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2 NEW WITNESSES FACE QUIZ BY SHAW LAWYERS

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New Orleans
States-Item

Dr. Chetta Is Due Back On Stand

Two new witnesses with Latin names were subpoenaed to testify today as the preliminary hearing for Clay L. Shaw moved into its fourth day.

First due on the stand was Dr. Nicholas Chetta, Orleans Parish coroner, to answer more questions about Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's star witness in the hearing, Perry R. Russo.

The hearing is to determine whether Garrison has sufficient evidence to bring Shaw, former director of the International Trade Mart, to trial on charges of conspiracy to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

SHAW, 54, SHOWED signs of weariness as the hearing moved through its third day yesterday. His eyes were bloodshot, his suit rumpled.

"How would you like to swap places with me?" he asked a newsman, with a glum smile.

The two new witnesses were apparently a pair referred to by Russo as having attended a party at which he says a plot was hatched in September, 1963, to kill the President.

The new witnesses subpoenaed by Shaw's attorney were Manuel G. Gonzales and Julio Buzenero.

Russo, the witness who identified Shaw as the same "Clem Bertrand" who plotted with David Ferrie and Lee Harvey Oswald to kill the President, had mentioned the names Manuel and Julio during testimony yesterday.

IN HIS TESTIMONY yesterday, Dr. Chetta, an expert witness for the state, called Russo sane.

"I feel that Perry Russo fulfilled all of the requirements of legal sanity," the coroner testified.

Dr. Chetta said he based his conclusion "on talking to him, observing him, listening to his past history . . ."

The appearance of Dr. Chetta followed two days of cross-examination of Russo by Shaw's attorneys.

Among other things, the cross-examination brought ought the fact that Russo had been hypnotized on three different occasions under the supervision of the district attorney's office and that he had undergone psychiatric treatment.

SHAW'S ATTORNEYS fought yesterday to stop the testimony of Dr. Chetta, but were unsuccessful.

Defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond objected to the testimony of Dr. Chetta concerning the use of sodium pentothal, sometimes called a "truth serum."

Judge Matthew S. Braniff, one of three judges sitting in the hearing, told Dymond he

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had "opened the door" to the line of questioning when he interrogated Russo earlier about being hypnotized during the course of questioning by the DA's office.

Judge Braniff told Dymond he should not object to the line of questioning by Asst. Dist. Atty. Alvin Oser.

He said Dymond has insinuated "that the witness was crazy or that he was hypnotized before he came on the witness stand."

Judge Bernard J. Bagert, the presiding member of the three judge panel that also includes Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara, asked Dymond, "Did you or did you not ask the witness if her tried to jump out a window?"

DYMOND HAD contended that the "truth serum test is not admissible as evidence."

Oser contended, however, that "at 10:25 a. m. Mr. Dymond asked the witness if he ever attempted to commit suicide. He introduced the question of sanity."

Dr. Chetta testified that he first met Russo in his private office on Feb. 27 at 3:30 p. m.

He said he went with Russo to Mercy Hospital and to No. 1 surgical suite.

HE TOLD OF preparations prior to the injection of sodium pentothal into the right arm of Russo and of the patient's agreement in writing to take the test.

Dr. Chetta was then asked how many times he ~~was~~ Russo before giving him the so-

dium pentothal. The answer was one.

Q. How many after giving the sodium pentothal?

A. Approximately six times.

Q. How many times did you see him placed under hypnosis?

A. Three times.

HE SAID THE first time was in the coroner's office, the second time in the district attorney's suite and the third time in the coroner's office again.

The coroner was then asked, "What is your opinion of the sanity of Perry Russo?"

Oser then described a "hypothetical case" of a man fitting Russo's actions in 1963 and asked Dr. Chetta, "What is your opinion of his sanity?"

"I could say he was not insane. That he was sane."

"What would you say of his sanity os of today and yesterday?"

"THE BEHAVIOR of the hypothetical person is that of a rational, controlled . . . intelligent individual," said Dr. Chetta.

"What were your observations as to whether he was faking under sodium pentothal," Oser then asked.

Following an objection from the defense, the coroner replied, "I would say it was definitely not a fake on the part of Perry Russo. I tested him while he was under the effects by having him touch his nose. He went beyond and couldn't find his nose, which showed . . . he was not coordinated at all. He had a slurring speech and his respiration was deep, slow and regular."

The doctor also testified that there was another sign that Russo was not faking.

He said that after the pentothal was discontinued and Russo had recovered, he told the coroner, "I forgot to tell you something . . ."

Dr. Chetta said that, actually, Russo had made the statement while under the influence of sodium pentothal and did not know it.

OSER THEN ASKED Dr. Chetta if the statements made by Russo under the effects of sodium pentothal and those made without it

were "substantially the same."

The defense again objected, and the question was tried again several different ways.

Finally, Judges Bagert and Braniff decided to overrule the objection, although Judge O'Hara contended that the state questioning was a "very subtle disguise to get hearsay into the record."

Finally, Chetta answered in the affirmative and said that the test was a factor in his conclusion that Russo was sane.

"In the use of sodium pentothol, does it aid a person to recall in a clearer fashion than without?" Dr. Chetta was asked.

"The effect of sodium pentothol is that it removes any mental blocks the person may have," was the reply.

"IN THE USE of hypnosis . . . does this aid the person to recall more clearly?"

"There is a similarity between the two. The ultimate end is the same—to get them to recall."

Earlier, in the closing cross-examination by Dymond, Russo denied that he took any part in the assassination plot.

"You weren't part of it?" Dymond asked.

"No, sir."

"WAS IT UNDERSTOOD

that these three men (Oswald, Skew and Ferrie) would actually participate in the assassination?"

"I didn't get that impression, no."

"Was Dallas mentioned?"

"No," said Russo.

"That's all," Dymond concluded.

SHAW WAS arrested March 1 and is free on \$10,000 bond.

He has denied knowing either Oswald or Ferrie and has said he was never involved in a conspiracy of any kind.

James Lewallen, a former roommate of Ferrie's, has also been subpoenaed by the district attorney's office to appear at the hearing.