

## Disagrees with 'Justice' editorial

Your editorial of Dec. 19, "Threat to Justice" was certainly, in my opinion, one of the most flagrant abuses of freedom of the press that I have ever seen. I do not deny that you have every right to editorialize, but I had to wonder, in reading this one, just where honest opinion stopped and exploitation began.

Such shallow mouthings and abrasive phrases as Judge Alcock being rewarded for the "persecution" of Clay L. Shaw, rather than "prosecution" of Shaw, and your reference to his appointment to the judgeship as a "mere travesty," to say nothing of your broad statement that Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison "apparently has a lot of unused political credit with the governor," might, in my opinion, be classified as verbal vandalism.

I do not know Messrs. Alcock or Garrison personally. I do know Judge Shea and Judge Oser. They are honorable men and were elected by the people and surely you or no one else can say with certainty or truth that these fine men are controlled by Garrison or any one else, they have compassion and humility for their fellow men.

Their judgment is based on law and fact and evidence not on political patronage to Garrison or anyone. They are fair and impartial in their findings and deliberations on all cases before them and I am convinced this same trait holds true for the other Judges of the City of New Orleans just as well.

I felt urged by your editorial to jump to their defense because it gave me the feeling that you were criticizing them just for the sake of being critical. As if condemnation and cynicism were becoming your special sciences.

If you must influence public opinion,

why slander and ridicule? Even before a person has been permitted to display his capabilities. The press does its readers a tremendous service when it keeps us informed. It also develops a most unfavorable climate when it trifles with the truth. One of the most important things that could help cure a multitude of our present evils would be the ability of the media to handle the truth. It seems to me that your paper has treated its readers to an unending array of "heroes" who became instant successes with one riot, one demonstration, or one violent speech. Why not give Judge Alcock equal treatment and give him just one chance to prove himself before you shoot your verbal slants at him?

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