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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Sept. 25, 1976

TO: Trudy Fry

From Presidential
out box.

Cristy



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 23, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ROBERT T. HARTMANN



SUBJECT: Debates

A number of friends have sent me suggestions and material for your use in the debates. The most significant of these materials are attached and are self-explanatory.

Bud Brown called to remind you that no conference has yet been called on revenue sharing extension which passed the House, June 10, and the Senate, September 14. Without a bill all revenue sharing will expire December 31st. States like Carter's depend on it and in many instances their fiscal years have already begun and their budgets are based on it. Bud says Democratic leaders in the Congress like Phil Burton and Jack Brooks are blocking it, and you should challenge the new champion of the Democratic party to compel his Congress to act.

Bud also said that Democrats on his committee have urged Carter to attack FEA for an administrative error which permitted oil companies to overcharge consumers. I am not completely clear about this, but he says FEA proposes to forgive this rip-off and your position should be to let the courts decide rather than FEA.



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN . . .

September 22, 1976 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Hartmann:

Congressman Bob Wilson called with the following figures from Rick Devins at the Department of Labor phone: 523-1944.

July 1966 total employed 72,860,000
total unemployed 2,876,000

unemployment rate: 3.8%

July 1976

total employed 87,907,000
total unemployed 7,426,000

unemployment rate: 7.8%

July 1966

total active duty military and civilian: 4,355,000

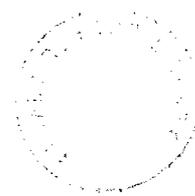
July 1976

total active duty military and civilian: 3,126,000

reduction in total military civilian defense department: 1,229,000

Cong. Wilson also asked about the answer to the Ford solicitation letter.

Gail



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

JOHN B. MARTIN
7607 GLENDALE ROAD
CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20015
A. C. 301 652-6629

September 16, 1976

Mr. Robert T. Hartmann
Counselor to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Bob:

I am writing to you in hope that I may be able to be helpful to the President in this way.

The Republican platform provisions regarding older Americans are the best we have ever had. The platform contains a number of positions which should be of real value to the President in attracting the attention and support of our older population. As you know, these number some 22 million persons 65 years of age and older. They are all registered, and they all vote. They are, in addition, well informed about the issues and policies which affect them. If these issues could be alluded to in remarks which the President makes on an informal basis in the Rose Garden or informal press conferences, I think they would have a great impact around the country.

My comments on the part of the platform directly aimed toward older Americans (which is attached) are as follows:

1) Inflation is unquestionably the greatest hardship for older Americans. The basic necessities of life-- food, shelter, clothing and health care--have risen to astronomic heights and older persons who live on fixed incomes and spend a large part of their limited resources on these items are, of course, most affected. This is a subject which can be brought into almost any press conference and can be dwelt on with great effect. The President's efforts to curb inflation are, of course, known but I think it is important to his comments that he specifically point out the especially severe effect which inflation has on the elderly, more than three million of whom actually are living today below the poverty line.



2) The platform devotes attention to the fact that, although a gift to a charitable institution can be made with beneficial deductions for the taxpayer, there has been little or no incentive for younger people to help care for their older relatives. It would certainly be most helpful to many younger people if they were able to obtain some income deduction or tax credit for caring for their older family members. Such care may be costly and a heavy burden on low budget families. They would find it a desirable and useful thing to do if they could afford such care. This would enable many older people to remain in friendly home surroundings rather than be forced into a nursing home.

3) Another matter which causes great dissatisfaction among many older people is the fact that they cannot draw social security benefits and develop small earnings without being penalized for such work. After earnings of \$2,760 are reached, their social security benefits are reduced \$1 for each \$2 of earnings. The Republican platform is specific on this and indicates that the party will work for an increase in the earned income ceiling or its complete elimination so that, as people live longer, there will not be the present penalty on work. Many older people would welcome the opportunity to contribute their talent and know-how to the economy in exchange for a small increase in income which most of them badly need. There is something morally wrong in putting obstacles in their way to prevent them from working and earning additional income to supplement their Social Security pensions and, thus, maintain their standard of living.

