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# Jurors Get Graphic Data On Marilyn's Fatal Wounds

BY DORIS O'DONNELL

The Sam Sheppard jury—13 mask-like faces framed in a jury box—today digested a short-course in pathology.

Informative tid-bits from medical files, definitions of pathology, and functions of the coroner's office were disclosed by Dr. Lester Adelson, deputy coroner, under direct questioning by Defense Attorney William J. Corrigan.

Dr. Adelson, exhibiting ease and almost complete relaxation and comfort in the witness chair, led off with graphic descriptions of wounds on the head of Mrs. Marilyn Sheppard, the murder victim.

The dark-mustached, full-faced pathologist with an impressive string of credits and a Phi Beta Kappa key, used his expressive fingers on his own head, indicating location of injuries.

Once Dr. Adelson stood up with his back to the jury pointing to a spot comparable to a wound location. Another time he fingered his nose and hairline, showing another injured spot at the same time giving the medical term.

The jurors sat stony-faced, their eyes absorbing every movement of Dr. Adelson's. Edmund Verlinger, juror No. 3, chewed gum rapidly. William Lamb, No. 4 juror, kept his fingers in a church-steeple position and pressed them against his lips.

Corrigan caused Dr. Adelson to blush by mentioning his medical background at Harvard, and his Phi Beta Kappa honors.

"I've been exposed to a lot of good training," Dr. Adelson said with an attempt at modesty.

"That Phi Beta Kappa key indicates to me you're a pretty bright student," Corrigan said.

Dr. Adelson shrugged his shoulder. He then went on to explain that his course in forensic pathology is taught to doctors, lawyers and police officers, and that recently he and Dr. Samuel R. Gerber, county coroner, collaborated on a book, "Physician in the Courtroom." The doctor said, in answer to Corrigan's questions, that the book is a guide to doctors on how to "act in courtrooms."

Testifying without benefit of the microphone, Dr. Adelson spoke directly to the jurors, giving detailed answers, and asking Corrigan several times to give him one question at a time.

Although the gallery found several occasions for chuckles, none of the jury cracked a smile.

Corrigan asked Dr. Adelson what time he got to the morgue on July 4, the murder day.

"The coroner's office," Dr. Adelson corrected him. "We don't call it the morgue any more."

The morgue recently moved from its ancient tomb-like headquarters on Lakeside Ave. to a \$700,000 scientific center near Western Reserve University.

Dr. Adelson's elaborate use of his hands in describ-

ing wounds, and the wicker basket in which Mrs. Sheppard's body was brought to the morgue fascinated the jurors.

Their heads moved in unison from Corrigan on one side of the room to Dr. Adelson on the stand. At several points, all jurors were resting their left arms on chair rests, and their chins rested in their left hands like a well-rehearsed troupe.

During the rehash testimony on the death wounds, Dr. Sam picked at his chin with his left fingers. When Adelson told of blood on her face, neck, shoulders, hands and arms, Dr. Sam put his fingers to his eyes and kept them there for a while.

Twice during the morning, the baby-faced osteopath conferred with lawyers.

Corrigan, in a stage whisper, leaned over Dr. Sam and said, "Did Marilyn have..." the words were lost.

Corrigan's next question to the pathologist concerned the number of rings Mrs. Sheppard wore. Later Dr. Sam tapped Arthur Petersilge for another little conference.

None of Dr. Sam's family were in court today, and once he turned around full-faced to the reporters and gallery. Present were Marilyn's stepmother, blond Mrs. Thomas Lamb, and her sisters-in-law, Mrs. Henrietta Munn and Mrs. Keith Weigle.

The session started on a gentle note. From a seated position, Corrigan began quiet questioning, but 25 minutes later he stood up and his voice rose in questioning the accuracy of Dr. Adelson's report.

The slight flurry brought objections from Assistant Prosecutor John Mahon, remarks from Corrigan's colleague, Fred Garmone, and a sharp reprimand from Judge Edward Blythin.

"Let's have one counsel try this lawsuit," the judge said.

Mrs. Reese, cool and withdrawn, excused herself from a gathering of newspaperwomen at recess and joined her sisters-in-law.

Dr. Sam stood up and stretched, smiling and talking with counsel and deputies around him.

Dr. Stephen A. Sheppard, selected as a defense advisor in his brother's first-degree murder trial, was one of the few spectators unable to view the slides of Marilyn Sheppard's fatal wounds yesterday.

Permitted for the first time to enter the court area while the trial is in session, Stephen sat with his brother, Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard and a deputy sheriff directly behind the screen on which color slides of Marilyn were being flashed.

They were unable to see the pictures but could hear the concise descriptions given by Dr. Lester Adelson, the county's chief deputy coroner.

Dr. Sam bowed his head and several times brushed tears from his eyes in the darkened room.

He finally broke down completely and wept convulsively as Adelson explained: "This is the skull of Marilyn Sheppard with the scalp peeled back."

Two seats away, Dr. Steve stared stonily at the ceiling, twirled his glasses on one hand and shifted a paper aimlessly on the press table nearby.

Dr. Steve was selected by William J. Corrigan, the defense chief, to serve as an advisor for the family after the attorney's request was granted by the court. Other members of the family, who will be called as witnesses, were required to leave the courtroom as the first testimony was presented.

Bailiff Edgar Francis' owl face conceals the spirit of a prankster. He takes delight in introducing a comely school teacher as "my daughter, Mrs. Francis."

Mrs. Elaine Francis, who teaches in Twinsburg, indeed is Edgar's daughter, but she married Richard C. Francis, unrelated before the marriage.

Corrigan gave reporters his opinion of the present feeling of several state's witnesses toward Dr. Sam Sheppard:

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Ahern—"Kinda distant."

Mr. and Mrs. J. Spencer Houk—"Not friendly."

Dr. Lester Hoversten—"Unfriendly."

Miss Susan Hayes—"I don't think she'll be too unfriendly."

Dr. Stephen Sheppard and his wife Betty caused a stir in New York last night when they arrived at the airport accompanied by a "Miss Hayes." The latter was not the State's star witness but Mrs. Arthur B. Hayes, a neighbor of the Sheppards. The couple went to New York to meet Mrs. Sheppard's mother on her return from a two-month European trip.

Today's court session was the first missed by Dr. Stephen.



DOROTHY KILGALLEN