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**REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**COMMISSIONER**  
**OF THE**  
**GENERAL LAND OFFICE**  
**1940-1942**

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**BASCOM GILES**  
Commissioner

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BASCOM GILES  
Commissioner

PRESS OF VON BOECKMANN-JONES CO.  
AUSTIN, TEXAS



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**COMMISSIONERS OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE,  
REPUBLIC OF TEXAS**

The General Land Office was opened July 20, 1837

Name	Term of Office	Qualified	Remarks
John P. Borden.....	1837-1840	June 21, 1837	Appointed by President Sam Houston
Thos. Wm. Ward.....	1841-1846	Jan. 12, 1841	Appointed by President M. B. Lamar

**COMMISSIONERS OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE,  
STATE OF TEXAS**

*Washington*

Name	Term of Office	Qualified	Remarks
Thos. Wm. Ward.....	1846-1848	Feb. 16, 1846	Appointed by Gov. J. P. Henderson
Geo. Wm. Smith.....	1848-1852	Mar. 20, 1848	Elected
Stephen Crosby.....	1852-1858	Mar. 1, 1852	Elected
Francis M. White.....	1858-1862	Mar. 1, 1858	Elected
Stephen Crosby.....	1862-1865	Mar. 1, 1862	Elected
Francis M. White.....	1865-1866	Sept. 1, 1865	Appointed by Gov. A. J. Hamilton
Stephen Crosby.....	1866-1867	Aug. 7, 1866	Elected July, 1866—Special Election
Joseph Spence.....	1867-1870	Aug. 27, 1867	Appointed by General Griffin
Jacob Kuechler.....	1870-1874	Jan. 19, 1870	Appointed by General Reynolds
J. J. Groos.....	1874-1878	Jan. 20, 1874	Elected. Died June 15, 1878
W. C. Walsh.....	1878-1887	July 30, 1878	Appointed by Gov. R. B. Hubbard, and afterwards elected
R. M. Hall.....	1887-1891	Jan. 10, 1887	Elected
W. L. McGaughey.....	1891-1895	Jan. 16, 1891	Elected
A. J. Baker.....	1895-1899	Jan. 15, 1895	Elected
Geo. W. Finger.....	1899	Jan. 16, 1899	Elected. Died May 4, 1899
Charles Rogan.....	1899-1903	May 15, 1899	Appointed by Gov. J. D. Sayers, and afterwards elected
John J. Terrell.....	1903-1909	Jan. 10, 1903	Elected
J. T. Robison.....	1909-1929	Jan. 11, 1909	Elected. Died September 6, 1929
J. H. Walker.....	1929-1936	Sept. 12, 1929	Appointed by Gov. Dan Moody, afterwards elected
Wm. H. McDonald.....	1937-1938	Dec. 16, 1936	Elected
Bascom Giles.....	1939-1942	Jan. 1, 1939	Elected

Austin, Texas, September 1, 1942.

*To His Excellency, Coke R. Stevenson*  
Governor of Texas  
Austin, Texas.

DEAR GOVERNOR:

I submit a report of the operations of the General Land Office through my second biennial term ended August 31, 1942, as provided by law.

Knowing your abiding interest in every phase of legislation affecting Texas lands, I call your special attention to the parts of this report that deal with the successful results of the operations of the land laws passed by the Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh Texas Legislatures, in the enactment of which you had an active part as the presiding officer of the Senate.

When you took the oath of office as Governor of Texas on August 8, 1941, you automatically became a member of the School Land Board, of which I am chairman. This board has functioned capably and harmoniously, and I am indeed grateful for your wise counsel and hearty cooperation in the deliberations that have determined its policies and actions.

Respectfully,  
BASCOM GILES, *Commissioner*

## RECENT LAND LEGISLATION

In beginning this discussion of the operation of recent land legislation, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the consideration and continued confidence that I have received from the members of the Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh Texas Legislatures. The legislative program that I advocated at the beginning of my first term in 1939 was a corrective one aimed at the elimination of certain abuses from which Texas landowners were suffering, and the establishment of adequate protection for the safety of the Public School Fund. The Forty-sixth Legislature promptly passed bills, embodying every recommendation that I made to them. These measures have proven to be highly beneficial to the best interests of the State; have made possible my successful administration of the Land Office; and have demonstrated the wisdom and statesmanship of the Legislature that passed them. My interpretations and rulings under these acts have been uniformly sustained by the Courts of this State.

When the Forty-seventh Legislature convened in January, 1941, I recommended that no changes be made in the vacancy law, since the same was operating successfully; however, I did make certain recommendations in regard to changes in the law regulating the sale and management of surveyed school lands, as well as changes in the law regulating our coastal lands. Each of these recommendations was promptly passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. For this one hundred per cent cooperation on the part of the Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh Legislatures, I am deeply grateful.

One of the bills passed by the Forty-seventh Legislature was House Bill No. 56 which extended the time for payment of the unpaid balance of principal to November 1, 1951, on all School Land purchase obligations maturing prior to that date, and amending Articles 5312 and 5326 of the Revised Civil Statutes of 1925.

The amendment to Article 5312 fixed the first payment on purchases of surveyed Public Free School Land at one-fifth of the aggregate price offered instead of one-fortieth as provided under former acts. This appears to be a highly beneficial piece of legislation both to the School Fund and the purchasers. On April 8, 1942, the first sale under the new act was held. The bids were well above the advertised prices and the School Fund not only received more cash per acre than at sales under the former act, but it also secured notes of real value for the unpaid balances. The majority of the sales under the highest bidder act since 1919, when the homestead provision was repealed, have been speculative options, taken for possible profits on the rights of the surface owners to lease the land for oil and gas, with no intention on the part of the purchasers to comply with the terms of the contract. Under such conditions lands were bid in at highly inflated prices such as no one who expected to keep the land could afford to offer. The new act has eliminated this speculative bidding and has provided opportunity for those who are acting in good faith to purchase land at reasonable prices. A check of the sales made under the new act on April 8, 1942, shows that the interest due November 1 has been paid on more than ninety per cent of the total indebtedness, while a number of the obligations have been paid in full, proving that purchasers are well satisfied with their investments.

The amendment to Article 5326 restricts the right to reinstate a forfeited School Land purchase contract to the last purchaser from the State, or his vendees or their heirs or legal representatives, and limits the time to exercise the right to reinstate to within five years on all subsequent purchases, and to within five years from the effective date of the act on all claims theretofore forfeited.

Before the passage of this amendment the right to reinstate a forfeited purchase claim was limited only by the intervention of the rights of a third party, there being no time limit set. Purchase contracts that had been forfeited by the State and had stood for years unclaimed by the purchasers could be reinstated by them or their vendees if and when the land became potentially productive of oil or gas. If any such forfeited claim was purchased without reservation of the minerals to the State then all of the minerals reverted to the owner of the reinstated claim. Also, in cases where the same land had been sold and contracts forfeited several times it was asserted that the right to reinstate was in any one of the forfeiting purchasers or his vendees, and the first to request reinstatement of his claim was entitled to it upon compliance with the requirements for payment of the full amount of interest due to date of such reinstatement. It is believed that the 1941 amendment has supplied a long and much needed protection to the School Fund.

