

"The long national nightmare is over" and we awake groggily with feelings of relief and a profound sense of the tragic. It is only natural then that 55 per cent of a compassionate people feels sorrow for Mr. Nixon and his family, that he has already suffered enough and should, therefore, be spared further prosecution.

But as we become more fully awake, it comes to us that we must not let our passion for just one man overwhelm—and perhaps destroy—our feelings and sense of justice for the nation as a whole. While our system of laws and not men and is by no means perfect—traditionally upper and middle class offenders have received more "equal justice" than lower class defendants—let us not perpetuate one of its imperfections by failing to prosecute Mr. Nixon further because he has already suffered enough; almost every person who stands before the bar of justice has suffered greatly.

Instead, with the assurance that we are indeed a nation working toward equal justice under the law, let us get on with the distasteful and unprecedented task of prosecuting our former President. To do less would be a grandiose miscarriage of justice from which we all would suffer.

Wayland, Ma.

Virginia W. Robins.

### *Dangerous Precedent*

In the current discussion of whether ex-President Nixon should be sheltered from prosecution for misuse of office, we feel that the repercussions of granting him immunity have not been sufficiently stressed.

It is not through vindictiveness that we feel that Mr. Nixon should stand trial. The downfall of any person is tragic, even when caused by his own misdeeds. But in this case, permitting Mr. Nixon to escape prosecution would sacrifice the principles of a nation to mercy for an individual by setting a dangerous precedent: that the humiliation of resignation is the worst punishment one may suffer for abuse of public trust (compensated for by a \$60,000 a year pension). We feel that the decision to permit Mr. Spiro Agnew to escape prosecution by resignation already represents a dangerous step in this direction, and that if the President is immune by definition, the nation runs the risk of even more serious misuse of power in the future.

Julia Frey,  
William Heydt.