

# U. S. Wildlife Funds Allocated To Texas

Texas will receive \$589,230 in Federal Aid wildlife funds during fiscal year 1954.

Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay announced recently that \$11,784,600 has been appointed to the 48 states for the restoration and development of their wildlife resources during fiscal year 1954.

This amount, which becomes available to state game departments under the terms of the Pittman-Robertson Act, as administered by the Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service, represents an increase of \$1,759,494 more than last year's apportionment of \$10,025,106.

A total appropriation of \$12,147,554 includes sums set aside for wildlife in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands and for administration of the Pittman-Robertson Act. This total represents the entire amount credited to the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Fund during the preceding fiscal year from the 11 percent Federal excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition levied on the manufacturers.

Under this Act, which went into effect in 1938, projects consisting of surveys, investigations, land acquisitions, land development for wildlife, and maintenance are submitted by the states to the Fish and Wildlife Service for review. Those projects which are found "substantial in character and de-

sign" are then approved on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior.

The formula used by the Fish and Wildlife Service in making state allotments is: one-half the sum to be apportioned is divided according to the ratio which the area of each state bears to the area of all the states. The remaining half is divided on the ratio of paid hunting license holders in each state to the total number of paid license holders in all states.

## Farmland Prices Leveling Off Rise

The spectacular rise in farmland prices which began in 1940 with the rise of farm prices has slowed down in all states and ended in some. Farm real estate dealers report that prices for top-grade farms have not declined as much as lower quality farms and pasture lands.

Asking prices have remained generally firm, but prospective buyers have hesitated to close deals until prices become adjusted to the current income and price expectations. More than two-thirds of the farms bought during the year ending in March of this year were financed by mortgages on purchase contracts. This is the highest proportion since 1940.

# Texas Woman 'Ma' To Many Children

WACO, Texas, Aug. 25.—(AP)—Mrs. Alice "Big Ma" Bryant, a 75-year-old woman who has reared eight of her own children and 15 foster ones, is thinking about trading her horse for a pickup truck.

In spite of her age, "Big Ma", who got the nickname from taking in homeless waifs, still makes the rounds of her two farms in the nearby Otto Community on horseback.

Friends are trying to persuade her to use a mechanical vehicle. And "Big Ma" is beginning to concede that "in a few years" she may be too old to ride pasture on horseback.

"I've been thinking about getting a pickup," she said. "Big Ma" is a husky woman with sharp, blue eyes.

"I can't drive. But I don't see any reason why I couldn't learn. A lot of women I know drive."

"Big Ma" has seldom worried about what other women do. She has been busy.

"I had to run Big Ma Bryant's poor house," she said with a smile.

The "poor house" is a two-story Otto landmark which sits atop a hill overlooking big cotton farms. That's where "Big Ma" raised 23 children.

Some of the foster youngsters were sons and daughters of folks she had known a long time. Others drifted in with cotton pickers and just stayed on.

The children included four Negro boys, ranging in age from 8 to 12, whose mother was dead and their father was in the penitentiary.

"They lived in a little house right next to the big house," "Big Ma" recalled. "We didn't have it easy. But we had a big peach orchard and there was always lots of milk. And I'm proud of them all. They've all settled down now."

She remembers a frosty winter morning when she got two little white girls. Their father had gone away. The mother appealed to "Big Ma."

"I sent one of the boys on horseback for the little girls. It was a cold winter morning, I remember."

Her voice softened. "But you get too attached to children. It hurts you too much to give them up."

When the girls' mother remarried she took them back. The children are grown now and write "Big Ma" regularly. They, too, want her to quit riding pasture.

But "Big Ma" won't be won over easily. She pulled her old-time cotton print bonnet down firmly on her hair, only slightly gray, and declared:

"I like the outdoors. I hate the inside of a house. I like to ride the pasture two, three times a week. I've been riding a horse since I was six."

Her advice for riding through life: "Work hard and don't worry about a pension. And eat plenty of bacon and eggs and fresh fruit. And when things get tough, push a little harder."

## 12th Wee Aggie Land Kindergarten Set

Wee Aggie Land Kindergarten will begin its 12th year, Sept. 8, 1953. Mrs. Robert Lyle, who is supervisor, received her B.S. degree from Mississippi Southern College and has studied in the graduate school at A&M. She taught twelve years at A&M Consolidated before opening her kindergarten.

