

CARTER CONDEMNS THE FARM POLICY OF NIXON AND FORD

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In Iowa Talk, He Says They
and Butz Drove Hundreds
to Declare Bankruptcy

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DES MOINES, Aug. 25 — Jimmy Carter, the farmer from Georgia, challenged today the Republicans' traditional strength in America's midlands by bluntly attacking the agricultural policies of Richard M. Nixon and President Ford.

The Democratic nominee, who parlayed a legacy of land into an agribusiness fortune, also accused those two men and Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz of forcing hundreds of American farmers into bankruptcy.

"Rural families are just looking for an even break," he told a noisy, partisan crowd of several thousand at the Iowa State Fair. "That's not much to ask, but it is a lot more than we've been getting in the last eight years."

Buoyed by the enthusiasm of hundreds of supporters, Mr. Carter doffed his coat, rolled up his sleeves and wore his small-town, rural heritage like a boutonniere as he wound up his first large-scale campaign foray since becoming his party's candidate five weeks ago.

A Portent of Campaign

It was the third straight day on which he raised his usually subdued Southern drawl in caustic criticism of Mr. Ford and in an unmistakable effort to link him to Mr. Nixon. As he flew home to Plains, Ga., the record of his travel and his rhetoric seemed to portend the sort of campaign he planned to conduct between now and Nov. 2.

Here in the Iowa capital last night and today, as he had in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle on previous days, Mr. Carter presented an evangelistic blend of populism, patriotism and promises to restore public faith in a Government whose integrity had been wounded.

And running like a newly composed symphonic theme through most of his words was the clear suggestion that voters should perceive the names Ford and Nixon as synonyms.

That seemed to be his intention at a lemonade-and-peanut picnic on a farm near here last night, when, for the first time that his staff could recall, he specifically mentioned Mr. Nixon's name in a negative context.

Scene of First Victory

In all such previous references, he consistently referred to the former President simply as Mr. Ford's predecessor.

Today, Mr. Carter spoke of the Watergate scandals several times, citing them as part of a national malaise that reached from the White House to the farmhouse.

But his speech also presented specific proposals and promises to the shirtsleeved crowd of Iowans and, he said, to all farmers in the country.

It was in Iowa, in mid-January, that the former Governor of Georgia won his and perhaps his most important victory of the presidential nomination campaign with a strong showing.

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