

# Judge Brown Hopes for Jury This Week

Judge Joe B. Brown expressed a hope Tuesday that lawyers will complete the jury for the Jack Ruby murder trial this week.

"I think our chances of getting a jury have improved materially," Judge Brown said. "I think it's possible now that we may com-

plete the jury this week."

His comments came after lawyers chose two jurors in quick succession, bringing the total to five. They need seven more to complete the panel which must decide whether Ruby committed murder when he shot Lee Harvey

Oswald, the Marxist accused of assassinating President Kennedy.

Reporters agreed during the morning that defense lawyers Melvin Belli and Joe Tonahill had adopted more conciliatory tactics while questioning prospective jurors. The lawyers were no longer accusing veniremen of "trying to get on the jury" or challenging them to take lie detector tests.

Dist. Atty. Henry Wade noticed the change, too.

"I don't know the reason," Wade said. "It may be that they're tired or that they're worried about running out of peremptory challenges (which allow them to reject 15 prospective jurors without giving a reason) or that they're finally convinced Judge Brown isn't going to transfer the trial."

Tonahill denied defense lawyers had changed strategy.

"If my voice sounds softer, it's because I have a cold," he said. "Of course, we've never tried to argue with prospective jurors... regardless of what Wade says. We have tried to find what is in their sub-conscious minds."

The Texas Supreme Court refused Monday to clear the way for defense lawyers to disqualify every prospective juror who had seen the shooting on television. This would have forced Judge Brown to transfer the trial to another county.

Belli said Monday he might go directly to the U.S. Supreme Court. Tuesday, however, he told reporters, "We're going to stay here and see what happens."

Belli asked Judge Brown again Tuesday to move the trial. The defense lawyer said Wade wants to convict Ruby "to further the political ambitions of the district attorney."

"A fair trial in Dallas amounts to letting a jury go in there (the jury room) and voting to send Ruby to the electric chair," Belli declared.

Judge Brown saw little merit in the defense contention. He promptly rejected it.

## ★ HERE'S HOW JURY GOING

Attorneys have questioned 80 prospective jurors since jury selection for the Jack Ruby murder trial began Feb. 17, with the following results:

Five have been accepted for the jury.

Defense lawyers used peremptory challenges to reject nine without giving any reason. Prosecutors used three of their 15 peremptory challenges.

One potential juror was excused because of illness.

Judge Joe B. Brown ruled the other 62 disqualified for a variety of reasons. Most said they had opinions which could affect their verdicts or conscientious scruples against the death penalty.

## IRS People File Tax Lien on Ruby

Jack Ruby would consider it the least of his worries, but deputies in County Clerk Glenn Byrd's office said Tuesday they have filed another tax lien against him.

Internal Revenue agents said in the lien that Ruby owes the federal government \$781 in excise taxes on his Vegas Club.

Ruby is standing trial on a charge of murdering Lee Harvey Oswald and prosecutors are seeking the death penalty.

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