

JUDGE REPLIES**Oser Suspension Called Vacation**

Judge Alvin V. Oser said today that during his suspension from the practice of law in 1964 he took a 30-day "earned vacation" from the district attorney's office.

Oser is a candidate for Criminal Court judge in the Aug. 15 Democratic primary.

His opponent, John P. Dowling, charged Monday that Oser continued to receive pay as an assistant district attorney during his suspension from the bar. Dowling said the law demands that only a licensed attorney may serve as an assistant DA.

THE TEXT of Oser's response to Dowling follows:

"I deeply regret that my opponent in his anxiety to gain employment, has launched a gutter, mud-slinging campaign which, stemming as it does from a judicial candidate, reflects adversely on the entire judiciary. Even more regrettable is that within his muddled distortions and exaggerations is contained a deliberate untruth—again, from a man who thinks he should be a judge.

"I refer specifically to my opponent's Press Club speech and his charge that during a 30-day suspension from the

practice of law back in 1964, I continued to receive my salary as an assistant district attorney.

"THE POINT he labored to make was that only a licensed attorney can serve as an assistant district attorney—thus, he maintained, being suspended, I was in violation of the law.

"My opponent—a man who would like to be a judge—is thoroughly familiar with the pay procedures of the office of district attorney; he knows that I took 30 days of earned vacation time and did not so much as set foot in the district attorney's office during the 30-day vacation peri-

od. He knows this, yet in his zeal to attract attention he deliberately concealed the truth.

"Furthermore, in regard to my hearing before the Louisiana Bar Association, a professional proceeding which my opponent attempted to exaggerate into something like the Caine Mutiny court-martial, I have nothing whatsoever to hide. This is evidenced by the fact that I had delivered to the news media a complete copy of the transcript of those proceedings and I have invited the news media to make whatever use of this transcript that they deem expedient.

"NOW I MUST get back

to the business of Section J Criminal District Court and the kind of positive, open, personal contact campaign I prefer to conduct."

The transcript supplied by Oser contained testimony to the effect that Oser, in 1963, owed a client named Albert Long more than \$2,000 and gave him a check for \$2,028 though he had only \$1 in the bank.

Oser's testimony indicated he had run up debts from gambling and an unsuccessful political campaign totaling \$15,000 and was in bad financial straits.

Oser testified that he attempted to cover the check by borrowing money but was unable to do so, resulting in the subsequent suspension by the bar association.

The testimony showed the money eventually was paid.