The Hobby Family In Texas History

By Bill Hobby

Hobbys In The Texas Capitol

(1861 - 1993)

By Bill Hobby

Over the last 132 years and five generations thirty-five members of the extended Hobby family (in-laws, cousins) have been associated with the Texas Legislature for thirty regular and countless special sessions as Governors, Lieutenant Governors, members, staffers, and mascots. The line extends from Alfred Marmaduke Hobby in 1861 to his great-great grand nephew Paul Hobby and his great-great-great grand niece Grace Oveta Hobby in 1993. (See Session Table, page 35.)

Most are pictured in the composite photos of the Senate and House that make up most of this book.

Hobbys and their kin infested the Senate chamber in one way or another for twenty-two sessions. Eleven of those sessions (52-72) were consecutive (1971-1993).

The Hobbys In The American Civil War

Alfred Marmaduke Hobby - Major
Eighth Texas Confederate
Infantry Regiment

Edwin E. Hobby - Captain, Company D
Eighth Texas Confederate Regiment

The Sentinel's Dream of Home

By Col. A.M. Hobby

'Tis dead of night, nor voice, nor sound, breaks on the stillness of the air,The waning moon goes coldly down on frozen fields and forests bare.The solemn stars are glittering high, while here my lonely watch I keep,To guard the brave with anxious eye, who sweetly dream and sweetly sleep.

Perchance of home these sleepers dream, of sainted ones no longer here, Whose mystic forms low bend unseen, and breathe soft whispers in their ear. Sleep on, sleep on, my comrades brave, quaff deep to-night of pleasure's cup, Ere morning's crimson banners wave, and reveille shall rouse thee up.

The sporting winds and waves to-night seem tired of their boisterous play, And armed ships, with signal lights and bristling guns before me lay. But not of ships nor battle-fields, with clash of arms and roll of drums-To softer scenes my spirit yields-to-night a sweeter vision comes.

It is thine own beloved one! Whose kiss I feel, whose smile I see;
0 God! Protect that wife at home, begirt with growing infancy.
To-night, to-night I'm with you there, around my knees fond children gather! And climb, the envied kiss to share, amidst the sounds of "Husband! Father!

"Such thoughts my eyes with moisture fill, my bosom heaves, my pulses start; Close down I'll press my gun to still the wild emotions of my heart. Hush! Pleading one-I cannot stay! The spoiler comes with fiendish wrath- Black ruin marks his bloody way, and blazing homes have lit his path.

Go, husband, go! God nerve thy blows-their footsteps' foul blot from our shore. Strike! 'till our land is free from foes whose hands are stained with Southern gore. Strike! Husband, strike-I'd rather weep, the widow of a patriot brave, Than lay my heart (I'd scorn to sleep) beside a subjugated slave.

Thy woman's soul is true and grand! The battle-field my home shall be, Until our country proudly stand acknowledged as a nation free. Till then, oh, welcome fields of strife, the victors shout, the vanquished cry, where ebbs the crimson stream of life, where quick and dead together lie.

Mid bursting shell and squadrons dash, where broken ranks disorder'd fly, Where angry cannons flash on flash paints hell upon the lurid sky. Where many a brave shall sink to rest, and fondly cherish'd hopes will set, And blood that warms the manly heart, will dim the glittering bayonet.When these are past, and victory's sun in undimm'd splendor lights the skies, And peace, by dauntless valor won, and proudly free our banner flies. Then to my Western prairie home, with eager haste, each nerve shall strain, Nor from its hallow'd precincts roam, unless my country call again.

There unalloy'd shall be our bliss; we'll watch the sun give morning birth, And, sinking, leave his parting kiss upon the dewy lips of earth. The moon has waxed and waned away; the morning star rides pale and high. Fond dreams of home no longer stay, but fade like stars on morning's sky.

GALVESTON, TEXAS, Feb. 1, 1864.

The Battle of Corpus Christi
(August, 1862)
"The Battle of the Drunken Cannonballs"

The Battle of Corpus Christi in the summer of 1862 was little noted nor long remembered. In August 1862, Union gunboats bombarded Corpus Christi for three days. The bombardment didn't do much damage because the cannonballs didn't explode.

Corpus Christi was defended by the Eighth Texas Confederate Infantry Regiment, organized and commanded by my great uncle, then Major Alfred Maramaduke Hobby. My grandfather, Captain Edwin E. Hobby was captain of Company D. The defense was relatively successful even though Uncle Marmaduke's and Grandpa's troops were drunk.

The cannonballs didn't explode because the gunboat crews had replaced the gunpowder with booze. When the cannonballs landed, the bungs popped open and the booze dribbled out. Needless to say, the defenders soon caught on, had their hot toddies, and discipline deteriorated.

What reluctant gunners those Union sailors must have been!

ALFRED M. HOBBY

(1836 - 1881)

Uncle of Will Hobby

Representative

8th-9th Sessions

Alfred Marmaduke Hobby, merchant, politician, Confederate officer, and poet, son of Martin and Anna Elizabeth (Slade) Hobby, was born in 1836 in Macon, Georgia. In the 1850's his mother, a widow, moved with her sons from Florida to Galveston, Texas. Hobby entered a mercantile partnership and established a general store at the new town of St. Mary's of Aransas, Refugio County, in about 1857.

Although only about twenty-two, he almost immediately became a political leader of the county. In 1859, upon the resignation of Henry L. Kinney, Hobby was elected to the House of Representatives of the Eighth Texas Legislature. He was an ardent supporter of states' rights. At the Secession Convention he represented his district and voted for secession. Hobby was reelected to the Ninth Legislature but resigned to enter Confederate military service.

On May 14, 1862, he organized and became major of the force later known as the Eighth (Hobby's) Texas Infantry regiment. While stationed at Galveston during the war, Hobby married Mrs. Gertrude Menard. After the war he disposed of his Refugio County holdings and settled at Galveston, where he resumed the mercantile business.

During the war he wrote several patriotic poems. These, including "The Sentinel's Dream of Home," were widely published in newspapers of the period. After the war he devoted himself more seriously to literary work. His best-known prose was his Life of David G. Burnet (1871). Serfs of Chattenay and Miscellaneous Poems (ca. 1881) contained his "Poem in Honor of Colonel Thomas S. Lubbock."

Hobby spent the last years of his life in Silver City, New Mexico, where he died on February 5, 1881. A marker has been erected by the Texas Historical Commission on the Refugio courthouse lawn commemorating his life.

EDWIN HOBBY

(1844 - 1899)

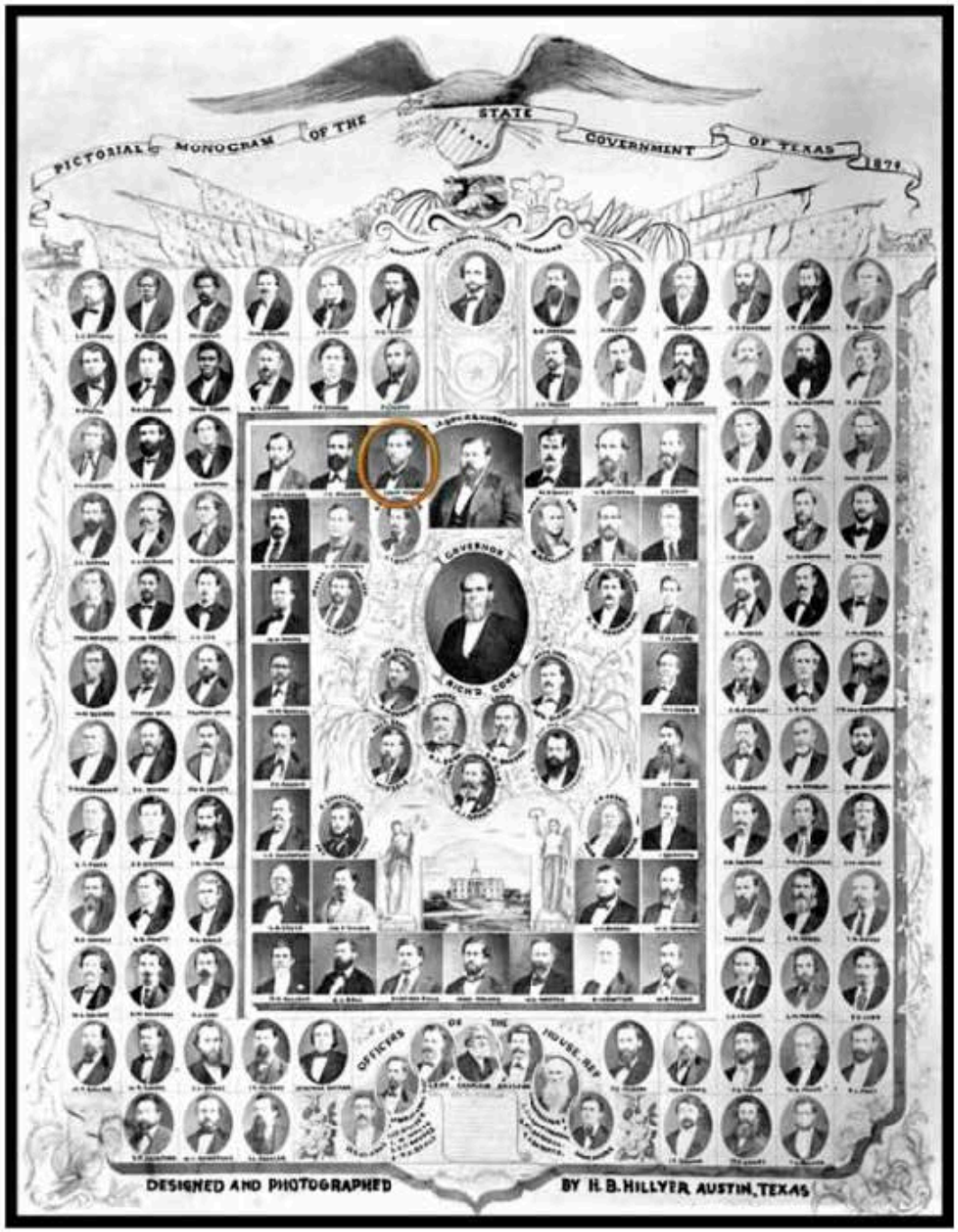
Father of Will Hobby

Senator - 14th Session

A Confederate soldier and jurist, Edwin Hobby was born in Tallahassee, Florida to Martin and Anna Elizabeth (Slade) Hobby in 1844. He moved to Texas in 1860 and settled in Refugio County. He served the Confederacy as a captain in the Eighth Texas Infantry Regiment. After the Civil War, he settled in Southeast Texas and was admitted to the bar in 1867.

Edwin represented the Piney Woods District (East Texas) from 1873 to 1879 in the Senate. From 1879 to 1888 Hobby served as judge of the 31st Judicial District (changed to the Ninth Judicial District in 1885), which included parts of San Jacinto, Polk, Angelina, Hardin, Liberty, and Chambers counties. Hobby wrote "A Treatise on Texas Land Law "in 1883.