4) Our Associations have for some time urged the abolition of arbitrary mandatory retirement age levels. The Age Discrimination in Employment Act prohibits discrimination in government and private employment between ages 40 and 65. By implication, therefore, it permits discrimination at and over age 65. We have urged that the 65-year limit be removed and that retirement be only on a case-by-case basis, the test being the ability of the individual to carry on the job in a satisfactory manner. The federal government has a mandatory retirement age of 70, which is much more realistic than the 65-year age limit common in many corporations and other organizations. The study which Louis Harris has done of the elderly shows clearly that 85 percent of all people questioned feel strongly that retirement should not be forced on

an arbitrary basis of chronological age, but should be determined by the ability and willingness to do a competent job. The present practice of forcing people out of the labor force at age 65 stems from passage of the Social Security Act, which sought to encourage retirement to make more jobs for younger workers. Mandatory retirement at 65 today recognizes neither modern life expectancy nor continued ability to perform adequately.

Finally, the platform specifically refers to other areas of concern in connection with the elderly and stresses the need for increased attention to home health care and outpatient care. This is a tremendously attractive position because all tests have shown that an overwhelming majority of older people want to remain in their own homes, if it is in any way possible for them to do so. In order to enable them to do this, provision needs to be made in the states and communities to enable them to be adequately fed and to have a minimum of services, including doctor and nurse visits, and assistance in household tasks, shopping, transportation and medical supplies and appliances. The President would be touching upon a very sensitive nerve in stressing his belief that home health care, including social services as well as direct health services, is the direction we should be moving in for older people who would otherwise have to go to a nursing home.

All of these matters are dealt with in the Republican platform in very specific terms and would lend themselves to a repetition or reiteration by the President with an indication of support which, I am sure from my long experience with the older people of the country, would have great appeal.

The polls have also shown that the portion of the population over 50 years of age is inclined to lean in the President's direction. This is an area where the President has an initial advantage but where the Democrats are now preparing to exercise a great deal of pressure in an attempt to bring the older voter over to their side. It is vitally important that the President's interest in this very large group of citizens be expressed in positive and specific terms.



If I can help in any way to clarify the issues in this area, Bob, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

John Martin
John B. Martin

Enclosure



OLDER AMERICANS

REP: Our tax laws permit a deduction to the taxpayer who gives a contribution to a charitable institution that might care for an elderly parent but offer little or no incentive to provide care in the home. Incentives must be written into law to encourage families to care for their older members.

We will work to make the Social Security system actuarially sound. The Social Security program must not be turned into a welfare system based on need rather than contributions. The cost to employers for Social Security contributions must not be raised to the point where they will be unable to afford contributions to employee private pension programs.

We will work for an increase in the earned income ceiling or its elimination so that, as people live longer, there will not be the present penalty on work. We will also seek to correct those provisions of the system that now discriminate against women and married couples.

We favor the abolition of arbitrary age levels for mandatory retirement.

The Medicare program must be improved to control inflation and health care costs triggered by present regulations.

Other areas of concern to the elderly that need increased attention are home and out-patient care, adequate transportation, nutrition, day care, and homemaker care as an alternative to costly institutional treatment.

DEM: . . .adequate income and health care for senior citizens are basic federal government responsibilities.

. . .health costs paid by senior citizens under the present system must be reduced.

We believe that Medicare should be made available to Americans abroad who are eligible for Social Security.

. . .Democrats strongly support employment programs and the liberalization of the allowable earnings limitation under Social Security for older Americans who wish to continue working and living as productive citizens. We will put an end to delay in implementation of nutrition programs for the elderly and give high priority to a transportation policy for senior citizens under the Older Americans Act.

. . .We pledge to enforce vigorously health and safety standards for nursing homes and seek alternatives which allow senior citizens where possible to remain in their own homes.

INFLATION

REP: The number one destroyer of jobs is inflation. . .It is above all else deficit spending by the Federal Government which erodes the purchasing power of the dollar.



Wage and price controls. . . have always been a dismal failure. The Republican Party strongly opposes any reimposition of such controls.

The independence of the Federal System must be preserved.

DEM: Americans on fixed incomes, such as the elderly, are often pushed into poverty by this cruel tax.

A comprehensive anti-inflation policy must be established to assure relative price stability.

... the Federal Reserve must be made a full partner in national economic decisions and become responsive to the economic goals of Congress and to the President.

EMPLOYMENT

REP: Massive federally funded public employment programs, such as the Humphrey-Hawkins Bill. . . will cost billions and can only be financed either through very large tax increases or through ever increasing levels of deficit spending. Sound job creation can only be accomplished in the private sector of the economy.

Increased part-time and flexible-hour work should be encouraged wherever feasible. In keeping with our belief in family life we want to expand more opportunities for men and women to combine family responsibilities and employment.

