

White House and Club Sites of Wedding Fetes

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WASHINGTON, June 10— Like any other couple facing imminent matrimony, Tricia Nixon and Edward Finch Cox separated tonight for their final taste of single life.

But theirs were anything but typical bridesmaid and bachelor dinners — Tricia's in the nation's most private second-floor dining room, in the White House, and Mr. Cox's at the elegant and almost exclusive F Street Club a few blocks away.

President Nixon escorted his daughter to the Rose Garden for another of what the White House described as periodic looks at the site of the Saturday nuptials, weather permitting. Even the armed forces got involved, offering to underwrite the civilian weather man's forecast of a 70 per cent possibility of dry overcast for the wedding.

Some of the last details— which a large group of journalists pressed for as part of "history" — on the wedding were provided by the White House, but not all.

For example, it was announced that Tricia's engagement ring, sapphires and diamonds that had belonged to Mr. Cox's grandmother, will be "something old"; the wedding gown will be the "something new"; a pair of diamond and pearl drop earrings that belong to the matron of honor, Julie Nixon Eisenhower, will be the "something borrowed," and the "something blue" will be this inscription in blue thread inside the wedding dress:

"Gown by Priscilla of Boston for the White House marriage of Tricia Nixon to Edward Finch Cox, June 12, 1971."

Oh yes, the White House said, the President's daughter will have "sixpence in her shoe."

Still Some Secrets

The White House would not reveal the wedding gifts presented by the President and Mrs. Nixon or by the bridegroom's parents, Mr. and Mrs.

Howard Ellis Cox of New York and Westhampton Beach, L. I.

The precise topping for the well-known six-tiered lemon-flavored cake was also to be a secret until Saturday, but Mrs. Nixon's staff director, Constance Stuart, was dispensing hints of a "dome" shape "filled with sugar cherry blossoms."

In response to a question from a British journalist, Mrs. Stuart affirmed that the pink and white champagnes for the wedding will all be American — Taylor's from New York and Casa Blanca (that's "White House") and Paul Masson from California.

No French champagnes, Mrs. Stuart said, because it is "a wedding in the White House in America."

There was no such problem for the bridesmaid dinner in the White House this evening. No wines were served with the tenderloin of beef Stroganoff, steamed white rice and green beans au beurre.

Tricia's four attendants gave her four silver cognac goblets made by the silversmith, James Robinson of New York. The bride-to-be gave a jeweled floral pin designed by Don Carnevale of Harry Winston's to her matron-of-honor sister, Julie; to the maid of honor, Mr. Cox's sister, Mary Ann (Mazie) Cox; and to Tricia's cousins, Amy and Beth Nixon, who were to arrive too late for the dinner. Among the 13 guests were Mrs. Nixon and Mrs. Cox.

At the F Street Club, Mr. Cox exchanged witticisms with his brother and best man, Howard Cox Jr.; their father; the bridegroom's godfather, Hugh McKean, chancellor of Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla., and the eight groomsmen. They gathered in a room filled with etchings, vintage high-backed chairs, a portrait of Thomas Chippendale and memories of the 18th century. The atmosphere was what one might imagine for a Victorian tryst.

Mr. Cox, who presented his groomsmen with silver stud boxes and received an English silver pitcher, also by James Robinson, served two wines, Chateau Haut Brion and Dom Perignon, with vichyssoise, roast beef, Yorkshire pudding and fresh asparagus.

President Skips Party

The White House said that Mr. Nixon could not attend the bachelor party because he was busy working. The affairs of state will be interrupted tomorrow, however, for the afternoon rehearsals — one outside, the other in the East Room in case of rain — for which Tricia, keeping her wedding dress a surprise, will walk the 390 feet from the Blue Room to the altar in the Rose Garden with a make-believe train made from a bedsheet.