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54/07/13 Doctor Offers to Bare List of Grudge Patients

Cleveland Press

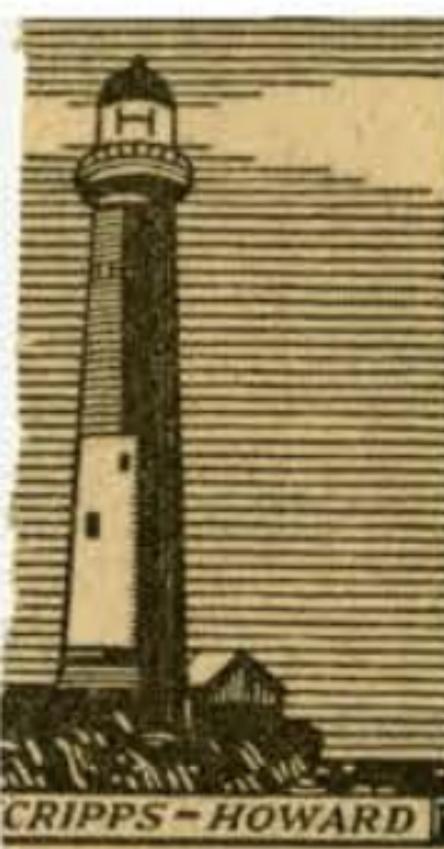
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DOCTOR OFFERS TO BARE LIST OF GRUDGE PATIENTS

Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard volunteered today to provide officials investigating the murder of his wife, Marilyn, with the names of former patients who might have a grudge against him.

"I'm doing this because I want to cooperate with the authorities," he told Deputy Sheriff Carl Rossbach.

Dr. Sheppard wore a small revolver in a hip holster as he talked to Rossbach and Coroner Samuel R. Gerber in the murder home at 28924 Lake Rd., Bay Village.

He said he had been "advised" to carry the weapon for "protection."

The 30-year-old osteopath said he would check his files to refresh his memory as to any patient who may have threatened him or made "an ominous remark."

Dr. Sheppard was somewhat vague about exact dates—not even recalling the date of his wedding—in

Assistant County Prosecutor Thomas Parrino summoned Bay Village Mayor J. Spencer Houk and his wife, Esther, and Lieut. Clifford Mercer of the Bay Village police to the prosecutor's office for "further questioning" late today in the investigation of the murder of Mrs. Marilyn Sheppard.

further questioning about the brutal crime.

New witnesses today added to the mystery of the exact time of Mrs. Sheppard's murder on the morning of July 4.

Tony Bruscano, member of a family which lives two doors away from the murder home, said he didn't see any lights on in the Sheppard home at about 3 a. m.

His account was substantiated by Miss Joan Roland

of 351 Huntmere Dr., Bay Village, a technician at Bay View Hospital, who said she was in Bruscano's driveway with him at that hour.

Coroner Samuel R. Gerber has placed the time of the murder at between 3:10 and 4 a. m.

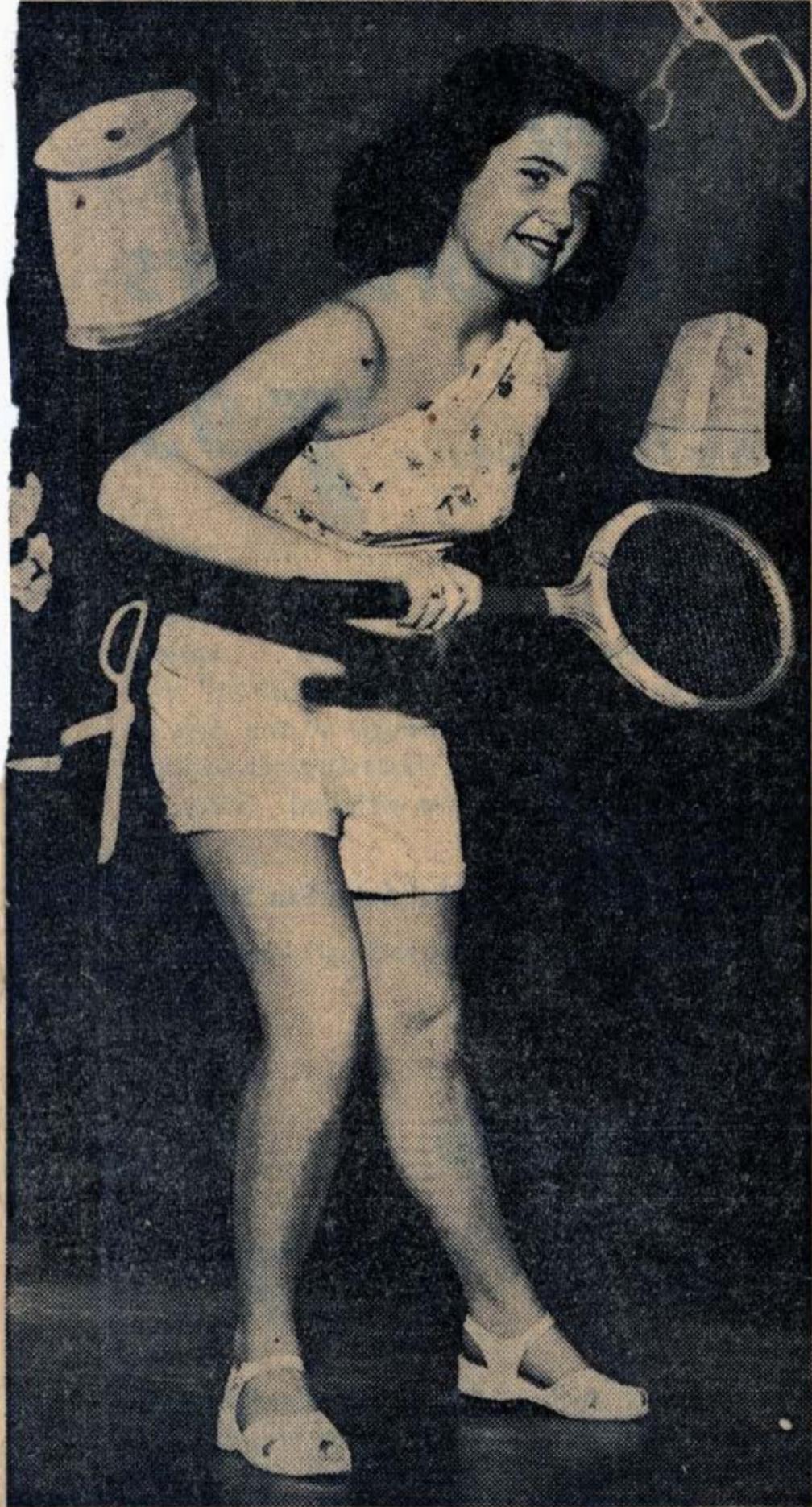
Mrs. Sheppard's watch, found on the floor of her husband's downstairs study, had stopped at 3:10.

