

Judge Ponders 'New Evidence' Offered in Dr. Sheppard Case

Hormel Gets Divorce From Leslie Caron

HOLLYWOOD (UP)—George A. Hormel II, 26, heir to a meat packing fortune, Tuesday received a final divorce decree from French actress Leslie Caron.

Hormel won an interlocutory decree from Miss Caron March 31, 1954, on charges she wrote him from Paris that she never really loved him and wanted to lead "an intense artistic life." The couple were married in Las Vegas, Sept. 23, 1951.

East Oregon Well Yields Gas Sands

ONTARIO, Ore. (UP)—H. K. Riddle, president of Oroco Gas Company, Wednesday said his wildcat rig had struck promising gas sands near highway 52 seven miles east of Ontario.

Riddle said the sand was struck at about the 1390-foot level. His rig by Wednesday had drilled 40 feet into the sand, and he did not know how much thicker it was.

Tests run on the well Tuesday gauged 200,000 cubic feet of gas per day. Commercial minimum is said to be 50,000 per day.

The well was the fourth sunk in this area by Riddle.

CLEVELAND (UP)—Common Pleas Judge Edward Blythin Wednesday accepted seven affidavits on which convicted wife-killer Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard has placed his hopes for a new trial.

The hearing, granted on defense claims of "newly discovered evidence," consumed only 20 minutes. Judge Blythin said he would make his decision "either on notice or Thursday."

The affidavits were submitted by William J. Corrigan, head of the young osteopath brain surgeon's legal counsel.

There was no testimony at the brief hearing.

Dr. Sam, attired in his familiar charcoal flannel suit, white shirt and blue knitted tie, smiled warmly at his two brothers and their wives as he entered the courtroom handcuffed to a deputy sheriff. His smile was returned, although none of his family rose in greeting.

Dr. Kirk's Findings
The principal affidavit was a 33-page document signed by Dr. Paul Kirk, University of California criminologist hired by the Sheppard family to investigate the Independence Day bludgeoning slaying of Dr. Sam's wife, Marilyn. Corrigan outlined contents of the document to Judge Blythin, but did not ask Dr. Kirk to testify.

The other half dozen documents "added to it," Corrigan said. Four pertained to condition of the murder home, and were signed, individually, by Dr. Sam, his brothers, Drs. Stephen A. and Richard N. Sheppard, and defense attorney Arthur Petersilge.

Corrigan said they showed the home was undisturbed between the time it was returned to its owners by the state last Dec. 23 and until Kirk arrived in February to conduct his investigation.

Blood Spot Studied
The fifth and sixth affidavits were signed by Dr. Virgil Hawes,

an osteopath at Bay View Hospital, and the Rev. Robert G. Scully. Corrigan explained Hawes had "removed a blood spot from a wardrobe in the murder bedroom," the Rev. Scully had mailed the spot to Kirk on the West Coast for his examination.

Corrigan told the court he could find no precedent in court history that would allow him to present witnesses, so he called none. The state was prepared to answer any testimony, however, and had arranged for legal and medical experts to attend the hearing.

The early adjournment came as a surprise. Judge Blythin was ex-

pected to make his decision sometime Thursday.

Most of the material Kirk has prepared for the court has been kept a closely-guarded secret. But he has revealed clues indicating Marilyn's murderer was a left-handed person, that the murder weapon was probably a flashlight, and that the slayer likely suffered bites on the hand when Marilyn attempted to defend herself.

Sheppard's attorneys pointed out that Sheppard is right handed and bore no marks on his hands after the murder of his wife.

The prosecution intimated during Sheppard's trial that the murder

weapon probably was a surgical instrument. But it was never produced.

Auto Crash Near The Dalles Fatal
THE DALLES (UP)—A car carrying three Blalock, Ore., residents left Highway 197 some eight miles south of here early Wednesday, and one of them was killed.

Robert Reed, 67, was the victim. The driver, Vincent E. Fahger, and another passenger, Charles Udell, were uninjured.

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