

NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM

'MAY ASK FUNDS TO HOUSE JURORS'

Shaw Trial Puts Heyd in Financial Bind

By EDWARD LEPOMA
Criminal Sheriff Louis A. Heyd Jr. said today he'll probably have to ask the City Council for an emergency appropriation to maintain the tight security required for the conspiracy trial of Clay L. Shaw.

Right now, Heyd explained, he's picking up the tab from his department's budget for the meals and hotel rooms of jurors selected to decide the fate of Shaw.

But as more jurors are selected the cost of providing them security guards and room and board increases. And the problem will worsen if the trial lasts as long as two months, as both the defense and prosecution have hinted in their questioning of prospective jurors.

IF THE UPKEEP of the jurors is a financial problem for Heyd, the life of a juror itself is not exactly idyllic.

"The jurors," Heyd said, "are being held incommunicado at a local hotel."

They are usually assigned two to a room with a security guard attached to each room.

"The man never leaves the jurors," Heyd said. "He escorts them to breakfast and all other meals, in addition to back and forth from the courthouse during the trial."

HEYD SAID EACH juror usually is allowed to make two telephone calls during a court recess. One normally is to contact families and to arrange for needs such as clothing or books or other material and the other is usually made to the juror's place of employment.

Heyd said the jurors are allowed radio, television and newspapers in their hotel rooms, but because of the security regulations, all stories "directly or even indirectly dealing with Shaw or the as-

sassination" are being censored.

"It was bad the first day," Heyd remarked, "because the Shaw story appeared on the front page of the local newspapers and on the second page were the comics."

HEYD SAID SECURITY guards are instructed to turn off radio and TV in the rooms of jurors when Shaw or the trial are mentioned.

The sheriff foresees an even more difficult job if any women are selected for jury duty, for they would require the service at the hotel of a prison matron.

And Heyd said all of his seven matrons are needed at the prison and his secretaries have all they can handle.

But he said he would "cross that bridge" when he comes to it.

With all this security, the life of a juror is no bed of roses.

To make matters worse, he

gets no pay in Orleans Parish—the only parish in the state that doesn't pay a juror in a criminal case.

Essay Contest
Winners Named

Dan Ellerman, a junior at Winnsboro High School, has been named first-place winner in the state in the annual Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy contest, according to Edward P. Gros, state commander.

Other winners are Jules G. Patout, New Iberia, second; Frank C. Sietzen Jr., Slidell, third; Donna Di Martino, Arabi, fourth; Suzanne Barras, Lake Charles, fifth, and Debby Salvail, Shreveport, sixth.

Theme of the contest was "Freedom's Challenge." Ellerman's entry will be entered in the national contest to compete against 49 other entries for a top prize of \$5,000.