

Parade 7/21/74
Q. Was Leonard Firestone appointed U.S. Ambassador to Belgium because he took care of President Nixon's kid brother Ed through the Nixon Foundation, which he heads? How much did Firestone contribute to the Nixon campaign?—J.H., Los Angeles, Calif.
A. Leonard Firestone contributed \$110,000 to the 1972 Nixon campaign, also saw to it that Nixon's younger brother was employed for a while by the Nixon Foundation as a site scout. At Firestone's confirmation hearing, Sen. John Sparkman (D., Ala.) asked: "Certainly no contribution you made had any connection whatsoever with your appointment?" Replied Firestone: "No." Between 1970 and 1974 Firestone, his wife, children, and brothers contributed approximately \$240,000 to various Republican political campaigns.