

Trapolin Calls For Garrison Resignation

Attorney Ivor A. Trapolin, former chairman of the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Organized Crime, says Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison should resign and the administration of criminal justice in Orleans Parish should be investigated by the state bar association.

"It is my opinion that Jim Garrison should resign as district attorney of Orleans Parish," said Trapolin at a Young Men's Business Club meeting at the Fairmont Roosevelt Hotel.

If Garrison cannot be persuaded to step down, he declared, impeachment proceedings should be initiated.

Referring to the legend engraved in stone on the facade of the Criminal District Court Building—"The impartial administration of justice is the foundation of liberty"—Trapolin said recent actions by the DA should give citizens "reason to be concerned that the foundation of liberty has been considerably shaken."

HE SAID GARRISON'S prosecution of New Orleans businessman Clay Shaw for conspiracy in the murder of President John F. Kennedy was executed in bad faith as stated last week by U.S. District Court Judge Herbert W. Christenberry, and he called Garrison's personal criticism of Christenberry for enjoining further prosecution of Shaw an "inexcusable attack."

Another example of Garrison's failure to administer justice fairly, he said, was his office's unsuccessful prosecution of attorney Robert G. Haik. Haik's conviction for unauthorized use of a movable in connection with business dealings with Garrison's mother was overturned unanimously by the state Supreme Court on the grounds that the acts alleged required "novel and strained interpretations for bringing them within criminal statutes."

Principal speaker at the gathering was state Sen. Charles C. Barham of Lincoln Parish, and independent candidate for lieutenant governor.

GARRISON also had failed to adequately prosecute cases involving organized crime in New Orleans, Trapolin charged.

He called for an investigation of Garrison's office by the New Orleans and Louisiana Bar Associations, the New Orleans Criminal Bar Association and the Louisiana Board of Ethics for State Elected Officials.