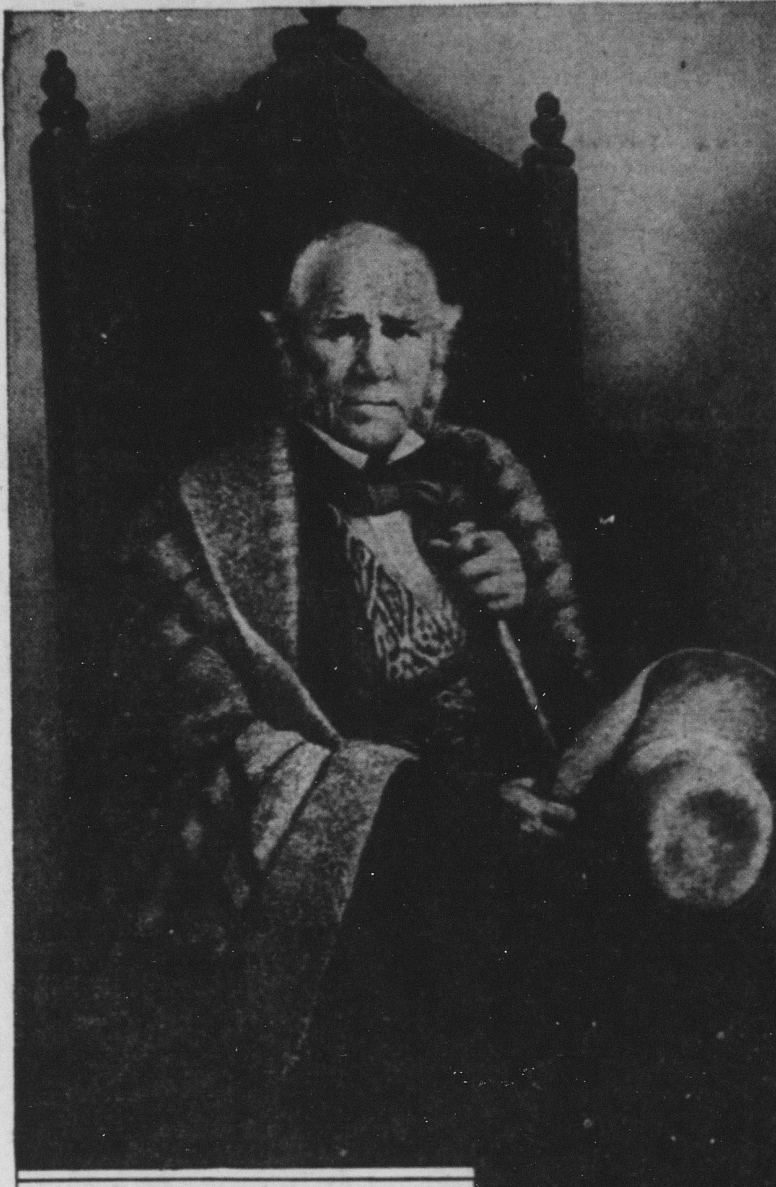


# The Lone Star State's 100 Years; 1836-1936



Sam Houston

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

TEXAS, who is celebrating this year her one hundredth anniversary as an American commonwealth, is unique among her sisters in the Union. In fact, she is the "big sister" of them all. Into her 265,898 square miles could be dropped all of the six New England states together with New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania, and there would still be room for Ohio and Illinois.

As a matter of fact, when she came into the sisterhood of states 90 years ago, she brought with her a much larger territory than that. Altogether there were 389,166 square miles of it. For, as the map above shows, it comprised all of the present Lone Star state, the western half of the present state of Oklahoma, the eastern half of New Mexico, an irregular but sizable chunk of Wyoming and a larger segment of Kansas.

But it is not in the matter of size alone that Texas is unique. She is the only one of the 48 states who was an independent republic before she joined the sisterhood of states. As such she had her own army and navy, she sent envoys to European courts and received ambassadors at her capital in return.

Six flags have flown over her lands. Spain first claimed sovereignty, basing her claims to Texas on the discovery of America by Columbus, the conquest of Mexico by Cortez, and the explorations by Cabeza de Vaca, Coronado and De Soto. France disputed Spain's claim because in 1684 La Salle, searching for the mouth of the Mississippi river, landed on the coast of Texas and planted the French flag there. But La Salle was assassinated by some of his men and France never made good her claim.