Mrs. Lyle will be assisted by Mrs. Marvin Butler, who studied at the University of Illinois. While there she helped in the organization of a kindergarten and nursery school for the Veterans' children. She studied two years at McKendree College, Lebanon, Ill. Mrs. Butler has studied voice under Mrs. Jewell Everett, Granite City, Ill., and for the past three years has had voice training under Mrs. Grace Krug. She has had experience in directing children's choirs.

Mrs. Lyle feels she is most fortunate in having Mrs. Butler work with her. They both are looking forward to a happy and successful year with the "Wee Aggies."

## The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions "Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published by students four times a week, during the regular school year. During the summer terms, and examination and vacation periods, The Battalion is published twice a week. Days of publications are Tuesday through Friday for the regular school year, and Tuesday and Thursday during examination and vacation periods and the summer terms. Subscription rates \$6.00 per year or \$5.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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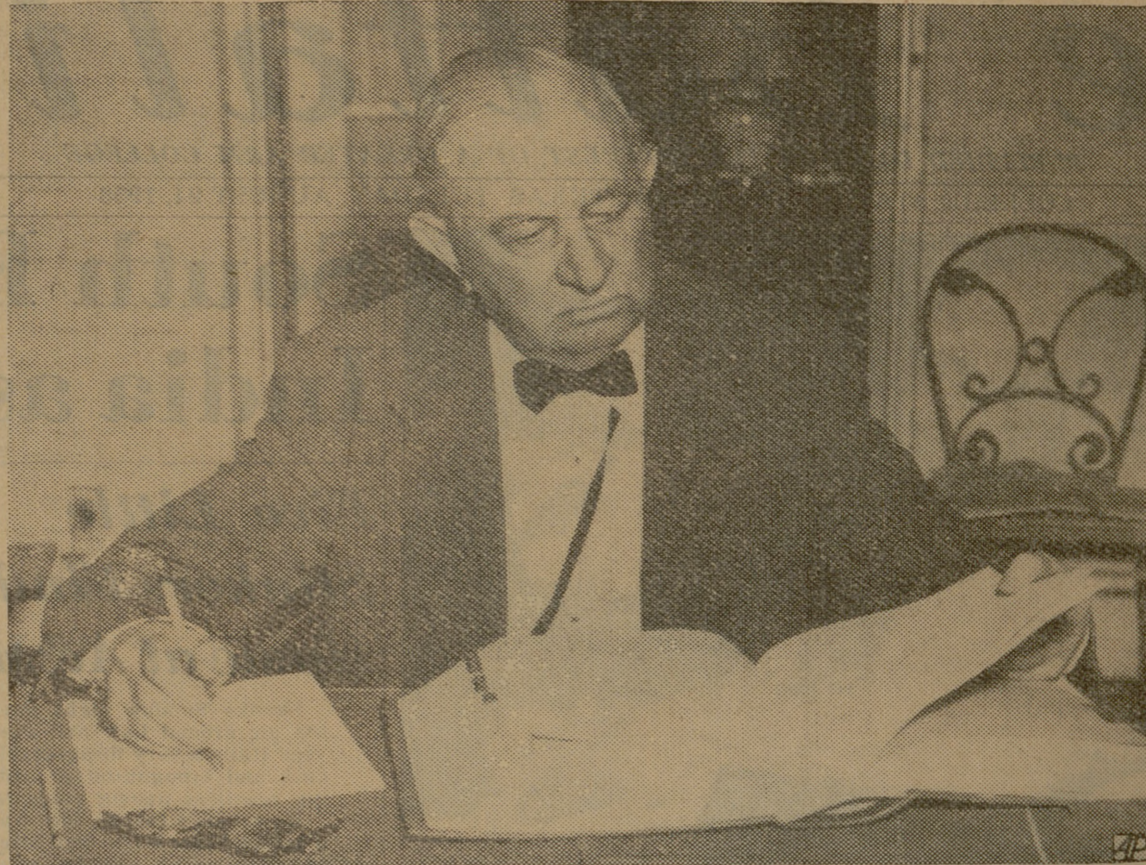
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JERRY BENNETT, ED HOLDER, CO-EDITORS  
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**STILL WORKING**—Tom Connally (gray-haired political warrior who has retired to the sidelines, works on a book he is writing that will span his 36 years as a member of the Senate and the House. Even his 76th birthday Aug. 19 did not interrupt his schedule of jotting data for the book. At his Washington home the fiery Texan snorted disapproval of some of his fellow Democrats. "The Democrats can overdo this business of bragging about their support of President Eisenhower," he said, "that sort of thing may be no help in the years to come."

