

## Colson's Confessions

CHARLES W. COLSON, the repentant sinner who has found religion, appeared for sentence last week for the felony of obstructing justice in the Daniel Ellsberg-Pentagon Papers case. He told the judge: "The President on numerous occasions urged me to disseminate damaging information about Daniel Ellsberg, including information about Ellsberg's attorneys and others . . ."

He expressed his regret and contrition for complying with these directions and committing acts which have cost him the stiffest sentence yet in the top group of men around the President.

It is reported that Colson will in time testify that it was Henry Kissinger who pressed Mr. Nixon to take an extreme view and extreme measures on the Pentagon papers leak, going so far as to say: "That man (Ellsberg) must be destroyed."

**TRULY, THE ELLSBERG CASE** is a theme for a Greek dramatist. It has got the plumbers unit and other people around the President into deep trouble, of which we haven't yet heard the end. The question one keeps coming back to is, why did the publication of the papers mean all that much to them? It was an expose of the previous administration's war, a war Mr. Nixon had already decided to get out of, and while it may have been embarrassing to the government to see these largely misclassified top secret documents come out, there's been no sign they hurt national security.