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54/08/20 Doubt Sheppard Will Take Stand

Cleveland Plain Dealer

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DOUBT SHEPPARD WILL TAKE STAND

Prosecutors Will Oppose Bail at Arraignment

Prosecutors doubted last night that Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard's lawyers would expose him to cross-examination in a bid for bail after the alleged wife-killer pleads innocent this morning.

But the defense lawyer in chief, William J. Corrigan, made it definite that he would ask for a hearing on his request for bail and that he would put on "a number of witnesses."

Dr. Sam was to enter his not guilty plea at his arraignment before Common Pleas Judge Arthur H. Day at 9:15.

Rarely granted to those charged with first-degree murder, bail can be posted and the 30-year-old osteopath freed only if Corrigan can overpower with evidence "the presumption of guilt" which an indictment throws into the balance against his client.

Appearance Held Unlikely

County Prosecutor Frank T. Cullitan and his staff said it was unlikely that Corrigan would put his client on the witness stand.

"For one thing," said Cullitan, "we aren't going to have a trial before the trial."

His chief assistant, Saul S. Danaceau, said: "He, Corrigan won't put him on—unless he

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thinks his man is well enough prepared for any question."

But Assistant Prosecutor John J. Mahon insisted: "Who else can give evidence against the presumption of guilt? Sam was the only witness in the home.

The prosecutors said that the burden of proof was upon the defense, and that they could offer evidence to refute anything Corrigan might bring before the court.

Cleveland's force of detectives working on the clubbing murder of Marilyn Sheppard has been cut one half, Safety Director John N. McCormick announced.

"If anything comes up that warrants it," he added, we will build that force up again. Cutting down to three men is what we plan in the future, but it depends on what needs to be done."

McCormick and Chief Frank W. Story met with Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze to discuss how Cleveland will bill Bay Village.

They will meet again, probably Monday, McCormick said, when all the costs have been totaled. It was indicated the price might be above the \$5,000 voted by Bay's councilmen. Actual cost might hit \$20,000.

Sergt. Harold C. Lockwood was in charge of the cost accounting. He is also to head the final standby team made up of him and Detectives Robert E. Schottke and Patrick A. Gareau.

Dr. Richard N. Sheppard, eldest of the osteopath brothers, said his family had received several offers from persons willing to confess the murder—even at the risk of the electric chair—for a price from \$25,000 to \$100,000.