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54/08/19 Letter to the Editor "Faithful to Obligations"

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Letters

To The Editor



Faithful to Obligations

This letter concerns the decision made by Judge William K. Thomas in granting Dr. Sheppard to bail.

Not since the trial of Cassie Chadwick have the appetites of the morbidly curious been served such fare as is offered in the Sheppard case. Newspapers, television and radio have projected the incident into every nook and corner of the nation. World affairs, routine news, and our first place Indians are submerged in all conversation by the sensational Bay Village homicide.

While the populace clamors its opinions and premature conclusions, there is one who has kept a cool head and, in defiance of the public hue and cry, remained faithful to his obligations as a judge by following the mandates of our Constitution and the laws of our land.

There are many who are critical of Judge Thomas for setting bail for Dr. Sheppard. Such persons are either ignorant of our laws, or they are turning their backs on our Constitution in an embrace of mob rule.

In an old Ohio case in which public feeling ran high against the defendant, relating to a vicious crime, the following was said in the court's opinion when the case was up on appeal: "More than ever, when public feeling runs high against a defendant on trial, it becomes the duty of the presiding judge to exercise himself to the utmost in protecting the defendant against outside opinion and influences."

Judge Thomas did precisely that.

To a man of courage and intelligence, it was no problem. Judge Thomas followed the law. It was as simple as that. We in Cuyahoga County could do with a few more such judges.

NORMAN S. MINOR, 1087 E. 97th St.