

Judge Asks DA's Stand On Guardian for Ruby

Probate Judge F. W. Bartlett Jr. has asked Dist. Atty Henry Wade what position his office will take in the Jack Ruby guardianship case.

The officials conferred for almost an hour about legal problems involved in a request by defense lawyers that Judge Bartlett appoint a guardian to manage Ruby's business affairs.

If Wade does not contest the request, Judge Bartlett said, he will appoint a lawyer to represent Ruby at an Aug. 6 hearing.

Assistant Dist. Attys. A. D. Jim Bowie, C. M. Turlington and John J. Orvis joined Wade and Judge Bartlett in the conference. When it ended, Wade replied "no comment" to all questions.

Prosecutors said earlier they did not object to the appointment of someone to handle Ruby's financial affairs. But they said they would be concerned over any court finding that Ruby is mentally ill since this could affect the slayer's plea for a new trial.

Meanwhile, the Saturday Evening Post published a lengthy article about the murder trial which brought Ruby the death penalty.

Written by Edward Linn, the article praised the prosecution staff which included Wade, Bowie and Assistant Dist. Attys. William F. Alexander and Frank Watts. But it criticized Judge Joe B. Brown, who presided during the trial, and questioned strategy of chief defense attorney Melvin Belli.

Referring to Wade, Linn wrote:

"He is an easy-going man, but he is also persistent and thorough—and, if he believes one thing more than anything else in the world, it is that men should not take the law into their own hands."

The article said Wade has "become widely accepted as the best district attorney Dallas has ever had."

Linn also wrote:

"As the trial of Jack Ruby progressed, it became increasingly evident that, while Bill Alexander did not have Belli's maneuverability in interrogation and couldn't approach Belli in sheer eloquence, he (Alexander) was—in this courtroom, on that case—the best and most solid lawyer we were watching."