



All Articles

Newspaper Coverage

7-20-1954

54/07/20 Sheppard Set For New Quiz

Cleveland Press

Follow this and additional works at: https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/newspaper_coverage

How does access to this work benefit you? Let us know!

Recommended Citation

Cleveland Press, "54/07/20 Sheppard Set For New Quiz" (1954). *All Articles*. 297.

https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/newspaper_coverage/297

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Newspaper Coverage at EngagedScholarship@CSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in All Articles by an authorized administrator of EngagedScholarship@CSU. For more information, please contact library.es@csuohio.edu.



Cleveland Press

The Newspaper That Serves Its Readers

CLEVELAND, TUESDAY, JULY 20, 1954

Phone CHerry 1-1111

Final

38 Pages—7 Cents

SHEPPARD SET FOR NEW QUIZ

PPS

7-20-54

Doctor Faces WRU Expert for 2d Time

Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard steeled himself today for a new effort to answer some of the riddles of the mystery of the July 4 murder of his pretty wife, Marilyn.

He notified Dr. Alan R. Moritz, director of pathology at Western Reserve University Medical School, that he would meet him at a secret rendezvous.

The session, The Press learned, will be either late tonight or tomorrow—and Dr. Sheppard will attempt to answer questions raised by Dr. Moritz in their first meeting yesterday.

Dr. Moritz, who is considered the nation's foremost authority on legal medicine, at that time made it quite clear to Dr. Sheppard that parts of his account of his recollection of the events of his wife's brutal murder required explanation.

Lawyer Present

Arthur E. Petersilge, Dr. Sheppard's attorney, was present when his client was interviewed by Dr. Moritz yesterday.

But Petersilge said he knew nothing about the scheduling of the second session.

"This is the first I've heard of it," he said when informed by a Press reporter that Coroner Samuel R. Gerber had announced the meeting. "I don't intend to attend. I don't even know where the meeting will be held. I have no idea what it's all about."

This development came as two Bay Village city councilmen acted to hand control of the stymied Marilyn Sheppard

murder investigation to the Cleveland Police Department.

They informed Mayor Celebrezze that they would introduce a resolution at tonight's Bay Village council meeting providing that the Cleveland homicide squad take charge, with Bay Village reimbursing Cleveland for all costs.

Councilmen Lester Schaffer, chairman of the safety committee, and Dale Smith, vice chairman, told Mayor Celebrezze they were confident Cleveland's detectives could crack the case.

At the Criminal Courts Bldg., Deputy Inspector James McArthur, Cleveland's chief of detectives, moved from the sidelines into active participation in the case. He conferred with members of the prosecutor's staff about "fresh background information."

"Model Wife"

Dr. Gerber disclosed that almost complete investigation of the background of the pretty murder victim has shown her to have been a "model wife and almost ideal mother."

This conclusion was reached as investigation of the Bay Vil-

Turn to Page 2, Column 1



DR. ALAN R. MORITZ, national authority on legal medical problems, asked Dr. Sheppard for clearer answers to many points of murder inquiry.



VICTIM'S HUSBAND, Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, arranged secret rendezvous to "answer more questions" of Western Reserve University crime expert.

PPRS 7-20-54

Dr. Sheppard Sets New WRU Prober Talk

(Continued From Page One)

lage clubwoman's slaying entered its 16th day—with the authorities no closer to a solution than at the moment the murder was reported on July 4.

"Why would anyone want to kill this woman?" Dr. Gerber said. "We can find no indication of anything she ever did to harm anyone.

"She taught Sunday school at the Bay Methodist Church. She took an active part in church affairs. She was active in the affairs of both local and national osteopathic organizations in which her husband, Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, was interested.

"She was a charming, pleasant woman. So far as we can determine, she was kind and considerate to everyone with whom she came in contact. She was a devoted mother to her son, and extremely loyal to her husband."

Mrs. Sheppard was shy and reticent, and had few close friends, Dr. Gerber said.

Seek New Ideas

"A thorough investigation has failed to turn up any unkind deed by Mrs. Sheppard," the coroner declared. "We can find no 'enemy' who might have any reason to hate or even dislike her. She apparently had no romantic interest in anyone but her husband, who was her high school sweetheart."

This means, Dr. Gerber said, that "apparently no one had any valid grievance against Marilyn Sheppard or any reason to bear her a grudge that might result in her murder."

The conclusion is one of the few definite points thus far established by the investigators of the baffling murder mystery.

Active participation of Dr. Moritz in the inquiry indicated hope that new ideas—as well as a continued hunt for fresh evidence—may help crack the case.

Dr. Moritz said he had entered the case solely to substantiate the arguments made in favor of spending \$700,000 to erect the new County Morgue on the WRU campus.

"We told the public at that time that the full resources of the university would be made available to the coroner's office for the scientific solution of problems," he said.

"The university has an obligation to the community to give whatever help it can in solving this extraordinary case."

Dr. Moritz said the Marilyn Sheppard murder case "seems unique" in the annals of American crime.

Dr. Gerber said the keys to solution of the mystery remain the same: Find the motive, the missing murder weapon, and the missing T-shirt worn by Dr. Sheppard when he dozed off on a couch hours before the killing.

The undershirt had vanished when Dr. Sam reported his wife's death and his own struggle with a maniacal killer who he said knocked him unconscious at least twice.

Examine Gun

In the weapon search, a combination rifle-shotgun found in the Sheppard home was examined at the Morgue. Dr. Gerber said the broken down parts of the gun could not have inflicted the series of 25 or more blows which killed Mrs. Sheppard in her upstairs twin bed—inches away from another bed, the covers of which had been turned down for Dr. Sheppard to retire.

However, the coroner said

the shotgun parts would be tested for possible traces of blood.

Also held at the Morgue were two rods used by physicians to break plaster casts. They were found in Dr. Sheppard's green Jaguar, parked in the garage of his home at 28924 Lake Rd., Bay Village, at the time of the crime.

Dr. Gerber said the rods had "no particular significance," but were being added to the collection of "all possible evidence which may at some time assume importance."

Dr. Robert Carver, intern at Bay View Hospital, who assisted Dr. Sheppard to the hospital after he reported his wife's murder, was summoned to the Criminal Courts Bldg. for interrogation by Assistant Prosecutor John J. Mahon.

Dr. Carver said his examination of Dr. Sheppard showed that he had a black eye, blood in his mouth, and "complained of a neck injury."

Bay Village police continued to question Bay View Hospital department heads. Officers said it was necessary to interview them at their homes, since there were constant interruptions at the hospital, due to their duties.