

the making of a BILLIONAIRE



Frugal J. Paul Getty got to be the world's richest man by spending money only to bring in more money.

by Preston Maynard

RECENTLY a bellhop in a New York hotel, a seaman on an ocean tanker, and an American engineer on a Middle East oil rig all were working with the nervous energy of men being watched by the boss.

While the stare of the headman wasn't directly on them, all three knew that thousands of miles away, in a small, cluttered Paris hotel room, their efforts were being scrutinized by a pair of eyes reflecting the zeal of an accountant fresh from business school.

The man with the bent for book-keeping—and owner of the hotel, tanker, and oil rig—was J. Paul Getty whose microscopic dissection of profit and loss columns has made him one of

the most prominent names in world financial circles.

And next to that name is a rare 11-letter description: billionaire!

In an age when government budgets are tabulated in astronomical numbers, the figure \$1,000,000,000 has lost some of its meaning. But if you had to squander Getty's fortune at the rate of \$1,000 an hour, you would be on a round-the-clock spending spree of 114 years and 56 days! Even if Getty were to celebrate his 114th birthday, it is more than unlikely that he'd be broke on that day.

For as an acquaintance said recently, "Getty is not a spender. He makes money, watches money, keeps money."

Clutching purse strings has become a necessity for a man who has what



▲ Louisiana is one of the states where J. Paul Getty's Tidewater Oil Co. is drilling. This rig, in a picturesque setting in Terrebonne Parish, is symbolic of the vastness of Getty's world-wide interests. The well tapped in at 14,000 ft.

