

## Judge Calls Kopechne Case Talks

### Edgartown, Mass.

Lawyers for prospective witnesses at the Mary Jo Kopechne inquest have been called to a private conference Thursday with Judge James A. Boyle in Edgartown District Court.

The inquest centers on the legal cause of Miss Kopechne's death. Miss Kopechne, 28, a Washington, D.C., secretary was found dead July 19 in a car owned by Senator Edward M. Kennedy which had plunged off a bridge and into a pond on Chappaquiddick Island.

Court Clerk Thomas A. Teller said yesterday the conference would be at 10:15 a.m. He declined to comment further, but indications were that the judge might set a date for the inquest after the meeting.

In another development, Time magazine reported that 51 per cent of people it polled believe that Senator Kennedy has not told the truth about the accident.

Responses to questions regarding the Senator's truthfulness and related questions about the accident, when compared with a similar poll more than a month ago, indicate Kennedy's credibility has declined during the past two months, Time said.

Asked if Kennedy's performance disqualified him for high public trust, 47 per cent said yes. In August 40 per cent said yes.

*Associated Press*