

LOUNGE TO END TOPLESS ATTIRE

T-P 11/2/67

DA Halts Jamaica Inn Padlocking Effort

At a brief session Friday in Civil District Court, there was agreement that topless waitresses won't return to the Jamaican Village Inn, 800 N. Rampart, if the lounge reopens.

The district attorney's office withdrew its one-year padlocking effort against the lounge, scene of two bare-breasted waitresses last week.

In addition, the owner, Edward Centa, agreed to keep out topless waitresses and any other obscenity.

After general agreement by attorneys, Judge S. Sanford Levy issued a permanent injunction to prohibit topless attire there.

NO LONGER VALID

In addition, he ruled that Centa's lease with lessees Robert Songy and Gordon Novel is no longer valid.

Centa went along with the DA's opposition to toplessness but was trying to break the lease and prevent padlocking.

Novel has been sought for several months in the DA's Kennedy assassination probe.

Judge Levy also ruled that Centa is entitled to \$750 in damages and that Jay "Sonny" Bennett, who permitted the toplessness, is entitled to remove his piano from the premises.

'FREE FROM FAULT'

Asst. DA John P. Volz testified that Centa had no knowledge of what was happening at the place and was "free from fault."

Despite this, his license has been revoked and the bar closed by the Louisiana Alcoholic Beverage Control Board.

First Assistant D. A. Charles R. Ward and Bill Lyons, vice-chairman of the board, explained to a reporter Friday that Centa will have to re-apply if he wants to reopen the Jamaican Village Inn and that approval of both the ABC Board and the DA's office will be necessary for any new lessees.