

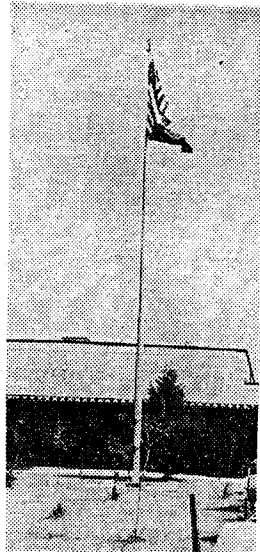
GARRISON 'OUT' OR 'IN TRACTION'

T-P 9/27/69
Excuses Vary for Failures
to Appear

Two Times-Picayune reporters who knocked at the door of District Attorney Jim Garrison's home Friday night were told he was out with his wife—only an hour and a quarter after he had failed to appear at a meeting on the grounds that he was in traction to treat his ailing back.

The DA had been listed as the guest speaker at a dinner at the Metairie Baptist Church at 7 p.m. Friday.

A Times-Picayune reporter who went to the church to cover Garrison's address was told by a member of the congregation that the DA had sent word that he was in traction and would



—Photo by The Times-Picayune.
FLAG OF THE DAY

Hazel Park School on Jefferson Hwy. is a scenic setting for the Stars & Stripes. Another in a series of photos showing the American flag on display in the New Orleans area.

be unable to attend the affair.

WISHED TO DELAY

The spokesman further stated that Garrison had said that instead of sending a substitute, as he has done throughout his campaign for reelection when he was scheduled to address the public, the DA wished to postpone his talk until he was able to appear personally.

At 8:15 p. m., the two reporters went to Garrison's home at 4600 Owens Blvd. and knocked on the door.

Garrison's 10-year-old son Jasper came to the door and said his parents were out.

Asked when they would be back, the boy said he would try to find out from his grandmother, who was sitting with the DA's children.

The boy returned and said his parents would be home "sometime after 9 o'clock" Friday night.

HOSPITAL UNINFORMATIVE

A call to Hotel Dieu Hospital, which Garrison reportedly entered late last week for treatment of his back, proved fruitless.

An operator at the hospital's main switchboard connected one of the reporters with the hospital's information operator.

Asked what room the DA was in, the information operator said she had received orders not to give out any details about him.

When the information operator was asked merely to verify whether or not Garrison was a patient at the hospital, she replied, "I have been ordered not to reveal anything about him. Any information will have to come from his office or from the hospital administrator," who had left for the night.