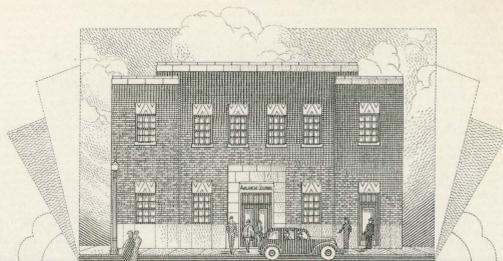


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LUBBOCK, TEXAS

May 3, 1940

Dr. Amon G. Carter, Publisher
Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Fort Worth, Texas

My dear Dr. Carter:

I very greatly enjoyed the recent tiff you had with the Honorable Harold L. Ickes, and while I am not surprised that you took care of yourself in good shape, nevertheless I want to congratulate you on it.

Enclosed herewith are a couple of clippings in which I think you will find some interest. The one from the Evening Journal is in my own personal column which also is carried in the early editions of the Morning Avalanche. The other, in wide measure, was written by our editorial writer, Mr. H. I. Keifer.

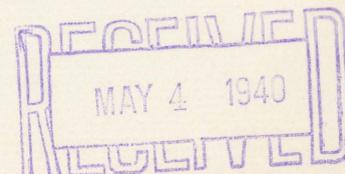
Looking forward to seeing you again and with the kindest of personal regards for yourself and the two Jims, believe me,

Cordially yours,

Chas. A. Guy

P. S. Our mutual friend, Dr. Clifford Bartlett Jones, just called to pat us on the back for publishing the two articles enclosed.

CAG:LS



The Plainsman

(Continued From Editorial Page)

publican, who sought to dictate the policies of the Democratic party in Texas.



Mr. Ickes has never been accused of being a thoughtful man.

He is the kind of individual who talks first and thinks later; who jumps first and looks afterward; and who has never learned the wisdom of the old saw, "fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

But after his recent dressing down at the hands of Amon Carter, we'll wager that the next time Mr. Ickes brings his carpet-bag into Texas and looks around for a scrap, he won't pick one with the Fort Worth publisher.

He'll look for tendered meat on which to chew!



DR. CARTER—he holds the first honorary degree ever granted by Texas Technological college which he served faithfully and well as board chairman—didn't make the great success he has made by being afraid, mealy-mouthed or backward.

He is a go-getter of the first order, he loves a fight—and when he's in one he's in it to win and pulls no punches.

Because he's never on the fence and because his position is never camouflaged, all Texans respect and admire Amon Carter as West Texas loves him.

Probably the No. 1 Texan in private life, Amon Carter typifies, in this modern day, the indomitable will to win and the raw courage of the pioneers of this broad state.

Had Hon. Ickes first had the good judgment to find out how the land lies in Texas, he might have had refrained from picking a fight with Amon Carter.

Now all he can do is put salve on his bruises, anoint his sprains with oil, eschew for a time his favorite pastime of preening his feathers in the spotlight—and hope the whole thing will be forgotten as soon as possible!

LUBBOCK MORNING AVALANCHE

"Starts The Day On The South Plains"

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CHAS. A. GUY
Editor and Publisher



PARKER F. PROUTY
General Manager

It is not the intention to cast reflection upon the character of anyone knowingly and if through error we should the management will appreciate having our attention called to same and will gladly correct any erroneous statement made.

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Texas' Political Troubles

WARNING from party leaders in Washington that Texas Democrats strive to avoid a fight of unhealable bitterness in the state is timely.

Furthermore, the suggested terms of a compromise should be acceptable both to the supporters in this state of Vice President John Nance Garner and President Roosevelt for the presidential nomination.

The terms proposed are, in their essentials, that Texas instruct its national convention delegation for Mr. Garner; that it endorse the Roosevelt administration of the past eight years; and that the third-term issue be avoided in the state convention.

The fact that Mr. Garner is a Texan—the first Texan ever to be a serious contender for the presidency, is sufficient reason why he should have the convention support of his native state. There would be nothing inconsistent about the endorsement of the Democratic administration because, say what you will, it has many meritorious accomplishments to its credit. There would be nothing improper if a floor fight on the third term proposition should be avoided, one reason being that a Garner delegation would, almost automatically, be one opposed to the third term idea.

It is to be assumed that in the November fight, Democrats will be interested first of all in a Democratic victory. To have any hope of victory, as demonstrated in the several vote tests of recent weeks, it is obvious that party harmony will be an essential. Texas Democrats certainly should do what they can toward the promotion of such harmony.

