July 19, 1943.

Mr. Sam H. Whitley, President, East Texas State Teachers College, Commerce, Texas.

Dear Mr. Whitley:

Your letter of July 16th received just after Mr. Carter departed for New York by plane.

Meanwhile, Mr. Garter had received an invitation from Mr. M. A. Thomas, of Dallas, to attend the unveiling ceremony of the portrait of Hon. Sam Rayburn on Friday, August 6th at 10:00 o'clock in the morning, at the East Texas State Teachers Colle e, and wrote Mr. Thomas that if he returned from New York in time he would be very happy to accept the invitation; however that August 6th was too far off to make any definite plans.

Under the circumstances, I am confident he would not be able to accept your invitation to introduce Mr. Rayburn on this program. Mr. Carter is delighted that this recognition is being bestowed on Mr. Rayburn, who justly deserves it, and was very happy to join Mr. Sid Richardson and other of Mr. Rayburns friends in their efforts in connection with this program.

My suggestion would be to complete your program without Mr. Carter and in the event he returns to the State in time to go to Commerce he can enjoy the program and will be glad to be there.

Yours very truly,

Secretary to A. G. Carter.