Amon G. Carter Answers Charges Made by Ickes; “Anti-FDR” Policy Denied

Texas Publisher
Raps Secretary

FORT WORTH, April 29. (U.P.)—Amon G. Carter, Fort Worth newspaper publisher, wrote Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes today, denying that Texas supporters of John N. Garner for president are “anti-Roosevelt.”

Ickes last week criticized Carter for implying in editorials that he (Ickes) was a “carpetbagger” attempting to interfere with the Texans’ support of the vice president. Ickes charged that the Garner movement was solely a “stop-Roosevelt” affair.

“This is a misstatement entirely disproved by facts,” replied Carter. “No one has a greater personal respect or higher regard and admiration for President Roosevelt than I have. However, he has not indicated by word of mouth or in print that he is a candidate for a third term, and in keeping with our previous attitude we are supporting Mr. Garner as we did in 1932, and have supported Roosevelt and Garner since that time. Garner being the only full-fledged candidate at this time, we are supporting him on his qualifications. For this we have no apology.”

Carter “Flattered”

Carter said that he was “flattered” that a man in Ickes’ position would see fit to “squelch me—like the town drunk who finds it a matter of pride when a whole squad of policemen rolls up.”

“You are a pretty good fellow yourself but you, unfortunately, irritate very quickly and often, and it never occurred to me that one small country publisher could bring forth the wrath and tirade of statements given vent in your letter,” Carter added.

Concerning Ickes’ statement that the New Deal was welcomed in Fort Worth when it came “bearing rich gifts,” Carter said:

“Frankly, we have had the old-fashioned idea that the grants by WPA were not personal gifts but in line with the policy of your department in cooperation with municipalities in constructive building progress for the benefit of a community as a whole. It is a revelation to me to find out otherwise.”