### THE VACANCY LAW

The 46th Texas Legislature passed House Bill No. 9, now Article 5421c, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes, 1939 Supplement, a law regulating the sale and lease of vacant or unsurveyed land belonging to the Public Free School Fund. This law was designed to put an end to vacancy racketeering and title clouding which had previously been prevalent. I am happy to report that this law is, in a large measure, responsible for the present condition which is so free of these evils. While this law is not perfect, nor is it as I would write it, yet in my opinion it has operated to the best interest of the Public Free School Fund, and that of the land owners and citizens of Texas as well.

On January 1, 1939, the day I assumed the duties of Commissioner of the General Land Office, there were more than six hundred vacancy applications pending. Under Section 6, Sub-section (i) of the 1939 Act above referred to, applicants under former laws were required to take certain steps to protect their rights within definite time limits. Failure to act within this time rendered the applications "null, void and of no further force or effect." Only a very small number of these applicants made any attempt to prevent the forfeiture of their rights under these applications, which tends to prove the insincerity of the applicants.

Under the 1939 Act which became effective on September 20, 1939, 453 vacancy applications have been filed, of which more than fifty per cent have been approved. The remainder have been rejected with the exception of five on which litigation is pending and about a dozen others on which additional information is required. From this record it is apparent that the applicants who made these filings were acting in good faith, and that there were no intentions to purposely cloud land titles, but that the applicants were proceeding under a reasonable belief that vacancies existed.

It is true that this law involves many highly controversial questions which undoubtedly would be raised if an attempt should be made to amend the law, and I realize that the members of the 48th Legislature would probably have to spend a great deal of time on this measure when, in my judgment, their attention should and doubtless will be directed to matters of national and international importance. For the reasons set out above I recommend that no change be made in this law.

### Leases by Surface Owners Under the Relinquishment Act

In my report for 1938-1940 I discussed at some length the history of the lands sold by the State with a full reservation of the minerals, and the oil and gas leases executed by the surface owners acting as agents for the State under the provisions of the Relinquishment Act. Under the authority conferred on me by Section 4-A of House Bill 9, Chapter 3, Acts of 1939 I have been able to secure higher bonus and rental returns and a stricter conformity to the terms of the Relinquishment Act than was possible prior to the effective date of House Bill 9, but an examination of Table No. 9 of this report will show that the average per acre bonus obtained by surface owners for the land owner and the State was only \$2.63 as compared with a per acre average of \$6.975 for Submerged Land, \$12.421 for Unsold School and Vacant Land, and \$34.179 for River Bed leases made by the School Land Board after due advertisement. The difference can be accounted for in part by the fact that a great many of the Relinquishment Act Leases are pure wildcats, taken by Lessees who agree to drill as a consideration for the lease and expect to pay for the cost of the well by selling assignments. Surface owners whose lands have not been drilled are anxious to have a "test" and grant large-acreage contracts without any consideration except the statutory annual minimum of ten cents per acre to the State. As a rule the surface owners acquire nothing under such contracts except the costly experience of numerous additions to the recorded instruments in their land titles.

The State-owned acres are advertised upon the requests of responsible operators or on reliable information as to the possibilities of securing production. If our information indicates a reasonable probability that an area may produce, bids are requested on the basis of a fixed cash bonus and such royalties as bidders may decide an area will carry, but if there is no definite information available, either from actual drilling or geophysical tests, then the royalty is fixed and the competitive bidding is on the amount of cash bonus. By following this plan we have avoided all controversies as to whose bid was the best; we have secured high average bonus bids, and also the highest royalties, some of our producing leases running as high as 52½ per cent and many calling for 25 to 45 per cent royalty.

The records here show that the purchasers of mineral classified school lands, acting as the agents for the State under the terms of the Relinquishment Act, seem to make no leases calling for royalties greater than one-eighth of production, which gives the land owner one-sixteenth and the State a like amount. Under the Supreme Court's construction of the Relinquishment Act, the land owner, as agent for the State, is limited to the one-eighth basis as a minimum but may make a contract for as much

more royalty as the lessee may be willing to pay, on the condition that the State shall share equally with him in whatever is procured. In the light of the high royalty values secured by the School Land Board it is apparent that both the State and the land owner have taken heavy losses through failure of the owner as Lessor to secure higher royalties in potentially productive areas. If the School Land Board could cooperate with the land owner in the making of these contracts, it would undoubtedly operate to procure higher returns in bonus, rentals and royalties both to the State and the land owner.

### Notes on Texas Oil From the Records of the General Land Office

For forty years the development of Texas has been closely related to the growth of her oil industry. Through these years Texas land owners have received vast sums for bonus, rentals, and royalties from oil and gas leases; thousands of Texas workmen have found profitable employment in the service of producers and refiners of oil and retailers of its products; our highways have been built and paid for largely out of the tax on gasoline; our common school system and the institutions of higher learning have been large beneficiaries through various taxes on the oil industry and through bonus, rentals, and royalties received from the State's ownership of the minerals in a part of our lands.

Prior to 1901 the oil business in Texas was of little financial importance. In January, 1901, the famous Lucas gusher blew in at Spindle Top, a salt dome near Beaumont. A wild orgy of speculation followed, netting the participants some valuable experience but little pecuniary gain. When drilling had determined the limits of the producing area, wildcatting was started in many other localities, resulting in the development of fields along the Gulf Coast at Sour Lake, Saratoga, Batson, Dayton, Markham, Humble, and Goose Creek by 1908, and the Petrolia or Clay County field about 1904, the Electra field in Wichita County in 1911, with Ranger, Burkburnett, and Mexia fields coming in at later intervals.

The field at Goose Creek was found to extend into the salt water, and the submerged land belonged to the State. (Late) Land Commissioner J. T. Robison called the attention of the 33rd Legislature to the necessity for a statute authorizing the State to issue oil and gas leases providing for a royalty on production—the Acts of 1913, Chapter 173, carried such a provision. On May 20, 1914, the first royalty payment on oil was received by the Land Office. It came from a State lease of 89.95 acres of submerged land at Goose Creek, in Harris County. On the basis of  $\frac{1}{8}$  royalty to the State this small lease has paid a total of \$1,132,549.88 to August 31, 1942, and at this writing is still producing at the rate of about \$400.00 per month. For continuity and quantity of production this lease surpasses any other area of comparable size on the Land Office records.

The royalty receipts from State leases on coastal submerged areas in 1914 were deposited to the credit of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission Fund. The increase from this source was so rapid that it was soon found necessary to deposit the receipts in the General Revenue Fund. Later there were numerous changes, alternating between the General Revenue and Permanent School Funds until in 1939 by Act of the 46th Legislature, H. B. No. 9 the mineral estate in all areas in tidewater limits,

including islands, lakes, bays, and the bed of the sea belonging to Texas, was set apart and dedicated to the Permanent School Fund. Returns from leases on River Beds had been passed to the School Fund under Chapter 140, Acts of 1935, but the entire *mineral estate* in these River Beds was dedicated to the Permanent School Fund along with the coastal submerged areas by the above mentioned Act of 1939. Under Chapter 287, Acts of 1941, 47th Legislature, all lands covered by the Gulf of Mexico and the arms of said Gulf within the boundaries of Texas were set apart and granted to the Permanent Free School Fund of the State.

