

## JUDGE TO DON COWBOY SUIT

# Mardi Gras 'Fever' Causes Recess in Clay Shaw Trial

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NEW ORLEANS—Judge Edward Haggerty Jr. recessed the Clay L. Shaw trial early Monday when two jurors announced they felt "queasy."

The judge called in a doctor who gave this diagnosis, according to Haggerty: the two jurors' trouble resulted from the tension of being away from their families over Mardi Gras.

"There's nothing serious, nothing serious," Haggerty said.

The judge, before adjourning until Wednesday morning, prescribed the following treatment:

"I have a place for all you jurors to watch the Rex Parade and the Krewe of Orleanians.

"Please do not let anyone try to make a mockery or joke because we

are trying to accommodate you for the parades.

"If they want to throw doubloons at you from the floats, you can catch them—but don't make a spectacle of yourself."

Today is Mardi Gras, climax of this city's traditional carnival season and the Rex Parade is the most majestic event of the two-week long frolic including the bands, floats and merry-makers of the Krewe of Orleanians.

Doubloons, replicas of old Spanish coins, are among the trinkets thrown along surging Canal St. and brightly bannered St. Charles Ave. to throngs, echoing a two-century-old chant:

"Throw me something, Mister."

Judge Haggerty confided out of court that, as always, he will mask for Mardi Gras.

"I've done that ever since I got out of the Navy in World War II," he said, as if astonished at the suggestion that he might not be in costume this year.

The judge, stocky and silver-maned, said he will swashbuckle as a cowboy today. "I've got myself a big Stetson and Western boots. I may even carry a cap pistol," he said, a grin cracking across his craggy

Irish features.

"Did you ever think of putting the jurors on floats, sending them in the parade and calling them the 'Krewe of Haggerty?'" a newsman asked him.

"No," replied the judge, but he added that he had arranged to have the jurors watch the parade from a balcony of a friend on St. Charles Ave. from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. They'll dine on box lunches.

### Gift of Gilded Coconuts

The judge also noted that he received a gift of a dozen gilded coconuts from the "King of the Krewe of Zulu."

The Zulus at each Mardi Gras disembark from a Mississippi River raft and follow an aimless course through the city. Louis Armstrong is the most famous of the former Zulu kings.

In years past Zulus threw raw coconuts as trinkets. They have been subjected to restraints in recent years because of the number of head injuries sustained by onlookers.

Judge Haggerty dashed a report that he would convene court only in the afternoon Wednesday, allowing trial participants who over-celebrate today time to recover. "It'll be 9 a.m. Ash Wednesday," Judge Haggerty said, half-smiling, half-frowning.

### Shaw Won't Be There

Shaw, until his arrest two years ago, had been a familiar sight at Mardi Gras because of his colorful variety of costumes. He said Monday he does not plan to mask or even leave his French Quarter residence today.

Ennui frequently over-

took newsmen and spectators Monday as recesses became more frequent and

prolonged. They relieved it by composing limericks, most of them unprintable.

Almost lost in this atmosphere of nonsense Monday was testimony given at the trial of Shaw, charged by Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison with conspiring to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

The major witnesses were Regis Kennedy, an FBI agent here at the time of the assassination, and Dr. John Nichols, associate professor of pathology at the University of Kansas.

Kennedy, now retired from the FBI, testified about searching the city for a "Clay Bertrand" after the assassination because of a local lawyer's story that he had received a call from a man of that name asking if he would consider defending Lee Harvey Oswald, whom the Warren Commission concluded was the sole assassin.

### 'Clay Bertrand' Alias

Garrison claims Shaw plotted the President's murder using the aliases of "Clay Bertrand" and "Clem Bertrand."

Questioning of the former FBI agent, who long ago told his story to Warren Commission investigators, developed nothing that was not published in the commission's report or elsewhere.

Dr. Nichols was qualified as an expert in "forensic pathology" by Judge Haggerty after Nichols said his expertise lay in diagnosing "human tissue" to "determine if a crime had been committed."

His testimony dealt mainly, however, with impressions he drew from the Zapruder film, a short movie sequence of the assassination made by an amateur photographer.

F. Irvin Dymond, Shaw's chief counsel, repeatedly objected to Dr. Nichols' testimony on the grounds he had been qualified as a pathologist, not as a ballistics or photographic expert.

Dr. Nichols viewed both the Zapruder film and color slides made from it, then testified: "I would say the (fatal) gunshot has been delivered from the front."

Garrison claims President Kennedy was caught in a cross fire and that the second and fatal shot, the one that exploded the front of his skull and hurled his body backward, entered from the front.

The Warren Commission held that both shots that hit the President entered from the rear.