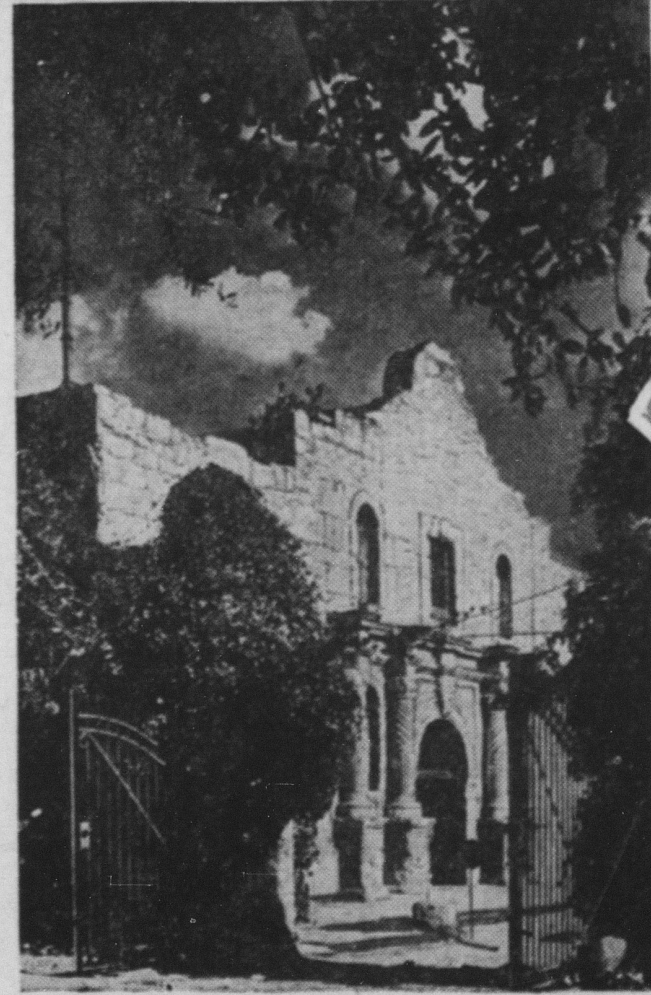
So the flag of Spain waved over Texas until 1821 when the Mexicans gained their independence from the Spaniards and for the next few years Texas was a part of the republic of Mexico.

The year before Mexico threw off the yoke of Spain Stephen F. Austin, the "Father of Texas," left Missouri with a colony and settled in Texas. Other Americans followed and by 1827 Texas had a population of 10,000. Three years later it had grown to 20,000. Mexico began to be alarmed at this influx of settlers. On April 6, 1830, the Mexican congress passed a law forbidding further colonization.

But that did not halt the Americans. Soon there were clashes between the American settlers and the Mexican officials. By 1835 there was a state of open warfare for the Americans who had become Texans were resolved to be free from Mexico as the Mexicans had resolved to be free from Spain. President Santa Anna of Mexico came to Texas with an army of 4,000 to crush the revolt. On February 22, 1836, he besieged San Antonio, which was held by 180 Texans commanded by Col. William B. Travis. On March 6 Santa Anna's hosts swept over the walls of the historic mission, the Alamo, and slaughtered its defenders, thereby making immortal the names of Travis, James Bowie and Davy Crockett, the Tennessee bear-hunter.

In the meantime a group of Texas patriots had gathered at the town of Washington on the Brazos river. There on March 2 they adopted a document which began with this statement:

"When a government has ceased to protect the lives, liberty and property of the people from whom its legitimate powers are derived, and for the advancement of whose happiness it was instituted; and so far from being a guarantee for their inestimable and inalienable rights, becomes an instrument in the hands of evil rulers for their oppression—when the Federal Republic Constitution of their country, which they have sworn to support, no longer has a substantial existence, and the whole nature of their government has been forcibly changed, without their consent, from a restricted federative republic composed of sovereign states, to a consolidated, central, military despotism, in which every interest is disregarded but that of the army and priesthood, both of which are the eternal enemies



The Alamo



David Crockett

of civil liberty, the ever-ready minions of power, and the usual instruments of tyrants—when, long after the spirit of the Constitution has departed, moderation is at length so far lost by those in power that even the semblance of freedom is removed, and the forms even of the Constitution discontinued, and so far from their petitions and remonstrances being regarded, the agents who bear them are thrown into dungeons, and mercenary armies set forth to force a new government upon them at the point of the bayonet—when, in consequence of such acts of malfeasance and abduction on the part of the government, anarchy prevails and civil society is dissolved into its original elements—in such a crisis, the first law of nature, the right of preservation, and the inherent and inalienable right of the people to appeal to first principles and take their political affairs into their own hands in extreme cases, enjoins it as a right toward themselves, and a sacred obligation to their posterity, to abolish such a government and create another in its stead calculated to rescue them from impending dangers and to secure their welfare and happiness."

