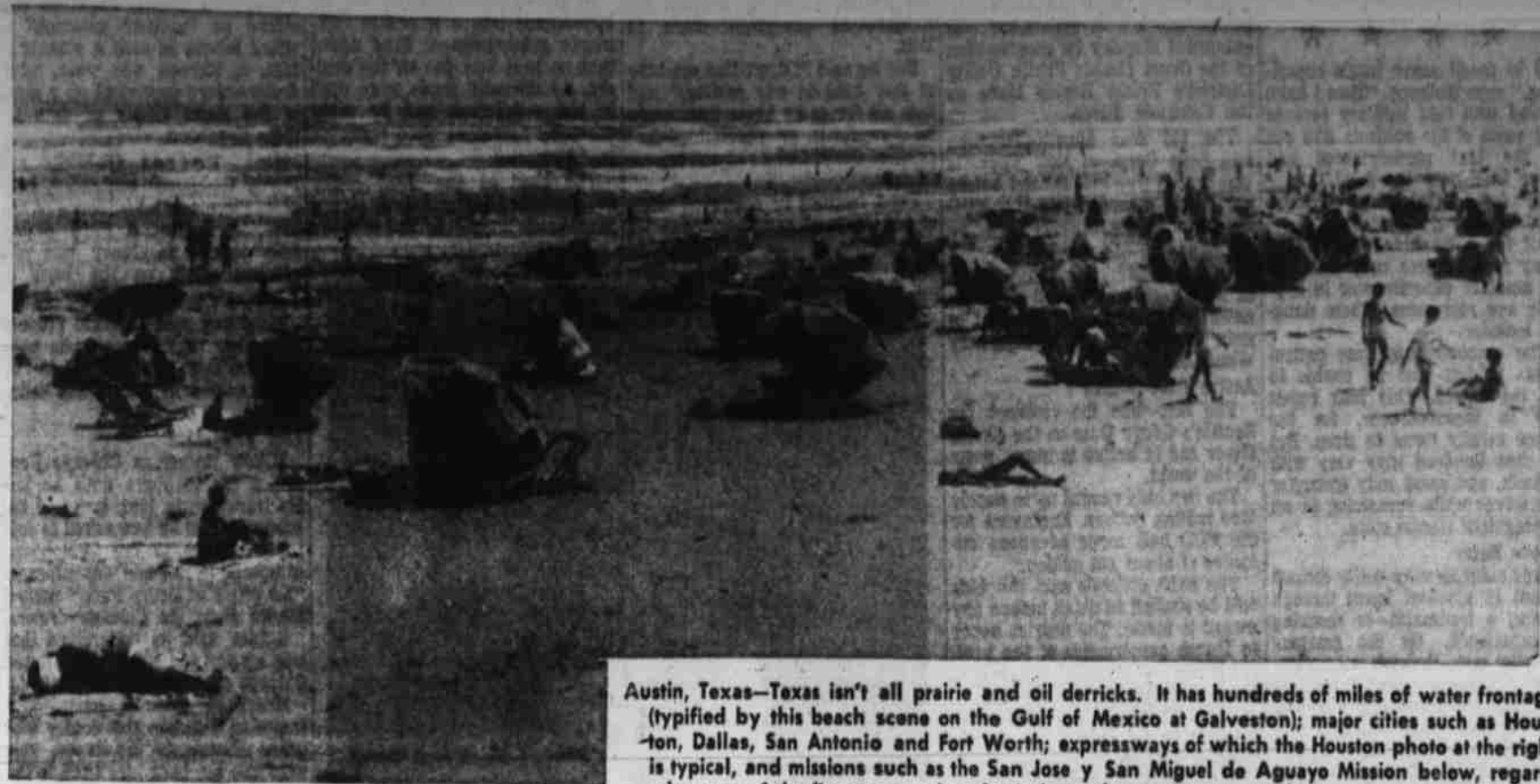


# Texas—Prideful State Holds Many 'Firsts'

THE UNITED STATES  
★ ★ ★ ★  
Exclusive Series in  
THE STATESMAN



Austin, Texas—Texas isn't all prairie and oil derricks. It has hundreds of miles of water frontage (typified by this beach scene on the Gulf of Mexico at Galveston); major cities such as Houston, Dallas, San Antonio and Fort Worth; expressways of which the Houston photo at the right is typical, and missions such as the San Jose y San Miguel de Aguayo Mission below, regarded as one of the finest examples of mission architecture ever erected.



## Colorful Past Still Apparent in Land of Diversified Attractions

AUSTIN, Tex.—Regardless of the craving of the vacation palate, you will be satisfied and then some when you visit the Lone Star State. Texas is a land of diversified attractions, ranging from mountains and canyons in the west to the cypress bayous in the east, island beaches in the south to the plains of the great northern Panhandle. In addition to the many natural and man-made attractions set in this western frontier land, Texas affords visitors a glimpse of many missions and monuments which reflect the state's colorful and romantic past.

