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Editorial of the Day

90 THE MAN THE TIMES CALL FOR

The radio speech by Senator Sheppard detailing the qualifications of John Nance Garner for the Democratic nomination for President provides an excellent framework for the campaign, both because of the thoroughness of the analysis and the evident sincerity of the speaker. Senator Sheppard's standing at Washington is like his standing at home—unassailable. His declaration that Garner is the ideal choice for the presidency will be accepted by Texans as coming from an authoritative source and one beyond suspicion of ulterior motive.

Long before the Roosevelt Administration gave the official stamp of liberalism to the Democratic party, John Garner in Congress was so much a liberal that he was then called a radical, standing out for measures which were the forerunner of the later great public works and relief programs. Senator Sheppard, whose identification with the Administration forces is not to be questioned, attests the later services of Mr. Garner on the firing line. The Senator's words are significant:

"When the history of the last seven years has been written the crusade to achieve greater liberalism in government will list Garner among its outstanding leaders. Those of us in the ranks of Congress who have striven to enact the liberal program know how much the wise counsel and courageous leadership of John Nance Garner has been responsible for the success achieved."

It is these facts—John Garner's experience and his loyalty to the liberal program of the administration—which lead Senator Sheppard to declare him to be "the ideal successor" to the presidency in 1940.

Liberal minded Americans of every State can not be entitled to that designation unless they have carefully considered the implications of the various candidacies in the field. Mr. Garner's distinction, adequately pointed out by Senator Sheppard, is that, as well as a liberal in politics, he is a practical man of affairs, an experienced public servant, a lifetime practitioner of "the American way." Such a man renders a great service to his country as a balance wheel against untoward digressions in a program of liberalism. Such a man in the President's chair is a vital need in the period we are facing in order to permit the permanent absorption into the American system of the essential advances made in the Roosevelt Administration without disturbing the basic fabric of our democracy or endangering the cherished institutions of our freedom.

Senator Sheppard's radio address gave the clearest of reasons why the campaign of Mr. Garner must proceed on its own track and under its own steam. So completely is he the man the hour calls for that his friends can not fail in his support without at the same time failing in their liberalism and in their Americanism.

—Fort Worth Star-Telegram.