



# No One Is Giving Jaworski a Hand

**Mary McGrory**

**T**HE ONLY MAN who could help Leon Jaworski in his present dilemma is Richard Nixon — and he is not likely to.

Jaworski is bearing alone the burden of deciding whether to prosecute the ex-President. There are no precedents to guide him.

The Constitution specifies that removal from office is not punishment; it is instead a protection for the country from further harm.

Jaworski is being asked to make a legal decision on a political question. He must ponder the public interest, and that at the moment, largely because of Richard Nixon's manner of leaving, is unclear.

If Mr. Nixon had, in his farewell to the nation, given the slightest hint of contrition or remorse, the law would not have been served, but the country's sense of justice might have been satisfied. As the record stands by his own account, Mr. Nixon left office as a persecuted peace-maker.

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**J**AWORSKI'S problem is compounded by the fact that he is on the point of bringing to trial six confederates of the ex-President, who acted in his behalf and, allegedly, at his direction.

But men who should be discussing these matters, members of Congress, specifically, are blithely off seeking reelection, all dizzy with relief that Mr. Nixon is off their screens. And those who speak are offering the comforting suggestion that he has suffered enough.

The latest expression comes from Nelson Rockefeller, the Vice President designate, who is not a lawyer, and who had nothing whatever to say about the scandal when it counted. He endorsed Senate Republican leader Hugh Scott's thought that Mr. Nixon had been "hung" and should "not be drawn and quartered," too.

That doesn't help Jaworski either with the law or with history. The present delirium of the country at having a smiling President in charge is something the Constitution does not take into account.

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**P**RESIDENT FORD has pointed the way for tempering justice with mercy by his initiatives on "leniency" for draft evaders. But the analogy between those young men of conscience who fled the country rather than kill in Southeast Asia and a man who abused the greatest office in the Western world is not complete and cannot help Jaworski.

Besides, the deserters and evaders are being required to admit they broke the law and work their way back. Mr. Nixon has admitted nothing and lives well on a pension acquired during discredited service.

Jaworski must wish more than any other citizen that Mr. Nixon would say he was sorry. But he hasn't and Jaworski's reputation rides on his decision about what can be done about it. One way, he risks being called soft; the other way, vindictive.