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**Rodino Wins Power
To Seek Nixon Data**

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The House Judiciary Committee fell into partisan wrangling yesterday at its first meeting to discuss procedures for investigating whether President Nixon should be impeached.

By a straight party line vote of 21 to 17, Democrats voted to give Chairman Peter W. Rodino (D-N.J.) power to issue—without further committee approval—subpoenas to obtain witnesses and documents both for the impeachment inquiry and for the committee's consideration of House Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford to be Vice President.

Rejected by the same vote were Republican efforts to require approval of subpoenas by their senior member, Rep. Edward Hutchinson (R-Ill.), and to give both men power to issue subpoenas on their own. Democrats pro-

tested that the minority party should not be given a veto over subpoenas. Republicans complained of "steamroller" tactics by the majority.

Rodino promised to "fully consult" with Hutchinson before issuing subpoenas and pledged "no partisan crusade or witch hunt" in either proceeding.

Rep. Thomas Railsback (R-Ill.) said Republicans were "trying to signal our concern . . . to make clear" that the impeachment inquiry "must be judicious, careful and nonpartisan or bipartisan." He said Republicans are "tired of leaks and slipshod procedures" that were charged in investigating Watergate and former Vice President Agnew.

Republicans on the committee were not consulted

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on the impeachment inquiry until they made public protest last week, said Railsback, and still don't know what provisions will be made for their full participation.

With less bickering, the committee agreed to reduce from two days to one day the notice Rodino must give for calling a committee meeting to deal with the impeachment or Ford inquiries.

Rodino said he asked for both rules changes in good part to help speed consideration of Ford's nomination. But he gave no answer to Republican requests that he set a date for hearings on Ford.

The chairman later told reporters he expected to be able to set a date by next week after he and Hutchinson have gone over the 1,400 pages of raw files that the FBI has accumulated on Ford. Under Justice Department rules only these two men may see the unevaluated data. The same restriction applies in the Senate Rules Committee, where Ford's confirmation hearings start Thursday.

Hutchinson said he had been told that the FBI investigation "turned up nothing of substance which would be any obstacle in the way of confirmation of Mr. Ford." He did not name his source.

Rodino said Ford's nomination will not be "held hostage for any other purpose", a pledge Democratic leaders

have felt compelled to make repeatedly because of some suspicion that Democrats would like to delay Ford's nomination in hopes that Mr. Nixon would be forced out of office.

In that event House Speaker Carl Albert would become President. Albert repeated his desire yesterday that Ford's nomination be considered as expeditiously as possible consistent with the need for a thorough inquiry, and added the hope that the House could vote on Ford before Thanksgiving. This appeared sooner than Rodino's present schedule would permit.

In a related action, the House Judiciary Committee approved without opposition a bill extending for six months and a possible second six months the federal grand jury here investigating the Watergate break-in and cover-up.

Students and Lawyers Lobby Against Nixon

Several hundred law students and lawyers began lobbying Congress yesterday for the appointment of a Watergate special prosecutor and continued investigation of possible impeachment proceedings against Nixon.

Organizers said 350 persons, primarily students, started the campaign by presenting petitions and legal memoranda to congressmen.

Robert Pietrazak, a third-year Columbia University student who acted as a spokesman, said, "We're not calling for impeachment per se at this point because we believe in due process of law, which Richard Nixon does not."

The law students came from Boston University, Catholic University, New York University, University of Pennsylvania, St. John's University, Tulane, University of Pittsburgh and the University of Virginia, organizers said. Other law schools are scheduled to lobby Congress later, they said.



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Rep. Rodino: "... no partisan crusade or witch hunt."