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Defendants Without Peer

To the Editor:

In his Oct. 12 letter Tom Adams wonders if Ehrlichman, Haldeman, et al., are receiving a fair trial, contending that a jury should be composed of "people of the same social-economic class as the accused."

I, for one, find it sweetly ironic that Messrs. Ehrlichman, Haldeman, et al., who were in a strong position to lift many Americans from their low social and economic status but did nothing about it, are being tried by "a jury of doormen and variety-store salesgirls," as Mr. Adams put it.

If juries of the "same social-economic class" are to be impaneled in all cases, where would twelve people of the same ilk ever be found to try, say, an accused Rockefeller . . . or a Hughes . . . or, for that matter, a Nixon?

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New York, Oct. 17, 1974