

Editorials & Comments

What The Other Editors Are Saying

Pardon For Nixon, A Total Disgrace

The full pardon granted to former President Nixon by President Ford is an absolute disgrace, a travesty of justice and an insult to all other citizens who are required to obey the laws of the land. President Ford surely must know this himself. After all, it was he who, when asked during confirmation hearings for the Vice-Presidency about his feelings towards immunity for Nixon, remarked that "the country will not stand for it." As is so typical of politicians, though, Ford has now changed his position 100 per cent after taking office and has hypocritically invoked the name of God while doing it.

There are several reasons why Ford's action is a disgrace. First, it shows that the phrase "equal justice under law" is just a meaningless expression to Ford. We saw a year ago when former Vice-President Agnew got off with a "slap on the wrist" in return for a guilty plea to charges of bribery and extortion, that "law and order" politicians use a double standard of justice when their own cohorts commit crimes. In addition, we now see that President Ford feels the U.S. Constitution should apply to ordinary citizens but not to former Presidents.

To make matters worse, Ford decided the controversial tapes that contain Nixon's revealing Watergate-related conversations belong to the former President and not to the American people. This means the American people will never know the whole truth about the Watergate crimes and the extent of Nixon's involvement.

As U.S. Rep. Jerome Waldie, a member of the House Judiciary Committee, said Sunday, "This is the ultimate coverup of the coverup. Mr. Ford has now finished the coverup that Nixon started. This is a

case of 'who you know', and Mr. Nixon certainly knew the right person."

When the House Judiciary Committee voted to impeach ex-President Nixon on three counts, it appeared that the truth about Watergate would finally emerge, but now the will of the American people has again been aborted. Nixon resigned to avoid an impeachment trial in the Senate that would have brought out all the facts, and now the man Nixon made Vice President (who was not elected by the American people) says that Nixon is above the law. Frankly, the whole thing stinks.

Mr. Ford didn't even wait for Nixon to be indicted and tried for his alleged crimes before pardoning him—a very unique situation, to say the least. We can only assume that he does not want the American people to know the whole truth about the Watergate crimes.

Mr. Nixon may have been guilty of the most serious crime of all—the attempted destruction of the U.S. Constitution—and yet he is now immune from punishment and will receive hundreds of thousands of dollars in taxpayers' money every year as an added bonus. Does this mean that Ford will also pardon thousands of lesser criminals—ordinary rapists, burglars and muggers? Does it mean he will grant amnesty to all war resisters, whose "crimes" cannot be compared in magnitude to Nixon's?

Mr. Ford has had a "honeymoon" so far with the press and the American people, who figured he looked good compared to Nixon. The TRIBUNE warned in a recent editorial, though, that the records of the two men on issues were virtually identical, and now Ford has revealed his true colors. We thought we were rid of Nixon, but it seems he just put on a different face.

The Philadelphia Tribune Guest Editorial

Is Justice Picking Nixon's Carcass?

There has been much speculation over carrying Mr. Nixon through a court trial, regarding some of the charges against him.

Former President Richard M. Nixon recently posed the question, "Do you think the public wants to pick my carcass?" Numerous persons have said they felt that Mr. Nixon has suffered enough already. To carry out criminal proceedings, they argue, would amount to needless torture of a man who has already suffered enough, whose errors in judgment have driven him from the highest office in the nation.

We wish to comment on this viewpoint on the part of Mr. Nixon's defenders or friends. This point of

view is a widely-spread misconception that the ideals of our christian religion are somehow equivalent to those of the American government. We think such a conception will lead to a miscarriage of justice, since the gospel of unmerited forgiveness is badly compatible with the democratic principle of equal justice under the law.

Here is the case: Nixon stands accused of numerous violations of law during his terms as President. Under our Constitution, it is his responsibility to face these charges. And it is right to have a fair trial hearing, in the course of which he will either be cleared or convicted. The matter will be resolved, one way or the other.

The Carolinian Guest Editorial

TO DECLARE:
"STERILIZATION ON THE RETARDED HAD ITS PRECEDENT IN NAZI GERMANY. THIS WHOLE THING IS A HORRENDOUS ATTACK ON PRIVACY, INNOCENCE AND THE RIGHT OF MOTHERHOOD."
JULIAN BOND



ONE WAY TO REDUCE THE "BLACK PRESENCE

roy wilkin's column

President Ford no doubt did not intend to do so, but when he granted, in advance of conviction, a Presidential full pardon to former President Nixon, he entered into many areas of deep concern, including the interest of 22 millions of black Americans.

