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54/11/22 Hoversten to Detail Dr. Sam Divorce Talk

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Cleveland Press, "54/11/22 Hoversten to Detail Dr. Sam Divorce Talk" (1954). *All Articles*. 416.

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ACADEMIC ENDEAVORS

Hoversten to Detail Dr. Sam Divorce Talk

The stage was set today for a dramatic "reunion" between Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard and his medical school classmate and close confidante of 10 years, Dr. Lester T. Hoversten.

Dr. Hoversten was called to testify as a prosecution witness as Dr. Sam's wife murder trial entered its sixth week at the Criminal Courts Bldg.

It will be their first meeting since July 13, when Dr. Hoversten said good-by to his old friend before leaving for his home at Glendale, Calif.

Hoversten returned to Cleveland Aug. 12 in a rage after Dr. Stephen Sheppard, Sam's older brother, had demanded that he be considered a "murder suspect."

He made a long statement to police, demanded a lie detector test, was "completely cleared," and then testified before the Grand Jury which indicted Dr. Sam for first-degree murder.

Seek to Establish Motive

Assistant Prosecutor John J. Mahon described Dr. Hoversten as "an important witness who will help establish the motive for the murder of Marilyn Sheppard."

Before taking the witness stand, Dr. Hoversten said he was anxious to return to his California home as soon as the ordeal of testifying against his former friend is over.

"But," he added, "I am perfectly willing to return if the prosecution wants me as a rebuttal witness."

Mahon said Dr. Hoversten would be sworn in as a witness

as soon as Associate Defense Counsel Fred W. Garmone completes his cross-examination of Homicide Detective Robert Schottke.

So far, Mahon said, Garmone's cross-examination "has developed nothing which requires clearing up."

Schottke and his partner, Detective Patrick Garea, were the first investigating officers to challenge Dr. Sam's version of Marilyn's murder on the morning of July 4, and directly accuse him of killing her.