Land Commissioner Robison's report, dated September 1, 1914, shows but one producing lease with one well paying royalty of \$502.41 for the year ended August 31, 1914. For the year ended August 31, 1942, the Land Office records show royalty collections for the State University from 21 fields in seven counties on 205 leases with 990 wells; for the Permanent School Fund from 117 fields in 52 counties on 503 leases with 2,271 wells; for the State Prison Farm from one field in one county on three leases with sixteen wells; and on State Hospital Land, one lease with one well. Total royalty for the year—\$2,777,029.78, items deposited to Suspense not included.

The areas paying royalty to the State on oil and gas are only a small part of the total productive area of the State. The records of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission show 751 recognized oil fields including different horizons producing in certain pools, while there are only 140 fields in which the State had a royalty participation as of August 31, 1942. On the basis of acres producing the State's royalty interest is much smaller than is indicated by the number of fields contributing. The explanation is that the State gave away and sold her title to about 91.4 per cent of her land surface without reservation of the minerals.

### THE BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK

In view of the interest shown in the development of the Big Bend National Park in Brewster County, I feel that it is incumbent on me to give a brief history of the creation of this Park.

The Big Bend National Park, embracing certain lands in Brewster County, the bounds of which are described in Senate Bill No. 123, Acts of the 46th Legislature, had its beginning by the passage of House Bill No. 771, Chapter 95, Acts of the 43rd Legislature providing for the creation of the Texas Canyons State Park. This Act transferred from the Public School Permanent Fund to the State of Texas for park purposes certain unsold public school lands, and provided for payment of the sum of 5c per acre to the School Fund as a consideration for the transfer. The minerals were reserved to the School Fund by the terms of this Act.

The next Act affecting the park program was House Bill No. 26, Chapter 100 of the 43rd Legislature, providing for the establishment of the Big Bend State Park which included all lands in Brewster and Presidio Counties lying South of parallel of latitude 29° 25' North. This Act provided that all lands theretofore or thereafter purchased by the State for delinquent taxes, and which were not redeemed within the time prescribed by law, become the property of the State of Texas for park purposes and to be under the control of the Texas State Parks Board. This Act also provided the withdrawal from sale or lease of all unsold public school lands

within the specified area in Brewster County and for the transfer of these lands from the Public School Permanent Fund to the State of Texas for park purposes upon payment of 1c per acre. The mineral estate in and under these lands was reserved to the State of Texas for the benefit of the Public School Permanent Fund. Some 109,000 acres were transferred under this Act.

The 46th Legislature, in Senate Bill No. 123, established the Big Bend National Park and defined the area to be included by metes and bounds which excluded the portion of Presidio County, formerly included within the bounds of the Big Bend State Park, and added to the State Park area in Brewster County an area which embraced Persimmon Gap as an entrance to the Park, and other scenic lands.

All previous Acts affecting the Big Bend Park had reserved to the Public School Permanent Fund the mineral estate in all lands acquired by the Texas State Parks Board. The United States Government would not consider making this area a National Park unless title in fee simple was conveyed to them. This necessitated acquisition of title to all minerals in and under the lands in the Park by the Texas State Parks Board.

Senate Bill No. 123 provided for the sale of the mineral estate in all lands theretofore acquired from the State of Texas Permanent School Fund by payment of 50c per acre for this mineral estate. This Act also provided for the transfer from the School Fund to the State of Texas for park purposes the title to all minerals in lands purchased from the State with a mineral reservation upon payment of 50c per acre in consideration therefor. Senate Bill No. 123 also provided for the transfer from the School Fund to the State of Texas for park purposes only title in fee simple to all unsold public school lands situated within the boundaries of the park as described in this Act. The consideration for the title in fee simple was set at \$1.00 per acre. Many of the lands acquired by the Texas State Parks Board for park purposes were under contracts of purchase by individuals with principal indebtedness to the Public Free School Fund outstanding. The indebtedness on these unpatented school lands was paid by the Parks Board and patents were subsequently issued. A total of \$505,942.30 was paid to this office by the Texas State Parks Board, which amount included \$229,117.52 in payment of principal, interest, and patent fees for lands which were purchased from individuals on which indebtedness was due to the School Fund. These payments for principal, interest, and patent fees covered 163,692.1 acres. There was transferred during the biennium title in fee simple to 133,326.8 acres for a consideration of \$133,326.80. There was paid for the mineral estate in 286,973.46 acres the sum of \$143,486.73.

In connection with the acquisition of lands by the Texas State Parks Board, the Public Free School Fund regained title to 16,216.1 acres of land which had been conveyed by the Legislature to the State of Texas for park purposes by former Acts of the Legislature, which lands were not included within the boundaries of the Big Bend National Park as same is defined in Senate Bill No. 123. These lands were deeded back to the School Fund by the Parks Board through Governor Coke R. Stevenson in exchange for the indebtedness on unpatented school lands acquired by the Texas State Parks Board in the Chisos Mountain area aggregating 10,682.75 acres. In this exchange a valuation of 75c per acre was placed on the lands, which were acquired by the School Fund.

I am furnishing the following information taken from the report of Honorable Eugene Thompson, Administrator of the Big Bend Land Department of the Texas State Parks Board:

Acreage acquired from individuals.....	387,993.20 acres
Acquired through condemnation.....	88,978.90 acres
Acquired from State of Texas.....	222,631.40 acres
To be acquired.....	13,316.00 acres
Total .....	<u>712,919.50 acres</u>

I hereby express my sincere appreciation to the Members of the Texas State Parks Board for the valuable service they have rendered the people of Texas in bringing to a successful conclusion the acquisition of the land for the Big Bend National Park. They have given freely of their time and talents, and have shown excellent judgment in the selection of the administrative force who so ably handled this colossal undertaking. We are glad to have had a part as one of the State Departments which joined in bringing about the consummation of this project.

### REVISION AND PRINTING OF STATE ABSTRACTS

In 1878 two State abstract volumes were compiled embracing all of the then existing State abstracts. Since that date a supplemental volume has been printed each year until now there are sixty-three volumes.

In order to determine the status of any abstract it is necessary to have, and carefully examine, each of the sixty-three volumes. In addition to this inconvenience and inefficiency of the system, a critical examination disclosed many errors and ambiguous entries in these volumes, and a complete revision seemed necessary. Immediately upon taking office I began the recompilation of these sixty-three volumes, reducing all of the information pertaining to any given abstract to a single line entry. This has been a tremendous job since there are in existence over 406,000 abstracts.

After this information, contained within the books, was consolidated to a single line entry, the file for each survey was pulled and proof read against its abstract entry to eliminate possible errors. Much of this work has been done by the assistance and cooperation of the Works Progress Administration, which Agency appropriated approximately \$35,000 for this work. Had it not been for this assistance it would have been impossible to have done this vast volume of work which will prove extremely valuable to the General Land Office, the State Comptroller's office, to the County Tax Assessors' and Collectors' offices, and to many abstract plants and attorneys throughout the State.

I recommended to the Forty-seventh Legislature that an appropriation of \$15,000 be made to print the State Abstracts that had then been compiled, by dividing the State into eight districts and printing all of the abstracts in each district into one volume.

I further recommended that these books, when printed, be sold for \$12.50 per volume, the revenue from which would go back into the General Fund so that when the books are disposed of, the printing will be done without cost to the State.

