

Turner Charges Nixon Pressure

Glen W. Turner, the millionaire Florida franchiser with a taste in estates modeled after medieval castles, said yesterday that Federal authorities have kept pressing fraud charges against him because he refused to contribute \$200,000 to former President Nixon's campaign in 1971.

The 39-year-old Mr. Turner, who has been described as a supersalesman, is scheduled to go on trial with five associates in Federal Court in Tampa on Monday. All are charged with promoting a pyramid scheme through which thousands of investors were bilked of \$44-million for franchises in a "Dare to Be Great" confidence course and cosmetics distributorships.

Mr. Turner, whose trial on mail fraud charges last year ended in a mistrial, sought a dismissal of the new indictment earlier this week on grounds that he was being harassed for turning down a request for a campaign contribution.

Acting as his own attorney, he said in court briefs that in 1971 he was asked for the contribution by a man identifying himself only as "Harmon." He said that he replied, "Go fly a kite," and that "Harmon" then had told him "it would be beneficial to you and your future problems to play along."

Although he has been involved in litigation over the



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Glenn W. Turner

franchising for nearly five years, Mr. Turner has had time and the money to build a 41-room, \$3.5-million turretted "hideaway" near Sanford, Fla.

Hard economic times that have caused many Government officials to scratch for more revenue are spurring Gov. Thomas P. Salmon of Vermont to push for higher state-controlled liquor sales in competition with neighboring New Hampshire.

Both states have what is known in the liquor industry

as "monopoly," or state-operated liquor stores. In a meeting with his Liquor Control Department's board, Governor Salmon said that Vermont needed "more innovation and image" to raise its \$8.9-million annual net liquor receipts closer to New Hampshire's \$29.2-million.

In a report on Vermont's liquor operations by Budget and Management Commissioner Ronald E. W. Crisman, it was noted that while Vermont had very competitive prices, New Hampshire did a better public relations job. The report also noted that Vermont's marketing techniques were "stodgy" and seemed to be more concerned with temperance.

From the New Hampshire side, Costas S. Tantas, that state's Liquor Commission chairman, confirmed that his operation combined low prices and more promotion. He said, "our prices are such that they attract out-of-state business, with 60 per cent of sales in this category."

In a news conference after his meeting, Governor Salmon said he had approved Mr. Crisman's report and noted that liquor was one area in which more revenue could be raised in recessionary times.

Vermont Liquor Board Chairman Raymond Moore added his own comment: "We've still got a lot of prohibitionists in this state."

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