

Je's 1/25 on Prettypatting: Odd coincidence. Remember my comment on what both of us noticed watching GL's Glorious Speech, that he looked up with both eyes squinted closed. HE won't look at anybody. You know, the invisible teleprompter was common in LBJ's day, and he won't even look at that! Earlier I had wondered if I just imagined that he seemed not to look at anybody. I decided that this was an illusion caused by long-lens TV cameras. But YOU don't look at TV, so it can't be that. Of course, I can't blame him for not looking at anybody and I had not noticed, as Lil had not, that he did look at the over-ripe/ blonde. When I first wondered about this, I then decided this was his TV advisers, telling him as politely as possible that he is ugly and wants to diminish this as much as possible, so I'd considered that he was camera conscious, not really more. I now think I was probably wrong and I'm glad to see the flu didn't weaken the steel in the SM. With the feminine equivalent of the Casius look, perhaps there is an explanation? In Casius? As for her looks at HIM, long ago I decided they were rehearsed for the cameras. She has lived with him too long! Even if she were a dupe, and I think there can't be, this would still be too much. There is an odd thing about this creature, and I think I've made previous comment from experience: he seems to lack all the ordinary human reactions, not even telling a secretary to send a simple note of thanks. I know cases, involving his own people and going back years. He is utterly ruthless on "friendship" too. He cut the Fulton Lewises cold when he became v.p. They had been friends before that, visiting back and forth. The Lewises, especially Mrs., were human with people. She was very thoughtful and personally kind. It is something not explained by political belief. It is character, or the lack. But if and when he shows himself again, we'll be looking! You know, I can't ever remember anyone ever being steamed up about him. Only political approval, never a genuine personal liking or a genuine personal respect. Lil had an old friend who had to be blackjacked into working for him and refused to stay with him when there would have been a political payoff. She was an old-time Calif. Republican, had been Hiram Johnson's secretary. She worked for Nixon as a party obligation, but during the campaign ONLY. HW 1/29/73

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Do you or Lil remember - offhand - ever having seen a picture of Nixon and Prettypat, together, in which he's even glancing in her direction? My impression is that he's always looking somewhere else, anywhere else, almost.* Even if she's only a necessary stage prop, as I suspect, yāu'd think that occasionally he might show he was conscious she was there. Perhaps I'm influenced by the contrast of (and my distaste for) her worshipful looks at him.

I'd been brooding about this for some time and it really hit me when the Chronicle had a picture of Nixon dancing at one of the coronation balls with an over-ripe blonde, and he's actually looking at her.

Je

*I'm referring only to pictures in papers and magazines.
Is it different on television?