

# GOVERNOR ASKS RESIGNATION OF AMON G. CARTER FROM THE TEXAS TECH REGENTS BOARD

Governor Ferguson has requested the resignation of Amon G. Carter, president of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, from the board of regents of the West Texas Technological college. Mrs. Ferguson's request for the publisher's resignation was contained in a letter received by Mr. Carter Monday.

The request grew out of the action of Mr. Carter in cheering for "A. and M. College and Dan Moody" at the Thanksgiving game between Texas and A. and M. College. Mrs. Ferguson, so the letter explains, considered Mr Carter irresponsible at the time.

Tuesday morning's Star Telegram contained a statement that the letter is considered libelous, but that in printing it the paper conceded to all other Texas papers the privilege to do the same.

## Governor's Letter

Governor Ferguson's letter to Mr. Carter follows:

Nov. 30, 1925—The Hon Amon G. Carter, President-Star-Telegram, Fort Worth, Texas:

Dear Sir: I feel it my duty as Governor to request your resignation as a member of the board of directors of the West Texas Technological College. I assure you this is an unpleasant task, which I have carefully considered and only a strict conception of duty impels my action.

I am informed that last year, in or about December, when the meeting of the Oil Men's Association met in your home city, Fort Worth, that you fitted up a building, owned or controlled by you (perhaps it was a garage building), in the old-fashioned barroom way providing a bar with the foot rail and the sawdust on the floor, and behind the bar you had a man dressed in the old-fashioned bartender white apron style. To this place I am informed that you invited some 200 or 300 guests and to those who came you dispensed drinks that were, to say the least, stimulating, and that you caused to be given away souvenir canes in which there is a hidden vial, some thirty inches in length, that contained approximately one pint of beverage. I have one of the canes in my possession which, I am reliably informed, came from your place. I am also informed that at said reception given by you many became stimulated and others were under the influence of an invigorating concoction, and that you in company with your guests, participated in the consumption of the beverage.

You, of course, remember your being in College Station on Thanksgiving Day of last week upon the occasion of the annual football contest between the A. and M. College and the University. If you do not remember I can inform you that it was an imposing meeting of some 25,000 people from all parts of the State and there were thousands of young boys and girls, students and friends of both of these two great institutions, the pride of our State.

I see from the papers that you admit that many times you cheered for Hon. Dan Moody and the A. and M. team. I can verify that you are correct in this statement, as you were right behind the box that I was occupying, and on two occasions when you gave vent to your vociferous exclamation you were only a few feet from me. I believe your statement when you say in the papers that you were not aware of my presence and that you meant no personal discourtesy to me. Your friends who know you best assure me (and I believe them) that when you are in a normal condition that you are a courteous gentleman to the manner born, and I attribute your seeming affront to your unusual condition and the influences under which you were laboring at the time. In your state it was but natural for you to have been unable to distinguish between a Colonel on my staff, dressed in khaki, yellow, and a town policeman dressed in blue, who under orders from the local authorities ejected you from the grounds in the interest of the public peace. No member of my staff laid hands on you as suggested by you in the public press. Personally I gladly forget any apparent discourtesy to me, as from my own observation I know you were not responsible at the time. But your actions involve a great principle and a matter of sound public policy which I can not overlook.

We have on the statute books a law against the unlawful sale, transportation or possession of intoxicating liquors in public places.

It will not be denied that the educational institutions. In and around these temples of knowledge from the country school to the college and the university we seek to teach the rising generation the virtue of morality, sobriety and correct living. It is here that the proper precept and example is set, or should be set, before the young boys and girls that will aid them to become good and intelligent citizens. These simple truths are so self-evident that to state them is to prove them.

If those in charge of the management and direction of our educational institutions shall by their personal deportment display these vices that are repugnant to the idea of strict morality and sobriety, then such results in the students of these institutions can not be expected. If as head of the board of the West Texas Technological College you reserve to yourself the right to appear in a public place in the condition you were in at College Station on Thanksgiving Day then every student who saw you could justify him or herself for doing the same thing. If a student at Tech College should appear on the Lubbock campus as you appeared in College Station the faculty would promptly expel such student from the college. And yet in such case the student could plead your case and the example and the precedent set by you in justification. If the heads of our institutions can not practice and preach sobriety, then our hopes for educated citizenship are vain and useless.

It is with deep regret that I protest against your further occupying a place on the West Texas Technological board. I plead for a better example for our boys and girls. You have set a standard that can not be tolerated. For the good of the public service I emphatically affirm that you should send me your resignation.

Yours truly,