The Legislature readily accepted my recommendation and unanimously passed a bill to this effect, for which I am deeply grateful. A contract was entered into with the E. L. Steck Company for the printing of these volumes and I am glad to report that three of the volumes covering the east portion of the State have already been received from the printer and distributed to the various County Tax Assessor-Collectors. The printers have assured me that the remaining five volumes will be printed, bound and delivered within the next few months.

### CLOSING REMARKS

I take this opportunity to express to the employees of the General Land Office my appreciation of their loyalty and efficiency. We have lost the services of quite a number of men to the armed forces, as well as several ladies to war work. Some of these former employees held important positions and yet the prompt and efficient service that is a policy of this office has been continued almost without interruption, due to the extra efforts of the remaining employees, for which I am deeply grateful.

On September 1, at the end of this biennium, we lost the services of our Chief Clerk, Mr. Alvis Vandygriff, who left our midst by volunteering his services to the Army Air Corps, in which he has been commissioned a lieutenant. Mr. Vandygriff's absence will be keenly felt, not only by the employees and me, but by the many people who visit the office on business as well. He had been connected with my administration since I became Commissioner of the Land Office in January, 1939, and had made himself a vital part of this organization. We sincerely trust that this war will soon be over and that he may be in position to return to his post, which will be awaiting him. During Mr. Vandygriff's absence, his place will be filled by Mr. Dennis Wallace, formerly head of the Accounting Department, who through years of experience and devotion to duty has become well qualified to handle this important post. Mr. Wallace, undoubtedly, will serve the citizenry of Texas in an efficient and capable manner and with credit to himself and my administration.

I want to express my appreciation to Attorney General Gerald C. Mann and his corps of assistants, particularly those in the Land Division of the Attorney General's office, for their cooperation on matters concerning our two offices and also in cases where they represent the General Land Office before the Courts of this State.

I have been renominated for another term by an overwhelming majority of 500,000 votes, for which I am deeply grateful. I want the people of Texas to feel and to know that when those of us in the Land Office can be of service, you have but to call upon us.

Accounts Division, Section 1, Receiver

C. H. COCKE, Receiver

Report covering the Transactions of the Receiver's Division of the General Land Office for the period of two years, beginning September 1, 1940 and ending August 31, 1942.

During that period of time there were received 51,709 remittances aggregating \$12,787,998.02 and that with a balance of \$933,023.69 in the suspense account on September 1, 1940 makes a total of \$13,721,021.71 covering payments on principal, interest, rentals, royalties and fees.

Itemized statement showing disbursement of all funds for each year:

TABLE NO. 1

Receipts & Disbursements

September 1, 1940 to August 31, 1941

Fund No. 44—Permanent School	
Classification 332—Bonus & Rentals on Mineral Leases....	\$ 737,300.25
Classification 341—Royalty on Mineral Leases.....	1,531,774.87
Classification 312—Principal on Land Sales.....	1,191,818.52
Classification 311—Applications to Purchase.....	128,564.45
Classification 335—Rental on Houses.....	185.20
	\$3,589,643.29
Fund No. 2—Available School	
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	\$1,000,123.56
Classification 341—Rental on Grazing Leases.....	6,091.51
Classification 333—Applications for Grazing Leases.....	5,558.00
Classification 336—Rental on Easements.....	17.34
	\$1,011,790.41
Fund No. 45—Permanent University	
Classification 341—Royalty on Mineral Leases.....	\$ 719,760.62
Classification 332—Rentals & Bonus on Mineral Leases....	81,965.67
Classification 312—Principal on Land Sales.....	159.98
	\$ 801,886.27
Fund No. 11—Available University	
Classification 336—Rental on Easements.....	\$ 7,009.52
Classification 338—Transfer fees & relinquishment fees....	179.66
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	227.96
	\$ 7,417.14
Fund No. 77—Interest on Bonds	
Classification 251—Certificates, copies & maps.....	\$ 9,192.01
Classification 252—Filing fees.....	2,121.83
Classification 216—Patent fees.....	3,013.50
Classification 341—Royalty on Mineral Leases.....	3,766.20
Classification 332—Rentals & Bonus on Mineral Leases....	9,033.94
	\$ 27,127.48
Fund No. 1—General Revenue	
Classification 251—Certificates, copies & maps.....	\$ 23,636.76
Classification 252—Filing fees.....	5,868.05
Classification 216—Patent fees.....	10,211.04
Classification 341—Royalty on Mineral Leases.....	15,325.97
	\$ 52,822.77

22,822.77  
 7,787.35  
 13,224.54  
 19,092.17

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28,223.67

Classification 332—Rentals & Bonus on Mineral Leases....	19,849.73
Classification 336—Rentals on Easements.....	213.61
	\$ 75,105.16
Fund No. 15—Available Lunatic Asylum	
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	\$ 163.33
Fund No. 16—Available Deaf & Dumb Institute	
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	\$ 67.71
Fund No. 17—Available Blind Institute	
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	\$ 122.12
Fund No. 18—Available Orphans Home	
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	\$ 82.51
Fund No. 48—Permanent Blind Institute	
Classification 312—Principal on Land Sales.....	\$ 356.84
Fund No. 49—Permanent Deaf & Dumb Institute	
Classification 312—Principal on Land Sales.....	\$ 93.43
Fund No. 50—Permanent Lunatic Asylum	
Classification 312—Principal on Land Sales.....	\$ 470.01
Fund No. 51—Permanent Orphans Home	
Classification 312—Principal on Land Sales.....	\$ 312.98
Fund No. 123—Land Board Fund.....	\$ 2,727.38
Fund No. 125—A. & M. Mineral Fund.....	\$ 1,331.00
Suspense Balance Sept. 1, 1940.....	\$ 933,023.69
Receipts for twelve months.....	5,813,107.46
	\$6,746,131.15
Total Deposited.....	\$5,518,697.06
Total Refunds.....	208,532.65
Returned checks.....	51,496.05
Suspense Balance.....	967,405.39
	\$6,746,131.15

TABLE NO. 2

Receipts and Disbursements  
September 1, 1941 to August 31, 1942

Fund No. 44—Permanent School	
Classification 332—Bonus & Rentals on Mineral Leases....	\$ 615,468.71
Classification 341—Royalty on Mineral Leases.....	1,828,587.35
Classification 312—Principal on Land Sales.....	1,346,172.90
Classification 311—Applications to Purchase.....	87,276.15
Classification 335—Rental on Houses.....	165.00
	\$ 3,877,670.11
Fund No. 2—Available School	
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	\$ 927,410.66
Classification 336—Easements .....	84.11
Classification 334—Rental on Grazing Leases.....	7,777.29
Classification 333—Applications for Grazing Leases.....	5,232.95
Classification 332—Interest on Judgment.....	10.80
	\$ 940,515.81
Fund 45—Permanent University	
Classification 341—Royalty on Mineral Leases.....	\$ 812,048.15
Classification 332—Rentals & Bonus on Mineral Leases....	494,623.01
	\$ 1,306,671.16

