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54/12/28 Jail Mail Bulges For Dr. Sheppard

Cleveland Plain Dealer

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JAIL MAIL BULGES FOR DR. SHEPPARD

PL 12-28-54
Gets 250 Letters in Day;

Many Sympathetic

A record amount of mail even for Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard was received by the prisoner in County Jail yesterday, the sheriff's office reported.

The authorities said about 250 letters came in, with the overwhelming majority containing either religious tracts or messages indicating the writers were sympathetic with Dr. Sam.

All incoming and outgoing mail is censored at the jail by sheriff's deputies. Until yesterday, they said, Dr. Sheppard had been averaging about 100 letters a day since his conviction.

The prisoner's sole visitor was his brother, Dr. Richard N. Sheppard, who also stopped at the office of Police Chief Frank W. Story to inquire about exhibits in the case.

Cite 41st "Error"

Dr. Richard was told that the exhibits, many of them items of the defendant's personal property, would be held pending final disposition of the case.

Chief Story said the property was not in the possession of his department. The two men also had an "incidental" discussion about the murder case, the chief said.

Earlier in the day a 41st "error" in the trial was cited by defense attorneys in an amendment to their new-trial motion, which will be heard by Common Pleas Judge Edward Blythin on Thursday.

The defense charged that the court acted improperly in assigning only male bailiffs as jury escorts. There were seven men and five women on the panel, it pointed out.