

Editor — Richard Nixon has spoken the truth — Watergate is all over.

We have heard his own words on the tapes vouched for by him. The only verdict that matters is now in. There is no point to pursuing details further.

All that remains is to clear and cleanse the White House, picking a leader who can bring back stature, honor, and effectiveness to the Presidency.

J. J. WOLFERSPERGER, JR.
Tiburon.

Editor — . . . It is my impression that whereas "malfeasance" by a public servant covers the commission of acts contrary to the oath of office, "nonfeasance" involves the corollary omission of actions presumed in and promised by that oath.

Considering the battalion of lawyers that we taxpayers have provided to help Mr. Nixon make his case, I am inclined to doubt that anything constituting legal evidence of malfeasance was permitted to see the light of day in the tapes. But, from the statements of those who have read the transcripts, one conclusion is now inescapable — at no time in any of the discussions of this abominable mess was the interest of the public considered by the President or any of the participants.

Now, if complete neglect of the public interest by a public servant does not constitute nonfeasance, what does? And if nonfeasance in the office of the Presidency doesn't amount to a high misdemeanor, then it's time we gave up entirely trying to follow the precepts laid down by the Founding Fathers.

EVAN H. SCHUETTE.
Cupertino.

Editor — Well, at least that's settled. Throughout 1973 our chief uncertainty on Watergate was

whether Nixon was venal or stupid. With his recent release of tape transcripts, we now know that he was both.

H. T. McCANN,
San Francisco.

Editor — Your Watergate transcripts editorial of May 7 ended by regretting that "also missing is a sense of the moral tone of our chief magistracy." Quite so.

We, on the other hand, feel that the moral tone of the President came through loud, if not perfectly clear. We shrink from suggesting that it may be found solely in the unintelligible gaps and deleted obscenities.

JOHN FAULKNER,
LARRY MAXCY.
Santa Cruz.

Editor — In all the pontifications, concern, attack and demand in regard to Nixon's tapes, has it occurred to anyone that his willingness and indifference to being bugged is the antithesis of being clandestine, of which he is being accused?

SAMUEL SCHNEIDEMAN.
San Francisco.

Editor — It is nice of the commentators and columnists to tell us what to think about our President and the tapes. It saves us the trouble of deciding for ourselves.

MYRTLE WOOLEY.
Mill Valley.

Editor . . . Although Mr Nixon might be involved in "disgusting" discussions is no doubt a liability to the Republican party and may be immoral or amoral depending on one's definition, the only issue before the Judiciary Committee is whether there is reasonable cause to believe Mr. Nixon committed high crimes and misdemeanors.

Further, it should be understood that the President's counsel has obviously settled on legal strategy which can be described in one word — delay. Both he and the

President realize that there are only two and a half years left to Mr. Nixon's term and they have decided to try to wait it out.

Finally, it is time the press and the American people realized that whether Mr. Nixon does or does not get impeached and is or is not found guilty, the country will not be torn apart. In fact, this entire Watergate mess has only served to strengthen our constitutional fabric, while putting an end to the myth of the all powerful, all knowing President.

EDWARD S. ABBOTT.
San Francisco.

Editor—Edward Heath was ousted as Prime Minister of England recently. Pierre Trudeau was just ousted as Prime Minister of Canada. Both men were ousted on a vote of no confidence.

Would that we had such laws of parliamentary government.

CHAS. W. AGNEAU, JR.
San Francisco.

Editor — If there is anything humorous to be found in the whole Watergate mess it surely must be the spectacle of all the Nixon supporters — politicians and press alike — finally reaching the startling conclusion that the emperor has no clothes. One can only conclude, as Charles McCabe might, that these people have spent the past 30 years in seclusion with the tooth fairy.

PETER HANAUER.
Berkeley.

Editor — The most frightening thing about this whole Watergate mess is the realization that it has taken so many people so long to realize what kind of man Richard Nixon is. It is particularly frightening that a sizeable number of such people are opinion makers, among them the publishers of some of the country's greatest newspapers.

MR. & MRS. R. K. SMELTZER.
Livermore.