In 1888 Edwin resigned from the Ninth Judicial District to serve on the Court of Civil Appeals. He left the bench to practice law in Houston after losing an election in 1892 and was later appointed master in chancery for Indian Territory. (The Supreme Court appointed district judge commissioners to write opinions and help handle the caseload.) The Texas Supreme Court was then a circuit court sitting in



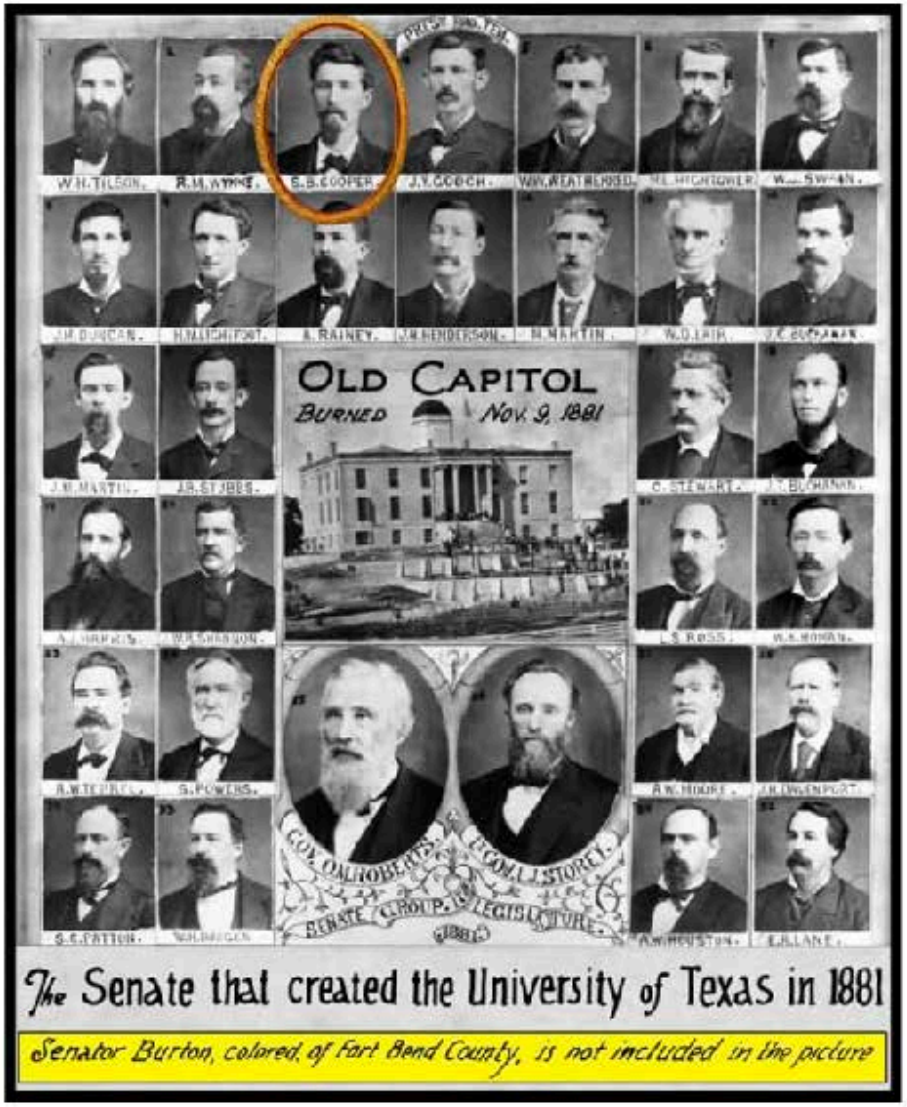
EDWIN HOBBY

(1844 - 1899)

Father of Will Hobby
Senator - 15th Session
Senator - 16th Session
(photo unavailable)

Houston, Galveston, Dallas, Austin, etc. (Their Austin dormitory was in the Capitol space where the Lieutenant Governor's office is now located -- the same space that was later occupied by my father, Will Hobby, and then by me, Bill Hobby.) During the 1890's, Edwin worked for John Henry Kirby in Houston.

In 1866 he married Eudora Adeline Pettus and among their children was the future Texas governor William P. Hobby. Edwin Hobby died in Houston on November 1, 1899, and was buried in Glenwood Cemetery.



The Senate that created the University of Texas in 1881

Senator Burton, colored, of Fort Bend County, is not included in the picture

SAMUEL B. COOPER

(1850 - 1918)

Father-in-Law of Will Hobby

Senator - 17th-18th Sessions

A U.S. Representative from Texas, Samuel Cooper was born near Eddyville in Caldwell County, KY on May 30, 1850. He moved with his parents to Texas the same year and located to Woodville in Tyler County. He attended the common schools, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1871. He commenced practice in Woodville in January 1872 and served as prosecuting attorney of Tyler County from 1876-1880.

He was a member of the State senate from 1880-1884. He was appointed collector of internal revenue for the first district of Texas by President Cleveland in 1885 and served until 1888. He was an unsuccessful candidate for district judge in 1888.

Samuel Cooper was elected as a Democrat to the 53rd and five succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1893-March 3, 1905). He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-election to the 59th Congress, and again elected to the 60th Congress (March 4, 1907-March 3, 1909).

He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-election to the 61st Congress, but was appointed a member of the United States Board of General Appraisers at the port of New York City by President Taft in 1910.

Samuel Cooper died in New York City on August 21, 1918. Interment is in Magnolia Cemetery in Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas.

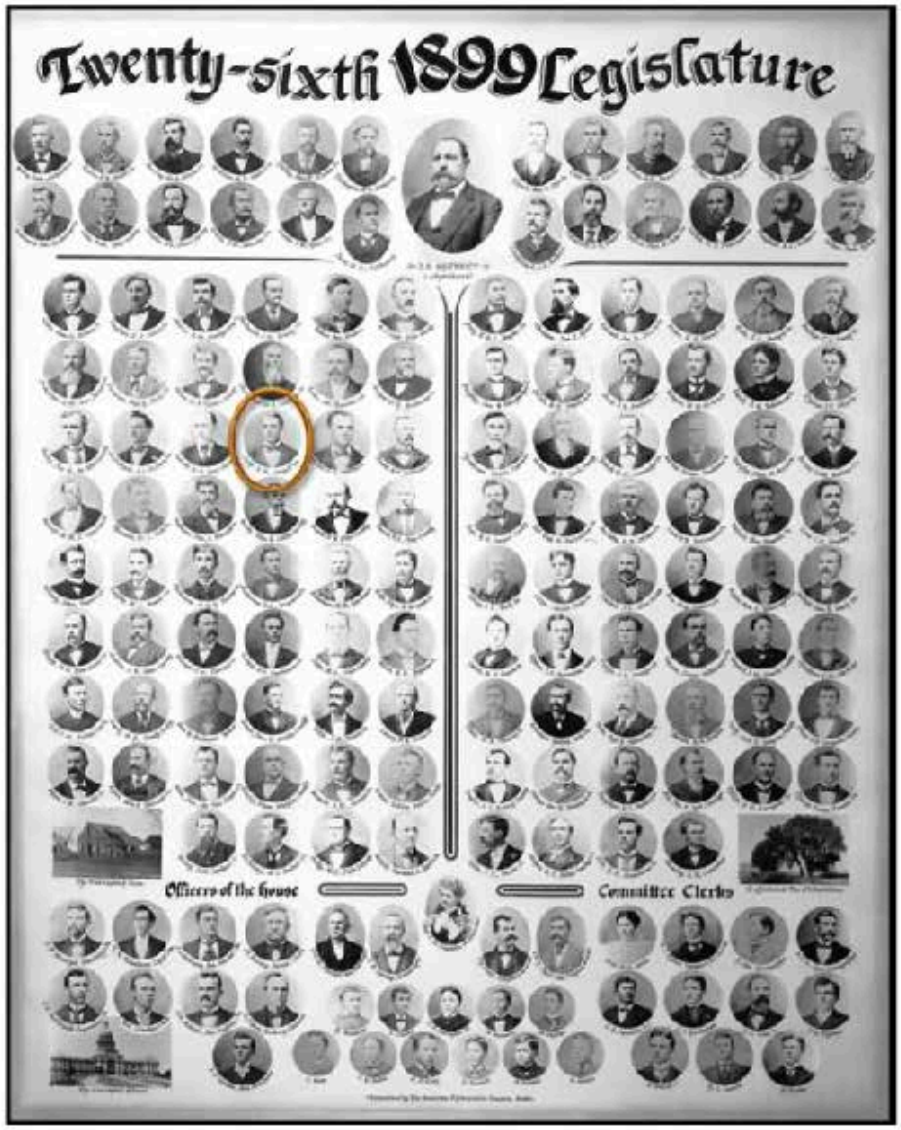
The 17th composite is particularly interesting because of the highlighted line at the bottom: "Senator Burton, colored, of Fort Bend County, is not included in the picture." Walter Moses Burton (1829?-1913) was brought to Texas as a slave from North Carolina in 1850 at the age of twenty-one. He belonged to a planter, Thomas Burke Burton, who owned a plantation and several large farms in Fort Bend County. While a slave, Walter Burton was taught how to read and write by his master, a skill that served him well in later years. Thomas Burton sold Walter several large plots of land for $1,900 dollars. This land made the freedman one of the wealthiest and most influential blacks in Fort Bend County. He was elected sheriff and tax collector of Fort Bend County in 1869, the first elected black sheriff in the nation. In 1873 Burton was elected to the Texas Senate, where he served for seven years from 1874 to 1875 and from 1876 to 1882. In the Senate he championed the education of blacks. Among the many bills that he helped push through was one that established Prairie View Normal School (now Prairie View A&M University). He left the Senate in 1882 and upon the request of a white colleague was given an ebony and gold cane for his service in that chamber.

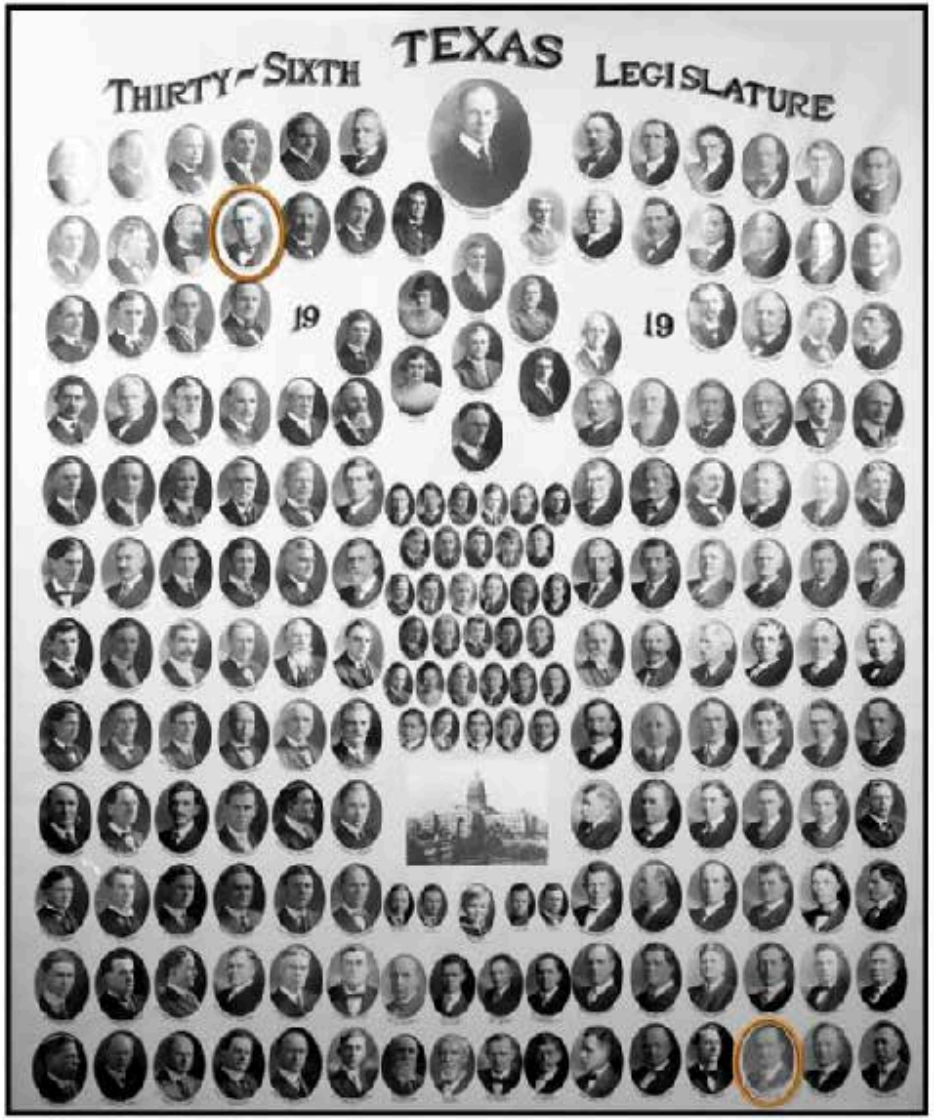
I. W.CULP
(1869 - 1934)

