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54/07/10 Doctor Undergoes New Quiz

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CLEVELAND, SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1954

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DOCTOR UNDERGOES NEW QUIZ

Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard dramatically came downtown today to the sheriff's office in the Criminal Courts Bldg. to make another voluntary statement about the murder of his wife, Marilyn.

Deputy Sheriff Carl Rossbach renewed his demand that the 30-year-old osteopath submit to a lie detector test.

"He doesn't have to if he doesn't want to," Rossbach said, "but I intend to keep on asking until he agrees."

Dr. Richard A. Sheppard, the youthful physician's father, said his son is willing to take such a test, but when and under what circumstances is "up to our attorneys."

Attorney Arthur E. Petersilge, who accompanied the sportsman doctor to the new interrogation, said he

didn't want to discuss the lie detector question now.

Petersilge and Dr. Stephen Sheppard, brother of the slain woman's husband, sat in an adjoining room while the osteopath answered a barrage of questions from Rossbach, Assistant County Prosecutor Thomas Parrino, Cleveland Homicide Detectives Pat Gareau and Robert Schottke and Deputy Sheriff Dave Yettra.

After this questioning had gone on for more than two hours, Miss Gertrude Bauer, a stenographer, was called in to take down Dr. Sheppard's formal statement.

Petersilge entered the room at this time, too.

Previous interrogation of Dr. Sheppard was on a fairly informal basis. This was the first time his answers were being recorded stenographically.

"Dr. Sam," as he is known to friends and the staff

of his family-owned Bay View Hospital, was asked to review the events of last Sunday morning, when his wife was beaten to death in the bedroom of their home at 28924 Lake Rd., Bay Village.

Dr. Sheppard arrived at the Criminal Courts Bldg. wearing dark glasses and a neck brace. He ignored curious stares and went directly to the sheriff's office on the fourth floor.

He was greeted by the investigator who had bluntly told him that he was the No. 1 suspect in his wife's murder.

After six days investigation of the brutal slaying, Rossbach said, "there's one suspect so far—and that's Dr. Sheppard. Until something turns up, we'll have to keep questioning him until he gives us something to go on."

Coroner Samuel R. Gerber said he had been informed that the Sheppard family plans to deposit \$10,000 in escrow with a court to guarantee payment of the reward offered by them for the "arrest and conviction" of the comely housewife's slayer.

Bay Village Police Chief John Eaton said three itinerant tree trimmers who had been working in that area on the Saturday before the slaying were being held in cells at Bay Village, Westlake and Avon Lake.

All three gave substantially identical accounts of having been asleep at the time of the crime in a Lorain County house.

Eaton said he was satisfied with their stories, but the men would be held until interviewed by Rossbach.

Eaton said another man—a parolee who quit a job

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Bay Doctor Quizzed Again; Probe Aide Asks for Lie Test

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in a Mastick Rd. greenhouse on the Saturday before the slaying—was being held for interrogation at Willoughby. He said the man is "not a good suspect, but we've got to run down every possible lead."

Divers abandoned their combing of the Lake Erie bottom off the Sheppard beach today without finding any trace of the missing murder weapon or the T-shirt worn by Dr. Sheppard when he dozed off on a downstairs couch.

Discounts Inconsistencies

Dr. Gerber said inconsistencies in Dr. Sheppard's re-enactment of his recollections

of the crime in the murder house yesterday and his previous versions "don't appear to amount to anything."

Main variation, Rossbach said, was that he originally said the spot on the beach where he was knocked unconscious while grappling with the assassin was eight to ten feet from the beach house steps. When Dr. Sheppard pointed out the spot, the deputy said, it was 16 to 18 feet from the steps.

Chief Eaton said about \$200 in cash had been found in various parts of the house, including some in Mrs. Sheppard's purse.

Dr. Sheppard said he didn't

know whether any of his golf clubs were missing, since he didn't play very often.

Boat Is Searched

Search of a boat jointly owned by Dr. Sheppard and Bay Village Mayor J. Spencer Houk failed to turn up "anything of importance."

Rossbach said he would attempt to question a group of Bay Village teen-agers who frequently used the Sheppard beach for swimming.

Petersilge said the Cuyahoga County commissioners have been asked to determine who should receive the \$10,000 reward. Commissioner John Curry said the commission would decide whether or not to accept the responsibility Monday. Petersilge made the request in writing.

Assistant Prosecutor Mahon planned to confer today with Thomas Reese, father of the slain woman.

Yesterday, Mahon asked Dr. Lester T. Hoversten, 43, of Glendale, Calif., to remain in this vicinity to give possible aid to the investigation.

Dr. Hoversten, an osteopathic college classmate of Dr. Sheppard's, was a house guest at the Sheppard home for a week prior to the slaying. Dr. Hoversten was visiting other friends at Kent on the murder morning.



FLANKED BY HIS TWO ATTORNEYS, Dr. Samuel Sheppard leaves his Bay Village home after re-enacting his movements on the night his wife was slain. Arthur Petersilge is at left and William Corrigan at right.