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White House a-Glitter for

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 (AP)—President Nixon and his family are planning a gala turkey dinner at the White House Christmas day with all of their in-laws and former First Lady, Mamie Eisenhower, as guests. The President has promised, besides, to take his family on an outing to New York to attend Dr. Norman Vincent Peale's Marble Collegiate Church, where Julie and David Eisenhower were married, go out for dinner and see a play. But no date has been set.

That's the word from Mrs. Nixon, who showed off the White House Christmas decorations today, including an edible gingerbread house and a glittering 20-foot Fraser fir tree so covered with golden baubles and ornaments, representing the 50 states, that the tree was hardly visible.

The First Lady said the White House staff, decorating experts and volunteers from the Washington area labored to make "a land of enchantment" for the thousands who will visit the White House during the Christmas season.

She and her daughter Julie said David Eisenhower, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Eisenhower, and his grandmother, Mamie; Tricia and her husband, Edward Cox; and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cox of New York, will spend Christmas Eve and Christmas at the White House.

Red and Green Dresses

She said the Nixons will limit their gift-giving to the family, but will send a load of toys to the youngsters of Junior Village in Washington.

"We do for others rather than ourselves," she said of the family's Christmas traditions. The gift to the children's home will be anonymous, she added, "because we don't want to be patronizing."

The White House Christmas tree in the Blue Room

was glowing with 10,000 white and gold lights and was swathed in gold tinsel swags, hundreds of lemon yellow Christmas balls, gold foil, lace fans, and gold medallions made by the handicapped in New York.

It was called an "American Flower Christmas Tree" by its designer, Henry F. Callahan, vice president of Saks Fifth Avenue. It was hung with eight-inch velvet and satin ornaments, each adorned with miniatures of the flower, gem or mineral of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and United States territories. On top of the tree was a sunburst crown of lights and gold tinsel.

Mistletoe, Too

Holly, garlands of evergreens and banks of red poinsettias fill the famous rooms. Mrs. Nixon pointed out there is mistletoe, too.

As has been the custom in recent years, an 18th-century Italian creche stands in the East Room, flanked by two seven-foot banks of red poinsettias.

Crystal chandeliers in the Great Hall are trimmed with wreaths, pine cones and red velvet cardinals perched in the greenery.

Mrs. Nixon, asked for her Christmas prayer, replied, "My prayer is always the same. Peace on earth, goodwill toward men."

The Nixons' Christmas dinner will be served at 2 P.M., so the staff can go home to their own celebrations, Mrs. Nixon noted.

Reminiscing about past Christmases, Julie revealed: "The gift I always wanted and never got—a pony."

Christmas and Reunion



United Press International

The First Lady and daughter Julie Eisenhower inspect some decorations on White House Christmas tree, a 20-foot Frazer fir from North Carolina.