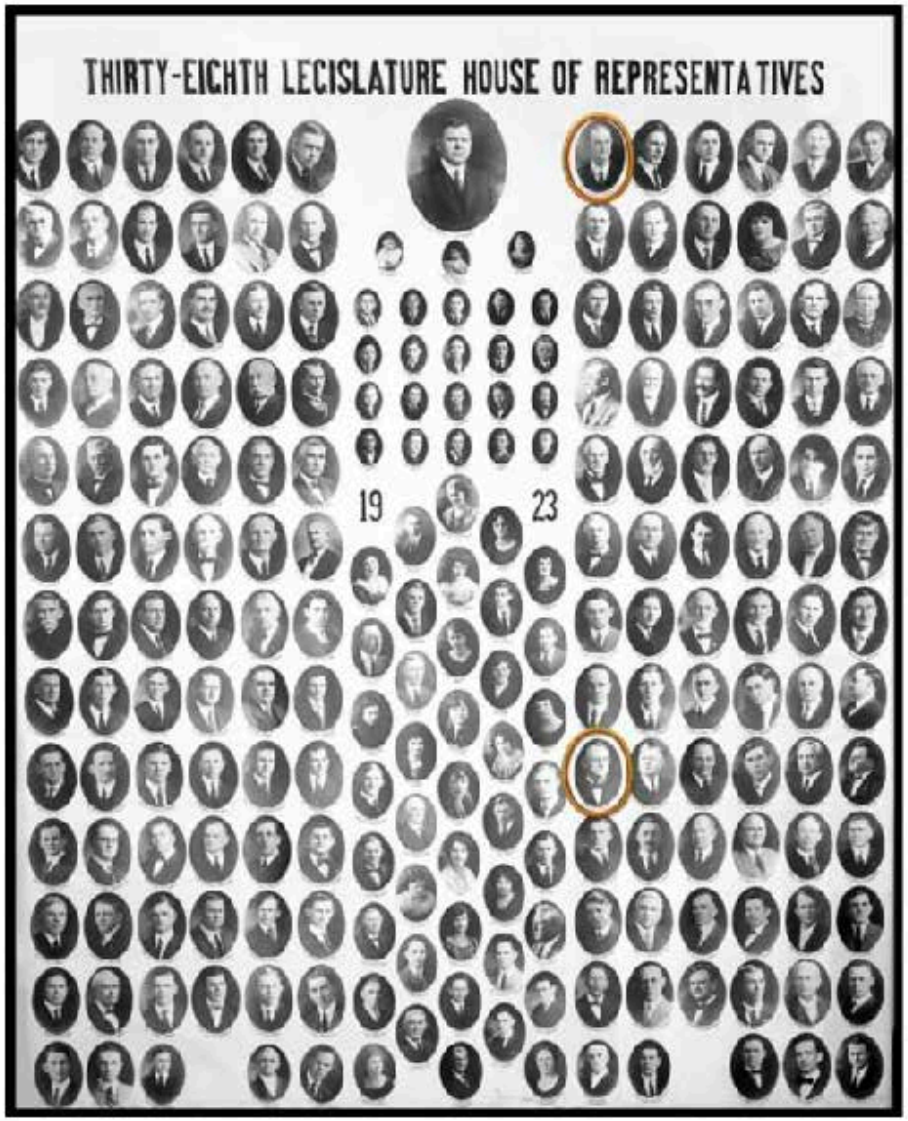
Father-in-law of Will Hobby
Representative
26th, 36th, and 38th Sessions

A lawyer for 38 years, I. W. (Issac William) Culp served Coryell and Bell counties as representative and Bell and Milam counties as flotorial representative.

He served in the 36th and 38th sessions with Sam Ealy Johnson, Jr., father of President Lyndon Baines Johnson. On the 36th session, Johnson is circled on the bottom row, third from the right. On the 38th session, Johnson is circled on the top row, sixth photo from the right.




THIRTY-SIXTH TEXAS LEGISLATURE
19
19

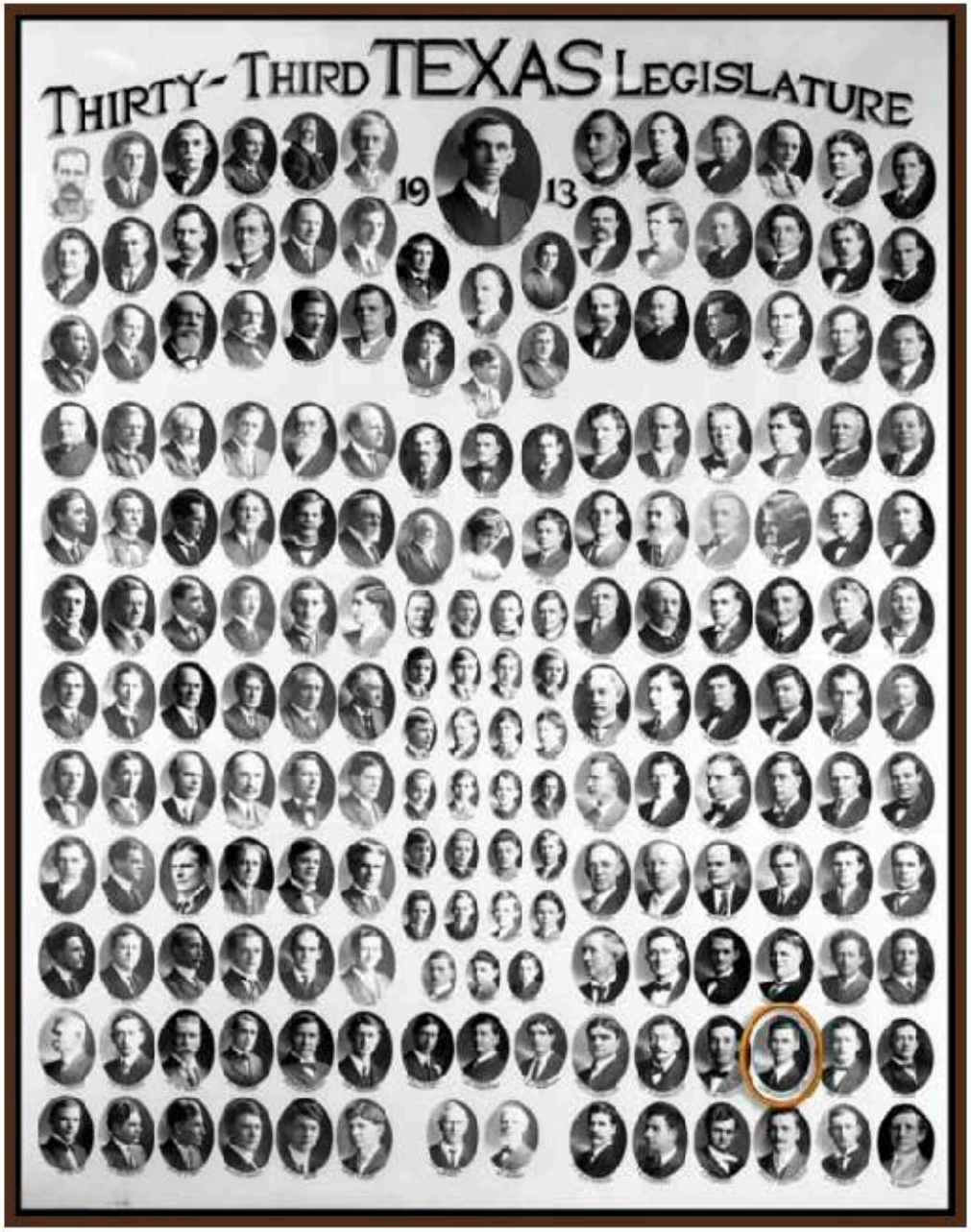

THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
19
23

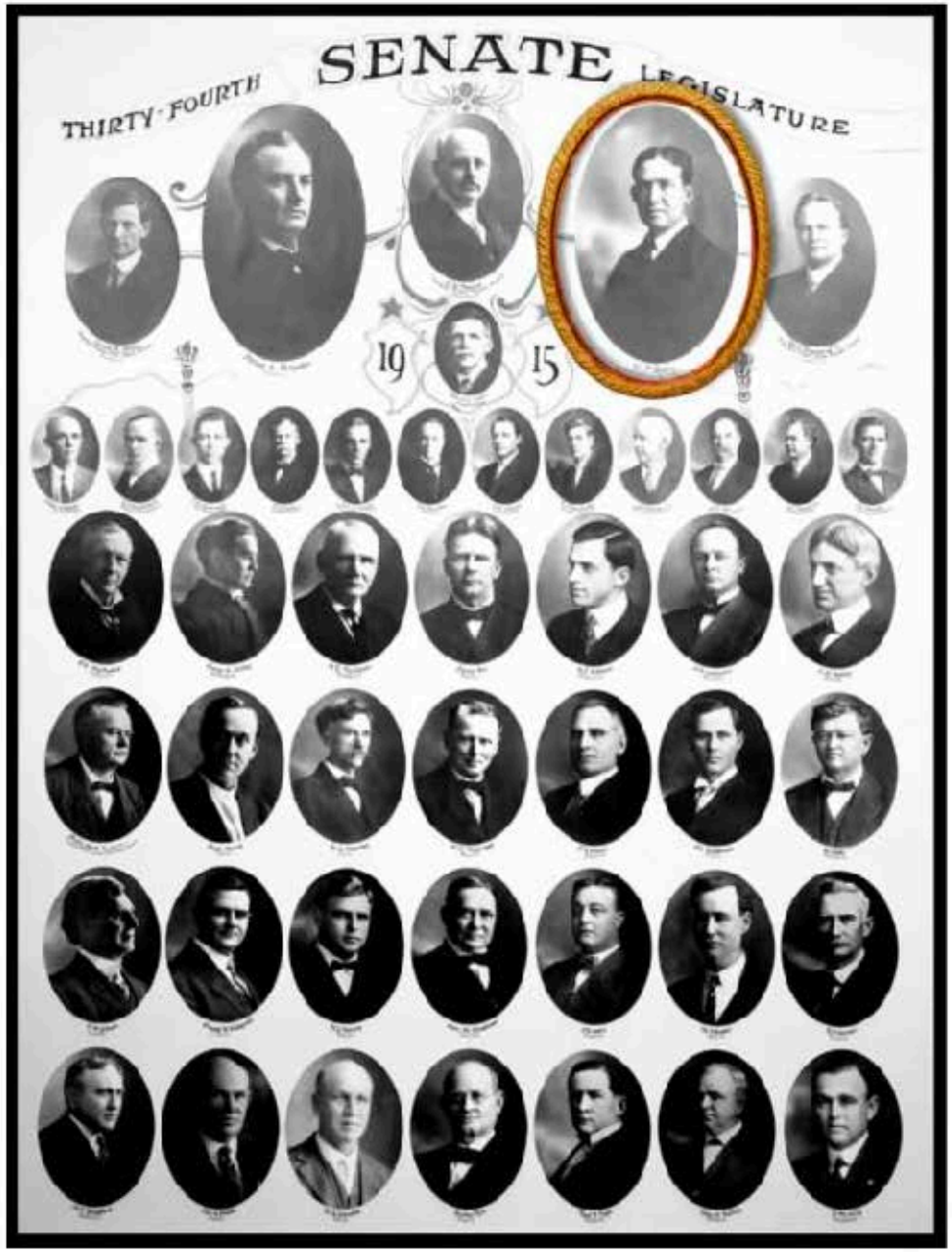
SAMUEL B. COOPER, JR.

