Carter's Answer To Sec. Ickes Given

FORT WORTH, April 29. — (INS)—Amon G. Carter, publisher of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, today answered the attack on him by Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes with a point-by-point refutation of Ickes' statements.

Ickes distributed to Washington newspapermen Friday a letter to Carter, marked “personal,” in which he assailed the publisher for editorially supporting John Nance Garner for the presidency.

"I am flattered by the fact that such heavy artillery has been brought out to squelch me—like the town drunk who finds it a matter of pride when a whole squad of policemen rolls up," Carter said in the letter which was couched in humorous style throughout.

"... In your letter to the Texas congressmen you unduly complimented me again when you stated you were sending a copy of the letter you were writing to 'the Horace Greely of Texas.' This is like the darkey who was asked by the white man if he had change for a ten-dollar bill who replied, 'No, boss, I ain't, but I sho' do appreciate the compliment.'

The publisher said his answer was delayed first, because he was not in Fort Worth when Ickes saw fit to release the "personal" letter to the press, and second, because he had to obtain help to "understand just what all those 12-cylinder words in your letter meant."

"I am sure you do not really subscribe to the theory which you seem to advance in your letter—that because an official has been right once, he must, perchance, be acknowledged to be right at all other times," said the letter. "... assisted, as you say, by the full power of the administration, you did a good job in helping Texas with its oil problems. ... But I must respectfully point out that we do not necessarily need the same kind of help. ... In respect to political problems in Texas at the moment..."