

Rocky Is Against Prosecuting Nixon

Seal Harbor, Me.

Vice President-designate Nelson A. Rockefeller said yesterday that "the tone and the mood of the country is that former President Nixon should "not be drawn and quartered" by criminal prosecution.

In two news conferences at his vacation home here, Rockefeller indicated that he opposes prosecution of Mr. Nixon over the scandals that drove him from office.

He noted that Senate Republican leader Hugh Scott had said Mr. Nixon "has been hanged" and shouldn't be "drawn and quartered," adding "I thought it was a very good expression."

When he was asked at his second news conference whether that meant he opposes prosecution of the former President, Rockefeller said he doesn't know "the legal arguments." But he said Scott's statement "reflected the mood and the atmosphere of the Congress and the American people."

He disclosed that, although he has known President Ford for years, "the first time I sat down and talked to him" was a year ago when he urged the then House Republican leader to join his Commission on Critical Choices.

"He was the most enthusiastic supporter of this in the Congress," Rockefeller said.

A number of the questions at the news conferences dealt with whether his nomination for the vacant vice presidency meant an end to his long quest for the presidency, barring any unexpected happening.

He called such speculation "totally irrelevant" and said the country has so many serious problems that it would be "thoroughly distasteful" to speculate about future political matters.

The casually dressed Rockefeller, spoke to news-

men first on a boat dock and then while sitting on a log bench beneath some pine trees.

The only person he coun-

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sulted about whether to accept the vice presidency, he said, was his wife, Happy, who joined him at the first news conference. She said she is "thrilled as a concerned citizen" over her husband's nomination.

Here are some other subjects discussed by Rockefeller:

- **Political campaigning:** He reiterated that he won't campaign this fall against any incumbent members of the House and Senate but says he plans a "limited" political schedule consisting mainly of dates made before he was nominated.

- **Amnesty:** He thought Mr. Ford's proposal for conditional amnesty for draft resisters was "excellent" and said Mr. Ford "showed great courage" in making the proposal.

- **Disagreements:** His tendency, if he has any disagreements with Mr. Ford, "will be to give them

to him privately."

- **His vice presidential salary:** Asked if he would accept it, he replied, "I don't know why not," adding, "I don't know what it is but I'll find out."

- **The 1971 Attica uprising:** Defending his order to send in state police, which led to a shootout in which 39 convicts and hostages were killed, he said, "I just don't believe in trying to circumvent the law by taking hostages and holding guns to their heads and trying to take some extra-legal action."

- **His energy:** Asked if he had too much energy for the vice presidency, Rockefeller said, "No problem. I am totally relaxed. I am totally aware of the role of the vice presidency."

- **Being a Rockefeller:** "I never felt the disadvantages nor did I have feeling of guilt. I felt money brought with it tremendous responsibilities and opportunities."

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