# Job Situation In Texas Seems Moderately Stable

By TEX EASLEY  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 25.—(AP)—The job supply situation in Texas is stable, according to a report just issued by the Labor Department.

Basing its conclusions on conditions prevailing from May through July, the department said Dallas and Houston labor supplies are balanced as to current and prospective labor demand.

Nine other Texas cities covered by the report are classed as areas in which current and prospective labor supply moderately exceeds requirements.

These cities are: Corpus Christi, El Paso, Fort Worth, Galveston, Lubbock, San Angelo, San Antonio, Waco and Wichita Falls.

The 11 Texas cities discussed in the report are among the 182 throughout the nation where the department made a study, in cooperation with state agencies, to learn manpower conditions.

The report noted that in only 14 of the 182 cities—none of them in Texas—were there any changes from conditions earlier in the year. Most of the changes reflected a trend toward greater labor surplus. An example of a new labor surplus was Washington, D.C., where the government has laid off employees in recent months.

83rd Congress Discussed  
When Congress adjourned, the legislators agreed to have occasional issues of the Congressional Record published during the rest of the year.

These are to go into the appendix of the permanent files. In the issue dated Aug. 14 are numerous statements published under authority granted by Speaker Martin (R-Mass) on Aug. 3, the day of adjournment.

## Shooter's Bible Is Now Ready For All Hunters

The 1954 edition of the Shooter's Bible will be ready for distribution about September 15, according to the Stoeger Arms Corporation.

This 45th annual edition will be the largest ever published, containing 560 pages, and constitutes the most complete up-to-date guide on arms and accessories, fishing tackle and equipment and other items of interest to outdoorsmen.

Its imported gun section will contain the finest selection of imported firearms offered American shooters since before World War II. The domestic section covers the latest in rifles, shotguns and handguns including the new Winchester .308; Savage .222 caliber rifle; Marlin rifles and carbines and the over-and-under shotgun with single trigger.

The gun parts section comprises over 100 pages showing every part for all current domestic firearms plus foreign parts. Complete ammunition and ballistic tables are included.

Featured again in the "Angler's Bible" section again will be a complete line of the finest fresh water tackle and equipment of leading manufacturers with illustrations, full description and latest prices.

adjournment. Bonham's veteran Congressman Sam Rayburn discusses accomplishments of the 1st session of the 83rd Congress.

"Mr. Speaker," he said, "it is with great constraint that I say this Congress is unhappy as it heads home. It is without restraint that I say my Republican colleagues have my full sympathy, because they return to face their constituents knowing that they have failed to keep their 1952 campaign pledges.

Many Promises  
The Republicans promised to balance the budget. The budget is more unbalanced than they found it.

"They promised to reduce taxes. Taxes have not been reduced. Actually, they have been increased by an extension of taxes.

"They promised to stabilize the Nation's economy. Prices of many

commodities are rising. The cost-of-living index is at an all-time high. Farm income is down 14 percent.

"They promised to reduce the national debt. Instead they have asked Congress to increase it.

"They promised a new foreign policy. No new foreign policy has been produced, and under Republican administration of the Truman-Acheson policy we are losing friends we need abroad.

"They talked about the mistakes of Yalta and Potsdam. Let us pray that we may not have to talk of mistakes of the uneasy truce in Korea.

"They promised a new farm policy. They have produced none.

Many believe the leader of the House democrats set forth a preview of the attack his party will make on Republican congressmen in next year's elections.

# Antelope Hunting Licenses To Be Awarded The Lucky

Applications from hunters who wish to take part in this fall's Texas antelope hunting now are being received at the Game and Fish Commission office in Austin.

