

Ex-Agnew Writer Blasts the Press

Melvin J. Grayson, a former speech writer for Vice President Spiro Agnew, said yesterday the "liberal-dominated" press is guilty of mudslinging in its coverage of the Watergate affair.

Grayson is co-author of a book, "The Disaster Lobby," a muckraking attack on the American news media.

In an interview here Grayson said, "Watergate was brought up (by the media) to embarrass the President. "It is back in the news now because it has become real news. When the trial began there was a legitimate reason for bringing it up."

Yet, he contended, the newspapers "still are using innuendo" in their reporting of the affair.

In the reporting on Watergate, he said, the media have been "emulating the worst of Joe McCarthy, slinging mud on everybody in sight and knowing that

somebody will be found guilty.

"Scores of names are mentioned but I am sure that 80 to 90 per cent of them will turn out to be innocent."

He criticized reporters for "sneaking around and trying to get grand jury testimony" about the White House scandal.