REPORT OF COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE 15

Fund 11—Available University	
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	\$ 194.37
Classification 338—Transfer fees.....	3,703.86
Classification 336—Rental on Easements.....	5,995.47
	\$ 9,893.70
Fund No. 1—General Revenue	
Classification 251—Certificates, copies & maps.....	\$ 27,413.95
Classification 252—Filing fees.....	4,259.05
Classification 216—Patent fees.....	14,645.00
Classification 341—Royalty on Mineral Leases.....	134,432.29
Classification 332—Rental on Mineral Leases.....	18,209.69
Classification 336—Rental on Easements.....	226.39
Classification 338—Transfer fees.....	32.00
	\$ 199,252.37
Fund No. 77—Interest on Bonds	
Classification 251—Certificates, copies & maps.....	\$ 3,006.76 ✓
Classification 252—Filing fees.....	431.86 ✓
Classification 216—Patent fees.....	1,094.90 ✓
Classification 341—Royalty on Mineral Leases.....	1,961.99 ✓
Classification 332—Rental & Bonus on Mineral Leases....	10,458.29 ✓
	\$ 17,353.80
Fund No. 15—Available Lunatic Asylum	
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	\$ 74.97
Fund No. 16—Available Deaf & Dumb Institute	
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	\$ 60.64
Classification 333—Application for Grazing Leases.....	40.00
Classification 334—Rental on Grazing Leases.....	40.00
	\$ 140.64
Fund No. 17—Available Blind Institute	
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	\$ 100.51
Fund No. 18—Available Orphans Home	
Classification 631—Interest on Land Sales.....	\$ 62.58
Fund No. 49—Permanent Deaf & Dumb Institute	
Classification 312—Principal on Land Sales.....	\$ 108.50
Fund No. 50—Permanent Lunatic Asylum	
Classification 312—Principal on Land Sales.....	\$ 845.98
Fund No. 125—A. & M. Mineral Fund	
Classification 338—Transfer fees.....	\$ 109.10
Classification 332—Rental on Leases.....	131.00
Fund 123—Land Board Fund.....	\$ 1,031.57
Suspense Balance September 1, 1941.....	\$ 967,405.39
Receipts for twelve months.....	6,974,890.56
	\$ 7,942,295.95
Total Deposited.....	\$ 6,353,961.79
Total Refunds.....	364,129.64
Returned checks.....	10,077.14
Suspense Balance.....	1,214,127.38
	\$ 7,942,295.95
Totals Deposited for two years.....	\$11,872,658.85
Total Refunds.....	572,662.29
Unpaid Checks.....	61,573.19
Suspense Balance.....	1,214,127.38
	\$13,721,021.71

In addition to the above, there was received from the State Parks Board \$495,214.99 in State Warrants which could not be deposited. These payments were made in connection with the acquisition of School lands located within the Big Bend National Park in Brewster County.

**Record of Mail Received and Sent**

Incoming letters are opened and registered by a bonded assistant receiver who also keeps the record of letters sent. During this biennium the record is as follows:

TABLE NO. 3

Letters received.....		97,862
Letters sent.....	41,731	.....
Certificates of Fact sent.....	3,718	.....
Form letters sent.....	453	.....
Notices of Survey, Hearings, Rejection and Approval sent..	3,992	.....
Statements of Accounts, receipts for royalty, rental and interest payments and lists of lands for sale or lease sent out without letters attached.....	50,000	99,894

**Accounts Division, Section 2, Bookkeeping**

DENNIS WALLACE, *Chief Accountant*

The activity of this section of the Accounts Division is shown in the following tables:

TABLE 4

**Land Purchase Accounts**

During the two years from September 1, 1940, to August 31, 1942, 1,705,961.07 acres, aggregating \$2,656,018.73 in notes have been paid in full and accounts closed as follows:

	Acres	Value
School 3 per cent.....	1,523,272.41	\$2,364,740.28
School 5 per cent.....	180,032.92	287,398.28
School 8 per cent.....	754.65	598.37
Eleemosynary Institutions.....	1,714.39	3,121.82
University 10 per cent.....	186.70	159.98
<b>TOTALS</b> .....	<b>1,705,961.07</b>	<b>\$2,656,018.73</b>

TABLE 5

Classified Open Purchase Accounts

Annual accruals calculated and set up, and payments received applied to the following open accounts covering lands belonging to the several State Institutions:

	Acres	Value
School 3 per cent.....	10,968,943.57	\$17,579,846.39
School 5 per cent.....	999,284.46	2,145,211.51
School 4 per cent.....	220.66	1,221.00
School 8 per cent.....	2,484.95	2,786.54
University 5 per cent.....	2,176.85	7,456.16
Blind Institute 3 per cent.....	1,599.80	2,825.68
Blind Institute 5 per cent.....	160.00	312.00
Deaf & Dumb Institute 3 per cent.....	484.00	709.83
Deaf & Dumb Institute 5 per cent.....	1,063.80	2,066.07
Lunatic Asylum 3 per cent.....	27.80	40.66
Lunatic Asylum 5 per cent.....	200.80	112.16
Orphan Asylum 3 per cent.....	2,241.35	2,809.82
<b>TOTALS</b> .....	<b>11,978,888.04</b>	<b>\$19,745,697.82</b>

TABLE 6

Land Sales

Lands sold under advertisement by the School Land Board:

	Acres	Value
Cash Sales.....	12,400.91	\$ 39,483.82
Term Sales (Notes).....	103,218.74	330,371.07
First Payments Term Sales.....		77,523.51
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>115,619.65</b>	<b>\$447,378.40</b>

Other sales:

	Acres	Value
Oklahoma Strip—Ch. 185, Acts 1931, 42nd Legislature.....	26,424.53	\$ 26,424.53
Sec. 5, Ch. 271—Surveyed Lands.....	555.94	1,419.58
Vacancies .....	7,138.37	32,725.17
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>34,118.84</b>	<b>\$ 60,569.28</b>
Excess acreage—acquittance deeds.....	42,158.90	\$170,105.81

TABLE 7

Miscellaneous

Statement of Accounts Mailed Sept. 1, 1941.....	29,500
Statement of Accounts Mailed Sept. 1, 1942.....	26,500
Collections—Office Fees.....	\$63,119.27

TABLE 8

## Forfeitures and Reinstatements

	Acres	Value
Forfeitures 3 per cent.....	578,166.81	\$939,255.31
Forfeitures 5 per cent.....	416,474.53	814,570.18
Reinstatements 3 per cent.....	69,444.87	115,058.57
Reinstatements 5 per cent.....	12,380.10	21,707.02

On August 31, 1942, there stood unsold on the records of the General Land Office 1,151,809.93 acres of surveyed School Lands. During the biennium, a total of 994,641.34 acres valued at \$1,753,825.49 were forfeited for nonpayment of interest. During the same period, 81,824.97 acres valued at \$136,765.59 were reinstated.

In connection with the forfeitures for nonpayment of interest, an intensive program was instituted and very good collection resulted from the notices of impending forfeitures. Most forfeitures were declared in instances where the owners could not be contacted and where no response was received from them. A substantial decrease is reflected in the number of delinquent accounts and in the amount of outstanding delinquencies. Prior to June 1, 1941, there were 10,688 delinquent purchase accounts with a total delinquency of \$2,196,206.69. On June 1, 1942, there were only 5,557 delinquent accounts with a total delinquency of \$782,907.48. The total interest collected during the biennium is \$1,927,534.22, which includes the current interest on the accounts which were not delinquent.

