TV Coverage in House Is Likely

Washington

House leaders informally agreed yesterday to permit live television coverage of the House impeachment debate.

"There was a general feeling in favor of gavel-to-gavel coverage," said Representative John Anderson (Rep. III.), chairman of the House Republican Conference, after Democratic and Republican party leaders met with the House Rules Committee.

Anderson said four "fixed" locations would likely be approved for cameras, but they will not be allowed to pan around the House chamber at individual members in their seats.

The fixed cameras will be pointed at the speaker's rostrum, the well of the House below the rostrum where most speeches will be given, and the Democratic and Republican leadership tables.

Speaker Carl Albert could allow TV coverage on his own, but he has decided to allow the House to vote on a resolution allowing coverage.

House approval is likely.
An estimated 90 million
Americans watched some
portion of the House Judiciary Committee hearings, according to Harvey Gersin,
director of research and development at ABC.

Nielsen ratings, Gersin said, showed the heaviest viewing was last Monday night on CBS when Gersin estimated 35 million persons watched. The Nielsen ratings, he said, showed that 26.2 per cent of all U.S. households were tuned in to the hearings between 4:40 and 8:25 p.m. PDT Monday, when the committee voted 28 to 10 on the abuse of powers article.

United Press