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South's population up 7% from 1980 to 1984

WASHINGTON (AP) — The population of the South increased by 7 percent between 1980 and 1984, with Florida, Texas, Oklahoma and Georgia recording the largest gains in the region covered by new Census Bureau estimates of population and per capita income.

The bureau, in the latest in a series of regional reports issued this summer, said the population of the 15 Southern states increased from 74,139,635 in 1980 to an estimated 79,340,321 on July 1, 1984.

Florida's population increased by 12.6 percent during the period, the fastest rate in the region. Texas ranked second with a 12.4 percent increase, followed by Oklahoma at 9 percent and Georgia at 6.8 percent.

In terms of per capita income, Georgia led the 15-state region with a 36.9 percent increase from 1979 through 1983. Georgia's average in-

come per resident jumped from \$6,380 in 1979 to \$8,734 in 1983.

Ranking behind Georgia in percentage increase in per capita income were Virginia, 35.6 percent; Florida, 35.1 percent; North Carolina, 33.5 percent; Maryland and South Carolina, both at 33.1 percent; Oklahoma, 32.7 percent; Arkansas 31.6 percent; Mississippi, 31.2 percent; Texas, 31.1 percent; and Louisiana, 30.5 percent.

Maryland residents were the region's wealthiest in 1983, with a per capita income of \$11,036. Virginia ranked second at \$10,136, followed by Florida, \$9,808; Texas, \$9,443; Oklahoma, \$9,092; Georgia, \$8,734; Louisiana, \$8,385; North Carolina, \$8,189; Tennessee, \$8,042; South Carolina, \$7,830; Kentucky, \$7,724; Alabama, \$7,603; Arkansas, \$7,388;

West Virginia, \$7,320; and Mississippi, \$6,801.

Here is a complete listing of the bureau's 1984 population estimates for the Southern states, including the percentage increase since the 1980 census:

Texas, 15,988,538, 12.4 percent; Florida, 10,975,748, 12.6 percent; North Carolina, 6,164,613, 4.8 percent; Georgia, 5,836,548, 6.8 percent; Virginia, 5,635,544, 5.4 percent; Tennessee, 4,716,752, 2.7 percent; Louisiana, 4,462,489, 6.1 percent;

Maryland, 4,349,252, 3.1 percent; Alabama, 3,990,221, 2.5 percent; Kentucky, 3,723,024, 1.7 percent; South Carolina, 3,300,211, 5.7 percent; Oklahoma, 3,297,952, 9 percent; Mississippi, 2,597,952, 3.1 percent; Arkansas, 2,349,159, 2.7 percent; and West Virginia, 1,952,318, 0.1 percent.

White adds two topics to session

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Mark White on Tuesday added two topics to the special session agenda, but the call came a bit late for the House.

White widened the session to include consideration of bills concerning court fees and child support enforcement. Lawmakers meeting in special session are only allowed to act on topics set by the governor.

About an hour before White widened the agenda, the House refused to act on a court fees bill because it was not in the special session call. Speaker Gib Lewis reluctantly affirmed El Paso Rep. Paul Moreno's point of order that killed debate of the measure.

"It was, unfortunately, late in getting over here," Lewis said of White's proclamation.

Hance defends Clements turnaround

AUSTIN (AP) — Kent Hance, who lost the Republican gubernatorial nomination to former Gov. Bill Clements, on Tuesday defended Clements' apparent change of mind on his earlier pledge to veto any new taxes if elected.

"You're being picky on him," Hance told a news conference.

Hance, touring the state for Clements' bid against Democratic incumbent Mark White, said the former governor was only being realistic when he said he no longer could promise to veto any future tax increase.

"Bill Clements . . . doesn't want a tax bill," Hance said. "He's leaving that opening just in case something happens (economically) that would be extremely difficult."

In an interview published Monday, Clements appeared to back away from his oft-made pledge to veto any new taxes if elected. In the interview, he said it would be "non-sense" to make such a promise now.

Aides said Clements still opposes taxes, but that the state's financial situation now is precarious and that must be taken into account. On Tuesday, Clements' staff distributed

buttons saying, "We're for Texas, not for taxes."

