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Trustees to End Nixon Foundation

Brussels

U.S. Ambassador Leonard K. Firestone, the president of the Richard Nixon Foundation, announced yesterday that the trustees of the foundation have decided to dissolve it and turn its assets over to Whittier College.

Former President Nixon was graduated from the college in 1934.

"The foundation had not solicited donations other than from its trustees, so that no substantial funds are involved in the transfers," Firestone said.

He did not disclose the value of the assets but said they consisted primarily of studies for the establishment of a Richard M. Nixon library and museum.

The foundation ¹⁹⁶⁹ was set up in 1965 to assure the suitable preservation of Mr. Nixon's presidential papers.

"The majority of the board members feel, however, that present circumstances militate against carrying out the purposes of the foundation at this time," Firestone said.

He noted that the future legal status of Mr. Nixon's presidential records is not clear.

He said that at a later date the trustees of Whittier College and others interested may determine "what can be done to preserve the record of six eventful years in American and world history in a Nixon library."

Three of the 25 foundation trustees — John D. Ehrlichman, H. R. Haldeman and John N. Mitchell — are defendants in the Watergate coverup trial in Washington and a fourth, Herbert W. Kalmbach, is in prison.