friday.

Visitors of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Vaughan Sunday included their daughter, Mrs. James Thomas, Mr. Thomas and children of Pittsburg, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Hall and daughters, Linda, Cindy and Diana Roland of Paris, Billie Bain and Mrs. W. L. Wicks of Johtown.

Dinner guests of Mrs. Irene Pew Sunday were her brother, W. E. Hawkins, Mrs. Hawkins, Douglas, Nona and Cheryl of Longview and Mrs. Robbie McCuller and son of Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Pope of Talco, visited Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Vaughan, Sunday. Other visitors were their daughter, Mrs. Pete Hall, Mr. Hall and daughters of Paris.

Bob Vaughan of Halesboro, spent Thursday night with his uncle, G. A. Vaughan and family.

Dan Cotten has been attending his mother, Mrs. Willie Cotten, a surgery patient in Titus Memorial Hospital in Mt. Pleasant, the past week.

Mmes. David L. Hudson and John W. Horn were business visitors in Bogata Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Watts of Dallas, visited his mother, Mrs. J. A. Watts, recently.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Vaughan and Mary Ann visited Mr. and Mrs. James Thomas and children at Pittsburg, Saturday.

Fred Whitten Sr. is reported ill at his home.

J. O. "Oscar" Cooper, ill at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Jerry Dodd, was in Paris Thursday for medical attention.

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Wilson, formerly of Pittsburg, Pa., are visiting in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Grady Rhodes and Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Dodd.

Mr. and Mrs. James B. Bain and children of Commerce, visited Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bain, Sunday.

Mrs. John Parker was called to Corpus Christi recently by the sudden death of a son-in-law.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. "Boots" Roberts have purchased a 1958 car. Boots is employed at Daingerfield and commutes each day.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Weisinger of Mortens, visited their son, R. W. Weisinger, Mrs. Weisinger, Jimmie and Royce Dean, from Wednesday to Friday of last week.

Mrs. Jerry Dodd is adding the convenience of a built in kitchen cabinet across the west end of her kitchen. Titus Noe is the carpenter.

**By MRS. CLETUS COOPER**

Sgt. Bill Perry and family of Savannah, Ga., who are visiting her father, Jess Smith, and other relatives, spent part of last week in Paris with Loyd Smith and family. Mr. and Mrs. Orlon Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Seth Rains and others.

L. H. Taylor sprained his ankle Wednesday night while playing ball. Billie Ray Oats had a painful accident Thursday evening while playing. He struck his head against the edge of the kitchen cabinet door, cutting a long gash in the top of his head. He was carried to Paris for treatment. We hope both will soon be O. K.

A Mr. Basinger and family of Greenville, will move here to the Orlon Smith property next week. A new well has been drilled and he will farm the Ned Read land this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Weldon Smith and family visited in the home of Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Hyde Saturday night. Mrs. Hyde has been ill for several days, but is improved now.

The Claude Kennedy family visited in the home of her sister, Mrs. Jim Pirtle and Mr. Pirtle at Johtown recently.

Glenn Kennedy of Dallas, visited Bennie Kennedy, Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Shuford of Milton, visited in the C. E. Cooper home Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Taylor spent Saturday with his brother, Floyd Taylor at Cooper, who underwent surgery recently, but is doing nicely now.

Mr. and Mrs. Edd Moore spent Sunday night and Monday with a daughter, Mrs. Talma Harvey and Mr. Harvey at Milton.

Several from Minter and Milton attended church services here Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Teague of Paris, visited Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Cooper, Monday.

H. L. O'Neal and family of Dallas, were with C. C. O'Neal and family over the week end.

Several from here attended the singing Sunday at Caviness. A large crowd was present and singing was good.

The Talma Harvey family of Milton, were here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Moore, recently.

PTA was well attended Monday night with 104 present. Speaker was Eugene Norwood, on the subject, "Parents and

**THE "SOVEREIGN" STATES?**

John Stetzey worked in Hagansport Saturday.

There were fourteen out of Hagansport school last week because of chickenpox.

The North East County Singing Convention will be held at North Liberty the 4th Sunday in February.

**THE REMEDY**  
A man went to an ear, nose, and throat specialist and said, "Doctor, I am very worried. I am becoming increasingly deaf and I can't hear myself cough."  
Following a lengthy examination of the man's ears, the doctor wrote out a prescription and said, "Get this made up and take it regularly after meals."  
The patient looked blankly at the doctor and said, "Doctor, will this do my hearing any good?"  
To which the doctor replied, "Not a bit, but it will make your cough louder."

**HIS MAN**  
Personnel Director: "For this position we want someone who is responsible."  
Brash Young Applicant: "Then I'm your man. Everywhere I've worked, whenever anything went wrong, they said I was responsible."

**NEW DISEASE**  
Husband: "I hear they're starting a new campaign against malaria."  
Wife: "Dear me, what have the Malarians done now?"



**Hat In Hand They Stand!**  
Through use of the grants-in-aid device, the Federal government has extended its authority all the way to Main Street.  
When an essential community or state program becomes necessary, our governors are usually forced to go to Washington, hat in hand, to beg for a portion of the tax money their constituents have been forced to pay. The states must put up plenty of money, too, and every dollar is subject to Federal control.  
There should be a reassessment of governmental responsibilities and the return to state and local units of many of the functions which have been assumed by the Federal government in recent decades. The first step should be termination of federal grants-in-aid with all practical promptness.

Youth Can Be Partners." In the absence of both President Mrs. Harry Slusher and Vice President Mrs. Clifford Pynes, Supt. J. E. Jones presided. All enjoyed the meeting.  
Mr. and Mrs. Edsol Huie of Lubbock and Mr. and Mrs. John-

**CLEAN AS ELECTRIC LIGHT**

**ELECTRIC Bathroom Heating**

Your bathroom walls and tile will stay sparkling fresh... you'll save cleaning work and redecorating expense... when you install electric bathroom heating. Electric heat is as clean as electric light... there are no by-products of combustion to streak walls or settle on curtains. An electric bathroom heater provides radiant, sunlike warmth, safely, silently, efficiently. And it's easy to install in place of your present heater. For additional information, visit our office soon.

**Don't Neglect Your Eyes**

There are no bargain eyes, and no amount of wishing can restore vision damaged by hurried, slip-shod service and poor quality lenses.

Play safe. Place your trust in professional men of integrity and character.

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