Hance said that in making the comment, Clements faced both economic reality and what he called White's delay in acting on the current \$3.5 billion state budget deficit.

"It points out, one, that White let things go so long that he got it so messed up," Hance said.

"(Former) Gov. Clements is still against a tax increase and will remain against a tax increase," he said. "But with circumstances like they are, you never get in a position of saying never."

Hance said a big problem is that no one knows how large the state deficit will be when the Legislature convenes in January for its regular session.

"I think he (Clements) is better off having those options available," Hance said.

Clements has sought to make credibility a key campaign issue, accusing White of breaking a 1982 no-new-taxes pledge by supporting or signing into law tax increases during his four years in office.

Farmer-entrepreneur awaits patent on rake

PURDON (AP) — About two years ago, hay baler George Buck of Purdon was driving his tractor across a field when he decided there must be an easier way to rake and bale hay.

Buck was tired of disassembling the rake to go through gates, greasing rake parts every day, working around terraces and making three trips across a row to produce a bale of hay.

So he got off the tractor, spent two days in his workshop and emerged an entrepreneur with an invention he calls the Buck Rake.

He convinced Gary Summerall, the son of his hunting buddy, to buy interest in a rake-making business and both are waiting for final approval on a patent for the product.

Buck claims the Buck Rake cuts one-third of the hay baling expense — labor, fuel and tractor wear — by eliminating a tractor run across the field.

The two arms of the Buck Rake join and hook onto the front mount of a tractor. The sets of rake wheels are raised and lowered by hydraulic cylinders.

The rake wheels are not operated by a motor, but whirl around by themselves as they are pushed across the ground by the tractor. The rake wheels collect hay into a row under the tractor. The row is gathered into a baler pulled behind the tractor.

"It will rake on any kind of rough ground," Buck said. "You can fold it up and never get off the tractor to drive through the gate on it . . . I

haven't greased mine in two years . . . I've never spent a dime on it to repair it."

Buck and Summerall formed B&S Implement Co. in November of 1985 to market the rake. The officers are president Buck; vice president Summerall; and his wife and treasurer Marty Summerall.

The list price on the rake is \$3,250.

Jude Perry of Powell recently bought one. "Well, I think it's going to be all right," Perry said, after trying the rake on his tractor.

The rakes currently are being sold through Little John Implement Co. of Hubbard, Vitters Tractor Inc. in Corsicana, and by Buck and Summerall themselves.

Buck, who retired from a Corsicana automotive shop in 1978 to become a part-time hay baler, said he builds "stuff" in his shop all the time.

"If I need it, I just go out and build it," he said.

The Buck Rake is made with steel from Dais Iron Works Inc. of Hewitt, bolts and a Canadian hydraulic cylinder sold by H&W Supply in Corsicana and rake wheels imported from Italy, Summerall said.

Buck has built 30 rakes already but eventually plans to contract with Moore Metal Industries of Corsicana to build the product once the demand increases, Summerall said.

"I've got the feeling we're going to make a lot of money," Summerall said. "After we pay off all the notes, we have a pact to donate one-third of the profits to charity."

'Dallas' J.R. Ewing to get new office due to renovation

DALLAS (AP) — J.R. Ewing will wheel and deal at the InterFirst Plaza this fall, as the television show moves out of its former quarters at the InterFirst II building because of unsightly renovations.

Managers of InterFirst Plaza said Monday that when the new season of CBS' "Dallas" opens, the office scenes will be shot in their new building.

The show's producer, Lorimar-Telepictures had used the nearby InterFirst II building since the show began running in 1978. But the skyscraper is being renovated and is unsuitable for filming because of the scaffolding.

Officials with Bramalea Ltd., owners of the InterFirst Plaza, said they grabbed the opportunity to play host to the televised mayhem of the Ewing Oil Co.

"We figured since we had the tallest office building in Dallas, J.R. ought to be in it," said Bramalea spokeswoman Gayden Scott.

Bramalea began wooing Lorimar's location managers more than a year ago while the 70-story building was still under construction, said Doug Salter, head of the company's Dallas office.

He said eight company officials managed to get invitations to the end-of-the-season party for the cast and crew of the show.

"My wife even danced with Larry Hagman," Salter said.

