

President Can Help by Clarifying Attitude in Texas Senatorial Race

AS THE campaign for the senatorship progresses in Texas, conflicting statements are being made by some of the 29 candidates over the attitude of President Roosevelt in the race.

The claim is being heard that the President is eager to see a certain candidate elected. Against this claim is the contention that the President really prefers another candidate. And against both of these assertions is the claim that the President is neutral.

The President's position needs to be clarified. It is important to himself and to the people of Texas that he be correctly represented in this matter.

The man the people of Texas are to elect late this month to take the place of the late Morris Sheppard will take his seat in the Senate in one of the most critical periods of the Nation's history. He will have a voice in determining the course of the country in this crisis. The executive and legislative branches of the government are under obligation to work together in extraordinarily close fashion during this emergency, for the sake of the National defense. The late Morris Sheppard as chairman of the Senate military affairs committee gave himself unstintedly in cooperation with the President in preparing the country to withstand attack.

The President, naturally, hopes that the next senator from Texas will be a man who will work intelligently and effectively with his administration in advancing the defense program.

If the President has a choice among the candidates now offering for the Senate seat, he, therefore, ought to make his choice known openly and directly to the people of Texas. If he does not have any preference, it would be well for him to say so directly, in order that the people will not be under any misapprehension whatever when they go to vote.

At this juncture, when they are weighing the qualifications and claims of the several candidates, the people of the State would appreciate, The Post believes, an expression from the President as to his real attitude.

In view of all that is being said pro and con about his preference, the people of Texas are entitled to a frank statement from him.

The American Constitution links together life, liberty and property. Until the Constitution is changed in the manner therein prescribed, that man is a public enemy who does violence to life or liberty or property. That much is fundamental Americanism.

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