In order that the unsold acreage of 1,151,809.93 may be reconciled, attention is called to Senate Bill No. 123, Acts of the 46th Legislature. This act provided that all unsold School Lands located within the boundaries of the Big Bend National Park in Brewster County, as defined in said Senate Bill No. 123, be transferred from the Public School Permanent Fund to the State of Texas for park purposes only, upon payment or transfer from the General Revenue Fund to the Permanent School Fund of the sum of \$1.00 per acre. There was transferred by this act title in fee simple to 133,326.8 acres.

### Accounts Division, Section 3, Audits

The work of this division during the biennium has been the auditing of monthly royalty returns on more than five hundred leases on the Permanent School, the State Prison and State Hospital lands; checking monthly rental accruals on some three thousand oil and gas leases; auditing bonus payments on four hundred and fifty new leases; rechecking by years all royalties on production from areas in which the State holds a mineral interest except the lands of the State University; and a partial audit of Suspense items and Clearances for 1940 and 1941.

The following tables are submitted for the information of those who may be interested in the Permanent School Fund:

TABLE 9

The Permanent School Fund  
 New Oil and Gas Leases on Which Bonus Was Paid Filed  
 in The General Land Office September 1, 1940—  
 August 31, 1942

Type of Lease	No. of Leases	Acres Covered	Bonus Paid	Average Bonus per acre
By surface owners under The Relinquishment Act.....	345	177,102.00	\$233,011.59	\$ 1.316
By School Land Board Coastal Submerged.....	72	35,518.16	247,730.37	6.975
By School Land Board River Beds.....	11	734.78	25,114.00	34.179
By School Land Board Unsold School and Vacant.....	30	3,474.05	43,150.31	12.421
Total .....	458	216,828.99	\$549,006.27	

TABLE 10

Permanent School Fund Leases Expired, Relinquished or Terminated  
 September 1, 1940 to August 31, 1942, as Compared  
 With New Leases During Same Period

Type of Lease	No. of Leases	Expired Acres	No. of New Leases	Acres	Balance Acres
By Surface Owners under The Relinquishment Act	592	131,346.10	345	177,102.00	+ 45,756.00
By General Land Office Coastal Submerged....	371	141,073.85*	72	35,518.15	-105,555.70
By State Mineral Board River Beds.....	3	225	11	734.78	+ 509.78
By General Land Office	28	2,118.33	30	3,374.05	+ 1,266.17
	994	274,763.28	456	216,728.98	- 58,034.30

\*For the most part, this acreage was in speculative leases which expired at the end of primary terms for lack of production. New leasing in Coastal Waters has been limited by reason of National Defense Operations.

TABLE 11

State Areas Reporting First Production of Oil and Gas from  
September 1, 1940—August 31, 1942

Class of Lease	Number of Leases	County	Field	Acres
Relinquishment Act..	1	Brooks.....	Kelsey.....	1,575.00
Submerged.....	1	Calhoun.....	Jay Welder....	500.89
1939 Act 1/16.....	1	Calhoun.....	Jay Welder....	2,331.10
Submerged.....	7	Chambers.....	Red Fish Reef.	4,480.00
Relinquishment Act..	1	Crane.....	Jordan.....	86.25
Relinquishment Act..	1	Crockett.....	World.....	50.00
Relinquishment Act..	9	Crockett.....	Noelke.....	506.70
Relinquishment Act..	1	Duval.....	South Seven Sisters.....	36.20
Relinquishment Act..	2	Duval.....	Casa Blanca..	162.62
Relinquishment Act..	1	Duval.....	West Casa Blanca.....	480.00
Relinquishment Act..	1	Duval.....	Govt. Wells....	160.00
Relinquishment Act..	1	Duval.....	Lundell.....	640.00
Submerged.....	1	Galveston.....	Caplen.....	960.00
1931 Act 1/16.....	1	Jefferson.....	Lovell's Lake..	16.90
Submerged.....	1	Jefferson.....	Lovell's Lake..	50.00
1931 Act 1/16.....	1	Matagorda.....	Blessing.....	709.23
Submerged.....	2	Nueces.....	Nueces Bay....	878.45
Submerged.....	8	Nueces.....	Flour Bluff....	2,094.00
Relinquishment Act..	7	Pecos.....	Abell.....	1,445.17
Relinquishment Act..	2	Pecos.....	Abell-Permian.	202.25
Relinquishment Act..	2	Pecos.....	Apco.....	120.00
Relinquishment Act..	1	Pecos.....	Apco-Warner..	593.00
Relinquishment Act..	3	Pecos.....	Fromme.....	319.80
Relinquishment Act..	1	Pecos.....	Masterson.....	220.00
Relinquishment Act..	1	Pecos.....	Pecos Valley Low.....	640.00
Relinquishment Act..	3	Starr.....	Rincon.....	3,287.74
River Bed.....	1	Wichita.....	K. M. A. Ellen- berger.....	210.00
Relinquishment Act..	1	Winkler.....	Keystone.....	160.00
Court Judgment.....	3	Upshur.....	East Texas....	28.96
Total.....	66	.....	.....	22,944.26

TABLE 12

Oil and Gas Leases on Which Production Ceased  
September 1, 1940—August 31, 1942

Class of Lease	Number of Leases	County	Field	Acres	Production Ceased
River Bed.....	1	Brazoria.....	Allen Dome.....	540.00	9- 2-40 Forfeited
River Bed.....	1	Young.....	Brazos River.....	1,186.70	2- 2-41 Abandoned
Submerged.....	1	Chambers.....	Galveston Bay.....	640.00	1-23-41 Forfeited
Submerged.....	1	Jefferson.....	Gulf Coast.....	440.00	5- -42 Production Ceased
Submerged.....	1	Kleberg & Kennedy	Baffins Bay.....	95.00	9-27-41 Relinquished
Submerged.....	1	Nueces.....	Nueces Bay.....	150.00	12-10-40 Relinquished
Submerged.....	2	Nueces & Kleberg..	Laguna Madre.....	640.00	2- -41 Shut in
Relinquishment Act.....	1	Crane.....	Sandhills.....	80.00	12- 3-41 Abandoned
Relinquishment Act.....	1	Pecos.....	Apco.....	160.00	9- 1-40 Production Ceased
Relinquishment Act.....	1	Pecos.....	Pecos Valley High....	80.00	5- 5-42 Forfeited
Relinquishment Act.....	1	Pecos.....	Pecos Valley High....	80.00	5- -41 Production Ceased
Relinquishment Act.....	1	Pecos.....	Shearer.....	240.00	12- -41 Production Ceased
Relinquishment Act.....	1	Winkler.....	Hendricks.....	160.00	2-10-41 Temporary Abandonment
Relinquishment Act.....	1	Winkler.....	Hendricks.....	80.00	3- -41 Production Ceased
Prison <sup>1</sup> Board.....	1	Brazoria.....	Darrington Farm.....	821.75	1-23-41 Forfeited
Total.....	16			5,393.45	

TABLE 13

Table of Oil and Gas Royalties Which Accrued to The Permanent School Fund September 1, 1940 through August 31, 1941

