

# 12TH SHAW CASE JUROR IS PICKED

Trial Is Recessed Until  
Tomorrow Morning

By PAUL ATKINSON

Peter M. Tatum, a mechanic for Kaiser Aluminum, early Saturday afternoon became the 12th juror for the Clay Shaw conspiracy trial.

Tatum, in his mid-40s, withstood a 30-minute barrage of questions by Assistant District Attorney James L. Alcock and Chief Defense Counsel F. Irvin Dymond to qualify at 12:45 p.m.

Following a 90-minute recess for lunch, Criminal District Court Judge Edward A. Haggerty and attorneys for the State and defense raced through another 21 men, seeking two alternates. The State in the process used one of its two peremptory challenges, but no one was accepted as an alternate.

By 3 p.m., the total of 132 who appeared for the day had been questioned and Judge Haggerty adjourned the court until 10 a.m. Monday. Another 150 persons have been summoned for questioning then. Additionally, eight others who were served with notices for Saturday but who didn't show will be called into court for possible jury duty.

Judge Haggerty indicated that even if the two alternate jurors are picked Monday morning, he will not get into the trial proper until the next day, Tuesday. The judge said both sides have requested a break to

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allow them to contact witnesses who live out-of-town and are on standby.

There were 110 prospective jurors turned back before Tatum took the stand. Most were disqualified because of financial hardship, but one, Frank P. Barbier, drew chuckles from the sparse audience with his reason.

Judge Haggerty explained, "He says he has no particular reason, except he is 84." The judge immediately excused Barbier.

Tatum told Judge Haggerty that he is a native of Prattville, Ala., but has lived in New Orleans since 1953. He told the judge he has no opinion of the guilt or innocence of Shaw.

### KNOWS SOME POLICEMEN

Under questioning by Alcock,

Tatum acknowledged that he knew some policemen, who are members of his American Legion Post, but he wouldn't give their testimony any more weight than anyone else's.

Tatum said he didn't know any of the alleged co-conspirators in the case, the late Lee Harvey Oswald, David Ferrie or Jack Ruby.

Tatum told Alcock his wife works for a candy company on Canal st. and his 19-year-old daughter works for a life insurance company. But he said he didn't believe an extended trial—possibly as long as eight weeks—would work an undue hardship on him or his judgment.

Alcock asked Tatum if he could return a guilty verdict if the state is able to prove only one of six overt acts took place in the alleged conspiracy. He said he could.

Dymond questioned Tatum if he had any notions or impressions as to the validity of the case against Shaw after seeing DA Jim Garrison on television. He said he didn't.

### DID NOT FOLLOW CASE

Tatum testified he didn't follow the news accounts of the preliminary hearing in early 1967.

"Then you don't have any impressions?" Dymond asked.

"That's right," replied Tatum. "I don't believe half of what I read."

Dymond then asked him if he had formed an opinion of the validity of the Warren Commission Report. But Alcock objected and the objection was sustained by Judge Haggerty.

Moments later, Dymond said the defense accepted Tatum.

The morning proceeding went with dull precision as the prospective jurors marched up to Judge Haggerty's bench and told him of their financial circumstances. He explained that the state and the defense had agreed to allow the procedure whereby 91 men were dismissed in less than two hours.

For a brief while it appeared that both the state and defense would accept Roy James Henderson, a 54-year-old mail carrier. But both Alcock and Dymond excused Henderson by consent.