

Milk group attorney tells of legal fees

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SAN ANTONIO — A former attorney for Associated Milk Producers, Inc. has charged that a lawyer for the cooperative offered to pay his legal fees if he refused to give additional testimony to the Senate Water-gate committee.

However, the attorney who was alleged to have made the offer described the charge as "malicious" and said he was only attempting to find a way to test in court attorney-client privilege for the association.

Joseph A. Rose Jr., an attorney for milk producers until he was fired two months ago, testified last month in a closed-door session of the Senate committee.

The committee is looking into possible campaign financing irregularities, among them the allegation that more than \$2 million was pledged to the reelection efforts of President Nixon in return for government action favorable to the milk industry.

In an interview Friday, Rose said, "After I testified before the Senate Select Committee, Sid Harris, the Washington lawyer, offered to pay my attorneys' fees if I would risk contempt of Congress — in other words, pay attorneys' fees if I refused to testify."

Harris denied Rose's allegation. "I was trying to get the court to decide the ques-

tion of privilege. If the court decided he was to testify, he should testify," Harris said.

Rose's personal attorney, E. S. Prashner, said the alleged offer was made to him by Harris in Rose's presence in Washington on Oct. 15. Prashner said he told Har-

ris, "In other words, what you are doing is offering to pay me Joe's fees if I were to put him in jail." Prashner said he "flatly refused the offer."

Harris described Prashner's statement as "baloney . . . a lie."