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Folksy Nixon Invokes Memories of His 'Old Man'

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — The President is getting folksier on the stump in a campaign style reminiscent of his yarn-spinning predecessor, L.B.J.

In the past, Nixon was more inclined to invoke nostalgic memories of his Quaker mother. Now he is talking

more about "my old man."

"My father only finished the fifth grade," he told an audience in Utica, Mich. "He wanted to go to school but his mother died. They were very poor, and he had to go to work. His greatest desire for his children was for them to get a college ed-

ucation because he only finished the fifth grade.

"I remember," Nixon added, "sometimes people would remark that he didn't have very good grammar. That didn't matter. What mattered to me was not the words, but the heart and the character."

Later at a "political" party for Hollywood celebrities supporting his re-election, Nixon recalled that he had telephoned Rep. Charles Rangel, a New York Democrat, to tell him about an agreement worked out to control heroin poppy production overseas.

Rangel was "somewhat overwhelmed by the call," Nixon said, and commented, "You know, Mr. President, that when I was growing up in Harlem, if I told my old man that someday I would be talking to the President of the United States, he would have told me I was crazy."

Nixon said that he then told Rangel "Well, Mr. Congressman, if when I was growing up, in Yorba Linda, had I told my old man that some day I would be talking to a congressman on the phone, he would have thought I was crazy."

Nixon concluded his remarks to the gathering of actors, actresses and comedians by saying, "If I had told my old man when I was growing up in Yorba Linda that someday I would be talking to Jack Benny, he would have said that I was crazy."