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54/08/23 Renew Bay hunt for bludgeon

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MSL

ACADEMIC ENDEAVORS

Renew Bay Hunt For Bludgeon

The new search for the missing weapon with which Mrs. Marilyn R. Sheppard was brutally beaten to death on July 4 continued today as the murder investigation entered its eighth week.

A previous search of the house at 28924 W. Lake Rd., Bay Village, in which the 31-year-old pregnant mother was bludgeoned to death with 27 blows about the head and face, failed to uncover any instrument which could have been used as the weapon.

Seek More Evidence

A search of the beach behind the Sheppard's home and a large portion of Lake Erie in the vicinity was also fruitless.

The new search was ordered by Inspector of Detectives James E. McArthur as detectives sought other evidence and witnesses to be used in the trial of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, the victim's husband, on a first degree murder charge.

The 30-year-old Bay Village osteopath has pleaded not guilty to the murder charge and will probably go on trial in mid-October at the earliest.

Attorneys for Dr. Sam have refused to indicate whether they would accept a jury trial or choose to place his fate in the hands of a panel of three Common Pleas jurists. They also remained mum on their decision to withhold a request for bail on behalf of the defendant.

Listens to Tribe Games

Dr. Sam spent a quiet week-end in County Jail listening to radio broadcasts of the Cleveland Indians' baseball games and jotting down events in his personal life which may be used in his defense.

Jail authorities denied reports that he has been permitted to play handball each day in the exercise court on the jail's fourth floor.

Meanwhile, McArthur said a report on the amount of extra time spent on the Sheppard murder investigation by Cleveland police and a list of other expenses incurred would be given

to Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze today.

In asking Cleveland police to take charge of the probe, officials of Bay Village agreed to pay such expenses.