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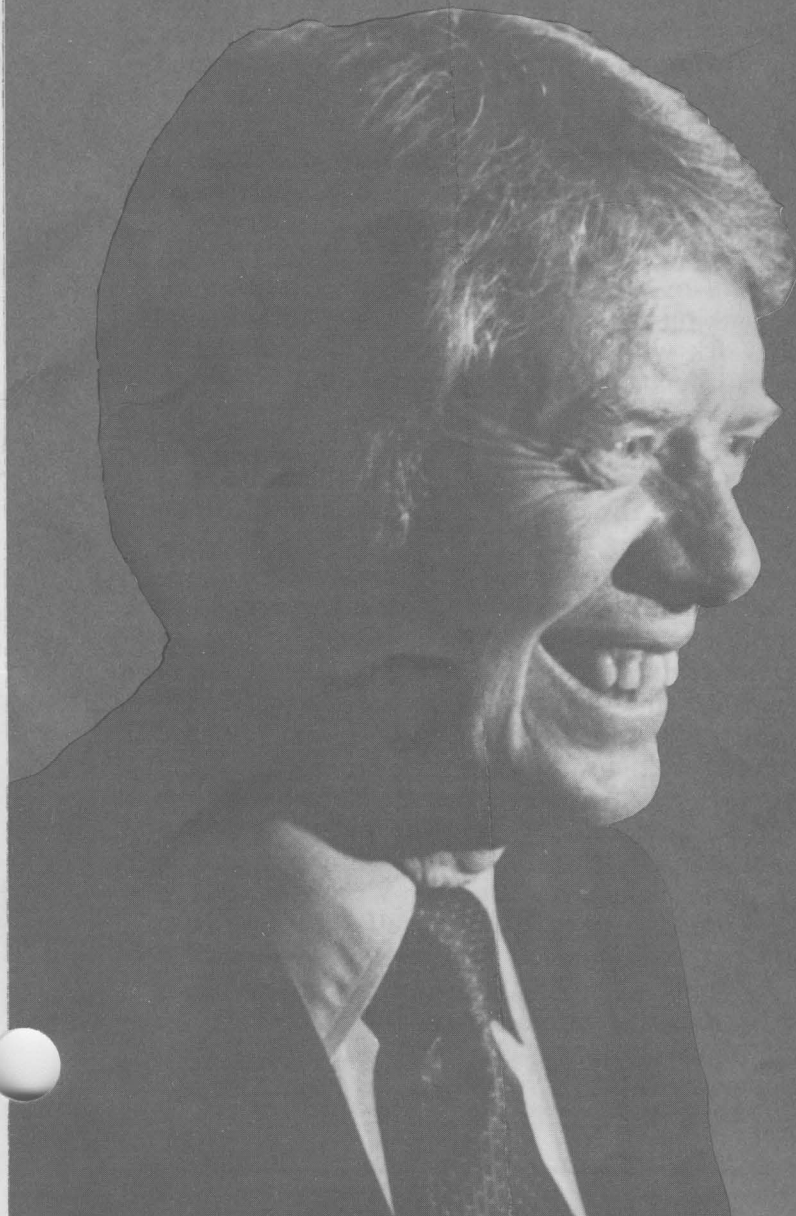
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File - Election

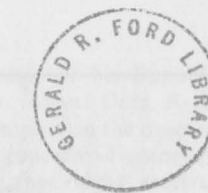
National Journal

THE WEEKLY ON POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

NOV. 6, 1976/NO. 45



**CARTER
COMES
THROUGH**



CAMPAIGN
By NJ Staff

CARTER WINS PRESIDENCY BUT NOT A MANDATE 1582

Now that Jimmy Carter has won the presidency that he has been seeking for the past 23 months, what will he do with it? *National Journal*, in a special report on the 1976 elections and their portent for the future development of federal policy, takes a look at how Carter won his victory and what he will do after he moves into the White House on Jan. 20. The indications are that Carter will be an activist



chief executive who will move rapidly to institute his favorite project, the reorganization of the federal government, while proceeding somewhat more deliberately to stimulate the economy, put his mark on the budget for next year and initiate programs for national health insurance and for reform of the troubled welfare system. If his campaign promises are any guide, Carter also will move fairly early on such issues as the Arab boycott, consumer advocacy legislation and strip mining controls while beginning to develop

plans for comprehensive reform of the federal tax system. Even before his inauguration, he will be picking the key officials for his Administration and the aides who will work with him in the White House. Meanwhile, the public and the politicians will continue to mull over the welter of statistics—some illuminating, others confusing—that have emerged from the Nov. 2 balloting. The extremely narrow margin by which Carter won the election, especially in the light of the huge lead he appeared to have at the outset of the campaign, clearly suggests that he will enter office without a popular mandate to carry out his programs. There are even hints of some problems with the solidly Democratic Congress elected at the same time. As for that new Congress, the party alignments have not been affected to any significant degree by the election returns. The Democrats, as expected, have retained control of both the House and the Senate, and the ratio of Democrats to Republicans has been altered only slightly by the Nov. 2 balloting. On the other hand, the 95th Congress will have a new set of leaders as the result of retirements of the old leadership, and there will be some important changes in the chairmen and ranking minority members of the standing committees of Congress as well. Whether a Democrat in the White House for the first time in eight years means a weakening of the congressional resolve to put some distance between itself and the executive branch is a major unanswered question. An early indication of what that answer will be may come when Carter asks Congress to enact legislation granting him authority to impose his plans for reorganization of the federal bureaucracy, subject only to a congressional veto.

ECONOMY

By Robert J. Samuelson

AUTO INDUSTRY FACES FUEL CONSUMPTION TEST 1607

The federal government and the automobile manufacturers are playing a game of cat and mouse over the issue of reducing auto fuel consumption in the interest of energy conservation. Tough standards that the industry must meet by 1985 or pay a stiff fine for its failure to do so have been imposed by Congress. Now the question is whether the executive branch has the will to insist that the standards be met.

ENERGY

By Richard Corrigan

CAMPAIGN LEADS TO NUCLEAR POLICY CHANGE 1608

One of the few energy or environmental issues to receive any kind of serious discussion during the recent presidential election campaign was that of nuclear proliferation. In fact, a major change in the Ford Administration's position on this controversial issue seemed to have emerged in the form of a White House statement and presidential speech right before the election.

REGULATION

By Louis M. Kohlmeier

BAKER SEES MORE PRICE-FIXING FELONY CASES 1609

Donald I. Baker, the assistant attorney general in charge of the Anti-trust Division, anticipates a substantial increase in the number of price-fixing cases prosecuted as felonies by the Justice Department. Baker suggests in an interview that only in this way can the law act as a real deterrent to such illegal business practices.

WASHINGTON UPDATE

BUDGET DEFICIT DOWN IN TRANSITION QUARTER 1610

Results of nuclear referenda around the country. . . Ford's management meeting still hasn't been held. . . U.S. posts another trade deficit. . . Farmers uneasy about declining prices. . . Hearing set on proposed affirmative action rules. . . Ford signs Supplemental Security Income bill. . . People.

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