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CONNICK URGES PUBLIC TO THINK

-P 10/18/62
Garrison Administration
Comes Under Fire

District Attorney candidate Harry Connick attacked the Jim Garrison administration Tuesday for not doing its job and for trying to fool the people that it did.

Addressing a luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club of Gentilly in the Bayou Shores Country Club, Connick said Garrison keeps talking about his "great accomplishments" during his seven years in office.

"He says he has won 850 jury trials during his administration. This is a lot of jury trials. But the public should do a lot of thinking about this," declared Connick.

FIGURE MEANS LITTLE

He said that the 850 figure means little more than 100 jury trials per year since Garrison has been in office. Breaking it down further by the eight sections of Criminal District Court (the court has since been expanded to 10 sections), Connick said this means that each section handled only 12 jury trials a year, or one jury trial a month.

"One is not enough. Somebody is not doing his job," Connick asserted.

He also attacked Garrison's claim that he has "cleaned up" Bourbon St.

"He says he cleaned up Bourbon St., but I find it curi-

ous that the police last week made 51 arrests for B-drinking and narcotics violations. Why, if it was clean, were the arrests made?

CONNICKS CHALLENGES

Connick also challenged Garrison's claim that his office has never lost a murder case over the last seven years.

"Are they trying to fool us?" asked Connick, adding that Garrison and his aides, when asked, did not know the number of murder cases which have been prosecuted over the past seven years. Connick also noted that Garrison did not prosecute any of the murder cases himself. He said that most of the murder cases were reduced to manslaughter charges.

Connick called Garrison the "Great Accuser" and said it was time for the public to notify the DA's office at Tulane and Broad that it was "tried" of the present administration.

'SLAP IN THE FACE'

If elected, Connick promised to pursue swift, fair and efficient prosecution of criminals and to crack down on the bail bond jumpers. He said the latter now number 1,100 with the forfeited bond total standing at over \$1 million.

Asked by a Rotary member about Garrison's pursuit of the Clay Shaw presidential conspiracy case, Connick replied that it was Garrison's duty to start the investigation if there was sufficient evidence to warrant it. But he said the case began to "smell" and "looked fishy" when Garrison turned up unreliable witnesses. The investigation then turned out to be a "slap in the face" for the community, resulting in a "shabby show" in court, he said.

Referring to the conspiracy case, Connick said, "We can afford only one Mardi Gras an that should be on Canal St. n Tulane and Broad."