The Texas coast was first explored by Alvarez de Pineda in 1519, and Coronado moved along the inland in 1541. Texas became a Spanish province in 1691, a Mexican state in 1821, fought its way to being an independent Republic in 1836, and was admitted as a state by the United States, Dec. 29, 1845. It was re-admitted March 30, 1879, after seceding during the Civil War.

### Many "Firsts"

The state ranks first in size, oil, beef production, sheep-raising, wool, mohair, cotton, sulphur. Its top industry is petroleum refining, followed by meat-packing and cotton-seed products. Houston, largest city in the South, is the second largest port, by volume, in the nation. The state has more than 600 airports, 55 major U. S. Air Force bases, 126 institutions of higher learning.

Texas derived its name from the Indian word "tejas," meaning "friendly." From the friendly Indians of yesterday to the friendly, prideful Texans of today, a warm hospitable atmosphere has covered this great land. The sobriquet of "Friendship State" was officially adopted.

### Bluebonnet Noteworthy

Among the 4,000 different kinds of species of wild flowers in Texas, the Bluebonnet is probably the most noteworthy of them all. The bluebonnet was adopted as the state flower by act of the legislature on March 7, 1901. It is known that they grow most abundantly in north central and southwest Texas.

There are 54 mountains in Texas having altitudes of more than 6,000 feet. The highest is the Guadalupe Peak, which towers to 8,751 feet above sea level and is the tallest peak east of the Rocky Mountains. The Black Hills of South Dakota rate as the tallest range.

### Unusual Formations Found

The topography between the Gulf of Mexico and the towering mountains of West Texas consists of fertile black lands, rolling hills and semiarid country. Many features such as winding streams, unusual rock and hill formations lie within this area.

Among the most important rivers in Texas are the Rio

Grande River, 900 miles long in Texas; Brazos River, 840 miles; Colorado River, 600 miles; Trinity River, 450 miles; Red River, 450 miles; Sabine River, 360 miles; Nueces River, 315 miles; Neches River, 260 miles; and Pecos River, 260 miles. In addition to these rivers, there are 525 lakes and reservoirs and many other streams, totaling 3,695 square miles of water area in Texas. Beside being a source of water supply and scenic beauty, these streams offer ex-

cellent recreation. Many of the streams and lakes are known for excellent fishing. Over 200 kinds of fresh- and salt-water fish can be caught in Texas waters.

forests, which provide scenic beauty and facilities for recreation. Possibly one of the most interesting features of Texas is the historical landmarks. Old mission buildings, such as the Alamo, San Jose, Capistrano, Concepcion and Espada in San Antonio and LaBahia at Goliad, are some of the better known historical landmarks.

In these missions one can see the influence of the Spanish-Mexican and the Anglo-American era up to the period of the forming of the Republic of Texas. Certainly the Alamo, cradle of Texas liberty, which houses a museum, and the San Jacinto Monument, built in commemoration of the Battle of San Jacinto April 21, 1836, cannot be overlooked among historical landmarks. Respectively, they are ranked as first and second among Texas historical landmarks.

The San Jacinto Monument, located on the San Jacinto Battlefield near Houston, stands 370 feet and is the tallest stone monument in the world from the base to the top. The base of the monument houses the San Jacinto Museum of History.

### "Wild West" Leaves Brand

The old "Wild West" has left its brand on Texas culture. Anyone with an adventurous spirit would welcome the opportunity to explore the customs and traits of the old strange and fantastic stories of the gun-toting cowboys of Texas. Most of these stories are only memories. Today many are enjoying what they believe was once the life of the typical cowboy of yesteryear. Dude and guest ranches and rodeos have been substituted for the old western life.

Entertainment consists of horseback riding, hiking, hay rides, group singing of western folk songs, old fashioned square dances and the companionship of people of all walks of life. Besides offering excellent entertainment and relaxation, the dude and guest ranches are ideal to escape the "hustle and bustle" of city life.

### Rodeos Popular Events

Rodeos are one of the most colorful and exciting sporting events of the year. Western paraphernalia is the dress of the day during this sporting event. In many cities rodeos are an annual event and in others seasonal. There are more rodeos in July than any other month of the year. The popularity of this event is increasing from year to year. Even though it may not be the same as the "Old West," it is just as enjoyable.

There are over 53,000 miles of highways leading to the outstanding attractions in this state.

Anyone planning to vacation in Texas may obtain free maps and complete routing service, including authentic road information, literature, and other material or any additional information desired from the Texas Highway Department, Traffic Services Division, Austin 14, Texas.

## Texas

Population—7,711,194 (1930) (6th).  
Area—267,339 sq. mi. (1st).  
Capital—Austin.  
Motto—Friendship (Texas in Indian).  
Flower—Bluebonnet.  
Tree—Pecan.  
Bird—Mockingbird.  
Largest Cities—Houston (596,163); Dallas (434,462); San Antonio (408,442); Fort Worth (278,778); Austin (132,459); El Paso (130,485).

Regulations pertaining to hunting and fishing are controlled by the Game and Fish Commission. Non-resident fishing licenses are \$5.25 per year or \$1.65 for a five-day period, and a hunting license costs \$25. These may be purchased from any game warden or may be found at many sporting goods stores.

