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'Ickes Can't Take It,' Carter Taunts Caustic Official 90

Says If 'Pie Counter' Left, Texas Reserves Same Place As Others

FORT WORTH, April 29 (AP).—The Fort Worth Star Telegram Monday carried on the controversy between Publisher Amon G. Carter and Harold Ickes, secretary of the interior, with a taunt that Ickes "can't take it."

"Mr. Ickes irritates easily" was the title of the editorial, which appeared along with an open letter from Carter to Ickes. Ickes wrote Carter several days ago, sending copies to Texas congressman, answering an editorial in which he said he had been referred to as a "carpetbagger."

The Cabinet member wrote he understood the publisher and his associates had sent political carpetbaggers into Wisconsin for the primary elections in behalf of the John Garner campaign.

The interior secretary, said the editorial Monday, ". . . could dish it out—as everybody knows. But evidently he can't take it." Referring to Ickes' statement that he had gone to Texas "bearing gifts—rich gifts—not a few of them eloquently solicited by the great editor of Fort Worth . . .," the editorial said "Ickes reveals a startling concept of his own place in politics and government."

Allocations to Texas under PWA were not regarded as gifts, the newspaper said, nor was Ickes' part any other than that of an agent.

Carter, in his letter, denied the Texas Garner-for-President movement is to defeat Roosevelt, as the Cabinet member claimed, saying he had "no apology to make for supporting an outstanding Democratic candidate" for the presidency.

Replying to Ickes' assertion that Carter would be among the first to the "pie counter" if Roosevelt is re-elected, 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."

Carter concluded 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."