Hagman plays the conniving J.R., the oldest son of the Ewing family in the nighttime soap opera.

After months of what Salter described as "badgering," Lorimar agreed to make InterFirst Plaza the office site of Sue Ellen, J.R.'s wife. When construction began at InterFirst II, recently named Renaissance Tower, J.R. also moved to the new building.

The play for hosting the fictional company resembles some of the real-life raiding in Dallas' competitive real estate market. Bramalea lured the producers with free rent and parking for the production crew.

For Salter, that was still easier than getting a real tenant.

"That's really hard work these days," he said.

However, the office change may not be permanent.

"Dallas" publicist Joyce Wilson said Monday that Lorimar is trying to downplay the move and hasn't made a permanent commitment to either location.

Texas prepared to bid for SSC site

Collider promises 'Big Bang'

By Mona Palmer
Assistant City Editor

At the beginning of time all of the matter and energy in the universe was concentrated in a very small volume that exploded, and the resultant expansion continues today . . . the "Big Bang" theory.

A huge accelerator, if submitted to and approved by Congress, promises a view of energy and matter as it behaved at, or close to, the time of the "Big Bang."

The Superconducting Super Collider would be the most advanced accelerator in the world, regardless of whether it yields the "Grand Unified Theory" high-energy physicists hope for, said John McTague, acting science advisor to President Reagan, in an article in Science magazine.

Energy Secretary John S. Herrington will decide this summer whether to seek funding for this project, put the project on hold, or ditch it altogether.

If Herrington decides the Department of Energy will go for the project on schedule, then he must do so as the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deficit reduction act is making its presence felt.

The SSC has a price tag of \$4 billion in 1984 dollars, or some \$6 billion allowing for inflation over the ten year construction period.

In July 1983 the High Energy Physics Advisory Panel recommended the project without dissent to the Department of Energy.

Tom Weimer, from the House Committee on Science and Technology, said if the project is submitted and approved then states would be asked to submit site proposals. The Texas group is looking very hard at putting together a submission, he added.

Dr. Melvin Friedman, dean of geosciences at Texas A&M, worked with professors from three other Texas universities to put together a report on potential Texas sites for the SSC.

The report is a \$400,000 effort by the state, Friedman said, and it insures that Texas will be ready to make a strong argument for a site if Congress decides to fund the project.

The University of Texas at Austin, Rice University and the University of Houston were involved in the study done under the Houston Area Research Center.

Sites were considered in South Dallas, North and South Houston, East Central Texas, West Central Texas and West Texas.

In Washington, Friedman said,

they're looking at a \$6 billion project — and trying to convince them that Texas can do it for less.

Friedman pointed out that Texas construction workers receive non-union wages and that the potential sites in Texas have fewer geological differences to hamper construction.

He said the supercollider would create 4,000 jobs for Texas during peak construction and would payroll 2,000 to maintain and operate the huge accelerator.

Scott Hull, a representative from Joe Barton's office, said right now Texas is waiting to see what will happen if the project is proposed but said he hopes that Texas will be involved in the construction of the supercollider.

The benefits to Texas are incalculable, he said, and the technological spin-offs alone would help the economy.

The executive summary of the potential site study gave a conservative estimate of the supercollider's net economic benefits to Texas.

The summary stated that benefits would total \$533 million in present-value terms over the construction phase and the initial 20-year life of the facility.

The summary also stated that income from the supercollider would

be geographically widespread.

"In no case will the site's local region absorb more than 53 percent of the state's total increases in personal income during the construction phase," the report stated.

"Studies conducted by Rice and Texas A&M agree that there are no environmental problems of sufficient magnitude to rule out any of the Texas sites if it is considered attractive on other grounds."

Weimer said a design for the supercollider was presented one month ago to Herrington.

The newly formed Central Design Group, headquartered at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, submitted the Conceptual Design report that details everything from the SSC's magnets and cryogenic systems to its scientific rationale, Weimer said.

Basically, he said, the report is on the Secretary's desk and he must decide whether or not he should ask to build it next year.

Weimer added that Herrington must make the request in January to build the supercollider in 1988. The Secretary also could wait until next year to ask for funding, Weimer said, or not ask at all.

"The ball," he said, "is in the Secretary's court."