A request will bring a blank, which the hunter completes and returns to the Austin office with \$5 to cover the cost of the special license.

A drawing will be held in September to determine which hunters will receive the limited number of permits, and all hunters whose names are not drawn will be refunded their \$5.

The Executive Secretary said the completed applications with \$5 fees must be in the Austin headquarters before midnight, Monday, August 31.

Dates for the annual antelope harvest were set by the Commission for October 1 to 6, inclusive, in the Big Bend country and for October 20 through 24 and for October 27 through 31 in the Panhandle.

The Commission estimated the

probable harvest of male antelope in the Big Bend at from three three hundred to three hundred and fifty and the harvest in the Panhandle at about three hundred bucks. The final license total will depend on surveys now being conducted.

Persons, who are awarded a license through the drawings in Austin, make their own arrangements with ranchers who are permitted to charge up to \$40 for each licensed hunter.

## Sprayers Working In Brazos Cotton

Cotton is being sprayed or dusted almost daily on the college farms in the Brazos bottoms.

Delta Air Lines Crop Dusting and Spraying Service from Bryan operates a fleet of approximately ten dusting and spraying planes from a small landing strip in the heart of the Brazos bottoms.

The quantity of spray or dust released per acre can be closely regulated. Practically all work is done either early in the morning or late in the evening when full benefit can be made from the still air. Even with the still air, skilled pilots must fly the planes as they buzz along almost brushing the cotton tops.

LUBBOCK, Tex.—Besides adding 8,000 permanent seats to Jones Stadium this summer, Texas Tech is also building a third floor to its pressbox—a camera-television deck.

# Prettiest Teacher Prefers School

By BRUCE HENDERSON  
DALLAS—(AP)—"The nation's prettiest school teacher" says she'd rather teach than be a celebrity.

Petite Nell Owen was picked in a contest last winter as the most winsome teacher in the U.S.A. She made a round of public appearances.

"It was lots of fun, but nothing could make me want to quit teaching," she recalled.

Nell, 22, five feet 2 1/2 inches tall with blue eyes and golden hair, was a yearbook beauty at Southern Methodist University. She is married to George Owen, partner in a Dallas chemical sales store.

"I was teaching my first full year at James Bonham (elementary) school," she said. "One day after class two of my girls came to my desk. They said they wanted a picture of me."

The girls explained that the radio-television show, "Our Miss Brooks," was conducting a contest to select the nation's prettiest teacher. The show stars Eve Arden as a teacher.

"I didn't even know such a contest was going on," Nell said. "I gave them a picture and forgot about it."

"A few weeks later KRLD-TV (a Dallas station) called me on the telephone. They said I had won. I was shocked."

Nell and George went on expense-paid trips to Hollywood and New York. She appeared on radio and television.

"Eve Arden had us out to dinner in Hollywood," Nell said. "She's just as nice as she can be."

"In New York I was on Arthur Godfrey's morning program. Was I nervous? I could hardly talk. But he's wonderful at putting people at ease."

Nell said she read some lines for a Paramount talent scout in Hollywood.

"I guess he could tell I wasn't really interested. In New York 20th Century-Fox asked me to make a screen test. But it had to be made in California and I didn't care enough about it to go."

# New Fieldhouse Still Scheduled To Finish Dec. 5

When will it be finished and what will it look like are questions that are being asked about the new Field House that is under construction next to the football stadium. The construction company is Farnsworth and Chambers Incorporated of Houston, and the contractor is Mr. J. A. Orr, Jr.

According to Mr. Orr, the total cost of the structure will be around \$1,010,000, and it will have a seating capacity just under 9000. The basketball floor will be in sections making it removable for such things as stock shows, horse shows and other activities that would be of harm to a basketball court. Because of the sloping roof and seats, there will be an abundant supply of storage space.

In addition to the basketball court, the building will contain complete auditorium facilities including portable stages, lighting, loud speakers, and acoustics. Also, there will be five large class rooms, five large activity rooms, 24 offices, dressing rooms for the teams, public telephones, and restrooms, and concession facilities.

In the contract, the time allotted for completion of the field house was 300 working days. So far, only 151 of these days have been used. If weather permits and everything else goes along all right, the building should be completed in time for the first basketball game which is scheduled for December 5.



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