(1878 - 1932)

Brother-in-Law of Will Hobby
Representative
33rd-34th Sessions

Samuel Bronson Cooper, Jr. son of Samuel Bronson Cooper, Sr. and Phoebe (Young) Cooper, took office in the 33rd session of the House of Representatives on January 14th, 1913. In a special election on July 24th, 1915 during the 34th Session, he succeeded Edmond A. McDowell who resigned after the 1st called Session. (He was appointed as a district judge on 6/18/1915.)





WILL HOBBY

(1878 - 1964)

Lieutenant Governor
34th Session

William (Will) Pettus Hobby, editor, publisher, Lieutenant Governor and Governor was born in Moscow, Texas on March 26, 1878 to Eudora Adeline (Pettus) and Edwin E. Hobby. One of six children, Hobby moved in 1893 with his family from Livingston to Houston, where he entered Houston High School.

In 1895 he began working for the Houston Post as a circulation clerk. Hobby became a business writer for the Post in August 1901 and later became the city editor and then managing editor. He began to take an active interest in politics, was a founder of the Young Men's Democratic Club of Houston, and in 1904 was secretary of the party's state executive committee.

WILL HOBBY

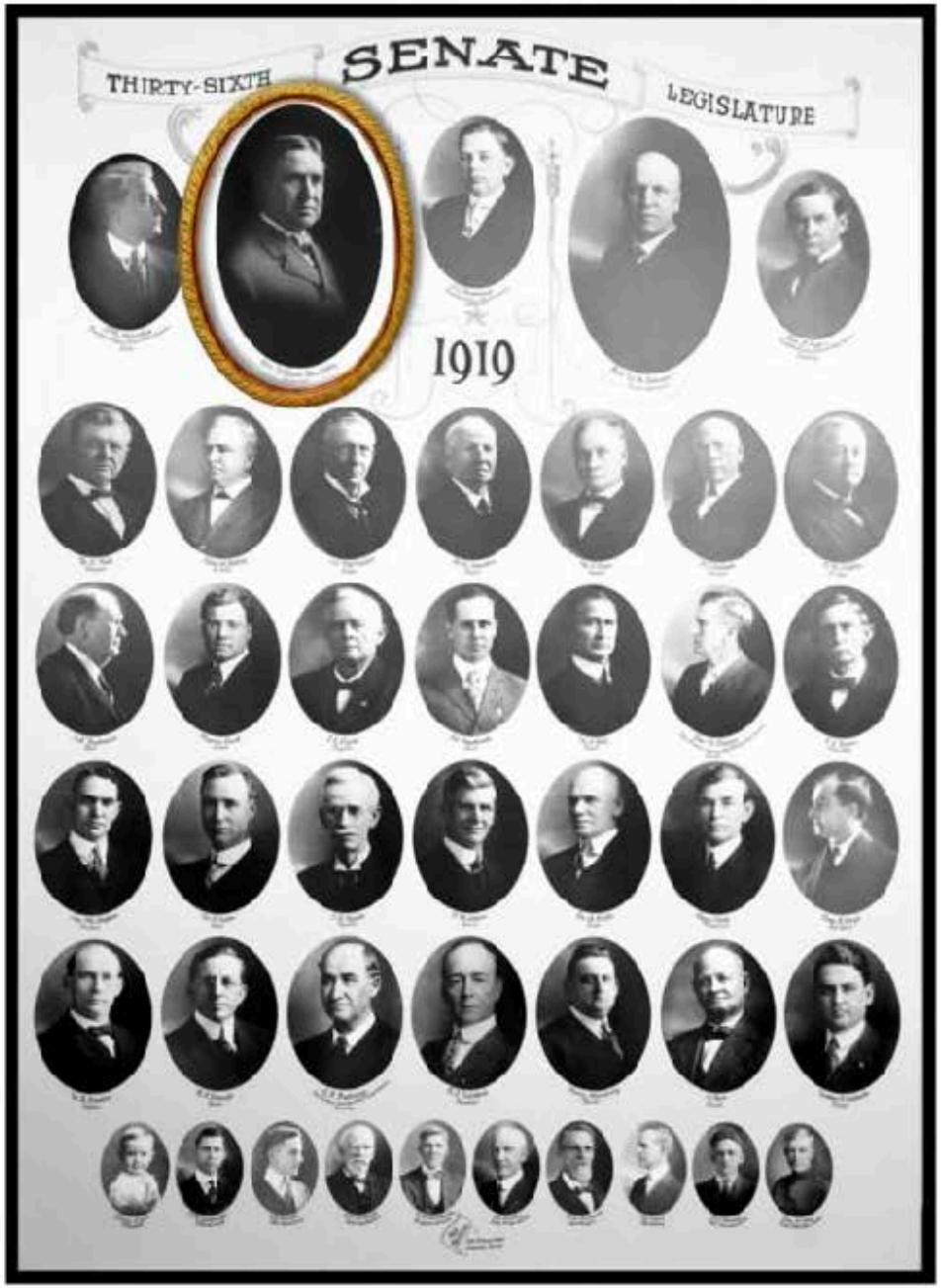
(1878 - 1964)

Lieutenant Governor

35th Session

In 1907 he left the Post to become manager and part owner of the Beaumont Enterprise, which he soon acquired. Hobby was elected lieutenant governor in 1914 and reelected in 1916. When Governor James Ferguson was removed from office in 1917, Hobby became the 26th governor and youngest man, at age 39, to hold the office. In 1915 he married Willie Cooper, daughter of former U. S. Representative Samuel Bronson Cooper. She died in 1929.

In 1924 he became the president of the Houston Post-Dispatch. When J. E. Josey acquired the newspaper from Ross Sterling, Hobby continued in the presidency and maintained executive control. He acquired the paper, again called the Post, in 1939.



WILL HOBBY

(1878 - 1964)

Governor

36th Session

Hobby married Oveta Culp of Killeen and Houston, a former parliamentarian of the Texas House in February 1931. Together they ran The Houston Post Company which included 2 radio and 6 television stations.

Will Hobby died in Houston on June 6, 1964 and was buried in Glenwood Cemetery.

HOW WILL HOBBY BECAME GOVERNOR

In 1917 Governor Jim Ferguson was impeached by the House and removed from office by the Senate because he vetoed the University of Texas appropriation. He did so because the regents wouldn't fire the president who wouldn't fire professors the governor didn't like.

Ferguson summoned Regent George Washington Littlefield and told him he would not veto the appropriation if President Robert E. Vinson resigned. President Vinson asked Littlefield how he should respond. Littlefield said "I would tell him to go to hell!". Vinson said that the expression was "somewhat out of line with my own customary forms of expression" but asked Littlefield "to convey the substance of his statement to the governor as my reply, leaving the exact verbiage to (Littlefields) own discretion."

President Vinson also got divine guidance. Texas Episcopal Bishop George Herbert Kinsolving was closely associated with the University of Texas. As Vinson later told the story: "Just at that moment the ringing of the telephone interrupted the proceedings and the voice of Bishop Kinsolving came to my ears. "No matter how I know it, but I know what is going on", he said, "but don't you resign". That message had much to do with the decision then made.

Ferguson vetoed the appropriation that same afternoon and the University of Texas was in the ditch.

But then a remarkable thing happened, probably unique in the history of public education. Two of the regents pledged their personal fortunes by personally guaranteeing the University's budget of $1,627,404 ($23,633,622 in 2013 dollars). Littlefield and George Washington Brackenridge were long-time regents who disliked each other intensely. They had served on opposite sides in the Civil War. They disagreed, often bitterly and personally, about almost everything except the welfare of the University. Both had given enormous amounts of money to the University. Various structures on the UT campus are named for them. Brackenridge also gave the city of San Antonio the park that bears his name.

The House then impeached Ferguson and the Senate removed him from office. (Accidentally or intentionally, Ferguson didn't veto a particular assistant math professor. That's micromanaging.) Technically, Ferguson wasn't impeached because of the veto, but the veto was the proximate cause. There were plenty of other grounds for impeachment. Ferguson had been indicted for misusing public funds. He was selling pardons. But it was the University of Texas veto that really got him in trouble.

The Legislature reappropriated the money. My father, who had succeeded Ferguson as governor, signed the bill and all was well. My father beat Ferguson in the next election by a large majority. The University was out of the ditch and the regents were off the hook.

Willie Chapman Cooper Hobby (1887-1929)

Lieutenant Governor Will Hobby married Miss Willie in 1915.

She was the daughter of Texas Senator (later Congressman) Samuel Bronson Cooper.

Willie Chapman Cooper Hobby
(1887-1929)

Willie Chapman Cooper was born in 1887 in Woodville, Texas and spent much of her girlhood in Washington, D.C., while her father, Samuel Bronson Cooper, was a member of the House of Representatives. Living in the nation's capital in a political and social context provided many important lessons for Willie. Later, when she was living in New York, she became greatly interested in women's suffrage. Her belief in this cause would continue the rest of her life. She married William Hobby, her childhood sweetheart, in 1915 at the Saint Charles Hotel in New Orleans. The social climate in which she was raised allowed her to assume a daunting schedule, first as the wife of a lieutenant governor and then as first lady when her husband became governor in 1918.

As first lady of Texas, Willie Hobby's tact and outgoing personality brought great praise from those who visited the mansion. The Houston Press reported that she "made the Mansion at Austin a Mecca for thousands. She reigned there with a democracy that thrilled the most humble and brought equal praise from the most aristocratic." Willie accorded her maid, Savannah Pearl, a mansion wedding when she married General Jackson, a porter in the Texas Senate, in 1921.

The first lady admitted that even though she frequently made her own clothes, she could not cook and hated dishwashing. Fortunately, there was a large staff to handle those details at the mansion. Although Willie did not bother with domestic details, she did devote her energies to a number of causes related to the Great War. She could frequently be found in Red Cross workrooms making mittens, socks, and other items needed for the war effort. She also served during the war as a member of the Austin chapter of the State Council of Defense and the War Camp Community Service League. After Governor Hobby's term, the couple moved to Houston, where she became active in civic affairs, especially those related to women's issues.

TO CONGRESS:
LET WOMEN VOTE!

February 5, 1919. Governor Will Hobby signs a resolution urging the United States Senate "to act immediately and favorably" upon the Nineteenth Amendment. Seated at the Governor's left is Minnie Fisher Cunningham, president of the Texas Equal Suffrage Association from 1915 through 1918 and lobbyist for the National American Woman Suffrage. (Original photograph on file at the Austin History Center, Austin Public Library. Story edited by Trish Cunningham, Minnie Fish's g.g. niece.)

With deep appreciation for his family's abiding commitment to women's full and equal participation in politics-and for his own generous efforts in support of feminist ideals-the Texas Women's Political Caucus is pleased to present this photograph to Lieutenant Governor William P. Hobby, Jr., at a roast in honor of the Double Eagle in Austin, Texas, on February 25, 1985.

My father is shown signing the resolution at the Senate Rostrum. Governors usually do their ceremonial signings in the Governor's reception room. My father must have felt more at home in the Senate chamber.

