

Godwin Seeks Impeachment Decision Now

RICHMOND, May 5 (AP)—
Gov. Mills Godwin Jr. said
yesterday the time has come
for Congress to decide
whether it has the evidence to
impeach President Nixon.

If not, he suggested to a
group of Republican women,
the country should be spared
the continuing debate over
Watergate.

Godwin told the Virginia
Federation of Republican
Women a decision on the im-
peachment of the President
should be made promptly by
Congress if there is any justi-
fication of such proceedings.

Godwin, a former Democrat-
turned-Republican, suggested
the President has been victim-
ized by the media.

"He has in effect been tried
for months upon months in
the media," Godwin said. "But
in this country we still adhere
to the principle that a man is
innocent until proven guilty."

The governor said he would
hope that Americans would
extend the same fundamental
right to the President "that
we would to the lowliest law
violate before his local magis-
trate."