

Martha Mitchell

In Mississippi

GREENWOOD, Miss. (UPI)—Martha Mitchell, insisting that "what happened to me in California was a heck of a lot worse than anybody breaking into Democratic headquarters," said yesterday the American public is bored with the Watergate hearings.

"The mass of the people don't realize that these Senate hearings are not spontaneous," she said. "These set of hearings are as much rehearsed as any play on Broadway.

"These men have crews—I should say assistants—that go in and then talk to whomever they are going to interview and it's rehearsed and rehearsed and rehearsed. And then they put it on camera.

"Now people down South don't realize that and probably most of the American people don't realize it."

Speaking from the veranda of a white-columned mansion at Greenwood, Miss., the wife of former Attorney General and Nixon campaign head John Mitchell said the Watergate affair has been overplayed.

"The American people are sick and fed up with the Watergate and they don't want to hear about it any more and they've cut all their programs off, especially down here in the South," she said in an interview with UPI Television News.

"There are only two cities keeping this thing going — plus the press — and they're Washington and New York. We are sick of the Watergate. Shut the mess up.

"What they did to me in California was a heck of a

lot worse than anybody breaking into Democratic headquarters. They didn't steal anything. They didn't hurt anybody. They didn't kidnap anybody.

"I was kidnaped in California. At the time they gave me that injection, I really thought they were trying to kill me. I haven't told all the details of California."

Mrs. Mitchell would not say whether she still believes the President should resign, as she said earlier, but said the presidency has become too great a responsibility for one man.

"This country should be reorganized something on the way the British run their government — maybe a coalition: a group of people running the country," she said. "There is not one man that can possibly keep his hands on everything that is going on 24 hours a day. He can't take it.

"It is inconceivable how one person could manage the U.S. It has grown too large. It is too big a job, even the responsibility of being head of a department as my husband was—head of the Justice Department. My husband never stopped working 24 hours a day."

Mrs. Mitchell said she had been in Greenwood three weeks, staying at the home of Mrs. Charles Saunders, a friend from her college days. She called reports of trouble between her and her husband a lie.

"I am terribly anxious to get back to my husband," she said, "because whether I can do him any good, I can be of moral support if nothing else.