

CA., Mon. Aug. 23, 1976  
**The I-40 Hearing**

**THE HEARING** on the proposal to push construction of the Overton Park expressway to completion which droned on at City Hall last week had to be held. The law required it. But in fact it produced nothing new on either side of that tedious debate.

The testimony now will be bundled together with extended written reports and in due time will be forwarded to Transportation Secretary William T. Coleman for his decision. That is likely to take weeks in itself.

Given the national political situation, it is likely Coleman will not hand down that decision until late this year. But even that is not likely to be the end of the matter. Depending upon how that decision reads, there will be either new appeals to the federal courts or efforts to have Congress make an exception of Memphis under special law.

I-40 is indeed a long road.