DEM: The Democratic Party is committed to the right of all adult Americans willing, able and seeking work to have opportunities for useful jobs at living wages. . . we pledge ourselves to the support of legislation that will make every responsible effort to reduce adult unemployment to 3 percent within 4 years.

Raising the pay standard for overtime work, additional hiring of part-time persons and flexible work schedules will increase the independence of workers and create additional job opportunities, especially for women.

HEALTH

REP: The Republican Party opposes compulsory national health insurance [which] will increase federal government spending by more than \$70 billion in its first full year [and] require a personal income tax increase of approximately 20 percent.

We support extension of catastrophic illness protection to all who cannot obtain it.

A coordinated effort should be mounted immediately to contain the rapid increase in health care costs by all available means, such as development of healthier life styles through education, improved preventive care, better distribution of medical manpower, emphasis on out-of-hospital services and elimination of wasteful duplication of medical services.

DEM: We should experiment with new forms of medical care delivery to mold a national health policy that will meet our needs in a fiscally responsible manner.

We must shift our emphasis in both private and public health care away from hospitalization and acute-care services to preventive medicine and the early detection of the major cripplers and killers of the American people.

We must have national health insurance with strong built-in cost and quality controls.

Alternative approaches to health care delivery, based on pre-payment financing, should be encouraged and developed.

CRIME AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

REP: The Federal Criminal Code should include automatic and mandatory minimum sentences for persons committing offenses under Federal jurisdiction that involve the use of a dangerous weapon.

We support the right of citizens to keep and bear arms. We oppose federal registration of fire arms.

DEM: We pledge equally vigorous prosecution and punishment for corporate crime, consumer fraud and deception; programs to combat child abuse and crimes against the elderly. . .

. . . establishing adequate victim compensation programs. . .

Ways must be found to curtail the availability of [handguns]. The Democratic Party must provide the leadership for a coordinated federal and state effort to strengthen the presently inadequate controls over the manufacture assembly, distribution and possession of handguns and to ban Saturday night special

. . . we support mandatory sentencing for individuals convicted of committing a felony with a gun.

TAX REFORM

REP: As in 1972, we urge prompt passage of the Republican sponsored legislation now pending in Congress which will increase the estate tax exemption to \$200,000, allow valuation of farm property on a current use basis and provide for extension of the time of payment in the case of farms and small businesses. This overdue estate and gift tax legislation must be approved this year. We favor a liberalized marital deduction and oppose capital gains tax at death.

We support economic and tax policies to insure the necessary job-producing expansion of our economy. These include hastening capital recovery through new systems of accelerated depreciation, removing the tax burden on equity financing to encourage more capital investment, ending the unfair double taxation of dividends, and supporting proposals to enhance the ability of our working and other citizens to own 'a piece of the action' through

stock ownership. When balanced by expenditure reductions, the personal exemption should be raised to \$1,000.

DEM: We pledge the Democratic Party to a complete overhaul of the present tax system, which will review all special tax provisions to ensure that they are justified and distributed equitably among our citizens.

We will overhaul federal estate and gift taxes to provide an effective and equitable structure to promote tax justice and alleviate some of the legitimate problems faced by farmers, small business men and women and others who would otherwise be forced to liquidate assets in order to pay the tax.

. . .the Democratic Party's goal of redistributing the burden of the social security tax by raising the wage base for earnings subject to the tax with effective exemptions and deductions to ease the impact on low income workers and two-earner families. Further revision in the Social Security program will be required so that women are treated as individuals.

WELFARE REFORM

REP: We oppose federalizing the welfare system. . .We also oppose the guaranteed annual income concept or any programs that reduce the incentive to work.

DEM: We should move toward replacement of our existing inadequate and wasteful system with a simplified system of income maintenance, substantially financed by the federal government, which includes a requirement that those able to work be provided with appropriate available jobs or job training opportunities.

ENERGY

REP: We must immediately eliminate price controls on oil and newly discovered natural gas in order to increase supply. . .

We support accelerated use of nuclear energy through processes that have been proven safe. Government research should be expanded 'to perfect a long-term solution to the problems of nuclear waste.'

We vigorously oppose. . .divestiture of oil companies -- a move which would surely result in higher energy costs, inefficiency and under-capitalization of the industry.

DEM: We should narrow the gap between oil and natural gas prices with new natural gas ceiling prices that maximize production and investment while protecting the economy and the consumer. Any reforms in the pricing of new natural gas should not be at the cost of severe economic dislocations that would accelerate inflation and increase unemployment.

