



A straightforward statement
on issues before the nation
by
SPEAKER JOHN NANCE GARNER

*On June 21, 1932, Speaker John N. Garner
gave to the press the following statement:*

“**M**ANY of my friends, not only those residing in my own district and state, but throughout the country, have asked me repeatedly to express myself on various public questions.

“I have maintained the position I assumed when I was elected speaker of the House of Representatives that I would not indulge in the discussion of controversial issues not immediately under consideration by the House.

“Moreover, during the thirty years I have been a member of Congress, practically every principle involved in the problem of the nation today has been before the House, and my views thereon are a matter of record.

“This country has erected tariff barriers that are practically excluding the products of foreign nations.

“**T**HIS makes it economically impossible for these nations to buy from us the products of our farms and our factories, thereby aggravating our industrial depression.

“All relief measures so far have been purely temporary, and do not go to the root of the trouble.

“No sound-thinking citizen can favor the dole; neither can the government sit idly by and see its people starve when they are willing to work.

“Enough work must be provided to keep the people from starving, and we shall be fortunate indeed if this irreducible cost minimum does not greatly exceed the amount provided in the relief measures which I sponsor.

“Before genuine and permanent relief can be accomplished, the finances of the basic industries of this nation must be placed on a saner basis, thereby removing the specter of receivership and foreclosure and restoring their buying power and ability to employ labor.

“**I**NTERNATIONAL trade must be re-established by the restoration of international confidence and credit.

“Honesty among nations is as essential a virtue as honesty among individuals. An individual who borrows and makes no honest effort to pay is dishonest; the same applies to a nation.

“If foreign debts should be cancelled the credit of the nations involved would be destroyed and they could not borrow again.

“The government of the United States owes it to its citizens to collect from the debtor nations to the extent of their ability to pay, and there should be no flim-flam accepted as to that ability to pay.

“When the prohibition amendment was proposed, I, as a member of Congress, voted against it.

“I have never believed it sound or workable, and it should be repealed.

“The cost of government—city, county, state and national—can, and should be reduced, not less than one-third.

“The constantly increasing tendency toward socialism and communism is the gravest possible menace. The government should use every means within its power to prevent further spread, and they should receive no encouragement from any American citizen, high or low.

“**T**HE Democrats of California, and of my native state, Texas, are sending delegations to the national convention in Chicago instructed to vote for my nomination for the presidency.

“This has been done without my solicitation.

“I appreciate the support of my friends and am willing to serve my country and my party to the limit of my capacity.”

Distributed by
GARNER FOR PRESIDENT
CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS

Hotel Sherman
And Congress Hotel