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By the 8/30
Reader's Digest

55TH YEAR

OCTOBER 1976

An article a day of enduring significance, in condensed permanent booklet form

Conversation With the Candidates



Recently, on successive days, editors of The Reader's Digest interviewed the two Presidential candidates: Democratic nominee Jimmy Carter, in his home in Plains, Georgia; and then the Republican nominee, President Gerald Ford, in the Oval Office of the White House. Each man was asked the same questions, in the same sequence. The questions were selected to probe those areas, both domestic and international, which most directly concern U.S. voters. On the pages that follow, the responses of the two candidates may be readily compared. Through this comprehensive debate-in-print, each reader will be able to evaluate the positions of the two nominees on a wide variety of issues, a process that should help in making an informed choice in the voting booth on November 2.

Q There is today in the American people a certain distrust of government. What would you do, concretely, to try to restore that trust?

Governor Carter: I would do everything I could to open up the government to the people. I would hold frequent cross-examination-type press conferences. I would

minimize the "palace guard" orientation of the White House staff. As we evolve major policy decisions, I would do everything I could to involve Congress and the public in a bipartisan way. I would also make all appointments on the basis of merit and not as a political payoff.

President Ford: I think there has been a tremendous improvement in