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Date.....

AMON G. CARTER
ANSWERS ICKES ON
POLITICS OF TEXAS
70
THANKFUL FOR OTHER AID
BUT FEELS TEXAS CAN
RUN OWN POLITICS

FORT WORTH, April 29.—(AP)—Amon G. Carter, Fort Worth publisher, told Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes today in an open letter that while Texas is grateful for his "good job" in helping with its oil problems, "we do not necessarily need the same kind of help x x x in respect to political problems in Texas at the moment."

Carter, in his 2,000-word reply to a letter from Ickes, copies of which the secretary sent Texas members of congress, said he was "touched" by Ickes' "solicitude for the freedom of Texas voters and subscribe fully to your obviously lately developed opinion that they are capable of acting for themselves without being told how."

Ickes' letter was in reply to an editorial published recently by the Fort Worth Star Telegram in which Ickes said he had been described as a "carpetbagger." The cabinet member said he understood that Carter and associates had sent political "carpetbaggers" into Wisconsin for the primary elections in behalf of the John Garner campaign.

Fails Get Connection.

"If there is any connection between oil regulation, or even PWA projects, and the question of whether Texas should be allowed peaceably to stand up for its own John Garner, I fail to get it," Carter responded. "But you see, down here we are just country folks. We get along as well as we do only because there are not many who are hard hearted enough to take advantage of us. x x x."

Carter denied the Texas Garner-for-President movement is to defeat Roosevelt, as Ickes charged.

"I have no apology to make for supporting an outstanding Democratic candidate for the presidency of the United States," the Fort Worth publisher declared.

Replies to Taunt.

"Let's not befuddle the issue. The results in Wisconsin and Illinois have nothing to do with Texas supporting John Garner."

To Ickes' taunt that Carter would be among the first to "hie to the pie counter" should Roosevelt be re-elected in November, Carter said:

"Frankly, if the president is re-elected, he will be my president as well as yours, and if there be a pie counter left, we shall reserve the right, even without your gracious permission, to demand and expect for Texas the same treatment accorded any other state in the Union."

The Fort Worth publisher concluded his letter by inviting Ickes to his Texas ranch, "Out where the West begins" when the campaign is over—"If you want to rest from the cares and responsibilities you have and assume."

Denies Political Talks.

Ickes, in his letter to Carter, denied that on his latest Texas trip he had said one word of a political nature, then added that on previous trips he had gone to the state "bearing gifts—rich gifts—not a few of them eloquently solicited by the great editor of Fort Worth—and you never thought of calling me a carpetbagger."

Commenting on his relation to the oil industry, Ickes continued:

"As to my wanting to run the oil business of Texas, that also is flapdoodle. No more than I was a 'carpetbagger,' when I was helping to distribute generous chunks of federal money, was I an oil dictator in 1933, when you great, strong, he-men wrung your hands while the price went down to 10 cents a barrel in the East Texas field. I was a fine fellow when I went to Texas, with the backing and helping of the president, to pull you sturdy individualists out of the slough of despond that you yourselves had created."

Irritates Easily.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram today carried a two-column editorial, "Mr. Ickes Irritates Easily," which said the interior secretary could . . . "dish it out—as everybody knows, but evidently he can't take it."

Apologizing for the term "carpetbagger" if the epithet displeases Ickes and does not fit, the newspaper said Ickes has done a "magnificent job" of oil regulation.

Again criticizing Ickes, the editorial says Ickes "reveals a startling concept of his own place in politics and government." This refers to the statement in Ickes' letter which stated that in the past he had brought rich gifts to Texas and was not called a carpetbagger.

The newspaper says allocations to Texas under WPA, etc., were not regarded as gifts, nor Ickes' part other than that of an agent. In the co-operation of local communities and the government each paid its share of the program to provide employment and public improvements.