I am sending the Swash-buckler Ickes a set of these clippings also. Wonder if he will also write Charlie Guy.

Pour it on him; he has needed it poured on him for years. Ickes has no graces with either the Democrats or GOP, as he is for

PAGE TWENTY-TWO—THE MORNIN

FRD for the 3rd term, as Hugh Johnson said, so might stand in as the do nothing Interior head.

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Mr. Ickes Is Impudent

AS MOST newspaper readers are aware, Amon G. Carter, the Fort Worth publisher, and Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, have been engaged lately in a controversy.

and clippings from Texas, but as Guy says, his big mouth lives on false popularity.

This discourse does not attempt to deal with merits of the disagreement. Mr. Carter has demonstrated conclusively he is in no need of champions in the matter. This refers merely to one statement in a letter by Mr. Ickes to Mr. Carter which people of the nation have cause to resent.

The statement read: "I (Ickes) have gone to Texas bearing gifts—rich gifts—not a few of them solicited by the Great Editor of Fort Worth." The capitalizations of "Great Editor" were Mr. Ickes'.

The statement had reference to the various grants, loans and other allocations made available to various relief and unemployment projects in Texas through the federal department of which Mr. Ickes is head.

If one was compelled to judge from the statement alone, he would be forced to the conclusion that the allocations Texas has received have been the personal benefices of the Secretary of the Interior. Nothing could be further from the truth.

As an individual, Ickes has had nothing to do with the disbursement of federal relief funds handled through his department. He merely has served as an agent of the federal government, bound by solemn oath to ignore the personal equation in the allocation of any monies which have come into his hands. He has violated his oath if, in a single instance, he has approved any disbursement except on the basis of need—that need being to place the money handled through his department where it would do the most good in relieving unemployment and in pulling business and industry out of its desperate depression plight.

* * *

FURTHERMORE, the money that has gone through the Ickes hands has never been in any sense a "gift." Many of the allocations have been loans—loans now being repaid. Others admittedly have been outright grants. But the money for those grants has come, or will come, from taxation. Texas is paying and will continue to pay its portion, or more, of those taxes. When Texas has received allocations of any kind through the interior department, it merely has been getting back some—not all—of the money it has poured into the federal pot.

Mr. Ickes seems to have fallen into the way of many men in high places in history who have been charged with the disbursement of huge sums of public funds. He seems to have arrived at the notion that the funds disbursed through his department are his personal property. He seems to have the idea that when he approves a grant of federal funds that he is dispensing a personal charity.

If those are his notions, it is a state of mind dangerous to the economic welfare of the nation. It suggests that he may be expected to do as he has been accused of doing already—of letting his personal likes or dislikes for the personalities connected with an application determine whether that application is granted or refused.

It hints, for example, of a state of mind—further indicated by his letter—which would lead him to an abrupt refusal of any petition with which Mr. Carter might join. It warns that the federal projects in Texas may suffer merely because Mr. Ickes is resentful of the fact that Mr. Carter refuses to see eye-to-eye with him in all matters.

Mr. Ickes long has been regarded as one of the most vulnerable spots in the national administration. He is the most cordially and most universally disliked individual in high place connected with the New Deal. His discourtesies to supplicants for official favor who have had to appear humble have become notorious.

But this is the first instance that memory recalls when he, or any other high dignitary of the new deal, has had the audacity to declare openly that the money collected from taxpayers and entrusted to him has become his for distribution as personal whim may dictate.

With Our Contemporaries

"I believe if the sandstorms are as bad here as they are in Brownfield and Lubbock," notes Amos Harper in the Seagraves Reporter, "I believe that I would be ready to hunt up Quannah Parker and give this back to him whether he wanted it or not."

Now that Germany's blaming the U. S. for the present war, the British should be enjoying a period of pleasant respite.

The PLAINSMAN



That Girl on Broadway says the stylishly dressed woman of today is an intensely interesting study in the delicate balancing of concealment and revelation.

★ ★ ★

"The eyes, ears and throat," says a specialist, "are sympathetically connected."

This probably explains why so many things we hear and see these days give us a pain in the neck!

★ ★ ★

THOUGHTFUL men in the Senate and elsewhere in official Washington, including those both in and out of the administration camp, are at last becoming aroused of the problem of the farmers, as distinguished from the farm problem.

They're coming to talk now less about farm surpluses and low prices for farm products, more about the surplus of farm workers and low wages paid to workers on farms.

In other words, the sociological implications of the problem are beginning to transcend its economic aspects.

