

Texas Press Clipping Bureau

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TWO BLUNDERING ORGANIZATIONS

At the beginning of the Garner campaign for the Democratic nomination, two needs confronted it. One was to develop the enthusiastic, genuine support of Texas democracy for the Texan. The other was a showing of strength outside of Texas, so as to get the campaign out of the favorite son class.

The campaign began some months ago, and it has not succeeded in either of these very necessary undertakings. A majority of Texans, we believe, would look with favor on a Garner-instructed Texas delegation. State pride, admiration for the candidate, and the practical realization of what it would mean to Texas to see him nominated, have created a state of mind favorable to Mr. Garner. But that state of mind is passive and perfunctory, so far as the rank and file of the party in Texas are concerned. There is nothing approaching enthusiasm for the Garner candidacy, little evidence that it has really taken hold on the general run of Texas Democrats. Outside of Texas, the Garner campaign is not flourishing.

There are several reasons for this state of affairs. One of them is the incapacity of the campaign's leadership in Texas.

If the candidacy had developed the strength that might have been expected, if Texas Democrats had flocked to the Garner standard with a spirit that indicated something of heartiness, there would not now be a counter-movement, fostered principally by federal office-holders and by beneficiaries of federal spending, to send to Chicago a Texas delegation instructed to support Mr. Roosevelt for a third term.

One of the chief supporters of the Garner campaign, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, has launched a bitter attack upon this third term movement, calling it "the betrayal of Texas pride, Texas loyalty and Texas common sense." The Star-Telegram declares that the Ickes visit, and the prospective Hull visit, are parts of a plan to bring Washington officials "down here for the purpose of inducing Texas to put a knife in the back of the Garner campaign."

Even those Texans who want Mr. Roosevelt to have a third term nomination must find it difficult to look kindly upon the organization which the Star-Telegram calls "the carpet-bagger brigade." On the other hand, there must be many Texans friendly to Mr. Garner's candidacy who are unhappy over the leadership his campaign has had in this state. The situation has reached the plague-on-both-your-houses stage for many Texas Democrats. These feel that they are entitled to a better deal than either faction is likely to give them.