

Texas Press Clipping Bureau  
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Date

## CARTER LAYS CASE BEFORE PEOPLE FOR DECISION OF ISSUE

### DENIES MISCONDUCT AND CHALLENGES "GOVERNOR" AND HIS RECORD.

Editor's Note. Since The Bulletin's Associated Press wire closed Tuesday afternoon before Mr. Amon G. Carter had completed the preparation of his statement answering Governor Ferguson's demand for his resignation from the Board of Directors of Texas Technological College, the remainder of Mr. Carter's statement which could not be published in this newspaper Tuesday afternoon is published herewith. This is done since the Governor's statement was published in full, and in order to be fair in the presentation of Mr. Carter's answer.

"When 'Governor Jim,' by innuendo, sought to include me among the millionaires concerning whom he offered a reward of \$500 for violation of the liquor laws, commendable as it was, he quite overleaped himself, because, never having had a highway contract, I can not possibly fall into the millionaire class.

#### The A. & M. Incident.

"In this connection, may I inquire whether the recent proclamation of 'Governor Jim' (which, like the religion or property of so many men, is concealed in his wife's name), in which a reward is offered for the conviction of bootleggers, includes those to whom amnesty was so freely afforded, or whether, spellbound by the scrupulous regard for highway contracts, those recently pardoned are now bent upon an honest career on the 'highway' of good citizen-

ship and Christian morals?

"As a matter of fact, the accusation of the Governor is so egregious and absurd that it might well be classed with farce-comedy, but for the evident resentment that lay back of the charges.

"Governor Ferguson relates an incident which happened at College Station in the progress of the football game between A. & M. and Texas University on Thanksgiving Day and points to the atrocious fact that I was reported to have admitted yelling 'hurrah for A. & M. and Dan Moody.'

"I am not surprised that my remark should bring forth the resentment of 'Governor Jim,' since Mr. Moody as Attorney General recovered \$600,000 of the taxpayers' money from one road contracting firm. And particularly when you call to mind that 'Governor Jim's' reason, as he stated, for sitting in with the Highway Commission was that he would see to it that its affairs were 'economically administered.' Without pausing to inquire what standard work on economics 'Governor Jim' had been studying, I would like to know why \$1,720,000 of the State's money was spent without any real contract, without a bond to secure its proper performance and at a price of 30 cents a square yard, fixed, not by the road contractors or competitive bid, but, according to the testimony under oath, by the chairman of the Highway Commission himself.

"'Governor Jim,' responding to a sensitive conscience, after this fact had been made manifest to all the world, sought to 'encourage' the Attorney General by employing lawyers and paying them a fee of \$2,000 of the taxpayers' money to prevent the Attorney General from prosecuting the suit and thereby avoid the cancellation of the road contracts and the recovery of \$600,000 of the people's money.

"I merely mention this in passing, not to reveal something not already known to the world, but to show what an acute conscience 'Governor Jim' possesses and with what pride he should refer to his conscience when discussing any fact connected with the highway situation. It must follow as an obvious conclusion that a conscience of this kind should be an exemplar to the younger generation and particularly to the students who may attend the Texas Technological College, or any other institute of learning. Doubtless, this conscientious regard for the people's welfare had much to do with the demand on the part of the Governor that I should forward my resignation.

#### Yells Not Criminal.

"My yells for Dan Moody are not treated as criminal in the statutes of the State, unless a new edict has been prepared in the Highway Department and has been formulated

into law by Mistress Miriam A. Ferguson's husband. Is it any more of an offense against law and morals to toss up one's hat for Dan Moody than to obstruct the Attorney General in his suit against highway contractors? The story that I was under the influence of liquor when I cried out on the one hand for A. & M. and on the other for Dan Moody, was not only false in every particular, but could only be supported by the conclusion that, to mind of 'Governor Jim,' anyone who declared for Dan Moody was either drunk or crazy. I have too much respect for my wife to tarnish her name with improper conduct, particularly when in her company, and I could wish that much the same might be said with respect to the public expenditures of those who sit enthroned in high authority.

"It is unnecessary for me to say that I not only had no intention to be discourteous, but that I was not discourteous to the Governor of the State, nor did I endeavor to embarrass anyone. My conduct in no way paralleled the conduct of 'Governor Jim' toward hundreds of University of Texas students when they protested to him against the veto of the university appropriation.

#### Has Favored Aggies.

"My wife always has been a partisan for the Texas University, while I, on the other hand, always have 'rooted' for A. & M. But I may be permitted to say in a sort of stage whisper that I always have supported and encouraged the development of both institutions, side by side. As a taxpayer and as sort of balancing the family allegiance and as one who had paid his way into the football game, I reserved the right to shout for A. & M. very much as I had done in times past, and particularly to hurrah for Dan Moody because of his energetic activities and courage in protecting the taxpayers of the State—and all this on his part, notwithstanding the opposition from the executive mansion where the idea seemed to prevail that it was proper to spend the public's money as such expenditures were disclosed by the evidence submitted in the recent trial.

"I feel quite sure that if for any reason any conduct of mine should be insufficient as a guide or example to the students of the Texas Technological College, that the past record of 'Governor Jim' would quite supply the deficiency.

"While the charges contained in Governor Ferguson's latter were slanderous in the extreme and libelous per se, they were printed in full in the newspapers with which I am associated, as a matter of fairness, and my rights under the libel law I gladly waived as far as other newspapers were concerned, in order that the Governor's statement might have the widest

publicity.

"In conclusion, I beg to say that I do not hold my commission as a member of the board of directors of the Texas Technological College from 'Governor Jim' or the Highway Commission, but since it is a public trust and one for which an accounting should be made to persons in authority, who themselves are free from the breath of public suspicion, I shall await another conjuncture of time and circumstances before I will even presume to consider the subject. However, it behooves me to say that I shall continue to perform my duties as such director, 'Governor Jim' and the Highway Commission to the contrary notwithstanding."

(Signed) "AMON G. CARTER."