

An Eisenhower for Percy--Milton

By Vera Glaser

Washington

A political rift is developing between the Nixons and their Eisenhower in-laws.

President Nixon has said that Illinois Senator Charles Percy will never get the 1976 Republican nomination if he has anything to say about it.

But last week Dr. Milton Eisenhower, the late president's brother, launched a fund-raising drive for Percy's presidential effort.

Now caught in the middle is David Eisenhower, Nixon's son-in-law and Milton's grandnephew. The situation also puts grandmother Marie in a political bind.

The 10,000 letters Milton sent out soliciting support for Percy contained sharp digs at Nixon. In a reference to Watergate, Milton called for the election in 1976 of a president who possesses "absolute integrity, moral leadership, courage, and a

middle-of-the-road philosophy . . . a leader people believe."

Nixon is bound to be irked.

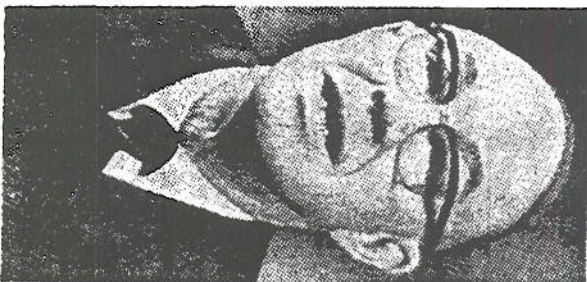
The Percy-Eisenhower relationship goes back a long way. Ike gave the former Chicago business tycoon his start in GOP politics in the early '60s.

David, who is considered a "natural" for the White House some day, was also close to Ike.

The Nixon White House provided David and his wife Julie with a dazzling showcase — until Watergate. Now David must consider its effect on his future political plans, if any.

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President Nixon dispensed hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of free prime-time advertising earlier this month when he took questions from editors on national television.



MILTON EISENHOWER
Sharp digs at Nixon

Sony, Dictabelt, General Motors, Southern California Edison and Washington Post sportswriter Shirley Povich were mentioned by Nixon as he put on a free-wheeling defence of his presidency in

the light of the Watergate scandal.

Not all plugola recipients were jumping with joy.

"I don't know what effect it will have. It depends on whether you like Nixon or not," said a local public relations official for General Motors, when asked about the President's reference to his old 1958 Oldsmobile.

"I guess I should be more excited about it," said the Dictaphone company's regional man, who said the term "Dictabelt" is often used for other types of equipment. He said he's not even sure his "belts" are in the White House.

The reaction at Sony, whose taping equipment Nixon implied was cheap and somewhat inefficient, was negative.

Sportswriter Shirley Povich, who works for the paper which broke most of the Watergate story, figured the mention had not hurt any.

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"The President's interest in sports is very genuine. It's no pose," he said.

New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller and former Treasury Secretary John Connally — both of whom are eyeing the White House — have hit some of the same places on the speaking circuit, with resulting friction between their staffs.

James W. Donley, a top Connally aide, reports that a Rockefeller advance man pooh-poohed Connally's drawing power.

"They turn out for him like they would for a side-show or circus — not because they're going to vote for him," Rocky's man said.

Donley retorted: "It's better to change parties than political philosophy. When Rockefeller was in Arizona recently, he sounded just like Barry Goldwater."