★ ★ ★

Two important government investigatory committees are currently devoting their attention to the farmers' plight—their researches dove-tailing into a cause-and-effect picture of a tragic hue. The Temporary National Economic committee has been holding hearings on the impact of technological developments upon farming. The LaFollette committee, which originally set out to probe violations of civil liberties among migrant "Grapes of Wrath Okies" engaged in agricultural work in California, found that the subject had much more than purely local significance. Therefore, the committee has sought to get to the roots which have produced this crop of weeds and this week the LaFollette group is busily engaged on a new set of hearings in Washington in an effort to work out a solution to the migrant problem.

The central fact emerging from both the LaFollette and Economic committee hearings and inquiries is that the trend in America appears to be away from the family farm, which we have always had as a great foundation stone in this country, and over into industrial agriculture.

The problem, of course, is how to care for the hundreds of thousands of our people who are directly dislocated by this change.

★ ★ ★

TO us of the South Plains, this is a very, very important problem.

Because we have seen with our own eyes the sight of hundreds of tenant farm families moving to town or taking to the open road due to changes in the system, we know the problem is acute and must be solved. Therefore, we of this last great agricultural frontier will hope that the federal agencies tackling the problem will solve it quickly and intelligently.

★ ★ ★

One thing the investigating committees in Washington should quickly learn, if they haven't already learned, is that the present policies of the U. S. Department of Agriculture are contributing to the new methods of farming in this section, as well as elsewhere, through the parity payments plan.

The greatest reason for the difficulty of the tenant farmer in this country is, and for several years has been, the fact that the parity payments plan makes it more profitable for the landowner to produce his crops by means of machines and day labor, rather than in older, less efficient methods in which the tenant farmer and his family were indispensable.

Anyone with half an eye knows that.

BUT while The Plainsman, as well as everyone else, recognizes the source of the trouble here, he has never joined the ranks of those who, angrily, would do away with power farming by non-resident labor.

We always have held to the opinion that when systems and methods in any line become outmoded and clumsy there is nothing to be done save junk them. In this modern world, people are going to do things the easiest, cheapest and most practicable way and all the theories and all the humanitarian pleas to the contrary won't change the situation. Just as no man can turn the path of a hurricane, neither can any man, or set of men, forestall progress for long. It is inexorable and inevitable.

That's the reason we've never been among those who would attempt to force by law the return to a less profitable and efficient method of crop production.

★ ★ ★

But just because the farm tenant system has fallen by the wayside is no reason for us, as a nation, to shrug our shoulders and say, "Too bad. But we can't do anything to help these people who got in the way of the juggernaut." That is a fallacy. We can do something for them—and we must do something for them if our economic machine is ever to be put back into smooth running order and made to stay that way.

One way to solve the problem is for the government to make it possible for the abler of those families forced off farms to acquire lands of their own—lands to be paid for over a long period of time.

Another way would be for the government to oversee farming operations as they have to do with wages and hours, just as it is overseeing such operations in other lines of business.

This much is certain, and only the blindest among us fail to realize the fact:

The problem of the migrant agricultural worker HAS to be solved some way, else it will undermine the very foundations of our democracy.

It is not a condition which can, or should, be lightly shrugged off.

★ ★ ★

That Man on Avenue Q says the more fast rides you take, the sooner you'll be taken for a slow one.

★ ★ ★

An art critic says the best way to hang a "modernistic" painting is upside down. Maybe so, but if we had to hang one we'd prefer to hang it wrongside out.

★ ★ ★

OUR old and valued friend, Amon Carter—or, better said, West Texas' old and valued friend, Amon Carter—isn't as young as he used to be because, like lesser mortals, he grows older with the passing years. But the rugged individualist, who describes himself as "one of the boys who works on the Star-Telegram," hasn't lost a bit of the steam and aggressiveness which have marked his brilliant career from sandwich peddler and picture frame salesman to the pinnacle of success and power in the Lone Star State.

Mr. Carter often has been in fine form and fettle in his younger days, when he singled-handed waged war on his Dallas rivals, a great railroad system, or a powerful political dynasty.

He has earned a reputation, many times over, as a toe-to-toe slugger against the vicissitudes which beset his beloved Fort Worth, and on numerous occasions he has proven his mettle as a champion of West Texas on which his home town borders.

But never in his long and spectacular career has "Col. Carter of Carterville" been in better form than he was the other day when he administered a neat and devastating spanking to loud-mouthed Harold Ikes, the Illinois mugwump Re-

(Continued on Comic Page)