

'Like Eisenhower'

8-9-74

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Neighbors Think Ford's Tremendous

Grand Rapids, Mich.

The neighbors of Jerry Ford think he would make a great president.

"I know he'll make a tremendous president," said retired dentist William B. Ver Meirlen, one of the men who first got Gerald R. Ford into politics.

"What the country is looking for more than anything is integrity and he has that in abundance. He would calm the country down. He inspires confidence. He's kind of an Eisenhower guy."

Ford was once a high school athletic star in Grand Rapids and represented it for 20 years as a congressman.

One of the most enthusiastic supporters of Ford was Clifford Gettings, his high school football coach.

"He's capable of coming through in almost any kind of situation," Gettings said.

Others saw Ford's becoming president with relief.

"It would be a great relief even to most of the Democratic leadership," said Maury De Jonge, the Grand Rapids Press political writer for 20 years.

Although a Democrat won the congressional seat Ford held until he resigned to succeed Spiro T. Agnew, there are no signs that Ford's popularity has sagged.

"As far as Jerry Ford is concerned," De Jonge said, "I think the people in this district, if they are polled, would say nine out of 10 times that the guy is qualified for the job."

United Press

Inauguration TV Coverage

The inauguration of Gerald Ford as President of the United States will be carried at 9 a.m. today on all four local network stations—KRON (Channel 4), KPIX (Channel 5), KGO (Channel 7) and KQED (Channel 9).

KCBS Radio also plans to carry the ceremonies live.