



**KEWANEE, ILL. STAR-COUR.**  
Tuesday, April 30, 1940

Private Branch Connecting



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### SECRETARY ICKES vs. TEXAS

Texans have about the same high regard for Amon G. Carter as they have for Sam Houston or the Alamo. Thus when Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes proceeded to call Publisher Amon G. Carter names, the state began to seethe.

When the Garner boom got under way President Roosevelt sent the administration's No. 1 hatchet man to Texas to see whether Garner could be beaten to the draw for delegates in his own bailiwick. Mr. Ickes was not received on this mission with the same enthusiasm that Texans had shown him when he came bearing PWA gifts. In fact, Amon G. Carter's Fort Worth Star-Telegram dubbed him a "carpet-bagger."

Smarting under the insults that Texas newspapers tossed at him for trying to dynamite the Garner delegates, Secretary of the Interior Ickes loosened a typical blast against the "Horace Greeley of Texas." In a letter sent to the Texas democratic delegation he bluntly accused Amon G. Carter of being "more interested in defeating President Roosevelt than in nominating any particular candidate." What Texans in the Fort Worth area resented most was the bitter accusations against their leading citizen, Amon G. Carter. It was rank heresy for a cabinet member to read him out of the Roosevelt party.

The scrap for the Texas delegation to the Chicago convention has not added anything to the administration's strength. It is not that Texas democrats love Roosevelt less but rather that they love Garner more. In the long run it will do the New Deal no good to let Ickes libel the leading figures in Texas. Chief result of the Ickes blast against Amon G. Carter will be to solidify Garner's support in Texas at a time when Garner's own campaign strength was wavering.