

Quakers Won't Kick Nixon Out

Whittier

Though some persons consider his actions un-Quakerlike, President Nixon will not be dropped from membership in the East Whittier Friends Church, the minister of the church said.

The question of Mr. Nixon's church membership has been under study for some time, particularly "during the Cambodian incursion," the Rev. T. Eugene Coffin wrote in an article in the January 2-9 issue of Christian Century.

The church's Ministry and Counsel Committee considered the concerns prayerfully and concluded that it would be an un-Christian act to drop Richard Nixon's membership," Coffin wrote in the article entitled, "Richard Nixon and the Quaker Fellowship."

Coffin said that while Quakers would urge alternatives to war and "exploitation" in settling problems, "we hold in respect person-ality and the individual's right to act according to his conscience, the responsibility to accept the result of decisions, and accountability to God and to other persons."

Coffin said the role of the church "should be one of prayerful support and counsel," but added, "the Fellowship's giving support to members does not imply a condoning of any wrong doing on the part of a member.

"Rather, the responsibility of Christians toward one another requires the kind of spiritual climate in which a wayward member can confess sin, repent of it and start life anew."