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# Tantrums Disrupt Ruby Murder Trial

By CARL FREUND

Temper tantrums and hot arguments disrupted the Jack-Ruby murder trial Monday.

Attorneys spent much of the day exchanging insults in the hot, humid courtroom. It ended with the lawyers still short two jurors.

Judge Joe B. Brown ordered them to return to Criminal District Court No. 3 at 9 a.m. Tuesday for another attempt to pick the 11th and 12th jurors.

They will join eight men and two women in deciding whether Ruby committed murder when he shot Lee Harvey Oswald two days after Oswald's arrest as the prime suspect in the assassination of President Kennedy.

As the temperature climbed near the 90-degree mark in the steamy courtroom these developments took place:

—Judge Brown fined Joe Tona-hill, a defense attorney, \$25 for contempt of court after the lawyer hurled a pencil to the floor in a fit of anger.

—Defense lawyers used their 18th—and last—peremptory challenge. As a result, they must accept a prospective juror if Judge Brown rules him qualified. (The defense normally gets 15 challenges in a murder trial, but Judge Brown allowed Ruby's lawyers 3 more.)

—Defense lawyers protested long and loud after learning that Maurice A. Melford, national director of the National Epilepsy League, had distributed pamphlets outside the courtroom. The pamphlets criticized defense lawyers for contending that Ruby was in an epileptic seizure when he shot Oswald.

Judge Brown rejected a defense request that he halt the trial, noting the prospective jurors had not seen the pamphlets.

—Dist. Atty. Henry Wade and his assistant, A. D. Jim Bowie, described the defense lawyers as publicity seekers who "try to put on a show before each television deadline."

—Bowie declared it was "highly improper" for a defense psychiatrist to conduct press conferences "right here at the courtroom door."

One outburst flared as Judge Brown announced an afternoon recess. With the judge still on the bench, Belli and Bowie tried to outshout each other.

While both talked at the tops of their voices, Judge Brown walked out of the courtroom.

Minutes later, while the lawyers and Judge Brown conferred in his chambers, reporters in a corridor heard Belli refer to Wade as "white-livered."

Judge Brown kept repeating, "Hush, Joe. Hush."

Judge Brown threatened to hold Belli in contempt after the defense lawyer accused Wade of "insulting" Negroes called for jury service. Judge Brown, who apparently felt the accusation was baseless, told Belli sternly, "Sit down, Mr. Belli, and don't get in contempt."

Melford apologized for distributing the pamphlets near the courtroom and said he would not do so again.

Attorneys have questioned 189 prospective jurors since the trial began Feb. 17. Observers predict they will finally complete the jury Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning, clearing the way for testimony.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

"The Dallas Morning News" Dallas, Texas

Date: 3-3-64

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title: Jack B. Krueger

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Dallas

NOT RECORDED

128 MAR 24 1964

57 MAR 24 1964