After listing their grievances, 15 in number, they concluded their work with this statement:

"The necessity of self-preservation, therefore, decrees an eternal political separation.

"We, therefore, the delegates with plenary powers of the people of Texas, in solemn convention assembled, appealing to the judgment of a candid world as to the necessities of our condition, DO HEREBY DISSOLVE and declare that our political connection with the Mexican nation has forever ended and that the people of Texas do now constitute a FREE, SOVEREIGN and INDEPENDENT REPUBLIC, and are fully invested with all the rights and attributes which properly belong to independent nations and, conscious of the rectitude of our intentions, we confidently and fearlessly commit the issue to the decision of the supreme arbiter of the destinies of nations."

Thus the Republic of Texas came into existence. But the revolution in Texas did not end on that date any more than any earlier revolution ended on July 4, 1776. It remained for another man to finish the job that these men on the Brazos had started and back up with bullets the words which they had written just as George Washington had backed up the words of the

signers in Philadelphia 60 years before. That man was Sam Houston and he did it on the battlefield of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.

So it was only natural that Houston, like George Washington, should become the first president of the new republic which he had helped to establish. The capital of that new republic was named for Stephen F. Austin, the "Father of Texas," and by act of its congress in December, 1836, a blue flag with a single golden star in the center became its official flag.

Houston also became the first governor of Texas when it entered the Union in 1845. In the addition of Texas to the Union by annexation lies another of its claims to being unique among the states. For Texas is the only one which ever had the right to subdivide itself into several states if it chose to do so.

The treaty of annexation provided "for the future formation in the said territories of at least two states, and if more than two, then four states, and if more than four then six states, to be hereafter admitted into the United States of America." The reason for this wording lay in the slavery dispute which was beginning to become acute at that time. If the new state was to be divided, there should be an even number, half slave and half free so that the balance of power would be kept even. Since the War Between the States ended forever the question of slavery it also virtually ended the possibility of Texas being subdivided, although many believe that the Lone Star state still has that right.

Not only did that war put an end to one of the factors which made Texas unique but it also added another to the number of flags which have flown over Texas. For four years the Stars and Bars of the Confederate States of America was the flag to which the Texans swore allegiance, then once more Texas was back in the Union under the Stars and Stripes.

Now, Texas, looking back over her 100 years of history, is proud of them all—the flag of Spain, the lilies of France, the banner of Mexico, her own bright Lone Star emblem, her place in the symbol of the "Lost Cause" and her star in the field of blue along with the 47 others. For they all speak of the glorious history that has been hers.

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## Uncommon Sense By John Blake

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If Mark Twain had lived a few years longer he would have had to retract his assertion that everybody complains about the weather, but nobody ever does anything about it.

Something will be done about it very shortly.

The disastrous droughts in the Southwest have led scientific men to search for ways and means of doing it.

The job will take a long time, but it will vastly more than repay all the work and all the money that will be consumed in the effort.

The plan is to stretch a forest like a belt across the desert and prairie part of the United States—a forest that will supply shade and make it possible to prevent the terrific damage done by dry spells in that section of the country.

Costly in time and money as this project will be, it will more than pay for itself after the trees have a good strong growth.

The new forest will be a hundred miles wide, and extend from the Canadian line to Mexico.

For years the treeless stretches from Montana to New Mexico have been the breeding places of heat, arid gales, and destructive sand storms.

The parched soil, loosened by the heat is raised at the bidding of the wind and swept on and on like the sands of Sahara.

If you have gone through such a storm you know what it is like.

If you haven't, it would be difficult to convince you of its fury.

But when a barrier of well-grown trees holds the gales in check and "ties" the soil to mother earth, the entire character of the weather will be changed and the farmer will have no more fear of the loss of his crops.

This vast enterprise cannot be carried out in a mere handful of years. The most rapidly growing tree—a cottonwood or a poplar—requires years to grow to a useful size.

It must be defended from bugs and other parasites. Many trees will die and replacements will be necessary.

But when this bulwark of living green is at last ready for its colossal job there will be a new climate in the states which border on it, and states quite remote from the great divide will be affected favorably by it.

I hope that these trees will be planted forest fashion, and not placed in regular monotonous tiers as they are in Germany and France and other countries in Europe.

And I hope it will be possible to plant those which will supply wood in their old age, and thus in their declining years help to compensate for their cost.

When my valued friend, Samuel G. Blythe, was a small boy, he attended a circus in which the most interesting feature was an electric light.

Another Miracle

It wasn't a very good electric light. The carbon pencils spluttered and fizzed, showering multitudes of little white sparks on the ring below.

