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1945 - - 1946

Texas Centennial of Statehood Commission

612 CAPITAL NATIONAL BANK BUILDING



PAUL L. WAKEFIELD
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

WM. LOIS HODGES
TREASURER-EXEC. ASST.

Austin 16, Texas

April 21, 1947

Mr. Amon G. Carter
c/o Ft. Worth Star Telegram
Ft. Worth, Texas

Dear Commissioner:

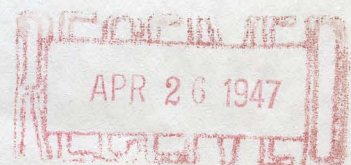
The attached copy of letter, which explains itself, has been addressed and forwarded to each member of the Fiftieth Legislature.

A copy of the report, to which reference is made in the third paragraph of the letter, was forwarded to you at the time the report was submitted to the Legislature. A second copy is enclosed for your convenience.

Sincerely,

Karl Hoblitzelle
KARL HOBLITZELLE, Chairman

Encls.



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April 21, 1947

Senator Dorsey B. Hardeman
Capital Station
Austin, Texas

Dear Senator Hardeman:

The 47th Legislature created the Texas Centennial of Statehood Commission and Governor Stevenson appointed me its Chairman -- its objective being to develop a program for recognizing Texas' 100th anniversary as a State. We immediately decided against any memorials, monuments, or fairs. We did decide to sponsor local historical celebrations and a full report on this phase of the program has been made to you recently.

In addition, we also decided to develop a program designed to revitalize rural life in Texas. Your chairman called together the best available technical, scientific and academic minds in our State and for more than two years we labored to develop a program which we believed would help make Texas a better place in which to live for the next 100 years. A great many Texans, both members of our Commission and private citizens, devoted a great deal of their time and energies to this program. The expense of the project, which has amounted to over \$20,000.00, has been borne wholly by Interstate Theatres.

Finally, on February 11, 1947, I made our Commission's formal report and recommendations to the 50th Legislature, to the Governor, to the Lt. Governor and to the Speaker of the House. The report, which was printed, was presented to each member of the Legislature, and a second copy is enclosed herewith for your convenience.

I, therefore, respectfully submit that your Chairman and our Board of Directors of the Texas Centennial of Statehood Commission have discharged their responsibility fully. The next move is up to the Legislature.

I take this opportunity to commend the Directors of the Texas Centennial of Statehood Commission, plus a great many other citizens who served without title, for their constant, earnest, and unselfish labors in helping to develop this report. Certainly, if there was ever a "Labor of Love", this was one. None had any selfish interest or "axeto grind", but all were motivated surely and purely by one force -- a desire to improve rural life in Texas, and thus to serve importantly the whole State.

I personally feel that the need for such a program as we propose is critical, if we are to preserve a healthy rural economy and insure the perpetuation of those fine social and spiritual qualities which are allied with the soil.

Only a healthy and reasonable prosperous rural economy can continue to feed into our cities the new and vigorous blood which it has historically furnished our nation since its beginning, and from which flows much of our great political, social and spiritual leadership.

It is to be hoped that in all fairness to future generations, and in memory of our courageous Texas pioneers who fathered this State, you will not go home without carefully studying this program and taking appropriate action regarding it.

Respectfully submitted,

KARL HOBLITZELLE, Chairman

cc Directors: Texas Centennial of Statehood
Commission.