OVETA CULP HOBBY

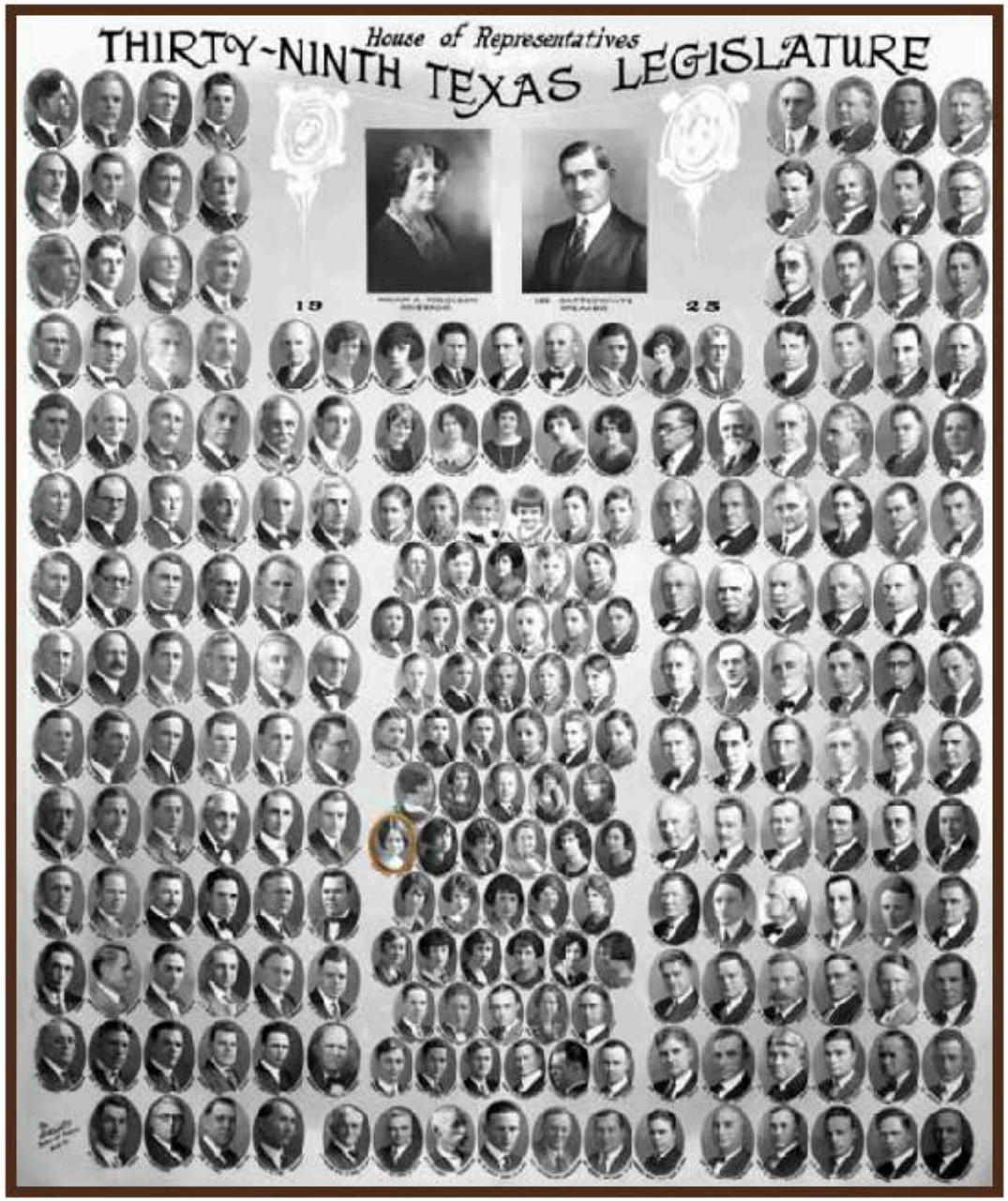
(1905 - 1995)

Wife of Will Hobby
House Parliamentarian
39th-42nd and 46th Sessions

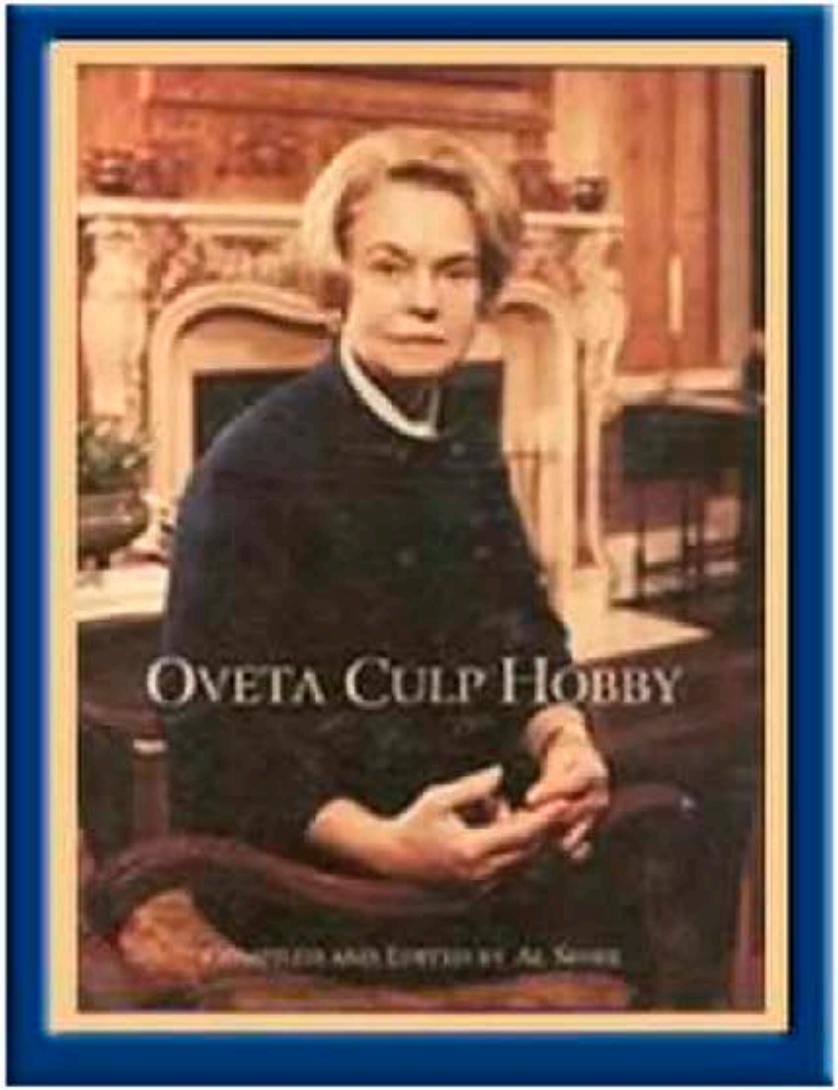
Oveta Culp Hobby, first secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, first commanding officer of the Women's Army Corps, and chairman of the board of the Houston Post, second of seven children of Ike W. and Emma Elizabeth (Hoover) Culp, was born in Killeen, Texas, on January 19, 1905. When Ike Culp was elected to the state legislature in 1919, he took Oveta, age 14, with him to Austin. She became a serious and interested observer of each days sessions.

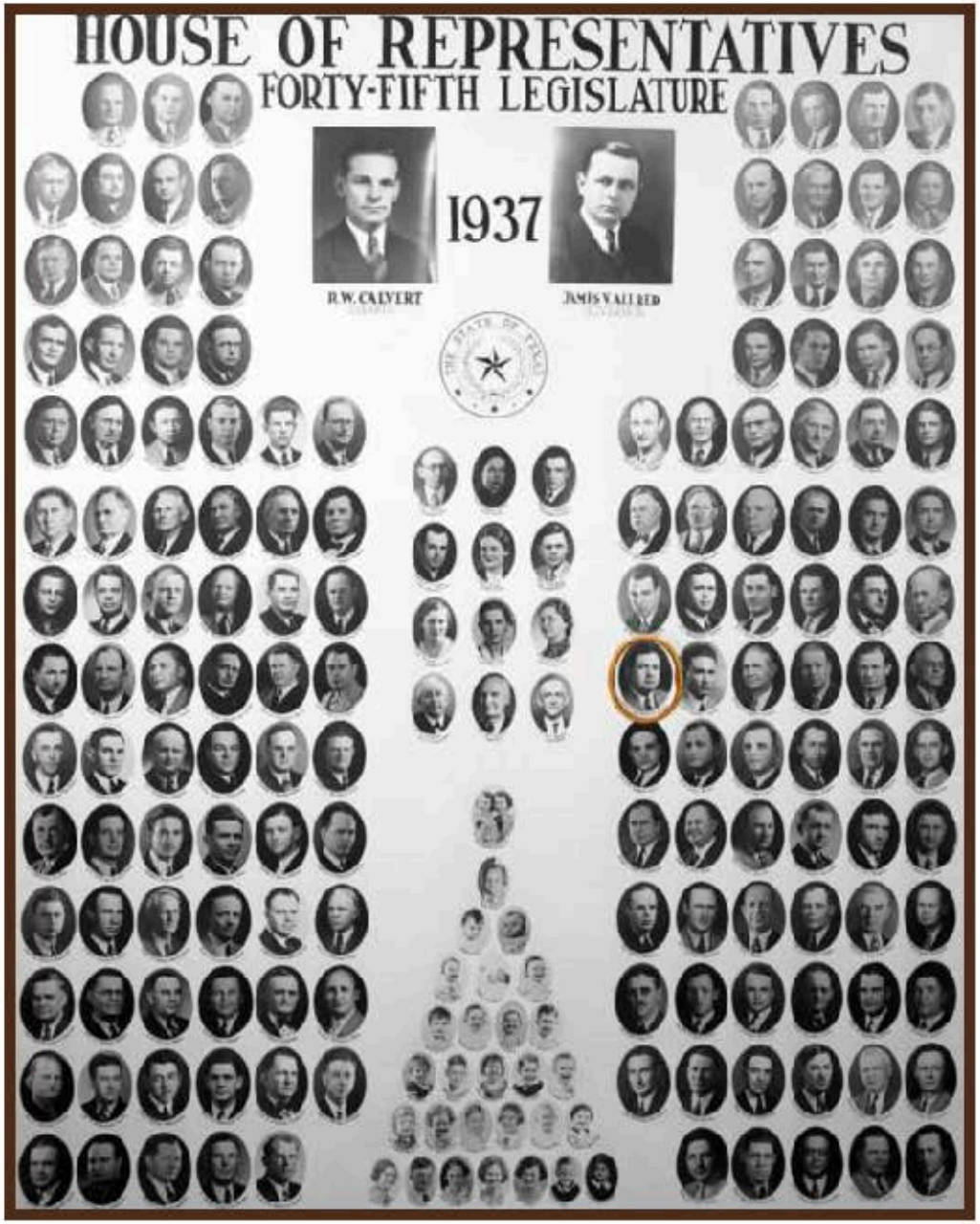
In 1925, at the age of 20, she was asked by the speaker of the Texas House of Representatives to serve as legislative parliamentarian. She served in that capacity until 1931, while continuing her education at the University of Texas. She became a clerk of the State Banking Commission and codified the banking laws of the state of Texas. She wrote "Mr. Chairman" a book about parliamentary procedure.

On February 23, 1931, she married former Texas Governor Will Hobby. I was conceived in April, 1931 during the 42d session of the house. Mother was also president of the League of Women Voters that year. Therefore, I attended my first session and my first political meetings *in utero*. My sister Jessica was born in 1937. Oveta Hobby died on August 16, 1995 in Houston, and was buried at Glenwood Cemetery.



OVETA CULP HOBBY
Jan. 19, 1905-Aug. 16, 1995


OVETA CULP HOBBY



LINDLEY GARRISON BECKWORTH, SR.

(1913 - 1984)

Father-in-law of
Laura Hobby Beckworth
Representative - 45th Session

Lindley Garrison Beckworth, Sr., United States Representative, judge, and lawyer, was born on June 30, 1913, in Kaufman County, Texas, to Otis Jefferson and Josie Beckworth.

He attended several common schools in Upshur County and in 1928 enrolled in Gilmer High School, from which he graduated in 1931. Like both of his parents, Beckworth became a teacher. After attending Southern Methodist University in 1931-32, he taught at Shady Grove in Upshur County. He attended Sam Houston State Teachers College (now Sam Houston State University) the first summer term of 1933 and the University of Texas from July 1933 to June 1934. In the spring of 1934 he worked for the Civil Works Corps and took correspondence courses from Abilene Christian College. He taught during the 1934-35 and 1935-36 school years, attended the University of Texas law school during the summer of 1935, and attended Baylor University law school in the summer of 1936.

In January 1936 Beckworth, a Democrat, announced his candidacy for the state legislature. He later defeated five candidates in the first primary, but did not receive a majority of the votes. In the runoff he was nominated by a 3,343-vote margin. He represented the Fourth District in the Texas House of Representatives for one term.

