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Dr. Sam Says:

"I Wish There Was Something I Could Say---but There Isn't"

By **BILL TANNER**

"I wish there was something I could get off my chest that would make me feel better—but there isn't."

That's what Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, charged with the brutal murder of his wife, Marilyn, has told members of his family.

The words were quoted today by his older brother, Dr. Richard N. Sheppard.

One of Dr. Sam's greatest regrets at being in jail, his brother said, is the "embarrassment" to other members of his family.

"We told him not to worry about that," Dr. Richard said. "We told him we'll take care of ourselves."

The family, Dr. Richard continued, also will take care of the cost of Dr. Sam's defense.

"The attorney fees probably will be awfully high," the brother said. "I have no idea what the final



DR. RICHARD SHEPPARD

amount will be.

"But we're all behind Sam. We'll give whatever is necessary.

"We all want to see justice done—even if Sam did this thing, which we can't believe, we'd want justice done.

"But it doesn't seem to us that Sam is being treated justly."

Dr. Richard said the Sheppard family was "very fond of Marilyn."

"We've lost a sister-in-law," he said. "Naturally, we want this thing cleared up. We hope that the police are following up other leads, besides trying to pin this thing on Sam.

"We trust the fine Cleveland Police Department to know how to do their job. We assume that other suspects are under observation. . . ."

Dr. Richard listed three persons as "good candidates" for police scrutiny:

A FORMER FRIEND OF SAM'S who "told Marilyn nasty things about him."

A MAN WHO EXPRESSED RESENTMENT towards the Sheppards after his wife died in Bay View Hospital. This man, Dr. Richard said, was killed in a recent auto accident "that might have been a suicide."

A FORMER BAY VILLAGER who beat his wife and child. At that time, Dr. Richard said, Dr. Sam advised the woman to get a court order restraining the husband from beating her again.

Dr. Richard said there were others, too, who might have committed the crime. "There are some things I'm not at liberty to tell you," he said. "It's all been turned over to the Bay Village police."

Dr. Sam's arrest was based on an affidavit signed by Bay Village Police Chief John Eaton.

"Sam couldn't possibly have done it," Dr. Richard continued. "I've known him all his life. He's never been a belligerent person. There was never any real trouble between him and Marilyn.

"It would have been just like her to suggest that Sam look up Susan Hayes after his dissecting class

when he was in Los Angeles. After all, Marilyn was 350 miles away at the Chapman ranch. What else could he do in the evening—twiddle his thumbs?"

Dr. Richard theorized that the killer could have been "someone familiar with the house—or an intruder."

"I'm not saying any particular person is guilty," he said. "I really don't know. But I'm sure it wasn't Sam. I can't believe that a man hiding anything wouldn't have cracked and told all under all the questioning he's had."

Dr. Richard, who was one of the first to arrive at the murder home on the morning of July 4, recalled his own first look at his sister-in-law's body.

"Whoever killed her," he said, "would have been soaked with blood—not just a few stains on his trousers."

Dr. Richard said that, when Attorney William J. Corrigan was first retained by the family, the noted criminal lawyer told them: "You don't need me. This man is innocent."