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May 3-63

Garrison's Conspiracy

Jim Garrison, the rambunctious district attorney of New Orleans, has established one thing so far in his investigation of President Kennedy's assassination. He has proved that a great many people in this country are so eager to find some great plot behind the President's death that they will grasp at straws.

According to a Harris Survey published in this newspaper Monday morning, one in every four Americans has been converted to the conspiracy theory in the last three or four months. Since nothing has happened in that time concerning the assassination except the opening of Mr. Garrison's circus, the only thing the change can be attributed to is that circus and the publicity it has had.

But it is far easier to stir the doubts of all of us who hate to think that Mr. Kennedy died only because of the malevolence of one man than it is to produce evidence of a sinister plot. And Mr. Garrison has yet to produce in public *any* evidence unless one considers as evidence the flights of fantasy that can be woven from bits of facts or the theories that seem to spring in full bloom from Mr. Garrison's brow.

Mr. Garrison does have an answer for everything—the press hindered his investigation; the CIA won't tell him what he wants to know; expended cartridges were not found at Dallas because men were designated to pick them up immediately; bullets were not found because they were of a type that disintegrate on contact; etc. But his answers are not facts or, even less, evidence.