

Mrs. Johnson Calls Husband's Methods Watergate Proof

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11 (UPI) —Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson said today that the Watergate scandal could not have happened during her husband's Administration because he "minded every detail as best he could."

In her first televised interview since the death of President Johnson Jan. 22, she had been asked by Group W News whether her husband would have allowed something like Watergate to occur during his political campaigns.

"I do not think so," Mrs. Johnson said. "I grieve for it as a citizen of this country because it's got to spill out on

both parties and on all people. It's not purely just one segment.

"But, grieved or not, my faith in the ultimate fabric of this country is strong as ever, and Lyndon was certainly a man who minded every detail as best he could."

She said she would not mind if her own grandchildren decided to go into politics "if they were strong and tough enough and smart and good enough." But she said politics often deprived men of time with their families, as it did her husband.

Asked what she would tell young people who are becoming disillusioned with the American political system, Mrs. Johnson said:

"Anybody got a better one? I haven't heard of any that I think are better, imperfect as this one is. I would hope that they would get in there with their energy and determination

and, yes, their youth, and try to improve on it. I do think the distillation of the wisdom of our 200 years is not something to be discarded."

Referring to the time between the end of Mr. Johnson's term in the White House and his death, Mrs. Johnson said that he had prepared her and their children both "business-wise and psychologically-wise."