

Kemper Jury Being Chosen

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Private selection of jurors continued today in the Edmund Kemper mass-murder trial, despite a mild reservation expressed by the judge, who said that private interviews of prospective jurors could lead to "indoctrination."

At presstime, six jurors were tentatively seated. These jurors, however, are still subject to further challenges by defense and prosecution attorneys, so it is unknown precisely how many jurors have been chosen.

Before this morning's session began, Superior Court Judge Harry Brauer said the private process allows attorneys to "get a better insight into people...and

find out what makes a juror tick."

He added, however, that the process "gives attorneys a greater opportunity to indoctrinate (them) to their point of view." He said such persuasion "should be limited to the closing argument."

Another problem arises, the judge continued, when jury candidates, attempting to be picked for the jury and trying to portray their integrity, "play up to" the attorneys and try to tell them "what they want to hear."

Jurors are being selected privately so they can be candid and open while answering questions which are very per-

(Continued on Page 2)

Jury Selection Continues

(Continued from Page 1)

sonal in nature. Asked whether such probing represented an invasion of prospective jurors' privacy, Brauer replied, "In our judicial system, the defendant's right to a fair trial is more important than the right (of a juror's) privacy."

To question that concept, he said, is to question the entire system.

Selection of jurors is expected to last all week. The trial itself is expected to commence Monday. Among witnesses who may be called to testify is Edmund Kemper Jr., the father of the defendant. According to a list of witnesses read in court by Judge Brauer, the elder Kemper resides in Van Nuys. Several relatives of the slain victims are scheduled to testify, as well as several police officers and doctors.

Present in the judge's chambers along with Dist. Atty. Peter Chang and defense attorney Jim Jackson are the judge, Kemper, a guard, a court clerk, a court reporter, assistant DA Chris Cottle and Harold Cartwright, a private investigator working for Jackson. Kemper reportedly is remaining quiet during the questioning, allowing Jackson to take full charge of the case.