

# Young GOP May Urge Nixon Response on TV

ATLANTA, July 11 (UPI) — Young Republicans today elected a new national chairman who described the GOP as a party drawn together by the "adversity" of the Watergate scandal.

The election of new officers came as the convention of the Young Republicans moved closer to taking a formal stand on Watergate. A resolution to be voted on Thursday will call on President Nixon to submit to a televised interview to answer "any and all questions" about the bugging incident.

Richard Smith of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., elected to head the 450,000-member federation for the next two years, promptly pledged a campaign to "get the people to understand" that the Republican Party and those responsible for Watergate are not synonymous.

Smith, 33-year-old administrative assistant to the minority leader of the Florida Senate, said he felt the Watergate incident had drawn the GOP together and would not deter young people from working for the party.

"Watergate certainly hasn't demoralized the Republican Party," Smith said. "Actually it has had the opposite effect. We have been pulled together by adversity."

He characterized the Young Republicans as "the most conservative arm" of the party and said his election was "a reflection" of that view. Smith said he felt American young people were basically conservative, "especially when they get older and see where their money is going."

Smith, who served as national treasurer the past two years, said he felt the news media was "running Watergate into the ground" and clouding "legitimate acts of washing out the radical elements."

Resolutions committee chairman Peter Chase said the Nixon resolution, which he expects to be accepted by the 1,200 delegates, would urge the President "at the appropriate time to get together in an informal television question-and-answer session . . . to put Watergate into perspective."