

Next Wednesday

Nixon to Stump In House Race

Washington

President Nixon will go to Michigan Wednesday to campaign for a GOP congressional candidate in his first political stumping since the Watergate scandal engulfed the White House.

A presidential spokesman said yesterday that Mr. Nixon will go to Michigan's Eighth Congressional District to campaign for James M. Sparling Jr., a candidate in the special House election April 16.

In Saginaw, Sparling said he had invited Mr. Nixon to come to his district to give voters there "some tough, no-nonsense" answers to the nation's problems.

"I am very pleased the President has accepted my invitation to come to the Eighth Congressional District," said Sparling, who last summer spent ten weeks as a White House aide.

Sparling has said that if he is elected to Congress he would vote for impeachment if there is any proof of

wrongdoing by Mr. Nixon.

"The people of the Eighth District have a right to know why the President finds himself facing this terrible dilemma," Sparling said earlier this week.

Mr. Nixon's appearance, officially on behalf of Sparling in his tough battle against a Democrat who is hitting hard at Watergate as an issue, would be the first acknowledged campaigning by the President since his 1972 reelection and the Watergate scandal that burgeoned just after his second inauguration.

Although Mr. Nixon has made many public appearances since then, especially in recent weeks, none was in connection with a Republican campaign or even billed as political.

While Sparling sought Mr. Nixon's help, other Republicans called the invitation a mistake.

Michigan's GOP Governor, William G. Milliken, said it might harm his own reelection campaign and Sparling's campaign coordinator said a Nixon visit would not serve GOP interests.

Milliken said that he will try to meet Mr. Nixon but that he has a busy schedule Wednesday in Detroit and Toronto.

"I don't want any part of it," county chairman Robert Grant Jr. said earlier. "I

can't think it would be of a positive nature."

However, state GOP chairman William McLaughlin has said Mr. Nixon is welcome to campaign in Michigan.

State Senator J. Robert Traxler, seeking to become the first Democrat elected in the Eighth District since the Depression, said he is sure Mr. Nixon will receive a courteous hearing.

"But while they may greet him with courtesy," Traxler said, "they are going to vote against his disastrous economic proposal and programs."

A.P. & U.P.