

POOL REPORT--GRAND JUNCTION/DES MOINES--AUGUST 18, 1975

wheels up 12:39 p.m. Nessen came back with a report on the meeting with the Colorado western council of governments--said meeting held in tiny room of the air terminal. Ford sat on an airport-plastic sofa. The locals talked about the potential problems caused by any substantial oil shale development. Nessen says they weren't asking for anything from the federal government but talked mainly about their local internal problems. They did ask Ford about his timetable for shale development, and the president said that a lot depends on development of shale technology and he had no precise dates. According to Nessen, the states get 37 per cent of the payment for shale leases. First priority goes to improvement of city services in the affected areas and the rest goes to the state. The president told the officials to send him their recommendations for how the federal government can help and he would study them. The meeting lasted 30 minutes.

Then, at the request of a pooler who now regrets his rashness, Nessen gave a voluminous readout of trivia on the Iowa State Fair. It apparently is the granddaddy of state fairs, begun in 1854, and was the basis both for the book and movie named "State Fair."

~~_____~~ and only

The last ~~_____~~ and only president to visit the fair was Ike on August 30, 1954, who came with Herbert Hoover and ~~_____~~ paid the admission with a ~~_____~~ crisp new one dollar bill which was then buried along with other mementoes in a time capsule near the administration building. The admission is now two dollars and Nessen says it is customary ~~_____~~ to pay and FORD WILL DO

Ford will be greeted in Des Moines by Governor Bob Ray, Senator John Culver, Mayor Richard Olson, two local congressmen and GOP national chairwoman (and native Iowan) Mary Louise Smith. Officials are expecting a near-record crowd today and 60,000 expected in the grandstand for Ford's speech--which is sandwiched between appearances by stunt driver Joey Chitwood and the Beach Boys.

The president will spend 20 minutes in the 4-H building talking with youths and viewing the show class champion pigs and cows. Ford is a 4-H alumnus, and ~~_____~~ livestock were intimately involved in Ford's first congressional campaign. Nessen says that in that campaign, Ford toured his district in an ancient Ford automobile. He would leave at five p.m. and whenever he saw a light in a farmhouse he would invite himself in and introduce himself to the farmer. If the farmer said he was milking his cows and too busy to talk ~~_____~~ politics, Ford would offer to help milk the cows himself--and sometimes did.

Nessen said the American Legion speech in Minneapolis would be on detente, the need for a strong defense and the outlook for peace in the world.

Back to Iowa: Nessen said Ford was speaking "right in the heart of the farm belt near harvest time." He added that the award to be given to the Iowa Development Commission is in recognition of promotion of ~~_____~~ exports. The value of manufactured goods exports has grown from \$211 million in 1960 to one billion in 1974. Iowa ranks second in the nation in agricultural products exports

defrank/jones/benedict/lerner

