

Milk Official Says White House Aides Cost G.O.P. Gifts

WASHINGTON, July 16 (AP) Dairy - farmer cooperatives would have given even more than \$2-million to President Nixon's 1972 campaign if White House aides had not fumbled arrangements for receiving the money, according to newly released Watergate testimony.

Harold S. Nelson, former general manager of Associated Milk Producers, Inc., swore that early in Mr. Nixon's first term he repeatedly pressed White House officials to send him the names of conduit committees to which he could give money for Mr. Nixon.

But Mr. Nelson said he got nowhere until after the public

announcement of Mr. Nixon's decision to raise Federal milk price supports in March, 1971.

Mr. Nelson's testimony was given in a closed session of the Senate Watergate committee last December and was released publicly yesterday.

Mr. Nelson testified that the milk producers began looking for friends in the Nixon Administration when the President took office in 1969, but found doors closed to them because they had supported Hubert H. Humphrey, the Democratic nominee, for President.

After donating \$100,000 in cash to Herbert W. Kalmbach, a Nixon fund-raiser, in August, 1969, the milk producers found some White House aides who would talk to them, Mr. Nelson testified.

Soon they spoke to M. Nixon's special counsel, Charles Colson, about making more large donations to the President. The White House has said that Mr. Colson told the

President that the milk producers promised \$2-million. Mr. Nelson said that actually no specific amount was set.

"At various times, \$1-million, \$2-million, or even more was discussed. And, had they given us the names of the committees, they could have gotten much more money from us," Mr. Nelson said.

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