

## Trying the District Attorney

(An Editorial)

T-P  
It is highly significant that Jim Garrison has given up seriously trying to defend his administration and is now pitching his campaign on an attack on the press.

This, in reverse, is the old trick known in the legal profession as "Trying the District Attorney." A defense lawyer with a weak case does not attempt to focus on the issues but seeks to belittle the "prosecution." It is small wonder that the New Orleans Bar Association poll preferred Jim Garrison's opponents to him by a margin of 6 to 1.

Would it not be more appropriate for Jim Garrison to answer the charges against him than to attack those who make these charges?

Why has Mr. Garrison appeared only infrequently at his office at the criminal courts building and even less frequently in the criminal courts themselves?

Is there any valid reason for the

district attorney to have delayed attempts to collect many hundreds of thousands of dollars in bail bonds forfeited by bondsmen who failed to produce alleged criminals for trial?

Isn't the primary responsibility of the district attorney to seek to prevent crime in the streets by prompt hearings for multiple offenders, narcotics addicts and other potentially dangerous persons awaiting trial?

Why has there been no active effort by the district attorney against organized crime?

Why has there been no investigation by the district attorney of the affairs of Louisiana Loan and Thrift Company?

For many months Mr. Garrison's administration, in our opinion, has been more concerned with national publicity than the protection of the people of New Orleans.

For that protection, we suggest Harry Connick.