The minds of the black citizens go inevitably to the motto chiseled on the building that houses the U.S. Supreme Court: "Equal Justice Under Law." Their memories go back, too, to the greatest hoax ever visited upon millions of Americans, the "separate but equal" constitutionality of laws of this nation. It is of

particular interest, when the white citizens of Boston, Mass., are acting on the question of busing just like the white citizens of Pontiac, Mich. and Lamar, N.C. and they resemble, too, the white mothers of New Orleans who opposed integrated schools.

For too many years Negro Americans have been yelling for equal justice when they have not been busy dodging brickbats, hidden costs and other trickery—which is never, or seems like never. They have their troubles like other people, but they are afflicted with a special kind of racial discrimination of their very own. Like equal justice.

Of course, everything that comes down the pike is not race prejudice like they say it is, but most of the time equal justice is conspicuous by its absence.



If this is equal justice then this commentator is a hound dog.

What about the others who have been indicted in the Watergate mess? What about their families and their health? If the Big One is pardoned, what about those who took orders from him (or they thought it was he)? They all, apparently, felt that the election of Richard M. Nixon

in 1972 was of supreme importance. They worked together, a coordinated machine for this purpose, whether within or without the law. For them it was justice, equal or not.

Well, it was not equal justice. The years without the vote for Negroes were years generations—without equal justice. So were the years confined in slums. So were the years when the full story is being told of slick deals and smooth stories about the schools and public education. So were the years when discriminatory treatment, almost too much to bear, was the black man's lot in the armed services.

And what shall be said of the justice of being stigmatized and turned into professional criminals behind prison bars?

President Ford did not mean to raise these issues. Or amnesty, even of a limited nature, for those who sat out the war. But his desire to act compassionately has caused him to open Pandora's box. He has also further polarized the nation racially, which he, good guy that he is, never intended to do.

Now we have a President who exercises his constitutional authority by giving Mr. Nixon a pardon for anything he "committed or may have committed or taken part in." This is not equal justice.

This is the same old brand of justice that black Americans feel. Some of them, doubtless, feel that Mr. Nixon has been punished enough. A few. Some want him to be convicted. And some want an eye for an eye. They want to get all the blood out of the turnip and then throw the carcass away.

Whoever heard of ousting a man from a job and then graciously paying out \$850,000 to provide him with the services which belong to a man who was not ousted and who did not beat out impeachment by a mere step?

as i see it

ON POLINOMICS

By Gerald Johnson

One of the main reasons the economy is in such bad shape is due to 1972 Presidential Election. In Mr. Nixon's guest for re-election he decided it was better to fool the country rather than to work for the country. Therefore for political reasons he made some economic decisions that would make the country look stable for a few days until the election was over. One such decision was for the Federal Reserve Bank to ease the money flow so interest rates would go down. Another decision was to boost exports temporarily so businesses could boost profits. There were still others, but these are enough to prove the point.

Both of these decisions made right before the 1972 election had the appearance of stifling the inflation rate of growth. But in reality it caused the inflation rate to spiral



to what it is today. For instance, since there is a shortage of almost every good you can think of businesses are limited to what they can manufacture. In other words there was a fixed supply of goods. By Mr. Nixon boosting exports there were foreigners as well

as Americans bidding for the same goods. Hence an increasing demand for the goods. Thus businesses could sell their goods to the highest bidder. That is why in 1974 the prices are as high as they are. Moreover, at a time when the money supply should have been tightened it was eased. This let more people borrow money and caused an even higher demand for already a limited supply of goods.

The lesson to be learned here is simple. Politics and economics don't mix. Polinomics (is what I call the process of trying to mix the two) is how we got into the mess we are in today. It is time we take heed in such valuable lessons and pass time for us to take action. It is time to use common sense and vote. Just think if you didn't vote in 1972 you are just as much to blame for the economy as Mr. Nixon is. Why? Because you helped him get in office.

What's happening!

By BOB JOHNSON

BITS AND PIECES

JIMMY L. WASHINGTON of Worton, Maryland was in the BIG TOWN visiting his parents on Russell Ave. last week. Jimmy is a Senior Radar Crewman, for the Nike Hercules missile in the U.S. Army. While here Mr. Washington relaxed and visited with his brother and sister. OCTOBER 23, 1974.....Make that a Red Letter Day on your calendar. **JULIUS LLOYD** and the Committee to Re-Elect Donald Stahl for sheriff, will sponsor a campaign tea at the famed Excelsior Club. The affair will begin at 7 and last until the last person leaves. The public is cordially invited.