We will provide new incentives for aiding individual homeowners, particularly average income families and the poor in undertaking conservation investments. We will support the reform of

utility rate structures and regulatory rules to encourage conservation and ease the utility rate burden on residential users, farmers and other consumers who can least afford it; make more efficient use of electrical generating capacity; and we will aggressively pursue implementation of automobile efficiency standards and appliance labeling programs already established by Democratic initiative in the Energy Policy and Conservation Act.

ENVIRONMENT

REP: A clean and healthy natural environment is the rightful heritage of every American. In order to preserve this heritage, we will provide for proper development of resources, safeguards for clean air and water, and protection and enhancement of our recreation and scenic areas.

Emphasis on environmental concerns must be brought into balance with the needs for industrial and economic growth. . .

DEM: . . .the Democratic Party believes that a concern for the environment need not and must not stand in the way of a much-needed policy of high economic growth.

. . .We pledge to continue to work for additional laws to protect, restore and preserve the environment while providing still more jobs.

HOUSING

REP: All of our citizens should be given the opportunity to live in decent, affordable housing.

To meet the housing needs of this country there must be a continuous, stable and adequate flow of funds for the purpose of real estate mortgages at realistic interest rates.

To continue to encourage home ownership, we support the deductibility of interest on home mortgages and property taxes.

We favor the concept of federal revenue sharing and block grants to reduce the excessive burden of the property tax in financing local government.

We are concerned with the excessive reliance of financing welfare and public school costs primarily with the property tax.

DEM: We support the expansion of the highly successful programs of direct federal subsidies to provide housing for the elderly.

To assist further in relieving both the fiscal and service delivery problems of states and local governments, the Democratic Party reaffirms its support for general revenue sharing as a base for the fiscal health of all levels of government, acknowledging that the civil rights and citizens' participation provisions must be strengthened.

Women, the elderly, single persons and minorities are still excluded from exercising their right to select shelter in the

areas of their choice, and many "high risk" communities are systematically denied access to the capital they require. The Democratic Party pledges itself to the aggressive enforcement of the Fair Housing Act; to the promotion and enforcement of equal opportunity in housing; and to the pursuit of new regulatory and incentive policies aimed at providing minority groups and women with equal access to mortgage credit.

TRANSPORTATION

REP: We support the concept of a surface transportation block grant which would include the various highway and mass transit programs now in existence. This will provide local elected officials maximum flexibility in selecting and implementing the balanced transportation systems best suited to each locality. It will encompass both capital and operating subsidies for urban mass transit. It will eliminate red tape and over-regulation.

DEM: . . .we will work to expand substantially the discretion available to states and cities in the use of federal transportation money, for either operating expenses or capital programs, on the modes of transportation which they choose.

We will change further the current restrictive limits on the use of mass transit funds by urban and rural localities so that greater amounts can be used as operating subsidies. . .

CONSUMER PROTECTION

REP: We continue to support farmer cooperatives, including rural electric and telephone cooperatives, in their efforts to improve services to their members.

We need a comprehensive approach to plan, develop and implement a variety of programs which take into account the many diverse needs of each neighborhood. The establishment of a National Neighborhood Policy will signal a commitment in the improvement of the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

DEM: We shall encourage consumer groups to establish and operate consumer cooperatives that will enable consumers to provide themselves market-place alternatives and to provide a competitive spur to profit-oriented enterprises.

We support. . .federal standards for state no-fault insurance programs.

We. . .support. . .full funding of neighborhood legal services for the poor.

The Democratic Party is committed to. . .strengthening the knowledge and bargaining power of consumers through government-supported systems for developing objective product performance



standards; advertising and labeling requirements for the disclosure of essential consumer information; and efficient and low-cost redress of consumer complaints including strengthened small claims courts, informal dispute settlement mechanisms, and consumer class actions.

EDUCATION

REP: We propose consolidating federal categorical grant programs into block grants and turning the money over to the states to use in accordance with their own needs and priorities and with minimum bureaucratic controls.

DEM: The Party commits itself to support of adult education and training which will provide skills upgrading.

In higher education, our Party is strongly committed to extending postsecondary opportunities for students from low- and middle-income families, including older students and student who can attend only part-time.

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

REP: Major changes. . . are needed to maintain the confidentiality of tax returns and Social Security records.

There must be vigorous enforcement of laws to assure equal treatment in job recruitment, hiring, promotion, pay, credit, mortgage access and housing.

