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54/09/03 Earliest time for Sheppard trial will be mid-October

Cleveland Plain Dealer

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Sept. 3, 1954

Earliest Time for Sheppard Trial Will Be Mid-October

Mid-October is the earliest time Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, 30, will go on trial for the bludgeon killing of his wife, Marilyn, and Common Pleas Judge Edward Blythin is the judge most likely to preside, it was learned yesterday.

Judge Blythin conferred with Assistant County Prosecutor John J. Mahon on the backlog of cases waiting the opening of the September term.

He said he would have counsel for Sheppard and six other murder defendants in Tuesday, the first day of the term, to plan trial dates.

Dr. Sheppard's attorney, William J. Corrigan, could delay trial if he wished, said Mahon, but probably could not get an earlier trial.

The other six murder cases have a priority, Mahon said. That may put off the Sheppard case for some time, depending on whether these other six all require jury trials.

This morning a proposal by Police Chief Frank M. Story to sell crime detection service to

suburbs will come up before Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze and his cabinet at 9.

Safety Director John N. McCormick is against it. He says it would encourage suburbs to think Cleveland should cope with all sorts of crime problems for them instead of just the major, complex cases.

Also, he said, his police force is not big enough to offer that much service.

Story's plan is to collect a proportional retainer fee from suburbs wanting such help, never more than \$300 a year, and to charge them also salary and laboratory costs plus 25% for supervision.

County commissioners said they were not interested in stepping into the suburb police situation unless Sheriff Joseph M. Sweeney should say a county police or felony force was needed.

The tangle over the Sheppard case in Bay Village has prompted several suggestions to overcome the helplessness of small police forces in the face of major crimes.