The **DRUID HILLS ACTION COMMITTEE**, a Member of the **NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ACTION ASSOCIATION**, has successfully petitioned the city to rezone the neighborhood from apartment to single family zoning.

HAPPENING would like to congratulate the very lovely **Ms. CAROL WESTBROOK** on her promotion with the Eastern Airlines organization. **Ms. west-BROOK** who is presently employed in reservations and sales, will be a



ticket and sales representative. **CAROL**, who lives at 3417 Beatties

Ford Rd., will relocate in Richmond Va. Her Ultimate goal is to be manager of sales and services in that area.

RECORD REVIEW.....
HAROLD ALEXANDER (RAW ROOT)

A native Charlottean Harold has done a tremendous job on this album, combining experience with polished talent, and beautiful voices. The personnel includes: Harold Alexander, flutes and saxes; Joe Boner, Keyboards; Richard Davis, Bass; Brain Breaks, Drums; also Richard Clay, Flutes; George Cables, piano; Dennis Heaven, funder bass; Lenny White, drums; and Tequilla, vocals.

The orchestra arrangements on this album were done by Arif Mardin and produced by Jimmy Douglas for Atlantic Records.

This album is a winner!!
THE ISLEY BROTHERS (LIVE IT UP)
This album contains the unusual quality which the Isley Brothers possess.....Well worth listening to. This reporter was impressed with "Hello It's Me," a smooth and mellow cut on the album. The artists on the album are: Ronald Isley, Kelly Isley, Ernie Isley, Rudolph Isley and Chris Jasper. This is another good album in their long line of good, if not great albums. A T-Neck recording-distributed by Columbia-Epic records.

JOHNNY NASH (CELEBRATE LIFE)

A gifted brother, Johnny Nash has put together a super package of songs done in his inimitable style. Some of the artist on this album are: Dave Kelly, Emery Williams, Guitar; Terry Wilson, Paul Stallworth, Bass; Gordon Dewitty, Mike Montgomery, piano; Johnny "Rabbit" Bundrick, keyboards and synthesizer; just to name a few of the many talents found on this album.

This album was produced by Johnny Nash and Gordon Dewitty for Epic Records. "Celebrate Life" has the stuff to make it. All it needs is play. **MAXAYN (BALL OUT FOR FUN)**

If you like rock, you can't help but like this album. It has everything from wide open boogie to rock ballads.

This album has Maxayn Lewis, piano, vocals, and background vocals; Andre Lewis, moog and bass; Hank Redd, guitar, organ, and saxophones. Along with Emilia Thomas, Percussion. Produced by Andre and Maxayn Lewis for Capricorn Records.

Hearing is believing.....So give this one a listen.

HERBIE HANCOCK (THRUST)

This album has great possibilities, even though lacks the commercial appeal of "Headhunters." It has all of the Hancock qualities and should get a lot of play in jazz circles. The personnel on this L.P. include Herbie Hancock, Mike Clark, drums; Bill Summers, Percussion. Paul Jackson electric bass; and Bennie Maupin, Saxaphones and flute.

Don't forget to check Herbie Hancock out Sept. 27 at the Charlotte Coliseum along with War. Until next time.....Beautiful Readers.....
ROCK EASY.

THE CHARLOTTE POST

Serving The Black Community Since 1918
The Charlotte Post Publishing Company, Inc. 9139 Trinity Road, P.O. Box 97, Charlotte, N.C. 28216

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Bill Johnson | Publisher |
| Gerald O. Johnson | Business Manager |
| Connie Jamison | Secretary |
| | Advertising |
| Robert L. Johnson | Circulation Manager |
| Polly Nivens | Feature Writer |
| James Peeler | Photographer-Writer |

Published every Thursday by the Charlotte Post Publishing Company, Incorporation, 9139 Trinity Road, Charlotte, N.C. 28216. (P.O. Box 97). Telephone 392-1306 & 392-1307.

Second class privileges authorized and post paid at Charlotte, N.C.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| National Advertising Representative: | SUBSCRIPTION RATES |
| Amalgamated Publishers, Inc. | Mecklenburg County |
| Suite 1403, 45 West 45th Street | One Year \$6.00 |
| New York, New York 10036 | Six Months \$4.50 |
| | Three Months \$3.00 |

Subscriptions and change of addresses should be mailed to: P.O. Box 97, Charlotte, N.C. 28202.

The deadline for all news copy and photo is 5 p.m. Monday. The Post is not responsible for any photos or news copies submitted for publication.