	Oil Royalty Payments	Totals	Number of Leases	Gas Royalty	Totals
1940					
Sept. ....	\$137,779.11	.....	....	\$3,153.15	.....
Oct. ....	148,198.52	.....	....	3,383.66	.....
Nov. ....	135,101.64	.....	....	2,937.99	.....
Dec. ....	138,652.26	.....	....	4,635.96	.....
1941					
Jan. ....	137,139.81	.....	....	3,621.81	.....
Feb. ....	125,413.76	\$ 822,285.10	436	2,742.80	\$20,475.37
March ....	141,757.26	.....	....	3,596.51	.....
April ....	150,492.98	.....	....	3,208.52	.....
May ....	170,624.07	.....	....	2,743.30	.....
June ....	174,835.54	.....	....	3,240.03	.....
July ....	170,325.94	.....	....	2,791.22	.....
Aug. ....	181,521.27	989,557.06	460	3,746.19	19,325.77
Total .....	Oil	<u>\$1,811,842.16*</u>		Gas	<u>\$39,801.14</u>
Producing Oil Wells.....			2,253		

September 1, 1941 through August 31, 1942

1941					
Sept. ....	\$172,201.04	.....	....	\$3,798.99	.....
Oct. ....	191,680.51	.....	....	4,075.34	.....
Nov. ....	191,307.32	.....	....	4,231.17	.....
Dec. ....	205,935.29	.....	....	4,472.00	.....
1942					
Jan. ....	217,813.59	.....	....	3,571.86	.....
Feb. ....	191,140.93	\$1,170,179.17	495	3,441.13	\$23,544.75
March ....	171,726.28	.....	....	3,832.37	.....
April ....	150,133.22	.....	....	4,971.92	.....
May ....	168,947.96	.....	....	6,225.90	.....
June ....	150,433.58	.....	....	5,326.86	.....
July ....	149,355.85	.....	....	4,915.32	.....
Aug. ....	183,083.81	973,680.22	510	5,521.08	30,793.45
Total .....	Oil	<u>\$2,143,859.39*</u>		Gas	<u>\$54,338.20</u>
Producing Oil Wells.....			2,271		

\*This includes royalty deposited to Suspense on account of boundary litigation, over-riding royalty, and \$115,444 accrued to Funds 1 and 77.

Recapitulation  
September 1, 1940 through August 31, 1942

Period	Oil	Gas
Sept. 1, 1940—Aug. 31, 1941.....	\$1,811,842.16	\$39,801.14
Sept. 1, 1941—Aug. 31, 1942.....	2,143,859.39	54,338.20
	<u>\$3,955,701.55</u>	<u>\$94,139.34</u>
Total Oil and Gas.....	\$4,049,840.89	

TABLE 14

Table of Metallic Mineral Royalties Which Accrued to The Permanent School Fund September 1, 1940 through August 31, 1941

	Monthly Total	6 Month's Total	Producing Leases
1940			
Sept. ....	\$ 739.10	.....	.....
Oct. ....	485.38	.....	.....
Nov. ....	332.88	.....	.....
Dec. ....	520.43	.....	.....
1941			
Jan. ....	357.23	.....	.....
Feb. ....	365.78	\$ 2,800.80	.....
March ....	476.18	.....	.....
April ....	443.52	.....	.....
May ....	342.52	.....	.....
June ....	589.72	.....	.....
July ....	441.46	.....	Mercury 4
Aug. ....	1,985.93	4,279.33	Sodium Sulphate 8
Total for the year.....		<u>\$ 7,080.10</u>	

September 1, 1941 through August 31, 1942

1941			
Sept. ....	\$ 485.66	.....	.....
Oct. ....	351.83	.....	.....
Nov. ....	3,176.66	.....	.....
Dec. ....	337.06	.....	.....
1942			
Jan. ....	328.31	.....	.....
Feb. ....	317.84	\$ 4,997.36	.....
March ....	3,468.13	.....	.....
April ....	449.74	.....	.....
May ....	610.01	.....	.....
June ....	2,054.06	.....	.....
July ....	551.41	.....	Mercury 4
Aug. ....	2,256.31	9,389.66	Sodium Sulphate 7
Total for the year.....		<u>\$14,387.02</u>	

## Recapitulation

September 1, 1940 through August 31, 1942

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Sept. 1, 1940 through Aug. 31, 1941.....	\$ 7,080.10
Sept. 1, 1941 through Aug. 31, 1942.....	14,387.02
	<hr/>
	\$21,467.12

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## Engineering Division

RALPH J. McMAHON, *Chief Engineer*

Sept. 1, 1940—Aug. 31, 1942

The following summaries show the work of the Engineering Division in the Land Office, and the services rendered outside of the office by its engineers on various war projects, for the State Health Department, and for the Attorney General.

## Section 1—Office Work

TABLE 15

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Number of Files examined in filing Field Notes and passing claims to patent.....	14,465.
Number of Field Notes examined and filed.....	4,704.
Acres of excess developed in corrected Field Notes of School Surveys.....	69,599.81
Acres of Excess developed in Corrected Field Notes of Individual Surveys.....	29,743.68
Number of Scrap Files, Vacant Land, examined.....	136.
Acres in applications for Vacant Land approved.....	9,063.27
Acres in applications for Vacant Land rejected.....	439.14
Mineral Applications for alleged vacancies filed.....	68.
Mineral Applications for alleged vacancies rejected.....	58.
Mineral Applications for alleged vacancies approved.....	4.
Mineral Applications for alleged vacancies pending.....	7.
Mining Claims, Field Notes examined and approved.....	117.

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TABLE 16  
Maps Compiled

County	Date of Completion
Somervell.....	February, 1941
Sutton.....	April, 1941
Hood.....	May, 1941
Rockwall.....	October, 1941
Swisher.....	February, 1942
Kaufman.....	March, 1942
Menard.....	March, 1942
Palo Pinto.....	March, 1942
Rains.....	April, 1942
Young.....	May, 1942
Camp.....	May, 1942
San Jacinto.....	July, 1942
Wood.....	July, 1942
Hopkins.....	August, 1942
Parker.....	August, 1942
Tom Green.....	August, 1942

Maps in process of compilation but not completed: Tarrant, Wise, Montgomery, Anderson, Franklin, Dallas, and Delta.

TABLE 17  
Working Sketches and Blue Prints

	Number	Value
Working Sketches on Personal Orders.....	155	\$4,523.35
Working Sketches for Mineral Applications.....	37	1,000.00
Blue Prints of Official Land Maps.....	1787	2,623.37
Topographic Maps and Bulletins.....		515.90
		<hr/> \$8,662.62

Section 2  
Resume of Outside Activities

- (1) Five months service by the Chief Engineer who was loaned to the School of Engineering of the State University on a Government Defense Project to train young men in Surveying and Mapping.
- (2) Two engineers loaned for topographic work to the builders of the Daingerfield Iron Works.
- (3) A survey of Coleman Airport.
- (4) A survey of Water Supply at Killeen.
- (5) A survey of a CCC Camp at Huntsville for the Army and the State Health Department.

- (6) Triangulation surveys for ground control at Camp Swift and Camp Hood.
- (7) A Topographic Survey for Salt Water Pollution in East Texas Oil Field for the Attorney General and State Health Department.
- (8) Boundary survey in the case of Arnim vs. Aikin, San Patricio County, for the Attorney General.
- (9) A survey of the Colorado River Banks in Travis County for the Attorney General.
- (10) Large Boundary Survey in Brewster County for the Attorney General.
- (11) Approval of Eight Levee Plans, 78,000 acres.

