

A Call for Congress to Probe FBI

Princeton, N.J.,

A conference on the FBI, which heard two days of criticism of the Bureau and Director J. Edgar Hoover, has concluded with a call for a congressional inquiry.

While the conference of scholars, attorneys and public figures failed to "acquit" the FBI as requested in a letter from Hoover, neither did it deliver a final verdict. The conference ended Saturday.

"Further study is needed," said the co-chairmen. "We urge our legislative representatives to consider a national commission on inquiry that would answer many of the questions raised here. The Senate itself, which now has the power to approve the next director of the FBI, might assume this responsibility. The important point is that the inquiry continue. It should seek neither to vindicate or condemn the bureau.

It should seek only to improve it."

The co-chairmen of the conference, which was sponsored by the Committee for Public Justice and Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson Law School, were Duane Lockard, chairman of the Princeton political science department; Burke Marshall, deputy dean of the Yale Law school, and Norman Dorsen, New York Uni-

versity law professor.

Much of the criticism centered around Hoover, 76, now in his 47th year as director. He declined an invitation to send a representative to the hearings, but wrote Lockard a letter urging that the FBI be treated fairly at the conference.

Vincent Broderick, former New York Police Commissioner, voiced a common appraisal of critics: "There has been no infusion of new thoughts and no new ideas in the FBI, and as long as Hoover continues as director there is no way a new influence can be brought to bear on the FBI."

Broderick and James Ahern, former police chief of New Haven, Conn., also criticized a favorite FBI program Hoover lauded in his letter to Lockard — the training of police officers at the FBI National Academy.