

# Sandman Drive Financing Is Under Inquiry in Jersey

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TRENTON, Sept. 10 — The a commission hearing officer New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission is ending a long investigation of the financing of Charles W. Sandman Jr.'s unsuccessful Republican campaign for Governor in 1973, it was learned today.

According to informed officials, the investigation has centered on a \$10,000 check made out by the New Jersey Republican Finance Committee, the financial arm of the state committee, to help pay off a \$20,000 contribution made in the form of a bank loan to the Sandman campaign by Anthony J. Scala, the Finance Committee's treasurer and one of Mr. Sandman's strongest supporters.

The check was authorized by Webster B. Todd, the present Republican state chairman, who was chairman of the finance committee during the 1973 campaign and who signed the Scala check.

The commission was said to be attempting to determine whether the Scala loan was a legitimate campaign debt that the finance committee had a responsibility to repay. There is no suggestion of any fraud.

### Violations Alleged

At the same time, the commission also is attempting to determine why half of the reputed campaign debt was satisfied by payment by that finance committee when it initially failed to report the receipt of the over-all loan, as required by the commission.

"There have been willful violations of the statute," a commission official reported this afternoon. "What the commission is attempting to do is see if they were only improper and not blatantly illegal."

Closed hearings conducted by

Mr. Todd and Mr. Scala. A report is expected to be submitted to the full commission soon.

The Sandman campaign debt, which now amounts to about \$150,000, has split the Republican party, with a number of Republican leaders opposed to the party's assuming any of the debts incurred by Mr. Sandman's gubernatorial campaign.

### Dinner in Dispute

Meanwhile, the simmering dispute over the division of money to be raised at President Ford's Republican fund-raising dinner on Oct. 4 still threatened the chances of its financial success.

A number of Republicans, such as Bernard M. Shanley, the Republican national committeeman from New Jersey, have refused to take part in the dinner unless Mr. Todd agrees first that a substantial portion of the receipts go toward the Republican Assembly campaign this fall.

In a telegram to Steven Dudiak, the dinner chairman and a close political associate of Mr. Sandman's, Mr. Shanley, a leader of the so-called Republican establishment that has traditionally organized Republican fund-raising in the state, said he could not take part in the dinner, particularly since he had told President Ford when he had invited him that his New Jersey appearance was primarily designed to give financial help to the Assembly campaign.