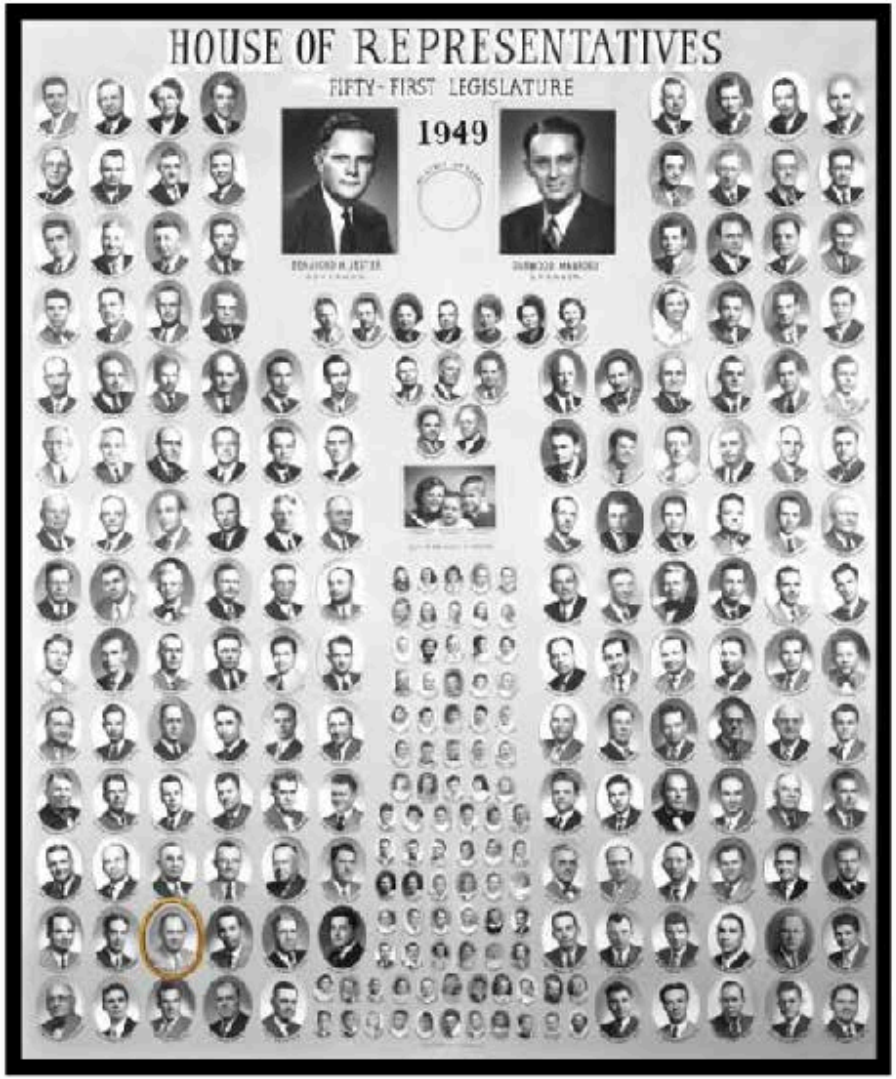
On June 27, 1942 Beckworth married Eloise Carter of Tyler. They had two daughters and three sons.

FRANK (Posh) C. OLTORF

(1923 - 2004)

Pettus Cousin of Will Hobby - Representative - 50th-51st Sessions

Frank Oltorf served Falls County in the House of Representatives from 1947 to 1951.



LINDLEY GARRISON BECKWORTH, SR.

(1913 - 1984)

Father-in-law of Laura Hobby Beckworth

Senator - 62nd Session

After representing the Fourth District in the Texas House of Representatives for one term, Lindley Beckworth was one of five candidates who ran against incumbent Morgan G. Sanders in 1938 for the Third Congressional District seat. With his father as campaign manager, Beckworth led in the first primary. He defeated Brady Gentry in the second primary and went on to become, at twenty-five, the youngest person elected to the United States House of Representatives in the twentieth century. He served seven terms in the House and in 1952 announced his candidacy for the Senate. He lost to Price Daniel, Sr.

After losing the 1954 election for his old House seat by less than 1,000 votes, he recaptured it in 1956. The 1965 Reapportionment of Congressional Districts Act eliminated Beckworth's district and placed him in the Fourth Congressional District, represented by Ray Roberts. He lost to Roberts in the 1966 primary.

President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed him to the United States Customs Court on March 14, 1967, and he served until August 1968. He then practiced law in Longview with the firm of Whitehead and Whitehead. In November 1970 he was elected to the Texas Senate from the Second Senatorial District. As a state senator, he worked for the establishment of the University of Texas at Tyler and the University of Texas Health Center at Tyler. He served one term and returned to his law practice.

Mascots - 62nd Session

Michael Lindley Peck & Melissa Love Beckworth
Nephew & Niece of John Beckworth

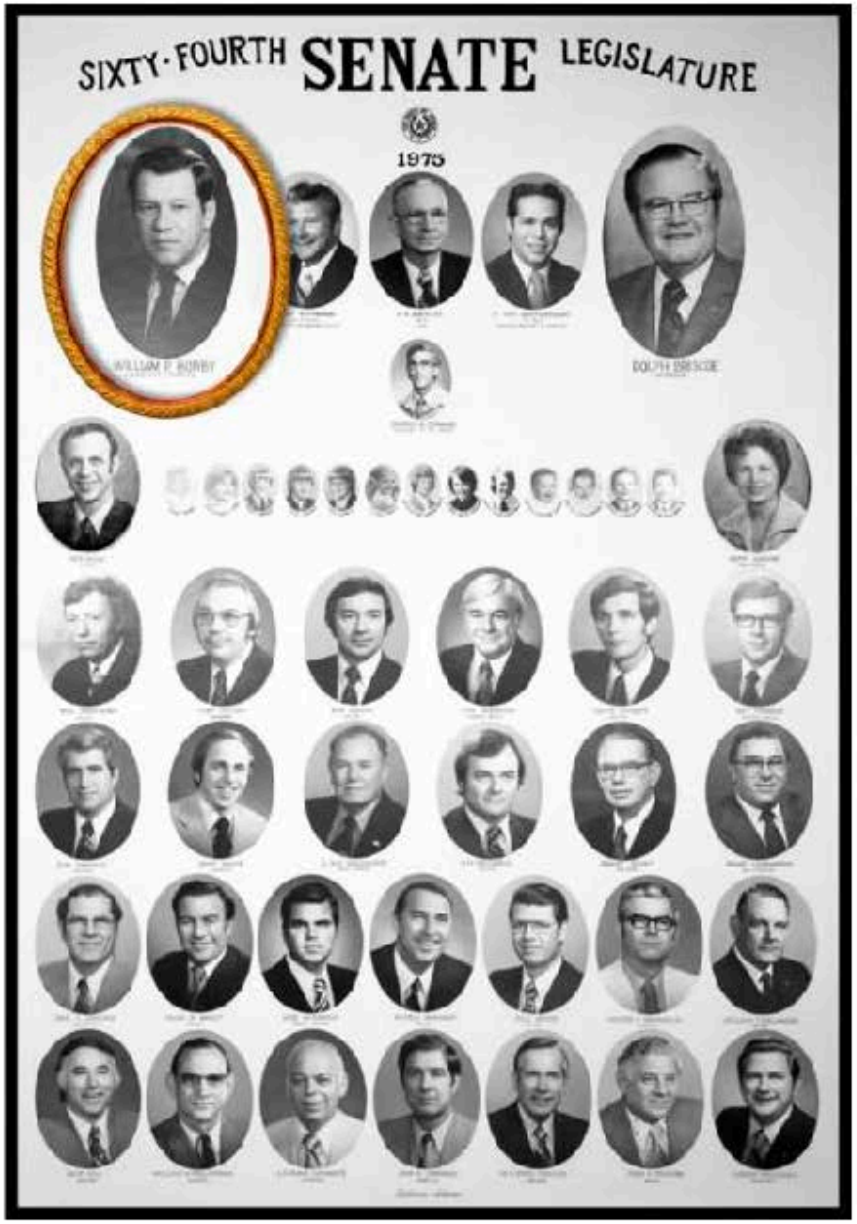
BILL HOBBY
(1932 - PRESENT)
Son of Will Hobby
Lieutenant Governor
63rd -71st Sessions

William (Bill) Hobby served as Lieutenant Governor of the State of Texas for 18 years, longer than any other person. He presided over 28 sessions and 95 senators. He was born in Houston on January 19, 1932 to William P. Hobby, Sr. and Oveta Culp Hobby. After attending Rice University and receiving his degree in 1953, he entered the United States Navy and served for four years in naval intelligence. Subsequently, he joined the staff of the Houston Post, at the time published by his father, and advanced through several editorial positions. As his father's health declined, Hobby assumed increased managerial responsibilities for the newspaper company and became executive editor and president of the company in 1965. He was president of the Post for nearly 20 years, until the sale of the family-owned newspaper in 1983. He is currently Chairman of the Board of Hobby Communications, LLC.

Bill Hobby married the former Diana Poteat Stallings in 1954. Bill and Diana have four children, Laura Beckworth, Paul William Hobby, Andrew Hobby and Kate Gibson.

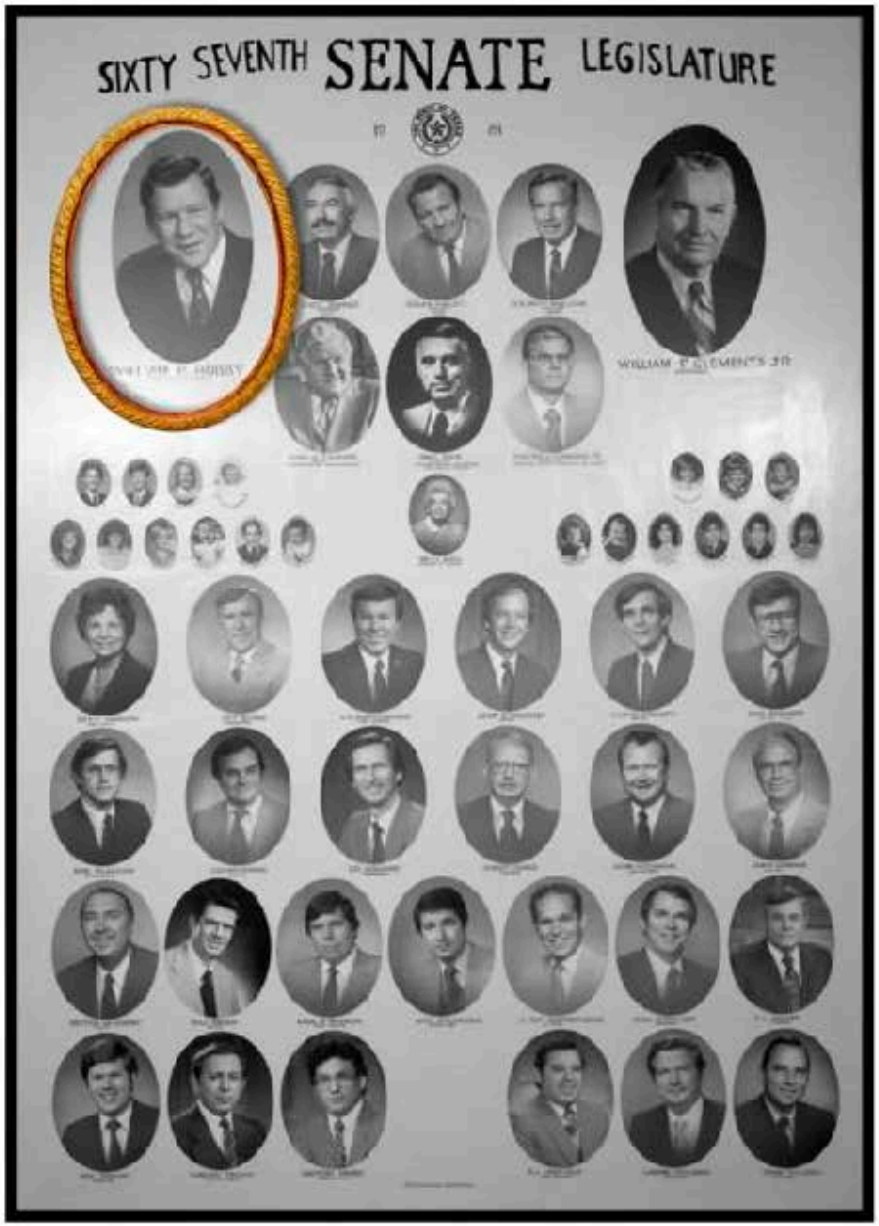
Grandchildren of Will Hobby
Mascots - 63rd Session

