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Cullitan Holds Off on Police Bid for New Sheppard Quiz

BY TODD SIMON

One more quiz, aimed to pierce Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard's "I won't answer" defense, was proposed by police, but their plan last night had not been accepted by County Prosecutor Frank T. Cullitan.

Police Chief Frank W. Story said his men had made the offer to take the alleged wife-killer from County Jail for one more interrogation.

They put the idea up to Prosecutor Cullitan. Chief Story said Cullitan had not given them a go-ahead by evening.

"Sheriff (Joseph M.) Sweeney wants him in his cell at 10:30 at night," said the chief. "There would be no point in starting questioning him unless it would be in the morning."

Withstood Queries

For four days after his arrest the night of July 30 the 30-year-old Bay Village osteopath withstood all the queries thrown at him in County Jail by a dozen

experienced Cleveland detectives.

Showing Dr. Sheppard his fatally bludgeoned wife Marilyn's picture made him turn away, but he would not talk about the death blows.

When Dr. Sam quit listening and started reading a Bible the thwarted police gave up.

The plan suggested now was to subject Dr. Sam to a 12-hour question period in some station where police would be safe against court filings by his lawyers.

Cullitan has already rejected several quiz plans lest they raise a protest of "coercion" or endanger the state's case.

Quiet had settled on the case, with the trickle of "tips" from citizens becoming less and less plausible.

A woman who said she had been on a boat off the Bay Village shore about 5 a. m. on the murder morning, July 4, for instance, told Assistant County Prosecutor Saul S. Danaceau that she saw a man pacing back and forth on the beach, his hands clasped behind his back.

"When we checked it out," said Danaceau, "we found that that boat had been off the shore many miles to the west—and that she hadn't been on it."

Pay Hoversten's Bill

Assistant County Prosecutor John J. Mahon announced that his office had agreed to pay the hotel bill, about \$300, for Dr. Lester T. Hoversten, house guest of the Sheppards up to the afternoon before the murder.

Hoversten flew here from his Glendale (Cal.) home to give the state evidence and has returned. The prosecutor paid also for his airplane fare, some \$285.

Coroner Samuel R. Gerber turned in a bill to the county commissioners for \$150 for "the construction of a head in the Sheppard case." The person to be paid, said the requisition, is Joseph Lucas, 5256 Oakmont Drive, Lyndhurst. He is a medical artist for the Cleveland Health Museum.

Miss Helen Morley, assistant police secretary, was figuring the man-hour bill which Cleveland police are to submit to Bay Village for their work on the murder case.

Expected to reach about \$20,000, the bill for Bay will be tempered, it was learned, in the light of the fact that he suburb's Council has been able to vote only \$5,000 for payment so far.