The investigation turned to the crucial question of the time lights were on in the home yesterday when The Press located two witnesses who recalled seeing lights on downstairs at about 2:15 a. m.

Previously, Dr. Gerber said, the investigators had known that an upstairs light was on all night—but all other lights in the home had been off.

No "ordinary burglar," the coroner said, would enter

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RECIPIENT OF GIFT WATCH from Dr. Samuel H. Shepard was Miss Susan Hayes, former Bay View Hospital technician. Now living in Southern California, Miss Hayes said the watch was replacement for one she lost attending a wedding with the 30-year-old osteopath. This photo was taken a few years ago during a style show in the Westlake Hotel. (Story on Page 3.)

a home with several lights on.

First report of the downstairs lights was given by Mr. and Mrs. Jay L. Bender of 294 Ruth Ave., Bay Village, who were driving home from an Aurora visit on the murder morning.

The osteopath's attorney, Arthur E. Petersilge, placed ads in the Cleveland newspapers today repeating the Sheppard family's offer of a \$10,000 reward for the "arrest and conviction" of Marilyn's murderer.

Dr. Gerber said the investigation was still stymied by failure to locate the murder weapon and Dr. Sheppard's T-shirt, which disappeared during the crime, and inability to pinpoint a definite motive.

Ohio Bell was asked to "make a strenuous effort" to determine whether any outgoing telephone calls were made from the home during those hours. But telephone company officials said this would be impossible, since the house telephone is on the dial system.

Dr. Gerber said Thomas Reese, Marilyn's father, had told authorities he had the impression that the Sheppards "had a very happy family life and were deeply in love"—which is also Dr. Sheppard's contention.

However, the coroner said, the investigators are still confronted with the fact that there is no definite physical evidence of anyone else being in the Lake Rd. house at the time of the maniacal slaying.

"We're still searching for such evidence," Dr. Gerber said.

Keeps Home Barred

That, he said, is why the home, where the doors were rarely locked before the murder morning, is now barred to anyone but official investigators.

Dr. Sheppard visited the home yesterday with Dr. Gerber and Rossbach present to take out some clothing. He was permitted to take his Jaguar auto after it was thoroughly searched.

Assistant County Prosecutor Thomas Parrino and two Cleveland homicide detectives, Delbert O'Hara and Art Blythin, paid a surprise visit to the Cleveland Yacht Club in Rocky River.

They questioned six persons about an anonymous report of an argument at the club some time ago, but "learned nothing of value."

Bay Village Police Chief John Eaton said his men, too, were busy "checking out" a long list of leads and tips, but none shed any new light on the mystery murder.

Two pairs of shoes and a T-shirt found on the Sheppard beach were held at the Bay Village police station. "They weren't there when I searched the place originally," Eaton

said. "They were probably left by the boys who helped us scour the lake."

Brother Recalled

"We don't know where to go from here," admitted Eaton, who has been Bay Village police chief for 14 years, and was village marshal for 16 years before that.

Eaton and Patrolman Fred Drenkhan conferred with Rossbach and Parrino at the Criminal Courts Bldg. today.

Also called in for questioning were the Benders and Dr. Stephen Sheppard, the murder victim's brother-in-law.



BAY VILLAGE Police Chief John Eaton, who had planned to spend this week vacationing in California, studies reports on Marilyn Sheppard murder case instead.

Dr. Samuel Sheppard told Dr. Gerber that he now felt "all right, except that my neck gets tired after I've been up for a while." Dr. Sheppard's neck was still encased in a protective collar.

Dr. Gerber said that all fires and incinerators in the immediate vicinity of the murder home had been checked soon after the murder was reported. No trace was found of any wooden weapon or garment having been burned recently, he said.