

Garner Still Regrets Leaving Congress For Vice Presidency

By CARLTON WILSON
 United Press International
 UVALDE, Tex. (UPI) — Former Vice President John Nance Garner, who will be 96 years old on Nov. 22, tells visitors to his small white frame house that he regrets taking the job. Garner refers to his giving up his post as speaker of the House in 1932 to become the running mate of President Franklin D. Roosevelt as "the worst damn fool mistake I ever made."
 "I left the second most important job to become a waiting boy to the President in case

anything happened," Garner said in an interview. "The vice president doesn't amount to a hill of beans."
 A visitor soon learns why the bushy-browed old man was nicknamed "Cactus Jack" during 30 years as a congressman from south Texas. Garner still has some of the old fire he was known for in politics. Garner gets his way, from the time he wakes up around 5 a.m. until he turns one of two television sets off at night. He has two sets, so he can watch two baseball games — his fa-

vorite programs — at the same time.
 Son Tully Garner lives next door to the one-story house where the former vice president stays. In front is the two-story brick mansion Garner gave to the city of Uvalde in 1948. After the death of his wife, Ettie, that year the old man decided the house was too big for him to live in alone. Uvalde citizens turned the home into the Garner Museum.
 A maid cooks and cleans house for the former vice president, and an elderly male comes over at night to be with Garner. In a sample of his humorous outlook, Garner likes to joke that he is the "only 90-year-old man with a 79-year-old babysitter."
 Many visitors stop by Garner's house, and they find him in the best mood after a late afternoon nap. Women are especially welcome. Garner seldom lets one get away without kissing her.
 They may sit and chat with the still spry Garner in straight-backed metal lawn chairs in the yard, or be invited in to a small living room with red-flowered wallpaper adorned with photographs and political mementoes.

Observed Quietly
 Birthdays are usually observed quietly, and there may be a few special guests with a cake tomorrow. A big party was held five years ago, however, as 3,000 well wishers included Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, former President Harry S. Truman and the late Speaker Sam Rayburn, a long-time colleague of Garner in the U. S. House of Representatives.
 During his 46 years in public life, Garner developed a reputation as the poker-playing, whiskey-drinking man ever to hold the nation's second highest office. The salty congressman was an adept politician, but no longer likes to talk about those years that ended in 1941 when Garner left the vice presidency for Texas with a vow never to cross the Potomac River again.
 "My life in Washington is past tense," he said. "That comes under the statute of limitations."

As he talked, Garner drummed the fingers of his right hand on a brown wooden dining table near his green metal chair. Edges of his fingernails are worn ruler-straight from the habit. On top of the table is a green eye shade Garner wears at times.
 He usually dresses in khakis but puts on a coat and tie once in a while. The citizens of Uvalde, a town 75 miles west of San Antonio with a population of 10,370, are used to seeing Garner riding around town in an old truck driven by 74-year-

old Lucas Zamoro, his friend and handy man.
 Garner lives modestly but is a wealthy man. In the last two years he has given more than \$1 million of his fortune to Southwest Texas Junior College at Uvalde, a school of about 600 students.
 "I'm for education," he said, recalling that in the 1890's he had been superintendent of Uvalde County public schools. "I don't want these kids around here to have to suck on the hind tit when it comes to getting a good education."

Garner was also Uvalde county judge in 1895, winning an election in which he was criticized for playing poker. One of the most vehement critics was a neighboring ranch woman, Miss Mariette Rheiner.
 She had a change of heart about Garner after the election, and they were married. Their only child, Tully, now 65, is a Uvalde banker. "Cactus Jack" moved from county judge to the state legislature and then to Washington as a Congressman in 1903.
 He was elected speaker in 1931 and during his first week pounded four gavels to splinters. Garner figured in the 1932 balloting for the Democratic presidential nomination, but threw in with Roosevelt and became vice president.
 Split With Roosevelt
 Roosevelt and Garner split over the third term issue in 1940, and "Cactus Jack" got out of public life. He came home to Texas to putter around the house, feed the chickens, hunt deer, care for pecan trees and read.

Doctors advised him a few years ago to give up cigars and whisky. Garner switched from Bourbon to grapefruit juice, but kept on smoking. His favorite pastime is puffing on a strong Mexican cigar.
 He will offer a drink to visitors, with an invitation to "strike a blow for liberty." And if they are from Texas, Garner will ask if a visitor was born in the state.
 "Native Texans stand a little higher than the rest," he remarked.
 Garner himself was a native

son of the Lone Star State, born in a mud-chinked log cabin near the town of Detroit in Red River County on Nov. 22, 1868. His parents, John and Sarah Guest Garner, were of Scotch-Irish descent. Schools were far away, and much of Garner's education was self-taught. That explains his gifts to the junior college.
 Reflecting on his political campaigns, Garner said:
 "The only promise I ever made was to say: 'Boys, I'll do the best I can.' If you are honest and intelligent, that is the only platform you need to have."



GARNER 96 FRIDAY — Former Vice President John Nance Garner will be 96 years old Friday, Nov. 22. This photo shows him celebrating his 93rd birthday in 1961 and with President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1939. (UPI)

Birthdays are usually observed quietly, and there may be a few special guests with a cake tomorrow. A big party was held five years ago, however, as 3,000 well wishers included Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, former President Harry S. Truman and the late Speaker Sam Rayburn, a long-time colleague of Garner in the U. S. House of Representatives.
 During his 46 years in public life, Garner developed a reputation as the poker-playing, whiskey-drinking man ever to hold the nation's second highest office. The salty congressman was an adept politician, but no longer likes to talk about those years that ended in 1941 when Garner left the vice presidency for Texas with a vow never to cross the Potomac River again.
 "My life in Washington is past tense," he said. "That comes under the statute of limitations."

