

## GIANTS CLASH OVER BOOK

# LBS Looms in Kennedy Suit

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (UPI) — An historic legal battle, another unwanted legacy of President Kennedy's assassination, took shape today between his widow and the publishers of "Death of a President."

Submerged in the lawsuit, there lies dormant what is

perhaps the most significant factor as far as the future is concerned. It is reported that Mr. Manchester's narration, echoing the private thoughts of several members of the Kennedy family, portrays President Johnson as boorish and brusque in assuming power.

temporary injunction should not be issued as requested.

The petition and affidavits of the Kennedys drew the battle lines for the confrontation. It will be waged on a narrow issue — that of alleged breach of contract by Mr. Manchester.

This, it is contended, would strain to the breaking point the uneasy relations between the Johnsons and the Kennedys, and do perhaps irreparable damage to any White House ambitions of Robert Kennedy.

A hearing was set for Dec. 27 on Mrs. John F. Kennedy's petition for an injunction to block publication of the manuscript as written by William Manchester, the Kennedy family-appointed author.

The confrontation involves not only the most powerful men in American politics — including Robert F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson — but two giants of the publishing industry — Harper and Row, and Cowles Communications.

Mrs. Kennedy's petition, accompanied by an affidavit from her brother-in-law, Robert Kennedy, was filed in Manhattan's State Supreme Court yesterday only (25) days before a serialized version of the assassination account is scheduled to hit the streets in *Look Magazine*, a Cowles publication. The book is scheduled to be published in April by Harper and Row.

Justice Saul S. Streit said he would "decide that matter shortly" after the Dec. 27 hearing.

Justice Streit's order directed the defendants — Cowles, Harper and Row, and Mr. Manchester — to submit written briefs showing cause why a