Women, who comprise a numerical majority of the population, have been denied a just portion of our nation's rights and opportunities. We reaffirm our pledge to work to eliminate discrimination in all areas for reason of race, color, national origin, age, creed or sex and to enforce vigorously laws guaranteeing women equal rights.

DEM: . . . We must insure that all citizens are treated equally before the law and given the opportunity regardless of race, color, sex, religion, age, language or national origin, to participate fully in the economic, social and political processes and to vindicate their legal and constitutional rights.

We are committed to full implementation and enforcement of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act.

RURAL AMERICA

REP: Rural America must be maintained as a rewarding place to live. To accomplish this, our rural areas are entitled to services comparable to their urban neighbors, such as water and sewage systems, improved electricity and telephone service, adequate transportation, available and adequate financial credit, and employment opportunities which will allow small farmers to supplement their incomes.

DEM: . While it is bad enough to be poor, or old, or alone in the city, it is worse in the country. We are therefore committed to overcome the problems of rural as well as urban isolation and poverty by insuring the existence of adequate educational opportunity and needed transportation throughout rural America.

. . .We believe that transportation dollars should be available in a manner to permit their flexible use. In rural areas this means they could be used for such needs as secondary road improvement, taxi systems, buses, or other systems to overcome the problems of widely dispersed populations, to facilitate provisions of social services and to assure access of citizens to meet human needs.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
THE SECRETARY

September 21, 1976

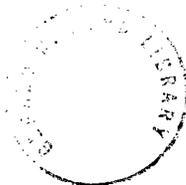


Robert Hartman
TO : Counselor to the President

FROM: Carla A. Hills

Attached are two additional questions and answers which concern allegations recently made by Mr. Carter.

They may be useful to the President in preparing for the upcoming debate.



Q. Isn't the home ownership proposal you made at Ann Arbor, Michigan, similar to the bill you vetoed last year to provide subsidies for homeowners?

Background. Carter has charged the proposal offered by "Candidate" Ford is like the one vetoed earlier by "President" Ford. The lead editorial in the Sunday New York Times picked up the charge as follows:

The President's most specific proposal was for legislation to aid "every American family that wants to own a home and is willing to work and save for it." To that end, Mr. Ford called for subsidies that would substantially reduce the required down payments on homes. But as was the case with his earlier promise to expand the nation's public parkland, the new proposal by candidate Ford seemed to ignore President Ford's negative action in the very area in which he now promised positive movement. Specifically, the President last year vetoed a measure to reduce home-buyers' mortgage rates, subsequently giving his approval only after Congress came back with a less generous subsidy.

1. My homeownership proposal does not call for new subsidies. It lowers the FHA downpayment and permits graduated mortgage payments which would allow lower monthly payments in the early mortgage years when the earnings of homebuyers, particularly the young, are not as great as can be expected later. When statutory changes are obtained, these proposals should expand opportunities for home ownership.
2. The Emergency Housing bill which I vetoed in 1975 would have required taxpayers to subsidize mortgage interest payments above 6%.



3. That bill, which Mr. Carter now says I should have signed, was labeled "a turkey that won't fly" by Lud Ashley, the Democratic Congressman who subsequently was named by his colleagues as Chairman of the Housing Subcommittee of the House Committee on Banking, Currency and Housing. He voted to sustain the veto. That veto was also supported by the most distinguished member of the Subcommittee, Bob Stephens, from Mr. Carter's home State of Georgia, and it was supported by many other Democrats including Congressman Tom Rees of California, another member of the Housing Subcommittee.
4. If the bill which Mr. Carter now says I should have signed, had become law, families who bought a home prior to its enactment of that bill at a higher interest rate, say 9%, would now be subsidizing their neighbor's monthly payment even though their neighbor's income was identical or even higher.
5. What happened after that veto was sustained? Within 24 hours a new bill incorporating my suggestions for expanding the Ginnie Mae Tandem program was introduced and passed before the week was over. It had the added benefit of avoiding the certain delays inherent in developing and implementing new regulations, and adding yet another layer of bureaucracy.
6. What has happened since? The rate of inflation has been halved for which at least some credit must be given to vetoing that "turkey that wouldn't fly," and the rate of new home starts has risen dramatically.

Q. Carter, both in his Housing Issues Paper and in a prepared speech given in Brooklyn in early September, charged that more than 200 officials of HUD have been convicted for bribing or corruption. Is this true?

A. There have been a total of 57 convictions of HUD employees since HUD's formation ten years ago, and only one was for an infraction that occurred after August 9, 1974, the date I took office.

I am not happy with one conviction, and I have demanded integrity of our Federal employees.