Short Courses Are Planned at College

CORVALLIS — Three short courses have been announced for early 1964 by the Oregon State University School of Forestry as a service to the forest industry of the Northwest.
 The eighth annual Variable Plot Cruising short course will be held Jan. 29 to 31. It is for practicing foresters who are interested in learning about variable plot, or wedge prism, cruising. This new technique has helped to reduce the cost of determining the volume of timber.
 The third Oregon Logging Safety Institute is scheduled Feb. 7 and 8. Planned cooperatively with the Timber Operators Council Inc., industrial ac-

cident agencies and industrial forestry firms, the institute is designed to provide practical solutions for accident prevention in small and large size logging operations.
 The 14th annual aerial photo short course will be March 23 to 27. Designed for field foresters and engineers who use aerial photographs in their work, the course will cover the use of aerial photos in time and money saving situations.
 Registration will be announced by the OSU School of Forestry approximately one month before each scheduled course. Additional information may be obtained by writing the OSU School of Forestry, Corvallis.

REALLY GOOD!
 Like home made

SKIPPY PET STEW
 DOGS & CATS

It takes a darn good marinade to give meat gourmet flavor and juicy tenderness in just 15 minutes



This is a darn good marinade
 Look for Adolph's Instant Meat Marinade in the meat section of your market.

OCEAN FRESH CRABMEAT \$1.89 LB.		"MEDFORD'S FINEST MEATS SINCE 1940" We Feature Only U.S. Inspected Fancy No. 1 Turkeys--Chickens Ducks--Geese--Capons and Cornish Hens.		ALL AD PRICES EFFECTIVE THROUGH THANKSGIVING		
—FANCY TURKEYS—						
"SWIFT'S PREMIUM" BUTTERBALL HENS FRESH FROZEN 45 ¢/lb	"SWIFT'S PREMIUM" BUTTERBALL TOMS FRESH FROZEN 43 ¢/lb	"SWIFT'S PREMIUM" BUTTERBALL HENS FRESH 53 ¢/lb	"SWIFT'S PREMIUM" BUTTERBALL TOMS FRESH 49 ¢/lb	Ducks 4 1/2 to 5 lbs. 59 ¢ Geese 8 to 10 lbs. 69 ¢ Capons 7 to 8 lbs. 98 ¢ CORNISH--20 oz. HENS Each 98 ¢		
Medford's Finest GROUND BEEF 10 LBS PKG 3.75 39¢/lb		BONELESS PORK LOIN ROAST AND ALL CENTER CUTS LEAN PORK CHOPS 79 ¢/lb		GENUINE ROASTING CHICKENS 4 TO 5 LBS. 49 ¢/lb		
For A Hearty Breakfast Try Our Own PURE PORK SAUSAGE 49 ¢/lb - 2.89		FANCY "CHOICE" AGED BONELESS BEEF ROAST • TIPS • RUMPS • TOP ROUND 98 ¢/lb				
BISQUICK large 40-oz. pkg. 39 ¢ BETTY CROCKER'S DATE BAR MIX 2 PKGS 69 ¢ BETTY CROCKER'S NEW Vienna Dream Bar Mix PKG 49 ¢		Ocean Spray Cranberry Sauce Whole or Strained 3 Tall Tins 59 ¢	Blue Plate SMALL WHOLE YAMS 4 No. 303 Tins \$1.00	Oberli Giant Pitted RIPE OLIVES 3 Tall Tins \$1.00	NALLEYS SWEET PICKLES 3 12-oz. Tins \$1.00	
'ALL' LOW SUDSING DETERGENT Jumbo \$2.19 Size \$2.59	HERSHEY'S SEMI-SWEET Chocolate CHIPS 3 large 12-oz. bags \$1 "KAISER" QUILTED FOIL 18" x 25' ROLL 59 ¢	PACIFIC DEVEINED COCKTAIL SHRIMP 2 Tins 79 ¢	NALLEY'S BANQUET DILL PICKLES 3 22-oz. Jars \$1.00	"PEPPERIDGE FARM" HERB SEASONED STUFFING Nothing Finer for Your HOLIDAY TURKEY 39 ¢/pkg.		
MJB COFFEE 1-lb. Tin 49 ¢ 2-lb. Tin 97 ¢ 6-oz. Instant 89 ¢		MANDARIN ORANGES 4 Tins 89 ¢				
LOCAL Newtown APPLES Finest for Cooking 5-lb. BAG 49 ¢		FANCY EASTERN Cranberries 2 1-lb. Boxes 45 ¢	Chestnuts For Your Holiday Dressing lb. 39 ¢	Bright Orange Tangerines lb. 29 ¢	SMALL SIZE BOILING ONIONS 2 lbs. 39 ¢	
RED VELVET YAMS 3 LBS 29 ¢ SWEET POTATOES 3 LBS 39 ¢ FANCY SWEET CELERY 2 large bunches 29 ¢ SNOW WHITE Cauliflower 2 large heads 39 ¢		Free! DELIVERY Phone 773-7444 ED MILNE'S QUALITY MARKET 222 West Main Street NEXT TO POWER COMPANY CLOSED SUNDAYS				