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9-8-1954

54/09/08 Sheppard Calls 8 to Testify

Cleveland News

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MSL

ACADEMIC ENDEAVORS

Sheppard Calls 8 in Bail Hearing

THE WEATHER

TONIGHT—Partly cloudy, cool.
Low, 53.

TOMORROW — Fair, warmer.
High, 80.

U. S. Weather Bureau Official Forecast

CLEVELAND NEWS

"A FRIEND OF THE FAMILY"

FINAL

Sports, Stocks

Sheppard Calls 8 to Testify

Houks Among Witnesses in Bail Bond Fight

Eight witnesses were subpoenaed by the defense today to testify at a bail bond hearing Friday for Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, accused of the first degree murder of his wife, Marilyn.

The eight called to testify before Common Pleas Judge Edward Blythin are: County Detective Carl Rossbach, Mayor and Mrs. J. Spencer Houk of Bay Village; Don Ahern, neighbor of the Sheppards; Bert Winston, foreman of the Grand Jury which indicted the osteopath; Sanford Watzman, Plain Dealer reporter; Howard Reed, deputy municipal clerk, and John Kilbane, clerk of Municipal Court.

Winston was summoned because he was reported to have told the Plain Dealer reporter that the Grand Jury was "under great pressure" in the Sheppard murder case.

Judge Blythin said the hearings would continue into Saturday morning to give all eight defense witnesses an opportunity to testify.

Assistant County Prosecutor John T. Mahon said he knew of no precedent in this county for releasing a person on bond who has been indicted for first degree murder.

Mahon said as a matter of law the issue of bail is left to the discretion of the court, "but the court must base his discretion on good cause. Where there is a first degree murder indictment the presumption of guilt is great. The defendant's counsel must present something to overcome that presumption."

There is a possibility that Dr. Sheppard, Bay Village osteopath, would be called to the witness stand and questioned about the slaying of his wife, Marilyn, in their West Lake Rd. home last July 4.