

Cleveland State University EngagedScholarship@CSU

All Articles

Newspaper Coverage

11-4-1954

54/11/04 Letters Written in Jail Bare Sheppard Feelings

Cleveland News

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 News, "54/11/04 Letters Written in Jail Bare Sheppard Feelings" (1954). *All Articles*. 365. https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/newspaper_coverage/365

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.



Letters Written in Jail Bare Sheppard Feelings

BY SEVERINO P. SEVERINO

The private letters of Dr. Sam Sheppard — innermost thoughts of a man on trial for his life — were revealed today.

Written from his jail cell to Mr. and Mrs. Guilford (Bud) Brown, Marilyn's aunt and uncle, the letters were given for exclusive publication to The News.

His unsteady scrawl bared the feelings of a man being tried for murder—"like a patient about to undergo serious surgery, but without an anesthetic."

Talks About Chip, Marilyn

He tapped deep emotions to talk about his son Chip, his slain wife Marilyn, his devoted family. He discussed the jury, Judge Edward Blythin, the people in court, other prisoners, the kind and tough deputy sheriffs.

The Browns are the only relatives of Marilyn who have remained at Dr. Sam's side since the day of the murder. Mrs. Brown has been a frequent visitor in the courtroom, sitting with Dr. Sam's brothers and their wives.

Also loyal to Dr. Sam was Marilyn's grandfather, Harry Blake, who died just last week. Mr. Blake made his home with the Browns and is frequently re-Continued on Page 14 Column 1



MRS. GUILFORD (Bud) Brown-She received them.

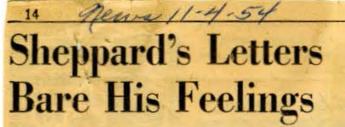


DR. SAM-he sent letters.

as they dore or fore come to eveland Know my actions and responses. They men in here mith good judges then dun Inil Learne mathing

that I seem to have been give for this ordeal branga due to the knowlige that your with me . I won't let you down. tove to all -Hello can?!

Here are excerpts from letters which Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard sent from his County Jail cell to his wife's aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Guilford Brown. They are being published with the permission of the couple.



Paper Scarce in Jail

are some of the letters: Here Dear Mary and Bud:

There seems to be a momen-tary dearth of paper at the mo-ment. I've given a lot of my paper away and the source of the per away and the atty's are sendpapers anyway. (Ed Note: This letter was written on the back of his son Chip's homework pa-per which had been sent to Dr. Sam). Several of his pictures and papers are on the wall of my cell. It's remarkable how much little things like that mean at a time like this.

The pipe is really perfect. The straight ones are no good at night and neither are the com-pletely bent ones (have one pletely bent ones that right here). This new one is just right on my chin while readiing at night. It is very cool and dry for a new pipe, too. I still have the other little pipe you gave me. Bud. It must be in the rack at the house.

Appreciates Girls'/Note

A very nice note came today from two girls that work with you Bud. These expressions of confidence are appreciated very much—& hope you'll have a chance to thank them. They ob-viously think a great deal of you. Many times, as you recall, ary, I made comment to you Mary, I made comment to you and Marilyn on the remarkable and wonderful guy you have. You both are pretty fortunate, I'd say. It is quite plain to form where Marilyn re-I'd say. It is quite plain to everyone from where Marilyn reher qualities. supreme ceived (Loyalty, faith, adjustability, and most of all, stability).

as though this trial is as though this The wide Looks going to be something. The wi publicity may be good or bad. try not to dwell on it. 1

Tells of Feelings

I feel like a patient must feel who is going to undergo a seri-ous surgery. The only trouble ous surgery. The only trouble is that I am not given the benefit of an anesthetic. faith that if the patient (I have doesn't expire due to shock in the midst of the procedure the surgery should be successful).

Haven't written to mother late-ly because about all I have to say is to reassure her that I'm OK. If you have a moment Mary, you might just call to say I'm doing alright. Hello to Grandad and Carol. Love to all.

Sam

P.S. Shared your apples with some of the fellows here who have no one to send things. They all wanted me to express who thanks. S.S.

Dear Mary and Bud: Today's Plain Dealer carried an editorial with the title The Ordeal of the Family. I didn't the association with d armed robber, but care for 17-year-old armed robber, he

Continued From Page 1.

ferred to in Dr. Sam's letters as uate my actions and response. "Grampa" or "H.P." or Grand-dad. They see a lot of men in here and come to be pretty good s of personality, came back every One of judges evening them back every during the bail hearing (making a special trip) and said, "Well,

a special (rip) and said, when Doc I hope you aren't here when I come on tomorrow." The other men in here tell me that is something unheard of for that is something unheard of for any deputy to commit himself in any way. A few of the deputies on this floor are — and enjoy tending the men locked up for the pure joy of it. These men are truthfully the ignorant ones and are but tolerated and ig-nored

nored. Will close now. Much love to

Sam Hello to Grampa and Carol.

Hail's Week's End

Dear Mary, Bud, & Grampa: Well, one week of the big has-sel is over. I hope the prospect-ive jurors are as honest and fair as most of them appear to be. I finished off your box of pota-to ching her night and the section

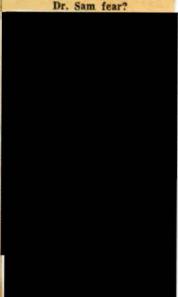
to chips last night and they really help-fresh!

I received a wonderful note from Alan Davis, who was my boyhood pal and teammate. He is now a Methodist minister. is now a Methodist minister. Have received so many wonder-ful letters and many from complete strangers who have faith in me. Helps a lot.

The people in the courtroom are so joyful and smiling, includ-ing the judge, that I am deeply sickened.

Part of the strength that I seem to have been given for this ordeal Grampa, is due to the knowledge that you are with me. I won't let you down. Love to all.

Sam. trial is Hello Carol. TOMORROW-What does



17-year-ond at many example. The was used as an example. The commendation in regards to the hand was good. But he left out the most wonderful ones of all. It is just as well your It were not but not mentioned but the surge names for publication. of emotion I felt while reading this was for you two and Grampa, and Grampa. more even than for the others. If you haven't read this please knowing how I feel. do.

I was given a chance to call mother tonight since she hasn't been able to visit here. (I'd rather she wouldn't come here). Chip and I had a nice talk and he sounded wonderful. Was so i good to hear his voice.

Visited by Brother

Am now reading "Look by the Mountain" and it's pretty good. Was glad to talk to Grampa the other night. He was happy to report that you saw Chip and ate with him the other voice sounds better night. His than sounds I've heard it for some time.

Steve was in today and we got a chance to have a long talk. Most of the deputy sheriffs here are as nice as they dare be They know or have come to eval