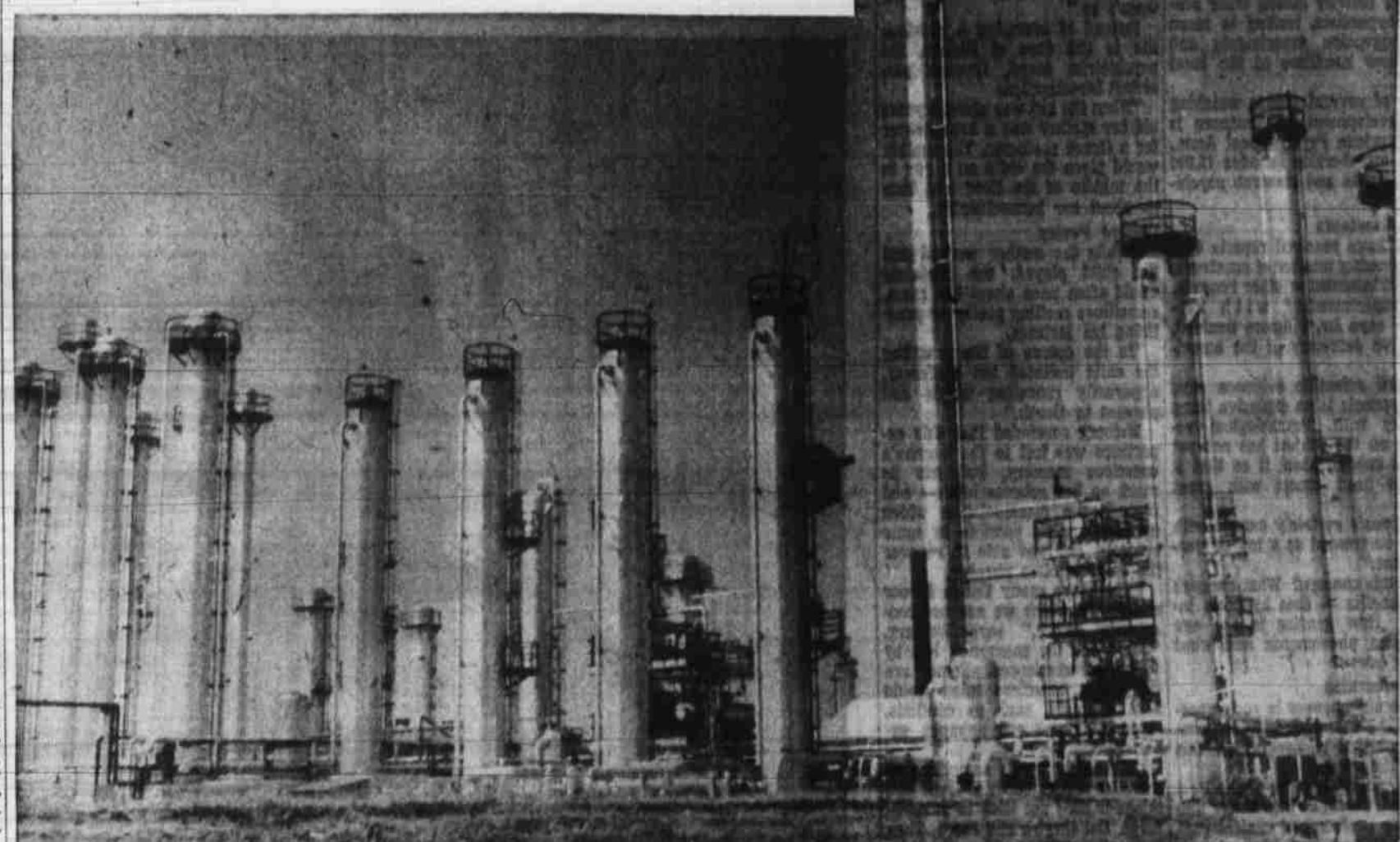
There are 47 state parks and one national park in Texas. The Big Bend National Park covers 707,000 acres of scenic beauty, including colorful mountains, canyons, picturesque native flora and an abundance of wildlife. The state parks total an area of 53,350 acres and are well distributed throughout the state. A number of these parks have refectory buildings, lodges, and camp sites. Several have overnight accommodations and most have facilities for recreation, consisting of dance terraces, riding academies, playground equipment, golf courses and swimming pools. The popularity of these parks is reflected by the attendance of over three million people last year.

State, National Forest

Besides the state parks and national park, Texas has five state forests and four national



Austin, Tex.—Natural gas provides one of Texas' most important industries of which this refinery at Carthage is an example. It is used for fuel, as a primary source of power for oil wells, and in the making of carbon black, natural gasoline and helium. (All photos by Texas Highway Department).



Austin, Tex.—There are 1,000 roadside parks like this in Texas, offering complete picnicking facilities throughout the state.



Austin, Tex.—Typical of the tropical Lower Rio Grande Valley, center of Texas' fruit industry, is this luscious citrus grove.