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Chief Justice, Mitchell Hit In Editorial

BOSTON, Oct. 1 (AP)—Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and Attorney General John N. Mitchell have been labeled as "detrac-tors" of rather than spokes-men for the legal profession in the forthcoming issue of "Trial" magazine, published by the American Trial Law-ers Association.

Sen. Charles Percy (R.-Ill.), who has a law degree, was ac-cused of the same.

The editorial cited this statement attributed to Burger: "All too often over-zealous advocates seem to think the zeal and effective-ness of a lawyer depends on how thoroughly he can disrupt proceedings."

"The words 'all too often' make this an overblown com-plaint lacking validity," the editorial said. It cited a recent preliminary study sponsored by the New York City Bar As-sociation, which found that in court misbehavior by lawyers was insignificant.

The editorial also mentioned this statement attributed to Mitchell: "The hydra of excess proceduralisms, archaic for-mulations, pretrial motions, appeals, postponements, con-tinuance and collateral attack can have the effect of drag-ging justice to death and steal-ing the very life out of the law."

The editorial criticized Sen. Percy for allegedly asking a witness during a Senate sub-committee hearing, "Would you agree with street talk that Judge S. is the best judge money can buy?"