I believe that the vast majority have responded with earnest hard work.

It is unfair to them to use false statistics and gross exaggerations.



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20410

September 21, 1976

FROM: *sm* Sol Mosher

PHONE
755-7380

TO: Bob Hartmann

Bob,

The attached is being furnished by the Secretary's Office through usual White House channels for Debate use. I hope you can take time to read it, because I believe it can be used in discussions of vetoes ~~even~~ if this particular question is never asked. It should afford Mr. Carter a great deal of embarrassment.

Attachment

"The Turkey That Won't Fly"

Q. Isn't the home ownership proposal you made at Ann Arbor, Michigan, similar to the bill you vetoed last year to provide subsidies for homeowners?

Background. Carter has charged the proposal offered by "Candidate" Ford is like the one vetoed earlier by "President" Ford. The lead editorial in the Sunday New York Times picked up the charge as follows:

The President's most specific proposal was for legislation to aid "every American family that wants to own a home and is willing to work and save for it." To that end, Mr. Ford called for subsidies that would substantially reduce the required down payments on homes. But as was the case with his earlier promise to expand the nation's public parkland, the new proposal by candidate Ford seemed to ignore President Ford's negative action in the very area in which he now promised positive movement. Specifically, the President last year vetoed a measure to reduce home-buyers' mortgage rates, subsequently giving his approval only after Congress came back with a less generous subsidy.

1. Homeownership proposal does not call for new subsidies as portrayed by Carter. Provides lowering of FHA downpayment, and graduated mortgage payments which would permit lower monthly payments in first years of young homebuyers when their earnings are not as great as can be expected later. When statutory changes are obtained these proposals should give a boost to both the goal of home ownership and annual housing starts which are already trending upwards in dramatic fashion.
2. The Emergency Housing bill which I vetoed in 1975 would have required taxpayers to subsidize mortgage interest payments above 6%, a rate below the rate at which some of our strongest homebuilding years occurred.

3. The bill which Mr. Carter now says I should have signed in 1975 was labeled "a turkey that won't fly" by ^{Lud Ashley} the Democratic Congressman who subsequently was named by his colleagues as Chairman of the Housing Subcommittee of the House Committee on Banking, Currency and Housing. He voted to sustain the veto. That veto was also supported by the most distinguished member of the Subcommittee, Bob Stephens, from Mr. Carter's home State of Georgia, and indeed by many members of the Georgia delegation. It was supported by many other Democrats including Congressman Tom Rees of California, another member of the Housing Subcommittee. I think it took great courage on the part of these members and others to vote their convictions on a bad bill and not follow the advice of their party leadership in seeking out a needless confrontation.
4. If the bill which Mr. Carter now says I should have signed, had become law, you would have a situation today where families who bought a home prior to enactment of that bill at a higher interest rate, say 7%, would be subsidizing his neighbor's monthly payment even though their income was identical. He might even be earning more money than his neighbor who was getting no subsidy.
5. Now what happened after that veto was sustained? Within 24 hours a new bill incorporating my suggestions for expanding the Ginnie Mae Tandem program was introduced and passed before the week was over.



It had the added benefit of avoiding the certain delays inherent in developing and implementing new regulations, and adding yet another layer of bureaucracy.

6. What has happened since? The rate of inflation has been halved for which at least some credit must be given to vetoing that "turkey that wouldn't fly," and the rate of new home starts has risen dramatically.
7. Perhaps when this debate is over, Mr. Carter ought to consider debating some of the members of his party who supported the veto and learn from them why it was bad legislation.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

JOHN REAGAN McCRARY

161 EAST 61st STREET
NEW YORK 21, NEW YORK

N McCRARY

Dear Bob....hastily....nobody but you seems to understand how important words are in this boob-tube age...As I once explained to Bill Safire, "the only time Nixon ever got a quote in a banner line was when he said, 'I am not a crook'."

And Nixon is the only President who never made "Bartlett's Familiar Quotations".

Your guy has scored with "Truth is the glue" -- but he's had to use it three times, and each time it sounds better....but... how about using this one in the wake of Jimmy Carter wallowing in FDR's Warm Springs:

→ "The only thing we have to fear...is the fear...of being fooled...again."

That takes care of Carter, and Nixon, and underscores their similarities.

One more suggestion: How about since you read Lillian Hellman's "Little Foxes"? Read it again. You'll recognize Jimmy Carter in Ben Hubbard.

Send all your Media friends, and foes, copies.

And stay well, stay winner.

Tex

