

JUDGE BROWN'S COURT

12 Turned Down For Ruby's Jury

Twelve potential jurors were brought into the crowded, bustling courtroom Wednesday where Judge Joe B. Brown is attempting to seat 12 impartial citizens so that the Jack Ruby murder trial case can be tried in Dallas.

None of the 12 was accepted. The state refused one and the defense two.

Here in capsule form is what the dozen said Wednesday:

J. I. Richardson, 36, 4204 W. Clarendon, said he had religious scruples against the death penalty. He was excused by the court.

Jesse R. Jones, 59, of Lancaster, was excused by Judge Brown for the same reason.

J. H. Roper, 41, 3224 Chapel Downs, said he had no scruples about the death penalty but admitted he had an opinion about the guilt or innocence of Jack Ruby. He was excused by the court.

Charles S. Toon, 4729 San Marcus, Mesquite, said he would enter the jury box with the belief that Ruby might be a Communist, that that fact might be proved or disproved in the trial. He said he had discussed the case several times with workers and friends.

Toon said he was somewhat upset that someone had killed Oswald and felt that the world was deprived of finding out who was behind the self-styled Marxist. The court excused Toon.

Frank Meza, 38, 3814 Mount Everest, said he had no fixed opinions about the case, had nothing against psychiatrists, didn't think Dallas was necessarily on trial, would believe a strip-tease artist as well as any other witness and had no prejudice against anyone. He was the state's first peremptory challenge.

H. C. Connally, 34, 9114 Westglent, said he could not identify Ruby as the man who shot Oswald on the television screen, could not recall all that he had read about the case and wouldn't mind the death verdict if the facts warranted it. He said he was a distant relative of Gov. John Connally and said, "I personally would not like to be a juror." He was excused by the defense's third peremptory challenge.

John A. Lampo Sr., 45, 7239 E. Mockingbird, said he had formed an opinion about Ruby's guilt. "This is no ordinary case," he

said, "This is a cut and dried affair." He was excused by the court.

A. H. Fawks, 3438 W. 10th, said he couldn't assess the death penalty. "All my life I've been a Christian gentleman," he said, "and this is just against my principles." The court dismissed him.

Clarence E. Gilmore, 29, 915 S. Waterview, Richardson, said he definitely would not try Ruby on newspaper accounts of the slaying, said he had "heard it discussed" that Ruby had a motive and said he would "call the shots as I see them" if he were to be on the jury. Gilmore said he had wondered about the origin of the defense attorneys' funds. He said he could lay aside what he had heard, read and seen but "it could never be guaranteed" that something might not come out of his subconscious mind to affect the verdict. The court dismissed him.

Mrs. Marguerite Dixon, 54, 3027 Maryland, said she had religious scruples against assessing the death penalty. She was released by the court.

Hugh O'Neal Dancer, 36, 2539 El Cerrito, said, "I definitely have an opinion (as to Ruby's guilt or innocence). I had it when I walked in here. I'll put it aside to the best of my ability, but I have it." He said it would take evidence to prove Ruby was innocent—in his mind. The court dismissed him.

Hubbard L. Hill, 53, 113 W. Avenue F, Garland, said he believed in the death penalty, held no prejudice and could lay aside all he had read, heard and discussed, and believed he could be a fair juror. Defense attorneys asked the court to strike him because of opinions but Judge Brown refused. The defense used its fourth peremptory challenge.