**School Land Division**

TABLE 18

**Sale of Surveyed School Lands**

Acreage Offered.....	230,000.
Bids Received.....	1,420.
Acres Sold.....	115,619.65
Total Consideration.....	\$447,378.40
Average Price Per Acre.....	\$ 3.87

TABLE 19

**Grazing Leases on Unsold School Land**

Total acres under lease as of	
September 1, 1940.....	121,911.83
Acres leased from September 1, 1940	
through August 31, 1942.....	179,291.09
Acreage under leases which terminated from	
September 1, 1940 through August 31, 1942.....	71,081.05
Total acreage under lease as of August 31, 1942.....	230,121.87
Total rental collected from September 1, 1940	
through August 31, 1942.....	\$ 24,659.75

**Oklahoma Strip**

Chapter 185, Acts of the 42nd Legislature, in 1931, provided for the sale of a strip of land along the East sides of the Counties of Lipscomb, Hemp-hill, Wheeler, Collingsworth and Childress, which had formerly been considered in the State of Oklahoma. This strip of land along the one hundredth degree of west longitude was found to be in Texas by final decree of the Supreme Court of the United States, entered on March 17, 1930 in the case of The State of Oklahoma vs. The State of Texas. Chapter 185 provided for the sale of this land by the State of Texas to the claimants as reflected by the deed records, or other public records of the State of Oklahoma. During the biennium the necessary machinery was set up for

the surveying and examination of titles and most of the lands contained in the strip were sold to the claimants at a price of one dollar (\$1.00) per acre, as specified in this Act. A total of 26,424.53 acres were sold, leaving eight applications covering 644.89 acres pending.

**Mineral Division**

R. A. MODRALL, *Supervisor*

Report for the Biennium ended Sept. 1, 1942

TABLE 20  
Vacant Land

	No.	Acreage
Applications under House Bill No 9.....	67	.....
Approved .....	1	99.5
Applications pending prior to Sept. 1, 1940, and subsequently accepted.....	1	21
Areas advertised for Lease to Highest Bidder		
Bids Filed.....	216	.....
Bids Accepted and Leases Issued Thereon.....	113	41,745.48
State Leases by Land Owners under the Relinquishment Act Received and Filed.....	374	87,082.98
-----		
<b>Mining Claims</b>		
Applications filed.....	176	
Applications approved.....	150	2,680.41
-----		
<b>Prospect Permits</b>		
Applications filed.....	649	.....
Permits issued.....	336	89,740.67
-----		
<b>Assignments of Leases</b>		
Split files made on assignments.....	190	28,373.88
Assignments filed.....	437	.....
Relinquishments filed.....	16	.....
-----		
<b>University Lands</b>		
Leases issued by Land Office on Awards by Board for Lease of University Lands.....	223	37,097.25

## Photostat Division

MRS. FLAVIA B. CURBY—*Supervisor*

September 1, 1940 through August 31, 1942

TABLE 21

Number of copies for which fees were charged.....	40,993	
Total Fees charged for copies.....		\$46,214.00
Number of copies of Land Office records made for the use of this and other departments entitled to the same under Article 3913, R. S. 1925:		
Miscellaneous .....	7,340	
Attorney General Department.....	17,269	
The University of Texas.....	2,446	
Number of copies from records of other departments under the provisions of Chapter 286, Acts of 42nd Legislature and Chapter 166, Acts of 43rd Legislature:		
Insurance Department		
Life .....	9,354	
Casualty .....	1,655	
Fire .....	480	
TOTAL .....	11,489	
State Department of Agriculture.....	317	
State Department of Health.....	3,178	
Total Number copies Free Work.....	42,039	
Total Number copies made.....	83,032	\$46,214.00

## Patent Division

MRS. ETHEL WOOD ROBERDEAU, *Patent Clerk*

Patents issued from September 1, 1940, to August 31, 1942, were as follows:

TABLE 22

	No. of Patents	Acres	Fees
School .....	4,105	1,755,100.82	\$31,349.00
Asylum .....	8	1,233.36	34.00
Miscellaneous .....	32	8,095.64	180.00
University .....	2	186.70	8.00
Mineral .....	5	103.30	15.00
Re-patents .....	161		56.00
Totals .....	4,313	1,764,719.82	\$31,642.00

This is 100 patents more than were issued during the preceding biennium. During this same period 1,158 Deeds of Acquittance have been issued, an increase of 738 during this biennium.

**Spanish Division**

LURLINE GAFFORD, *Translator*

TABLE 23

	Number	Fees
Certified translations.....	538	\$1,750.80
Certificates of Fact.....	21	19.00
Certified translation for use in office and other State Departments .....	72	No Fee
Total .....	631	\$1,769.80

## WE PAY TRIBUTE TO OUR FIGHTING MEN

Down through the years, many employees of the General Land Office have achieved distinction in peace and in war. You men who have so faithfully responded to our country's call have shown that you are worthy successors to Texas heroes of bygone days. We are not unmindful of the grave sacrifices you are making. In this time that tries men's souls, you have met the challenge promptly and courageously. It is your willingness to sacrifice and your courage that will mend the disaster which has befallen us.

When the echo of the last shot has died away and the dove of peace wings her way across all the lands of the earth, we trust that the star spangled banner we so proudly hail will still wave over this land of the free. May your faithfulness to the cause bring lasting peace, so that from the smoldering embers of this conflict, we may greet you in this land of liberty which you have kept free by your indomitable spirit.

We salute the former employees of the General Land Office now serving in the armed forces of our country, who are as follows:

### ARMY

Box, Francis, San Angelo  
Brown, Ralston, San Benito  
Cameron, Day, Commerce  
Cargill, Billie, Wichita Falls  
Childers, Vernon, Palestine  
Cobb, Ed Jr., Dallas  
Coffin, Ray Jr., Dallas  
Craig, Bill, Miami  
Crain, Forest, Henderson  
Cross, Jim, San Antonio  
Culp, Bill, Gainesville  
Fields, Charles, El Paso  
Ford, Lewis, Victoria  
Horak, Frank, Caldwell  
Johnson, Frank, Austin  
Klein, Lester, San Antonio  
Lively, James, Elkhart  
Lowry, Leslie, Beaumont  
Lowry, Pat Jr., El Paso

Lybrand, J. L., Greenville  
Marable, Paul Jr., Clarksville  
Martin, Cecil, Dublin  
Menke, Albert, Austin  
Miller, Tom Jr., George West  
Murphy, Smith C., Athens  
Pederson, Laudie, Meridian  
Ramsey, Ben, Marshall  
Robinson, Homer, Quitman  
Russel, Perry, Coleman  
Shaefer, Harry, Austin  
Shapiro, Irving, Galveston  
Stevenson, Bill, Beaumont  
Taulbee, Tom, Fort Worth  
Vandygriff, Alvis, Waxahachie  
Vick, Kyle Jr., Waco  
Whitten, Royce, Paris  
Young, Heartsill, San Augustine

### NAVY

Ball, Pete, Lillian  
Doss, Nobel, Temple  
Glass, W. A., Austin  
Jones, Oscar Jr., Marshall  
Jones, Winfield, Oglesby  
Johnson, Tobin, Commerce

Minnox, Jack, Holland  
Owens, Lewis, Vernon  
Reeves, David, Caldwell  
Smith, Coleman, Snyder  
Sparks, Jack, Austin

### MARINES

Steele, Bob, Dallas

### W. A. A. C.

Boothe, Mary Louise, Cuero