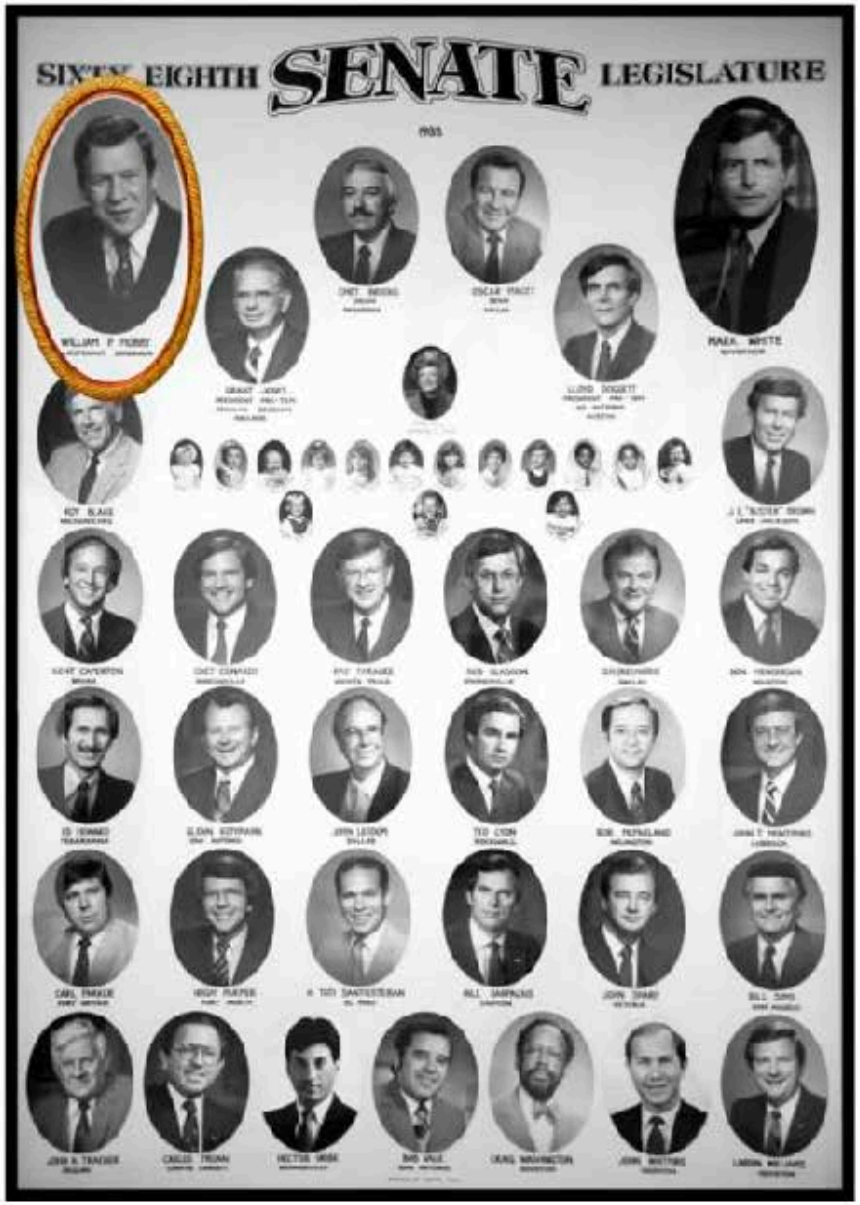
Laura Hobby Beckworth (10/25/58)
Paul William Hobby (9/10/60)
Andrew Purefoy Hobby (9/1/62)
Kate Hobby Gibson (11/27/64)

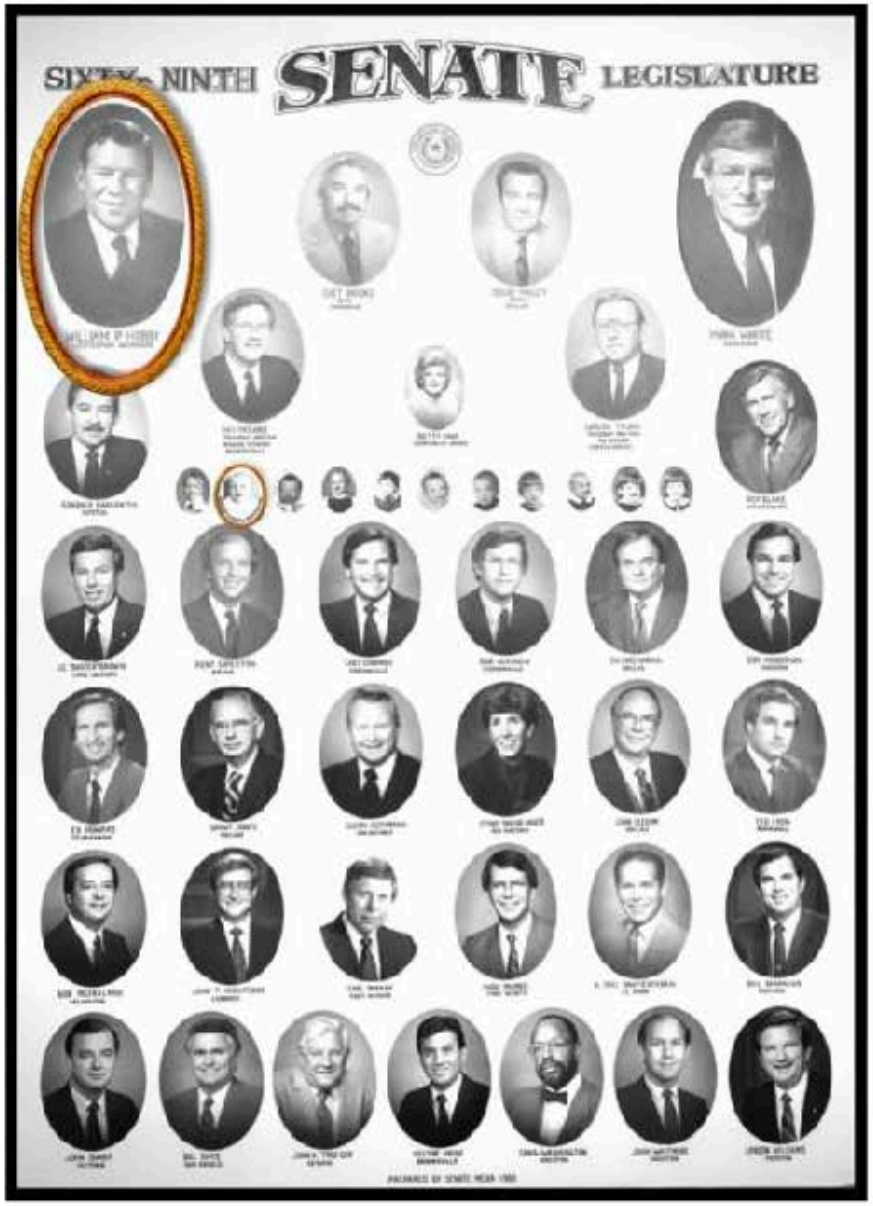

SIXTY-FOURTH SENATE LEGISLATURE
1975

SIXTY-FIFTH SENATE LEGISLATURE

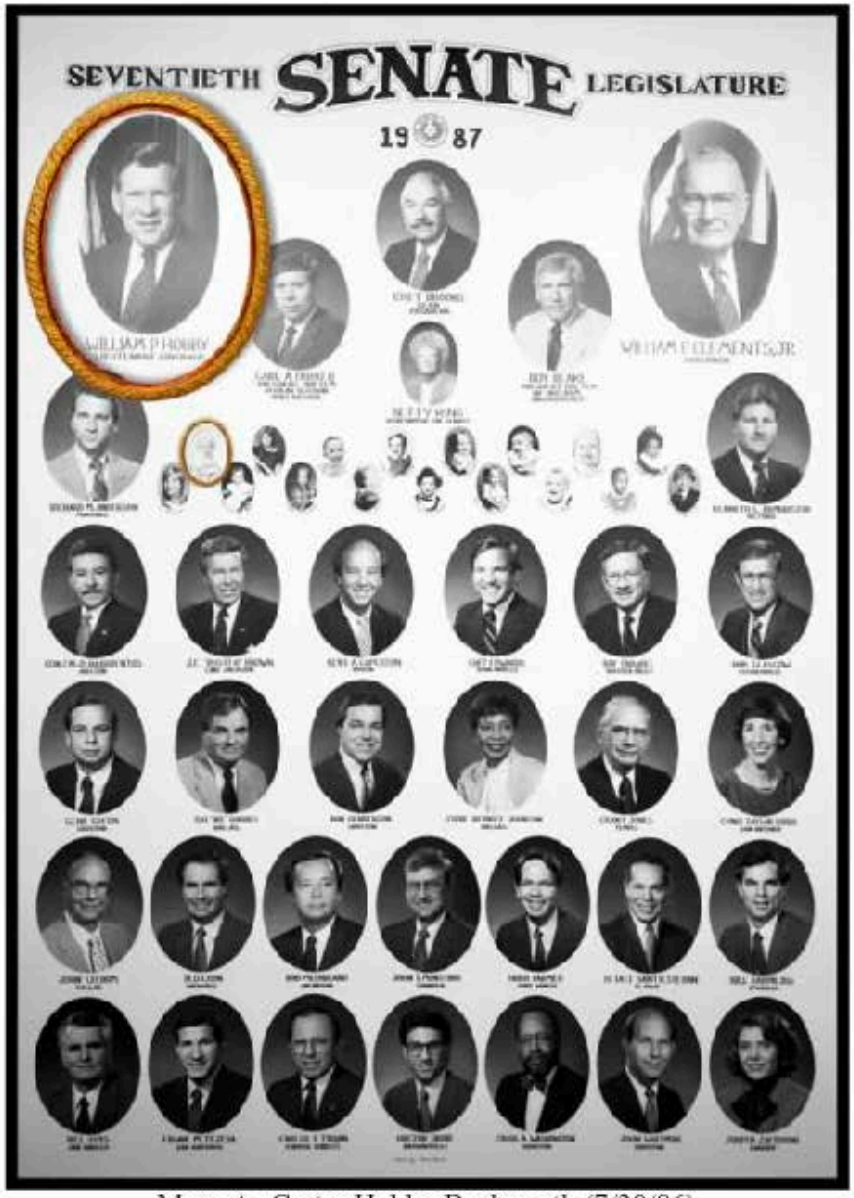
SIXTY SIXTH SENATE LEGISLATURE


SIXTY SEVENTH SENATE LEGISLATURE





Mascot - William Lindley Beckworth (7/29/84)
Great Grandson of Will Hobby



Mascot - Carter Hobby Beckworth (7/30/86)
Great Grandson of Will Hobby

Mascot - John Pettus Beckworth (11/19/88)
Great Grandson of Will Hobby

Bust of Bill Hobby located in the Capitol Extension rotunda.

Lieutenant Governor Bill Hobby, 1990.
Photographed by Kerwin Plevka
The Houston Chronicle

BILL HOBBY SPEAKING AT THE ROSTRUM

BILL HOBBY and PAUL HOBBY

Father and Son

Bill and Paul Hobby (left to right) seated at the rear of the Senate rostrum reading the Senate rule book. Paul is siting in the same chair his father did years before.

