

OXFORD LEGAL EDITOR

Critical of Garrison

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — An Oxford university law professor Saturday criticized New Orleans District Ttly. Jim Garrison as "publicity drunk" in his investigation of President Kennedy's assassination.

Sir Arthur Goodhart, editor of the Law Quarterly Review, made his comments at Law Day ceremonies at Arizona State university near Phoenix.

Knighted by the British government for his long service to the profession, Goodhart said the New Orleans investigation is an example of trial by district attorney.

"There has been a lot of talk about trial by newspapers but that isn't true in this case," he said. "They (newspapers) must publish what the district attorney says."

"This is an example of trial by the district attorney which is the most unfortunate feature of our American criminal law system."

Goodhart said that Garrison's emphasis on publicity has served to discredit the United States abroad.

While praising the American press for its restraint in reporting the Garrison investigation, he was less complimentary of European newspapers.

Goodhart suggested the the European press is distorting the significance of the New Orleans probe by giving it prominent display and printing the wildest speculations of the probe.

The Oxford professor, an American citizen, also was critical of two books which attacked the investigative commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren.

He said that "Rush to Judgment," by Mark Lane, "is always hinting at things but there isn't a single definite statement in it."

He said Edwar J. Epstein, author of "Inquest: The Warren Commission and the Establishment of Truth," alleges that eight lawyers who worked for the commission criticized its members for not doing their work.

Goodhart said he cabled the lawyers and each one denied the Epstein charge was true.