

From

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# CARTER REFUSES TO RESIGN, SAYS WILL COMPARE RECORD WITH THAT OF "FARMER JIM"

Amos G. Carter, publisher of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, will not resign from the board of regents of the West Texas Technological College. Mr. Carter's resignation was requested by Governor Ferguson Monday. The governor stated that she based her request on her belief that Mr. Carter had not acted at the Texas A. & M. football game on Thanksgiving Day in manner in accord with his position on the Tech regents board.

Mr. Carter's reply to the Governor stated that he will not resign, and at the same time Mr. Carter released a letter to the people of Texas, answering the Ferguson charges.

## Letter to Governor

The statement and the letter follows:

"Governor Miriam A. Ferguson  
Austin, Texas.

"Dear Governor:

"The charges contained in your letter published in the press of the state asking for my resignation as a member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Technological College, are malicious and without justification.

"The extreme conscientious sense of duty, which you so gallantly refer to with so much regret, is nothing more than a smoke screen to divert the mind of the public from the real issues. My appointment was made by Governor Neff for four years, two of which I have yet to serve. I fully appreciate the responsibility and dignity which naturally accompany a position of trust of this kind. The Texas Technological College has started out as a real institution, capably managed throughout and as chairman of its Board of Directors, I could not countenance any confusion of side line issues interfering with its growth and development.

## Sees Jim's Influence.

"I recall, as many others do, Governor Jim's activities with respect to our educational institutions, especially the Texas University and with the consequences of his actions in mind and their effect on the growth and development of these institutions, I seriously question the wisdom of your counsel, which, from your statement, is doubtless influenced by Governor Jim.

"Administrations may come and go, but these great institutions will go on forever, and I feel the responsibilities of those administering them should go directly to the people served by them and not to the particular administration which happens to be in power. If there is one point on which the people of Texas are in accord, it is that our educational institutions should be divorced from politics. Under the circumstances I am compelled to decline to accede to your request for my resignation. Meanwhile, if the Board of Directors, or the management of the Texas Technological College or the people of Texas should feel that this institution would be benefitted by my resignation, I would gladly resign.

"Respectfully,

"AMON G. CARTER."

## Statement to People

A statement by Mr. Carter follows:

"To the people of Texas:

"Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad. It is true now as when the adage was first uttered and it would appear to fit the case of the Governor as though the classics had the present situation in mind.

"The demand for my resignation as a member of the Board of Directors of Texas Technological College, coming as it does at this juncture of time and circumstances, is simply a huge barrage to hide the real intent and motive that lurk behind it.

"It comes with poor grace to assert that now for the first time 'Governor Jim' has learned of certain things which he now proceeds to denounce with smug unctiousness as contrary to good morals.

"I say 'Governor Jim' with no purpose to wound the sensibilities of the good lady who is the nominal governor of the state, but to indicate the real actor who, like a ventriloquist behind the scenes, puts his voice and his words into the figure on the stage.

## Fiction in History

"In truth, the things to which the governor refers, on account of which my resignation is demanded, represent ancient history and an effort to make an innocent social entertainment the complexion of a violation of the law.

"I have no apology to offer to the

fact that I acted as host on a certain occasion in the city of Fort Worth, when distinguished men and hundreds of guests assembled in Fort Worth to learn of the hospitality that awaited them from the Chamber of Commerce of which I chanced to be its representative at that time. I was general chairman of the committee that succeeded in bringing to Fort Worth a party of men celebrated the world over as leaders in great commercial enterprises and the story that this entertainment violated the law is but another effort to divert the public mind from the real issues that now challenge attention on every hand.

## Reform is Too Abrupt

"Usually, the zeal of a reformer comes by slow stages and his past is a background for very much of what he chooses to accomplish, but when the conversion is so sudden and abrupt that it marks an acrobatic performance, then indeed, people look askance and wonder what prompted the peculiar antics of the performer.

"The occasion, obviously, to which 'Governor Jim' refers was that of the American Petroleum institute in the city of Fort Worth in December, 1924 and it comes with extremely bad grace to belie the hospitality of Ft. Worth and to charge that all the guests who assembled there, numbering men in all walks of life, were part conspirators in violating the law of the land. In very truth, there was no violation of the law and there could have been no such action as charged, because present with this party were members of the law enforcement department of both county and city and therefore, the accusation is quite as false and as flat as the role of reformer in which 'Governor Jim' seeks to clothe himself.

## Jim Suddenly Awakens

"It is strange, passing strange, that 'Governor Jim' is familiar with what took place at the entertainment, knowing of it for almost a year, should suddenly wake up to the enormity of the 'offense.' Why wait until the newspaper, with which I have the honor of being associated should publish to the world a series of editorial articles on highway development and seeks, in company with other enterprising journals, to direct the public mind to the consideration of a wasteful highway policy?

"If, indeed, I wished to escape just such a diatribe as that in which 'Governor Jim' indulges, all that would have been necessary to do in the premises was to heed a veiled insinuation made some time ago that unless such publications ceased there would be an effort on the part of 'Governor Jim' to 'catch up with me' and seek an indictment. Nothing that I did was cloaked or concealed from the public that was in attendance at this banquet and I much prefer the approval of those good people to an indictment by 'Governor Jim'.

"Certainly, I did not seek in any way to prevent the dissemination of any fact that took place at this banquet and nothing was laid up on my conscience since that time that would warrant me in employing lawyers to obstruct the consequence of anything I had done or sanctioned.

## Coercion Attempted

"Time and again men have come to me to indicate that unless I saw fit to adopt a different policy with respect to the highway articles that I would be able to rue the day that first the newspaper of which I am a share-holder began to shed light in dark places and point out to the people the chasm in public finances that yawned at their feet. Nothing can be clearer than the fact that 'Governor Jim' is desperately trying to build a smoke screen to obscure the eyes of the people of Texas so that they may be turned aside from the true version of what has lately taken place in the Highway Department and the efforts of Attorney General Dan Moody to bring to light much that had been hidden from the public knowledge. In this connection, the 'Governors' are fooling no one, not even themselves.

"I have been actively identified with the Texas Technological College since the institution was created having been elected chairman of the Board of Directors at a meeting in Sweetwater in the early part of 1923, and ever since that time, without a penny of expense to the state, I have dedicated the very best of which I was capable to the service of the institution, so that together with my associates, I could