PAUL HOBBY

Paul William Hobby and his wife Janet live in Houston and have three children, Grace, Walker and Eric. Professionally he is the Managing Partner of Genesis Park, L.P.

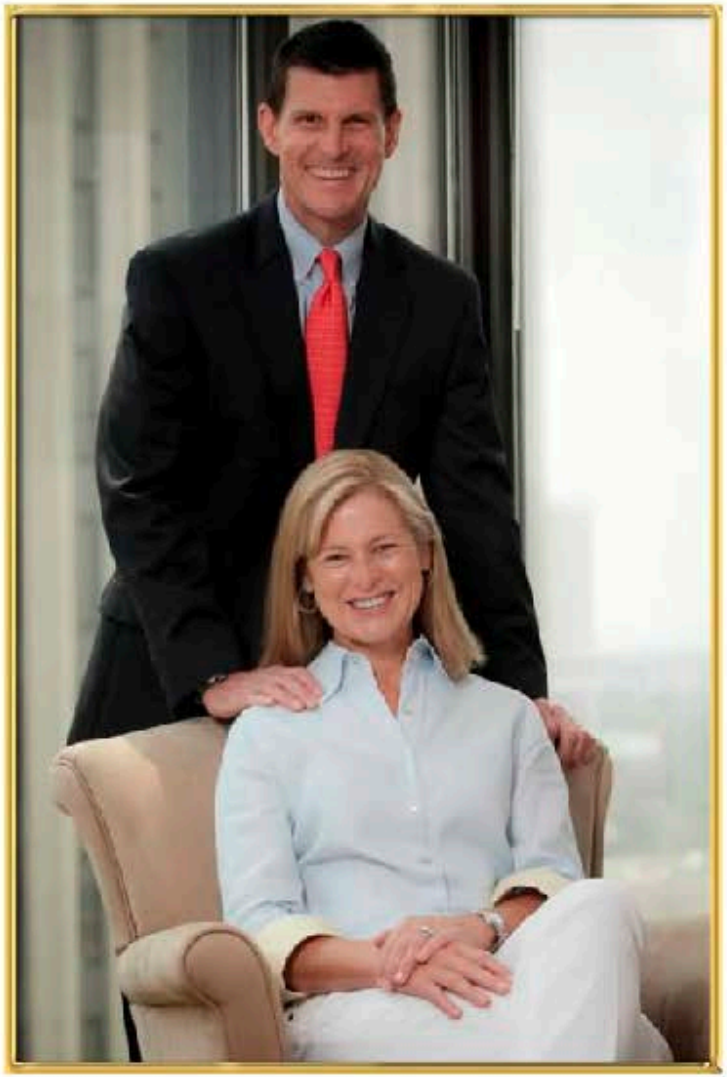
Over a fifteen year period, Genesis Park has executed a number of successful communications and energy technology transactions, including Alpheus Communications, CapRock Services, FuelQuest, Red Arrow Energy, Avalon Partners, Commercial American Insurance Company, Vivante GMP Solutions, SAT Corporation, Western General Holdings and Intermat. Genesis Park occasionally provides management to its portfolio companies. In that capacity he was CEO of Alpheus for over seven years.

He is currently Chairman of the Greater Houston Partnership, and the Texas Ethics Commission. He is past Chairman of the Houston Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas the Texas General Services Commission, the Texas Business Hall of Fame, and has held a number of other community leadership positions over time.

Mr. Hobby has served on a number of the board of leading public and private companies including: NRG Energy, Eagle Global Logistics, Inc., Stewart Title, Coastal Banc, Amegy Bank of Texas, Aronex Pharmaceuticals, BASE Entertainment, and Texas Genco.

Mr. Hobby is a graduate of the University of Virginia, where he has been honored by the Raven Society and the University of Texas School of Law, where he has served as an adjunct faculty member and been honored as an Outstanding Young Alumnus. He has been a guest lecturer at the Stanford University Graduate School of Business, Texas State University and the Jones School of Business at Rice University.

LAURA and JOHN BECKWORTH



John Beckworth is the son of former United States Congressman Lindley G. Beckworth, Sr.
Laura is the Daughter of former Lieutenant Governor Bill Hobby

Laura Hobby Beckworth was born in Houston, Texas on October 25, 1958. She is a 1980 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill with a B.A. in English. She received her J.D. from The University of Texas School of Law in 1983.

John B. Beckworth was born on January 18, 1958 in Washington, D.C. where his father, Lindley G. Beckworth served as a Member of Congress, representing Northeast Texas. He is a dual graduate of The University of Texas at Austin with a B.A. in History with High Honors in 1980 and his J.D. from The University of Texas School of Law in 1983. During his third year of law school, John was elected President of the UT Law School's Student Bar Association.

Laura and John Beckworth met at The University of Texas Law School and married on July 29,1983.

Laura and John both practiced law in Houston, Texas. Laura with Wood, Campbell, Moody and Gibbs and H & C Communications. John became a partner at Fulbright & Jaworski, then co-founded his own law firm, Watt, Beckworth, LLC. He is Board Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Civil Trial Law and Personal Injury Trial Law and an Associate Member of the American Board of Trial Advocates. John is licensed to practice by the District of Arizona, the Eastern District of Michigan, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fifth and Ninth Circuits, and the U.S. Supreme Court as well as all Federal District Courts in Texas.

Laura and John have served in numerous leadership roles in education and community affairs.

Laura has served on the Board of Directors of The Hobby Center for the Preforming Arts and on the Board of the University of Houston's Hobby Center for Public Policy. She has served her alma mater, the University of North Carolina, as a member of the General Alumni Association's Board of Directors and as a member of The Arts and Sciences Foundation Board of Directors.

Laura received the University of Texas School of Law' s Alumni Award for Community Service in 2005. She is a Founding Member of the University of Texas School of Law's Center for Women and the Law and currently serves as Chair of the Development Board of the University of Texas at Austin.

John has been a trustee of The Kinkaid School in Houston since 1992. He has chaired The Kinkaid School Board of Trustees and is a Life Trustee. John was President of the University of Texas' Texas Exes Alumni Organization during the 2012-2013 term. He is currently Chairman of the Board of the Texas Exes Alumni Association.

John has been President of the UT Law School Alumni Association, a member of the UT Law School Foundation Board of Trustees, and currently serves as Associate Dean for Administration and Strategic Planning at the University of Texas School of Law.

Mascot - Grace Oveta Hobby (5/7/90)
Great Grand Daughter of Will Hobby
71st Session: First-Sixth Called Sessions

UNCLE BUCK PETTUS

(1787 - 1844)

William (Uncle Buck) Albert Pettus, (1787-1844), one of Moses Austin's Old Three Hundred, was born in Mecklenburg County, Virginia, as was my grandmother Eudora Adeline Pettus (1842-1921). He came to Texas in 1822 and settled on land now in Wharton, Fort Bend, and Waller counties. 1835. At the time of the battle of San Jacinto he was stationed at the camp opposite Harrisburg to guard the baggage.

Uncle Buck's picture doesn't hang in the Capitol, but he played an interesting part in Texas History. In March 1842 a division of the Mexican army reconquered San Antonio.

On March 10th President Sam Houston called an emergency session of the Texas Congress. Fearing that the Mexicans would move on Austin, he named Houston as the meeting place. The citizens of Austin, rightly fearful that Sam wished to make Houston the capital, formed a vigilante committee of residents and warned department heads that any attempt to move state papers would be met with armed resistance.

Sam called the Seventh Congress into session at Washington-on-the-Brazos and at the end of December 1842 sent Uncle Buck and a company of Rangers to Austin to bring the state archives to Houston, but not to resort to bloodshed, Uncle Buck and the rangers loaded the archives in wagons and drove away, but not before Mrs. Angelina Eberly fired a cannon at them. On January 1, 1843 the vigilance committee, under Capt. Mark B. Lewis, seized a cannon from the arsenal and overtook the wagons at Kenney's Fort on Brushy Creek. Only a few shots were fired before Uncle Buck gave up the papers to avoid bloodshed as Sam had ordered. The archives were returned to Austin where they remain to this day.

Extended Hobby Family Members and the Texas Legislature

Session	Year	Name	Office	Relation to Will Hobby
8	1861	Alfred M. Hobby	Representative	Uncle
9	1863	Alfred M. Hobby	Representative	Uncle
14	1875	Edwin E. Hobby	Senator	Father
15	1877	Edwin E. Hobby	Senator	Father
16	1879	Edwin E. Hobby	Senator	Father
17	1881	Samuel B. Cooper	Senator	Father-in-law
18	1883	Samuel B. Cooper	Senator	Father-in-law
26	1899	I. W. Culp	Representative	Father-in-law
33	1913	Samuel B. Cooper, Jr.	Representative	Brother-in-law
34	1915	Samuel B. Cooper, Jr.	Representative	Brother-in-law
34	1915	Will Hobby	Lt. Governor	Self
35	1917	Will Hobby	Lt. Governor	Self
36	1919	Will Hobby	Governor	Self
36	1919	I. W. Culp	Representative	Father-in-law
38	1923	I. W. Culp	Representative	Father-in-law
39	1925	Oveta Culp	Parlimentarian (H)	Future Wife
40	1927	Oveta Culp	Parlimentarian (H)	Future Wife
41	1929	Oveta Culp	Parlimentarian (H)	Future Wife
42	1931	Oveta Culp Hobby	Parlimentarian (H)	Wife
45	1937	Lindley Beckworth	Representative	Laura's Father-in-Law
46	1939	Oveta Culp Hobby	Parlimentarian (H)	Wife
50	1947	Frank C. Oltorf	Representative	Pettus Cousin
51	1949	Frank C. Oltorf	Representative	Pettus Cousin

Extended Hobby Family Members and the Texas Legislature

Session	Year	Name	Office	Relation to Will Hobby
56	1959	Bill Hobby	Parlimentarian(S)	Son
62	1971	Lindley Beckworth	Senator	Laura's Father-in-Law
62	1971	Melissa Love Beckworth Michael Lindley Peck	Mascots	Lindley Beckworth's Grandchildren
63	1973	Bill Hobby	Lt. Governor	Son
63	1973	Laura, Paul, Andrew & Kate Hobby	Mascots	Grand Children
64	1975	Bill Hobby	Lt. Governor	Son
65	1977	Bill Hobby	Lt. Governor	Son
66	1979	Bill Hobby	Lt. Governor	Son
67	1981	Bill Hobby	Lt. Governor	Son
68	1983	Bill Hobby	Lt. Governor	Son
69	1985	Bill Hobby	Lt. Governor	Son
69	1985	Will Beckworth	Mascot	Great Grandson
70	1987	Bill Hobby	Lt. Governor	Son
70	1987	Carter Beckworth	Mascot	Great Grandson
71	1989	Bill Hobby	Lt. Governor	Son
71	1989	John Pettus Beckworth Grace Oveta Hobby	Mascots	Great Grand Children
72	1991	Paul Hobby	Lt. Governor Staff	Grandson

Total 30 sessions since 1861.
Source: Legislative Reference Library: Texas Legislators: Past & Present.
http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/legeLeaders/
Session=(Year-1847)/2.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book could not have been created without Artist and Graphic Designer Michael Chambers.
(michael_pendragon@sbcglobal.net)

The book can be viewed or downloaded at
http://bit.ly/HobbyFamilyandTexas

Information about sessions and the years in which they were held is at
http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/sessions/sessionYears.cfm

Biographical information comes mostly from the Handbook of Texas Online.
http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online

Ms. Ali James of the Capitol Preservation Board
(Ali.James@tspb.state.tx.us) supplied the composites.

Information about present and former legislators is at
http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/legeleaders/members

Cover Photo: Governor Will Hobby's portrait hangs on the third floor of the Capitol rotunda.

August, 2015

SFLY011010-369