

THE PERISCOPE

MAURICE STANS, THE MONEYPAN

Maurice Stans, the moneypan for the 1972 Nixon campaign, was not only the most successful but probably the most heavy-handed fund raiser in history, according to Federal investigators. They have learned that Stans went directly to defense contractors and demanded 1% of their profits from the government for his campaign coffers (Stans is an accountant by profession). Not all complied, one prober says, "but a hell of a lot of them did." Federal officials are looking into the legality of the approach and into how donations were made. By law, corporations cannot make campaign contributions.

THE LEGACY OF ARCHIBALD COX

Archibald Cox, the Harvard law professor who is the new special Watergate prosecutor, has a genealogical leg up on the job. His great-grandfather, William Maxwell Evarts, one of the outstanding attorneys of the nineteenth century, defended President Andrew Johnson during his 1868 impeachment trial, was picked as prosecutor in the treason trial of Confederate President Jefferson Davis (which never took place) and argued the winning case before the commission that declared Rutherford B. Hayes winner of the disputed 1876 Presidential election.

BURMA'S RUSSIAN HOSTAGES

For the first time, Moscow faces a dilemma that has become almost commonplace for many other governments—the kidnaping of its citizens abroad to force the host country to release political prisoners. Rebels in northern Burma have grabbed two Russian physicians working on an aid mission. The kidnapers are demanding freedom for insurgents imprisoned in Rangoon.

GOLDWATER'S BONANZA

Sen. Barry Goldwater's political stock in Arizona, always high, has soared out of sight since he began pressing President Nixon to act in the Watergate scandal. The state's GOP Gov. Jack Williams has told the senator to expect a "free ride" in next year's elections. He will have no Republican opposition, and, Williams predicts, there will be no serious Democratic candidate.

WATERGATE'S 3,000-MILE RIPPLES

Sometime in June, Robert Finch, President Nixon's old friend and onetime aide, is scheduled to make his long-awaited decision about whether to

run for governor of California or for the U.S. Senate in 1974. California political handicappers are offering odds that he will elect to do neither. One big reason: despite his noninvolvement, ripples from the Watergate disaster and revelations about uses made of money raised in California by the President's former personal attorney, Herbert Kalmbach (his fund raising helped support the families of the Watergate Seven), have dried up Finch's money sources.

CLEAN AIR AND THE ENERGY CRUNCH

Low-lead gasoline, hailed as a clean-air boon, may become a casualty of the energy crisis. The big refiners have been making it, looking ahead to the July 1, 1974, date when a Federal rule will require all companies to produce a low-lead grade. Now many have stopped. The reason is that low-lead gas takes more crude oil to manufacture—and in the supply squeeze the companies are trying to make as much gas as possible. The news will be a heavy blow to Detroit, which has designed its antipollution exhaust catalysts on the premise that low-lead fuel will be universally available.

DOLLARS FOR DEMOCRATS

The new Commissioner of Internal Revenue has personally promised Sen. Russell Long that the \$1 political-campaign-contribution checkoff line will be on the first page of the next Form 1040. The Louisiana Democrat, who wrote the campaign-financing law, thinks the Administration sabotaged it by putting the checkoff (which was expected to mean most to hungry Democratic fund raisers) on a separate form.

A PARTY SWITCH IN OREGON?

Oregon's GOP Gov. Tom McCall, who has been at sword's point with his Republican legislature over his liberal program, is giving serious thought to switching parties and running next year against Robert Packwood, the state's freshman Republican senator. The betting is even money that McCall (who by law cannot run again for governor) will make the move.

HOW THE PROS ASSESS WATERGATE

Democratic strategists are already eyeing GOP targets made vulnerable by Watergate. They plan to try to defeat next year, for instance, the fourteen Republicans on the House Banking and Currency Committee who blocked a Watergate investigation by that group last October.