

MINYARD WON'T BACK CANDIDATE

T.P. 11/9/69
**Not Making Endorsement
in DA's Race**

Candidate for coroner Dr. Frank E. Minyard, private physician and personal friend of Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison, said Monday that he will endorse no candidate for DA in Saturday's first Democratic primary.

"I have no favorites in the DA's race," Dr. Minyard said. "The men who are running are all my friends, by the way."

Dr. Minyard addressed a luncheon meeting of the Carrollton Rotary Club at Lenfant's Restaurant.

When asked about the DA's race, Dr. Minyard commented: "The Garrison issue seems to have permeated down through every office during this race. I have always been a friend of his (Garrison's) and I admired him."

"Mr. Garrison has never asked me to do anything that is not fair. He has been hung around my neck — so to speak — for the past couple of weeks, but he has always been fair and he is a friend."

Dr. Minyard told a reporter

that Garrison has been seeking his endorsement for the past couple of weeks.

He told the club he performed a hernia operation on Garrison last year because Garrison insisted, even though he had never performed such an operation and didn't know how.

"I operated on him summer before last. It was a real 'cook book' thing — a step-by-step operation.

"It's lucky he didn't die," he said jokingly.

In response to another question, Dr. Minyard said he is endorsing no mayoral candidate in the first primary, either.

"I couldn't give my support to one man," Dr. Minyard said, explaining that he has been endorsed by four mayoral candidates and expects an official endorsement from James E. Fitzmorris Jr.

"I don't know who I'm going to vote for next Saturday," he continued. Dr. Minyard said he is not familiar with being a "politician" and used to clip the endorsements of The Times-Picayune to use in the polling booth.

In an attack on the incumbent coroner, Dr. Minyard charged that Dr. Carl H. Rabin has not inspected Parish Prison or the House of Detention for sanitation and submitted a monthly report to the City Council, as he is required to do.

"The present coroner hasn't done this," he said. "I will make this report when I am elected — and send a copy to the press."