

From

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In offering a reward of \$500.00 last week for the arrest and conviction of any citizen of this state for violating the liquor laws who is worth as much as \$5,000, Governor Ferguson inferentially charged that a wealthy newspaper publisher in north Texas had been guilty of dispensing pints of liquor by the dozen, that an ex-official and millionaire newspaper man in a south Texas city had been purchasing and transporting to his home all the liquor he wanted for home consumption, that a central Texas District Judge had himself been drinking bootleg liquor, and that other wealthy business men in Texas have boasted of the amount and the brand of liquor that they have in their possession. We know nothing about these particular cases, but there has long been a current belief in this country that violations of the liquor laws were being committed by men of wealth and influence in some counties of this state unmolested by the officers of the law. In fact, such charges have been frequently made heretofore. It will be remembered that two or three years ago, Rev. Frank Norris of Ft. Worth charged that a federal district judge in Texas was patronizing bootleggers and winking at violations of the liquor laws. Rev. Atticus Webb, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of Texas, charged that at the sheriff's convention at Amarillo about three years ago a lot of the sheriff's themselves got beastly drunk. While these charges were no doubt wholly untrue or greatly exaggerative, yet they were made with great persistency and gained wide credence throughout the state. The open drinking and drunkenness at the meeting of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce at Brownwood a little more than a year ago became notorious. That officers hesitate to bring charges of felony against prominent citizens of their respective communities, although they have reason to believe that said citizens are violating the liquor laws entirely effective is to go after Yet, the best way to make the liquor laws entirely effective is to go after the "higher-ups." What ever may have prompted Mrs. Ferguson to offer this reward, she has put her finger on one of the sore spots with reference to law enforcement, and officers would do well everywhere to make a sincere and supreme effort to bring violators of the liquor laws to justice regardless of their wealth or station in life.

The News would like for all the facts relating to the awarding of questionable contracts by the state highway commission to be made public. If anybody has been guilty of crime, we should like to see offenders brought to justice. But if a grand jury, assisted by the district and county attorney and by the attorney-general himself, can find no evidence of crime after a most searching investigation, then we see no need for the legislature to assemble in order to investigate, and try to impeach somebody. When private individuals are proposing to finance such a meeting of the legislature to the extent of \$300,000, then it begins to look to us like somebody might have an axe to grind. Too much politics folks.

Early last week Governor Ferguson charged that Amon G. Carter, President of the Star Telegram Publishing Company and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Texas Technological College, had served liquor at a meeting of oil men in the city of Fort Worth last December and had been drunk at the University— A. & M. football game at College Station on Thanksgiving Day, and she called for his resignation as a member of the board. It required more than two columns of valuable news paper space for Carter to deny the charges and then he did

so in a rather indirect way. We know nothing about the truth of the charges, but according to newspaper reports Carter was asked to behave himself at the football game and when he refused to do so the officers of the law expelled him from the grounds. If Carter was not drunk, we would like to know how he explains conduct that became so offensive to the public that officers felt it to be their duty to expel him? Until he makes satisfactory explanation, we shall believe that he ought to tender his resignation as a member of the Texas Tech Board.