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May 8, 1981

Dear Mrs. Ballou:

Gift
Thank you for your warm note and the framed paintings that you kindly brought to the White House. It was thoughtful of you to share your work with me, and I deeply appreciate the special concern that prompted your gifts. We look forward to enjoying them now and shall retain them for our future Presidential collection. I especially like the painting entitled "My Economy".

I was also interested to learn of your artistic involvement from the clippings you enclosed with your note. Your spirit is admirable.

With my gratitude for your prayers and all the best,

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN^a

X
Mrs. Frank W. Ballou
3130 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

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810508

Mrs. Frank W. Ballou
3130 Wisconsin Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

April 81

Dear President Reagan:-
I sincerely wish, I want you please
except my oil painting "My Economy"
that I painted for you several weeks
ago.

I thought that it might bring
you a little cheer while you are
recuperating

I am saying prayers for you
every day for a good complete
recovery.

God Bless you and Mrs. Reagan.

Very Sincerely

Adeline Ballou

BY **DONNIE RADCLIFFE** and **JOY BILLINGTON**

Star Staff Writers

Andrew Wyeth may be adamant about painting President Nixon only from life, but not Mrs. Frank W. Ballou, an engaging 77-year-old widow who first took up the paintbrush at age 75.

Last year she spotted an Associated Press photo of the President taken on his 58th birthday as he strolled San Clemente beach with Tricia's Yorkshire Terrier Panna.

The picture so inspired her that she painted it in two sizes despite some frustrating moments at the easel. She had to redo Panna seven times to get the fall just right, to say nothing of the dabs it took to keep the President's nose from looking like some other equally famous noses.

Once finished, however, Mrs. Ballou entitled them "My Contemplation," then began some contemplating on her own about how to give them to the President.

A friend came to her rescue by running interference and one day, as Mrs. Ballou tells it, she was taking a bath when the telephone rang. "The White House is calling," sent the dripping, naked (except for a towel, of course) septuagenarian into a spin. Not only was it the first time the White House had ever called her, but the thought that it might be the President himself had her clutching the towel in embarrassment.

It wasn't the President after all, thank heaven, but an aide inviting her to come on down and bring her paintings.

She did just that, and today, both are among the President's mementoes (as he later wrote to tell her). For Mrs. Ballou, soon to be 78, they are also testimonies on canvas that life is only beginning.

Sewing her own clothes and music just weren't enough hobbies, says Mrs. Ballou whose husband was superintendent of District schools for 23 years until his death in 1955. That's why she added another — a painting class every Friday with other Washington, D.C. senior citizens.

*second will be 87 year May 18-21
Kiss and Tell*

Federal Maritime Commission Chairman Helen Delich Bentley has the best of all possible worlds. All in the space of a week, she won the "Man of the Year" award of the New York Foreign Freight Forwarders and Brokers Association AND a kiss from Sen. Daniel K. Inouye for her frank testimony before his Senate subcommittee on foreign commerce and tourism.

"You're a real pro," Inouye told Mrs. Bentley, who pulled no punches in blaming management, unions and government alike for the decline of America's commercial fleet.

This Little Piggy

What else could the National Women's Political Caucus serve at its champagne benefit Thursday night but a male chauvinist pig?

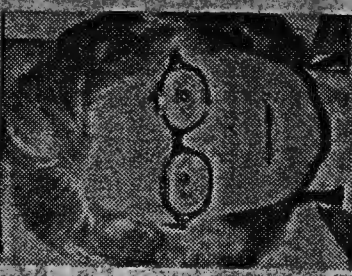
And what else could NWPC put in his mouth but Eve's apple?

The big hairy underdogs a thorough roasting will be there for the sampling when an expected 1,000 turn up at the Shoreham Hotel, paying \$25 apiece to help the NWPC raise money for operating expenses. Tickets for the 8:30-10:30 event are available at the



—Star Photographer Rosemary Marvin

Mrs. Ballou's painting of President Nixon



MRS. BALLOU

Eating at Eleanor's

Hollywood's Gene Nelson, rated recently by 177 entertainment editors as one of the "Three Top Motion Picture Dancers of All Time," still arouses nostalgia among some older American movie fans.

And the Associated Press photo Mrs. Ballou wanted for

New Career at 75

Former Wesley Heights resident, Adeline Jacob Ballou, widow of the late Dr. Frank W. Ballou who was superintendent of the D.C. Public Schools for many years, has added new dimension to her recently found career in painting.

On Saturday, June 24, the annual reunion of Methodist-Kahler School of Nursing graduates was held at the Kahler Hotel in Rochester, Minnesota with 300 former graduates attending the festivities. Mrs. Ballou, now an apartment dweller in Washington, was a graduate of the first class in nursing and helped her classmates from 1922 celebrate their golden anniversary by presenting one of her paintings to the Rochester (Minnesota) Methodist Hospital for the alumni center in the hospital library at the Mayo Clinic.

The spry 78-year old Mrs. Ballou retired from nursing at the age of

now she will be 87 in May 1981



Mrs. Frank Ballou (left) presents one of her paintings for the Rochester, Minnesota Methodist Hospital alumni center. Accepting is Mrs. Joyce Kulas, director of nursing.

74 and took up art at 75. Her art career stemmed from helping a friend who was a stroke-patient reclaim some purpose for her life. "You still have your eyes and

hands," she told her friend, "Let's paint."

A particularly happy reflection for Mrs. Ballou occurred last year when she presented President Nix-

on with two paintings she had done of him from an Associated Press photo taken of the President as he strolled San Clemente beach with Tricia's Yorkshire Terrier, "Pascha."

Just three years since she took up painting Mrs. Ballou has sold over 25 of her paintings, exhibited last year, and has three of her paintings displayed in the Chancery Apts. lobby, which proves you're never too old to try.