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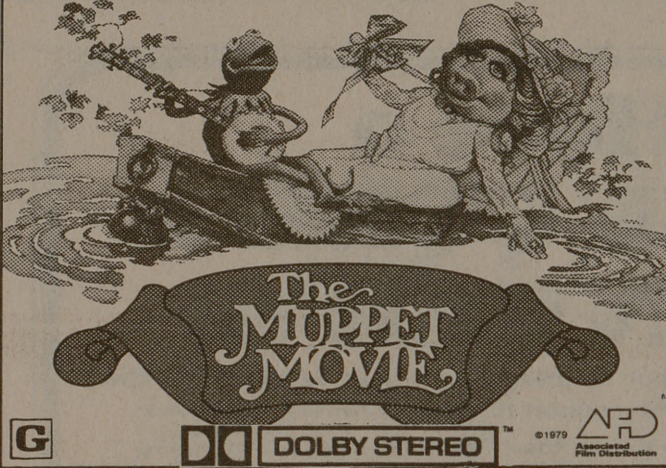
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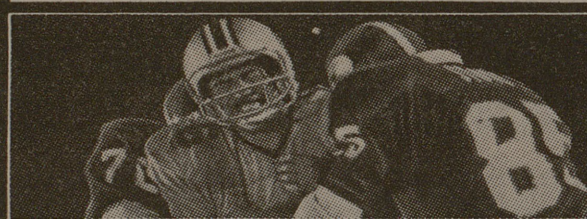
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the nation

Boom-bust Farm policy boosts Carter image

United Press International
MARSHALLTOWN, Iowa —
Republicans — at least for the time
being — generally have abandoned
hope of faulting Jimmy Carter on
farm policy.

Instead, they are using other issues, especially energy and inflation, to color the administration's claims of having boosted farm income 40 percent last year, raised exports to record levels and taken the "boom and bust" out of farming. "The chief enemy of farmers is inflation," said Earl Butz, agriculture secretary under Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford. "Their costs go up and stay up and they'll see that even with the way Carter's farm program has worked, he hasn't done anything about inflation."

The president faces a tough re-election challenge in the Farm Belt, an area the former peanut farmer

carefully cultivated in his bid for the White House three years ago.

But his GOP rivals cannot depend on a bloc vote against Carter from Midwestern farmers despite his problems.

The reason: There is prosperity in rural America this summer — a prosperity provided in part by agriculture policies shaped under Carter's leadership.

Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland, who will campaign aggressively in the coming months on behalf of Carter and other Democrats, said Farm Belt voters will not buy the Republican line.

"We won't let the Republicans finess this," he said. "They'd like to forget the Carter record — to muddy it with other issues like inflation caused by the recent surge in oil prices. We aren't going to let them do that."

"When people start to get serious about presidential decision-making, they're going to remember that it was Jimmy Carter who turned the tables on what they had at the end of eight years under Republican presidents," Bergland said.

The feeling of prosperity was evident as GOP presidential hopefuls and administration spokesmen joined farmers recently for a two-day exposition at a sprawling seed farm north of Marshalltown.

"It's hard to tell what will happen," one Republican political strategist said. "If people are mad, you can anticipate what they'll do. But if things stay good, they'll all have problems going after the farm vote."

"Farmers are sophisticated voters," GOP presidential candidate George Bush said. "Agricultural people in this state share the same concerns as other people around this country — problems of inflation, a strong defense and energy."

In 1976, Carter chose the Iowa State Fair for his first major speech after becoming the Democratic nominee, igniting wild applause by guaranteeing farmers no more grain embargoes and price supports at or above the cost of production.

Carter has held to his promise of no more embargoes. He has not fulfilled his pledge on price support levels.



Battalion photo by Gay Cook

Free registration

Ken Lewis, a senior management major from Houston and president of the Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, searches for a serial number on this 10-speed bicycle. APO is registering, for free, any student's bicycle through Thursday at a booth at the Memorial Student Center. Registration help to locate the bicycle to its owner if it is ever stolen.

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HOT STUFF

Comedians camera-shy?

United Press International
NEW YORK — Gaby Desmarais has photographed kings, surrounded by glaring guards, and taken portraits of businessmen, poets and philosophers. But his hardest subjects, he says, are comedians.

"The time I had the hardest trouble, I think, was with Mickey Rooney," said the Canadian photographer, who says movie actors have trouble dealing with a camera that requires keeping still.

"Jack Lemmon, too, was nervous," he recalled. "What side is what you're after, and comedians are always playing a role."

Gaby, who dropped his name professionally, was in New York publicizing an exhibit of his shots of "great thinkers of our time," including Bertrand Russell, Albert Schweitzer and Jean Cocteau.

Schweitzer, he said, was a memorable subject. Without the doctor's west African hospital requested a sitting.

"You didn't come all the way to Canada to photograph a monkey like me?" Schweitzer asked.

Kings and queens can be a royal subjects, Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie, almost got killed, the photographer said.

"After the first shot, he started get up. He had such a fantastic I just had to take more. I went forward to stop him, and these big burly guys both started to me at once."

Fortunately, the emperor's back down and the guards released Desmarais said.

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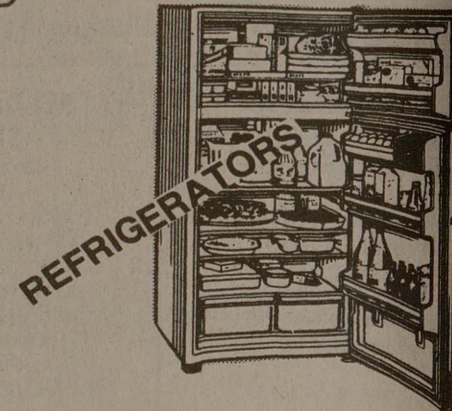
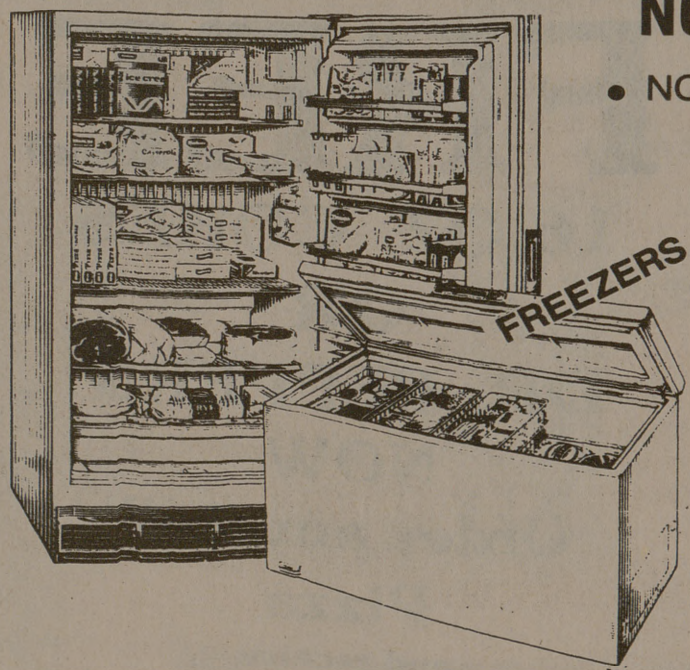
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