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54/11/03 Actor Corrigan Raps Photographing of Jury

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Press 11-3-54



FINAL SAM SHEPPARD JURY was photographed in court today by permission of Judge Edward Blythin as court recessed before the jury was to be taken to the Bay Village murder scene. Front row, left to right: Howard L. Barrish, Mrs. Elizabeth A. Borke, Edmond L. Verlinger, William C. Lamb, Mrs. Louise K. Feuchter, Jack Hansen. Back row: Mrs. Ann W. Foote, Mrs. Beatrice P. Orenstein, James C. Bird, Frank Moravec, Frank J. Kollarits, Mrs. Louella Williams and alternate Mrs. Lois Mancini.

Actor Corrigan Raps Photographing of Jury

Puffing a big cigar, William J. Corrigan, defense lawyer for Dr. Sam Sheppard, staged quite an act in court today while cameramen photographed the Sheppard murder trial jury.

As Judge Edward Blythin recessed court for lunch he granted photographers long-

waited permission to take pictures of the jurors in the jury box.

They came into the room, some perching on chairs, some on tables, some on the judge's bench.

"Wait a minute," Corrigan roared. "I want to count something. There's one, two, three

—yeah, seven photographers taking pictures of the jury, making a show out of this. A man's on trial for his life."

But the criminal lawyer was talking to a judgeless bench. Only cameramen and a few reporters were on hand.

"I Object . . ."

Corrigan sat down again at the rear end of the trial table, puffing his cigar, watching proceedings. More cameramen entered, calling to the jurors, "Look this way, please," and "Hold it a moment, please."

Judge Blythin stuck his head in through the door directly behind his bench.

"If the court please," shouted Corrigan at Blythin, "I object to all this."

But Blythin just picked up a book off the bench and vanished without saying a word.

Then Corrigan called to Bailiff Edgar Francis: "Francis, will you call the court stenographer back?" In a moment the court reporter reappeared and set up his stenotype machine right by the defense lawyer, who dictated as he smoked.

"After the jury was discharged at the end of the morning session, at the request of

the newspapers the jury was brought back into the room and sat in the room for a matter of—15 minutes?—no, 10 minutes, and were subjected to photography and television cameras by at least 10 cameramen who mounted themselves on chairs, the judge's bench and various parts of the room."

Corrigan paused a moment to puff his cigar, then said: "This was all done out of the presence of the defendant, Sam Sheppard."

Then he told the court reporter, "Just be able to read this off in court so that I can take exception."

He turned his attention back to his cigar.