But the rustic population talked more about that light than they did about any other features of the show. And well they might. There had been an acrobat and equestrian and animal shows, since, probably before, the days of the Roman Coliseum. But up to a little time before Sam was awed and delighted with that exhibition there had never been a light which took its power from a wire.

That, as I said, was a long time ago. Electric engineers have been busily at work since then.

Today we not only still carry messages "by lightning" without any wires, but send music and conversation broadcast across the nation, and even force them to span the ocean.

And now comes the information that television is an accomplished fact, and that before many years a man in San Francisco can plainly see a friend in New York city while he is carrying on a conversation with him.

When I was a boy of ten I heard an old uncle of mine say to my father: "John, what would you think if I said to you that inside of thirty or forty years men would be flying through the air, like birds?"

"I should think," said my father, "that you had suddenly gone crazy. Man will never learn to fly on this world—and most of them won't ever get to heaven that way."

Today three planes pass over my house daily, on their regular route between New York and Boston.

Flight is a regular thing. Television promises us that before long we shall be able to speak with and see friends who are wandering about Europe.

All these changes have been brought about by the power of the human mind.

What will follow, neither you nor I can tell.

But we had better be careful about how we scoff at men who promise fresh wonders.

Science, on its way and in full swing is capable of miracles which will far surpass those which we marvel at today.

Too bad it can't do something to put an end to the cruelty and needless destruction of life and property such as are convulsing a considerable part of Europe just now.

## All Around the House

Ferns grow and thrive in suspended window baskets if soil is kept moist and not allowed to dry out.

Place a loaf of cake as near the center of oven as possible. If placed close to the firebox one side of cake will rise higher than the other and is likely to burn.

Strips of orange peel coated with melted dipping chocolate are delicious.

Adhesive tape may be quickly and painlessly removed from the skin if softened with benzine. Saturate a sponge with benzine and wash tape with it.

Do not keep cyclamens in too warm a room. Too much heat causes the blossoms to lose their firmness. Keep soil about the roots quite damp.

A pail of sand should always be kept near the furnace in the cellar. Should a spark from the furnace start a blaze it may be quickly extinguished with the sand.

Chilling makes rolled cookie dough firm and easy to roll without the addition of extra flour.

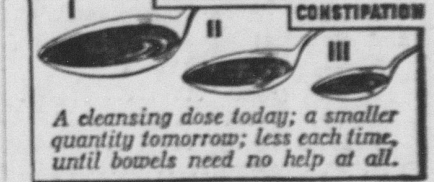
After removing fudge from the stove, add half a teaspoon of baking powder. It makes it fluffy.

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## NO UPSETS

The proper treatment for a bilious child

THREE STEPS TO RELIEVING CONSTIPATION



A cleansing dose today; a smaller quantity tomorrow; less each time, until bowels need no help at all.

ANY mother knows the reason why her child stops playing, eats little, is hard to manage, Constipation. But what a pity so few know the sensible way to set things right!

The ordinary laxatives, of even ordinary strength, must be carefully regulated as to dosage.

A liquid laxative is the answer, mothers. The answer to all your worries over constipation. A liquid can be measured. The dose can be exactly suited to any age or need. Just reduce the dose each time, until the bowels are moving of their own accord and need no help.

This treatment will succeed with any child and with any adult.

The doctors use liquid laxatives. Hospitals use the liquid form. If it is best for their use, it is best for home use. The liquid laxative most families use is Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin. Any druggist has it.

Indians Suffer

Fiji Islanders and American Indians who have been living on soft foods of the white man are beginning to show signs of tooth decay.

## FOUND!

My Ideal Remedy for HEADACHE

"Though I have tried all good remedies Capudine suits me best. It is quick and gentle." Quickest because it is liquid—its ingredients are already dissolved. For headache, neuralgia, sciatica—periodic pains.

## CAPUDINE

## Soothes AND Relieves



## SKIN IRRITATIONS

Try Cuticura—for all skin blemishes due to external causes. Ointment 25c. Soap 25c. FREE trial also if you write "Cuticura," Dept. 3, Malden, Mass.

WNU-4 2-36

## Watch Your Kidneys!

Be Sure They Properly Cleanse the Blood

YOUR kidneys are constantly filtering waste matter from the blood stream. But kidneys sometimes lag in their work—do not act as nature intended—fail to remove impurities that poison the system when retained.

Then you may suffer nagging backache, dizziness, scanty or too frequent urination, getting up at night, puffiness under the eyes, feel nervous, miserable—all upset.

Don't delay! Use Doan's Pills. Doan's are especially for poorly functioning kidneys. They are recommended by grateful users the country over. Get them from any druggist.

## DOAN'S PILLS