## Finch Wins 1973 Retraction on That Memo

Los Angeles

Robert H. Finch, former White House counselor, said here yesterday that a former White House aide has retracted a memo questioning Finch's physical and mental ability to become governor of California.

Finch, now a lawyer in private practice here, said the retraction came in the form of a telegram from Charles W. Colson. The telegram came after Finch threatened to sue Colson for libel, Finch said.

Columnist Jack Anderson referred to the memo in a column appearing Tuesday in The Chronicle.

Anderson wrote that the memo was part of a "poison pen" campaign against Finch, who is considering running either for governor or U.S. senator next year.

Finch read a text of the Colson memo wired to him from Washington. It read:

"As agreed upon between our respective counsel, I here by retract any and all statements pertaining to, or which may have adversely reflected upon you, your health, your ability to practice law or hold office."

"I wish to go further than the total denial of any validity to charges or statements and offer my sincere and complete apology to you for any unfavorable impression which may have been contained." Near the end of his tenure as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, Finch was treated at Walter Reed Army Hospital for fatigue which resulted in a temporary neurological impairment of his left arm.

Finch said yesterday he would release his full medical record if he were to become a candidate.

As to when that announcement would be forthcoming, he said: "As soon as I can get garbage like this out of the way."

Our Correspondent