NYTimes • MAR 23 1973 Mr. Nixon and Watergate To the Editor:

One of the most disturbing aspects of the Watergate affair is the failure of both Congress and press to tear away President Nixon's air of detached innocence.

It is simply inconceivable that on a matter of supreme importance to this most political of Presidents — his own re-election — Mr. Nixon should have been uninvolved and unaware of the activities of such close aides as Kalmbach, Stans, Dean, Gray and the like. This is, after all, the man who has concentrated executive power in himself to an unprecedented degree and surrounded himself with total subservience.

Moreover, such tricks are perfectly in keeping with his entire career, from the early campaigns against Helen Gahagan Douglas and Jerry Voorhis to his alliance with Senator Joseph McCarthy.

Why isn't anyone even asking questions about Emperor Richard's clothes?

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