Notes on People

Mrs. Luce Faults Time on Nixon

Taking to the letters to the editor column in the current issue of Time magazine, Clare Booth Luce, widow of the magazine's co-founder, Henry F. Luce, lambastes Time for its "overinvestment in the destruction of the President" and for its "phobic Watergate reporting."

She also criticizes the magazine for its "below-the-belt reporting on Watergate" and said that "few journalists—none on Time—have had even the sportsmanship, less the journalistic objectivity, to report that whatever Nixon is or not, he is one helluva gutsy fighter."

Mrs. Luce's letter, printed without comment, contained "Mrs. Luce's personal views, with which we don't happen to agree," Donald M. Wilson, a Time Inc. vice president, said yesterday. "We printed them because Mrs. Luce is a distinguished American, and her view certainly deserved to be heard."

Lady Spencer-Churchill, widow of Sir Winston, dropped a pound note into a silver rose bowl yesterday, which was her 89th birthday, opening an appeal for funds for two British memorials to her late husband. The bowl was a wedding present in 1908.

The appeal for funds, which coincides with the centenary of Sir Winston's birth, aims to raise £1 million (about $2.4 million) from one million donors. The money will be used to extend Churchill College at Cambridge, where the World War II leader's private papers are to be housed, and to maintain the Churchill Memorial Trust, which already sends about 100 students on overseas study each year.

Lady Churchill, who finds walking difficult since her hip was broken two years ago, was accompanied to the ceremonies in Whitehall Palace by her grandson, Winston, and two daughters, Sarah and Mary.

The 500 delegates at the opening of the Algerian Women's Union Congress were somewhat disappointed by the words of welcome from President Houari Boumediene, who said: "Women's emancipation must not be made at the expense of morals and tradition."

The women were encouraged, however, by Mr. Boumediene's espousal of female rights to continue schooling even against family opposition. He also called for more intellectuals to join the Women's Union to help combat illiteracy, at 75 per cent among women in Algeria.

"Where are the educators, doctors, lawyers?" he asked. There was at least one woman lawyer sitting discreetly in the observers' section, the President's wife.

In Hanoi, on her third visit to North Vietnam, was Jane Fonda, the actress, this time accompanied by her husband, Tom Hayden, the pacifist activist. It was believed that they intended to make a documentary film there. Miss Fonda's most publicized trip to North Vietnam took place in 1972, while that country was undergoing heavy United States bombing.

"I worked on President Nixon's campaign for eight months, but of late, I have become disillusioned with him," said John Ford, the 22-year-old son of Vice President Ford, adding: "He has been making a poor defense for himself—making it hard for people who want to believe in him. I'm not so sure my father disagrees with me."

Mr. Ford, a forestry student at Utah State University, told The Salt Lake City Tribune that he was "definitely more liberal than Dad, but our basic ideas are the same, even about Richard M. Nixon." Mr. Ford's older brother, Michael, 24, was also in the news yesterday. It was announced he would marry Gayle Brumbaugh, 22, of Catonsville, Md., in midsummer. They met when both were attending Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N. C.

Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, the Washington Post investigative reporters who have written a book about the Watergate scandals, have received a bid of $750,000 for the paperback rights.

Daniel Green, a spokesman for Simon & Schuster, which controls paperback rights to "All the President's Men," confirmed that the offer had been made, but would not say whether it had been accepted, presumably because the bidding is still open.

Movie rights have been sold for $450,000, with Mr. Woodward and Mr. Bernstein splitting about $400,000 after fees and commissions.