



We won, but now what?

- After gaining independence, Texans faced the challenge of building a new nation




President Sam Houston



Vice President Mirabeau B. Lamar

Trouble with the Army

- Many soldiers joined too late and did not get the chance to fight in the revolution
 - These people wanted action
 - Called for an invasion of Mexico
- President Houston sent all 600 soldiers home and never called them to duty



What about the Indians?



- Indians resented the newcomers and began a series of raids that lasted several years
- President Houston called on the Texas Rangers to patrol central Texas
- Lamar was not in favor of negotiating with the Indians



Poor Sam

- When Sam Houston became president, the debt was \$1.25 million
- At the end of his first term as president, the debt for Texas was \$2 million
- Congress took steps to raise money and placed a tariff, or tax, on various goods
 - These taxes were difficult to collect



Texas gets a new President

- Houston could not be re-elected as President after he served two years because the Constitution of 1836 forbid him from doing so
- Texans elected Mirabeau B. Lamar



Constitution of 1836



President Mirabeau B. Lamar

Lamar

- Opposed annexation
- Moved the capital to Austin
- Reversed Houston's policy toward Native Americans
 - Ordered the Texas Army to attack the Cherokees and forced them out of Texas
- Rebuilt the Navy
- Lamar is known as the "Father of Education" in Texas
 - Congress set aside land in each Texas county for public schools
 - Congress reserved public land in central Texas for 2 universities



Santa Fe Expedition

- Lamar sent an expedition to Santa Fe, New Mexico with orders to control the region and begin trade with New Mexico
- The Mexican army forced the Texans to surrender and marched them 1,000 miles to Mexico City.
 - Many died on the way or died in the Mexican prison
 - The few that survived were eventually released
- This angered the Mexicans



Poor Lamar

- Lamar caused Texas to sink deeper in debt
 - Spent \$2.5 million on the Indian wars
 - Bought several ships for the Navy
 - Issued redbacks, but they shrank in value
 - Redbacks: Additional money issued to help ease the large public debt
 - A paper dollar in Texas at the end of Lamar's term was only worth 15 cents
 - Failed in attempts to borrow money from other nations
 - Public debt was now \$7 million



Redbacks



Sam Houston is Re-elected



- Sam Houston replaced Lamar as President
 - During a message to Congress, Houston stated, "there is not a dollar in the treasury...we are not only without money, but without credit."
 - Eliminated several government positions
 - Cut the size of the army
 - Tried to sell the navy ships (the people of Galveston prevented this from happening)
 - Renewed peace with the Indians

References

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