

Ticklish Question

Jackie Gives Up Pension

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Mrs. Aristotle Onassis has quit accepting her presidential widow's pension, thus ending a legal debate over whether she still would be eligible for it.

The Treasury said today Mrs. Onassis, widow of President Kennedy, wrote the Treasury in the latter part of October and asked that her \$10,000-a-year pension be cut off as of Oct. 1.

The letter cleared up a ticklish situation, since no one seemed sure how Mrs. Kennedy's marriage to Greek millionaire Aristotle Onassis affected her pension

status.

Some legal authorities said the meaning of the statute was that presidential widows were entitled to the pension only so long as they were widows. The opposing view was that the pensions were conferred on them as individuals, not as widows, and thus were granted for life.

The official Treasury view, one of the department's legal experts said, was that the statute was so ambiguously worded it could be read either way.

The text of Mrs. Kennedy's letter was not made public. A Treasury spokesman said re-

lease of it would be inappropriate because of the personal nature of some of its contents.