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54/08/18 Judge tells jury to keep secrets

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JUDGE TELLS JURY TO KEEP SECRETS

Panel That Indicted Doctor Is Called Into Court

BY SANFORD WATZMAN

Members of the grand jury which accused Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard of murdering his wife were called into open court yesterday in an unprecedented action and were reminded of their secrecy oath by Common Pleas Judge Arthur H. Day.

If there were any gossip about what they heard in their jury room, Judge Day cautioned the nine women and six men, "it might prove to be a handicap to the authorities."

"You are to refrain from discussing anything that has occurred in the course of your grand jury duty. I particularly refer to the case where you have just returned an indictment," the court admonished them.

First Trip Too Soon

After completing their hour-long deliberations, the jurors were summoned twice to the courtroom on the second floor. Their first trip upstairs proved premature.

Foreman Bert R. Winston had not yet handed the indictment to the judge. Ten minutes later, formalities having been complied with, they returned.

Judge Day explained the unusual proceedings by remarking
(Continued on Page 10, Column 4)

Keep Secrets, Judge Orders Jury That Indicted Sheppard

(Continued From First Page)

to newsmen afterward that the large amount of publicity given the Sheppard case necessitated his action.

"I did it as much to protect the jurors as anybody else," he said. "Everybody's curious and wants to talk to them, and I don't want their friends or families to get sore at them."

"The pressure on us has been enormous," Foreman Winston told the reporters.

In all, the jury heard 15 witnesses since the start of its special session on Monday. Aiding in the presentation of the evidence were four assistant county prosecutors—John J. Mahon, Saul S. Danaceau, Thomas J. Parrino and Gertrude M. Bauer.

The last witness, Cleveland Detective Chief James E. McArthur, walked out of the jury room at 3:40 p. m. yesterday. The true bill was handed to Judge Day one hour later.

Miss Hayes Testifies

Preceding McArthur in the afternoon session were Detective Henry Dombrowski, police department chemist, Homicide Detective Robert E. Schottke and Bay Village Police Chief John P. Eaton.

First witness of the day was Patrolman Fred F. Drenkhan of Bay Village, whose testimony was cut short on Monday.

Following him were Coroner Samuel R. Gerber, Susan Hayes, who was a guest with Dr. Sheppard in a California home, and Larry Houk, 16-year-old son of the Bay Village mayor.

Testimony was given Monday by Mayor and Mrs. J. Spencer Houk; Mr. and Mrs. Don J.

Ahern, neighbors of the Sheppards; Deputy Coroner Lester Adelson; Mrs. Eleanora Helms, the Sheppard maid, and Dr. Lester T. Hoversten, who stayed at the Sheppard home three days preceding the murder.

Three Excused

On hand yesterday, but excused without testifying, were another Sheppard neighbor, Mrs. Helen F. Schuele, 28944 Westlake Road, Bay Village, and two teen-agers who had been babysitters in the osteopath's home—Roger Coulton, 17, of 347 Pinewood Road, Bay Village, and Jean Disbrow, 16, of 28919 Westlake Road in the suburb.

After the court session, the jury adjourned until July 26, when it will be discharged by Judge Day. Members of the panel are:

Foreman Winston, 2749 Ashley Road, Shaker Heights; Gladys Herricks, 17301 Riverway Drive, Lakewood; Arthur R. Gutschmidt, 3245 W. 43d Street; Belva R. Andrews, 10801 Chippewa Road, Brecksville; Mary Cecelia Byers, 1358 W. 112th Street; Catherine Carey, 1915 W. 52d Street; Ester M. Bieger, 1455 Lander Road, Mayfield Heights; Frances Schumm, 1321 Giddings Road N. E. Rebecca McCutcheon, 14100 Jenne Avenue N. E.; John M. Martin, 1621 Galion Avenue S. W.; Katherine Sharkey, 11023 Royalton Road, North Royalton; John Zippay, 3481 E. 153d Street; John F. Doyle, 2011 W. 100th Street; Kenneth Moughtin, 859 Greyton Road, Cleveland Heights; Lucille Murphy, 9801 Parmelee Avenue N. E.