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Press 11-4-54

Deputy Coroner Set to Tell of Marilyn's Head Wounds

First witness to be called in the Sheppard murder trial, Deputy Coroner Lester Adelson, arrived at the Criminal Courts Bldg. today with a bundle of records and a projector for showing slides.

"I will testify about my findings in the autopsy," said Dr. Adelson, who performed the autopsy on the slain Marilyn Sheppard. "I brought with me my notes and seven color transparencies which I hope to project in court."

Adelson, a dark, mustached man, said he also brought with him a model of Marilyn's head which he thought he might need to explain his autopsy findings.

"Helicopter," was the way Defense Lawyer William J. Corrigan pronounced the helicopter which he told the court The Press hired to take pictures at the murder scene in Bay Village late yesterday.

That was while the criminal lawyer was once again making motions that Judge Edward Blythin declared a mistrial and order a change of venue because of "undue publicity."

Corrigan also wowed the courtroom earlier by pronouncing the word "oust" as "oost."

* * *

Prosecutor John J. Mahon, endeared himself to no Bay Villagers during his opening statement by referring to the suburb as Bayview Village.

Prosecutor Mahon took an even hour to make his opening statement in the murder trial, double his announced intention of talking to the jury for "20 to 30 minutes."

"To me a big trial is the same as a small trial," Mahon said. "When it is time for my opening statement I usually stay up until about 3 in the morning thinking it out and

making notes."

Mahon confessed his preparations were interrupted a good many times on this opening statement eve by phone calls congratulating him on his election day victory, making him a Common Pleas Court judge.

"But I didn't mind at all," he smiled.

* * *

There was no huge mob hanging around as the Sheppard jury visited the murder scene—the Sam and Marilyn Sheppard home at 28924 Lake Rd. in Bay—yesterday afternoon.

But there were a couple dozen spectators at all times, a few new ones arriving as other little clusters left.

Some were neighbors of the Sheppards—like Cappy Bryson, the retired lakes captain, and Mrs. Peg Hutchinson, and the Bob Critchfields, who'd been swimming at the Sheppard

beach only the Saturday before the murder, and Ralph Bazold.

* * *

James Bowers, 3206 Clark Ave., was the CTS bus driver who drew the assignment of driving the Sheppard jury to the murder scene in bus No. 3103.

"I was glad to get it," he said. "It is very interesting to do a thing like this."

Bowers said the jurors were very quiet all the way out (he took through Lakewood via Lake Ave., a street barred to buses).

"I did hear the women talking but I couldn't hear what they were saying," he reported. Most of the conversation was about the snow damage done to trees and wires, Bowers said.