

parade

cover story: The Presidential Pardon—
Will It Affect the Elections?
by Lloyd Shearer



Granting Pardon to Richard Nixon

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Richard Nixon became the thirty-seventh President of the United States on January 20, 1969 and was reelected in 1972 for a second term by the electors of forty-nine of the fifty states. His term in office continued until his resignation on August 9, 1974.

Pursuant to resolutions of the House of Representatives, its Committee on the Judiciary conducted an inquiry and investigation on the impeachment of the President extending over more than eight months. The hearings of the Committee and its deliberations, which received wide national publicity over television, radio, and in printed media, resulted in votes adverse to Richard Nixon on recommended Articles of Impeachment.

As a result of certain acts or omissions occurring before his resignation from the Office of President, Richard Nixon has become liable to possible indictment and trial for offenses against the United States. Whether or not he shall be so prosecuted depends on findings of the appropriate grand jury and on the discretion of the authorized prosecutor. Should an indictment ensue, the accused shall then be entitled to a fair trial by an impartial jury, as guaranteed to every individual by the Constitution.

It is believed that a trial of Richard Nixon, if it became necessary, could not fairly begin until a year or more has elapsed. In the meantime, the tranquility to which this nation has been restored by the events of recent weeks could be irreparably lost by the prospect of bringing to trial a former President of the United States. The prospect of such trial will cause prolonged and divisive debate over the propriety of exposing to further punishment and degradation a man who has already paid the unprecedented penalty of relinquishing the highest elective office of the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gerald R. Ford, President of the United States, pursuant to the pardon power conferred upon me by Article II, Section 2, of the Constitution, have granted and by these presents do grant a full, free, and absolute pardon unto Richard Nixon for all offenses against the United States which he, Richard Nixon, has committed or may have committed or taken part in during the period from January 20, 1969 through August 9, 1974.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-ninth.

Gerald R. Ford

Personality Parade

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THE PRESIDENT COMFORTS MRS. FORD THE NIGHT BEFORE HER OPERATION.

Q. Hasn't President Ford made a quiet promise to his wife Betty that he will not run for the Presidency in 1976? Doesn't that mean the 1976 Presidential candidates will be Nelson Rockefeller for the Republicans against Henry "Scoop" Jackson for the Democrats?—Pat Young, Seattle, Wash.

A. Ford is on record as wishing to run in 1976. But he will accede to his wife's request. If she asks him not to run, he will not run. In that event Rockefeller and Reagan will fight it out for the Republican candidacy while Jackson, Mondale, Wallace, Bentsen battle it out for the Democratic candidacy with the possibility of Wallace bolting to a third party.

Q. I heard that Gene Kelly is a widower. How many children does he have? And has he remarried? Where could one send a fan letter to him?—Margaret O., Brookline, Mass.

A. Gene Kelly has been married twice. He married Betsy Blair in September, 1941; they had one child, Kerry, born Oct. 16, 1942. They were divorced in 1957. In 1960 Kelly married Jean Coyne. They had two children—Timothy, born March 3, 1962, and Bridget, born June 10, 1964. Jean Coyne Kelly died on May 10, 1973. Kelly can be written to in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Q. Is it true that the Richard Nixons have jewelry worth more than a million dollars, much of it acquired over the years from various foreign governments?—T. S., San Clemente, Calif.

A. Edward O. Sullivan, 49, a cousin of Pat Nixon, arranged to insure jewelry at the White House in 1970-74 for an estimated \$580,000, which was \$65,000 more than the total Nixon family assets in 1968. In a

copyrighted article, *The Washington Post* identified Sullivan as the insurance broker in Bronxville, N.Y., who supervised all the Nixon family insurance. How, when and where the Nixons acquired their jewelry has long intrigued the Watergate investigators, especially since they learned that "Bebe" Rebozo spent more than \$4000 in campaign funds on a pair of diamond earrings for Mrs. Nixon, which were then gifted to her by her husband.

Q. Is Budd Schulberg, who wrote *What Makes Sammy Run* based on the life of the late Jerry Wald, writing a sequel? I have been told he is writing *What Makes Sammy II Run*, based on the life of Frank Yablans, president of Paramount Pictures. Any truth to that rumor?—E. L., Los Angeles, Calif.

A. None at this point, although Yablans has been the subject of many articles written in the "Sammy" vein.

Q. Isn't the U.S. Presidency too much for Gerald Ford? Hasn't the job cost him 30 pounds? Hasn't his weight dropped from 210 to 180?—F. T., Washington, D. C.

A. President Ford lost 16 pounds in the first six weeks of his incumbency, from 210 to 194, but at the request of his physician. Saddled with all the political and economic sins of the Nixon Administration plus the illness of his wife, he may lose even more. Gerald Ford ascended to the Presidency during one of the most difficult periods in the nation's history, and surely the job will take its toll.

Q. It was no secret that for the last 20 years of his life the late Duke Ellington lived with "Evie." Will "Evie" inherit the Ellington estate or will it go to his son, Mercer?—Ward Sands, Newark, N. J.

A. Mercer Ellington, the administrator of the estate, will see to it that a fair share goes to "Evie." Most probably she will be given the royalties from the Ellington recordings.



DUKE ELLINGTON AND EVIE

Q. Happy Rockefeller seems so unhappy now that Nelson is becoming Vice President of the U.S. At the confirmation hearings which I caught on TV she seemed about to cry. Is she?—Naomi Lockhart, Berkeley, Calif.

A. "Happy" Rockefeller by nature and background is a "very private person." She does not relish the daily exposure of her life with Rockefeller and their two children, their protection by the Secret Service, the chronic digging into her previous marriage to Dr. James Slater Murphy, with their four children. But she is caught in the web of her husband's political ambition, and in any web there is not too much room for maneuver.



CAUGHT IN HIS WEB: HAPPY ROCKEFELLER

Q. I've been told that President Abraham Lincoln, the Great Emancipator, was not particularly interested in freeing the slaves in this country but in preserving the Union at any price. What is the historical truth?—A. Wooten, Hickory, N. C.

A. According to Bruce Catton, one of the nation's foremost historians on the Civil War period, President Lincoln once explained to the noted editor, Horace Greeley, who had also served as a Congressman, that "he would save the Union any way he could. If he had to free all the slaves to do it, he would save it that way. If he had to save it without freeing any slaves, he would do it that way. If he had to free some slaves and leave others in slavery, he would do it that way. But he was going to save the Union..."

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