

Legal Skirmish Over Reward Money Yet to Be Fought in Dr. Sheppard's Murder Case

Cleveland, Ohio—UPI—More than four years have passed since Dr. Samuel Sheppard began serving a life sentence for the murder of his pregnant wife, but the last legal skirmish is yet to be fought in his sensational case.

For one thing, the Cleveland Police Department is still trying to collect a \$10,000 reward offered by the Sheppard family "for the arrest and conviction of the murderers of Marilyn Sheppard" on July 4, 1954.

For another, a habeas corpus petition is pending before the Ohio Supreme Court seeking Sam Sheppard's release on the grounds that he was denied a fair chance to establish his innocence before, during and after his 43-day trial, one of the longest in U.S. judicial history.

Sheppard has insisted he

did not kill his wife, who was murdered in their rambling \$31,500 Bay Village home when she was four months pregnant. Marilyn had been beaten over the head 27 times with a dull instrument.

He has maintained that the slayer was a "bushy haired intruder." Dr. Sam claims the intruder knocked him unconscious when the young osteopath tried to capture him as he fled the house.

Sheppard's family—including his brothers Stephen and Richard, who are also doctors—has spent more than \$100,000 fighting his case. But they are determined not to give Cleveland police a penny of the reward money.

So far, they have been successful. A suit for the reward filed Jan. 10, 1958, on behalf of the Police Pension Fund was dismissed by Judge Charles F. Carr, who ruled that the money was meant to be paid to an individual, not an organization.

Challenge Raised
On July 9, 1959, the city filed another suit, this one on behalf of the 27 detectives who worked on the case. A challenge was promptly raised by the trustees of the fund, Cuyahoga county commissioners Henry Speeth and Joseph Gorman.

Speeth and Gorman, who signed a contract as private citizens with the Sheppard family to serve as trustees, claimed that they alone were to decide who gets the reward, not a court. Besides, they said, the police can't collect the money since they were only doing their duty.

Meanwhile, Sam Sheppard, now 35 years old, goes about the drab business of being an inmate at the Ohio State Penitentiary in Columbus. He will not be eligible for parole until he has spent 10 years behind bars. That will be July 20, 1965.

But Dr. Sam's talents are not being wasted. He serves with the medical-surgical crew of the prison hospital, administering anaesthetics for operations and doing routine hospital chores.

Outwardly, he has changed little. His dark hair is thinning and turning gray, but he remains trim with weight-

lifting and body-building exercises three days a week. Known as "Good Guy"

Among his fellow inmates, he has acquired a reputation as a "good guy." He trains and coaches the prison baseball and basketball teams. Occasionally, his brothers and their wives come to visit.

Sheppard seeks to avoid publicity, but word of his activities sometimes leaks out.

In September, 1956, he was credited with saving the life of a fellow prisoner who choked after an operation. Dr. Sam, on duty as a nurse, removed the obstruction from

the prisoner's throat and massaged his chest until his heart started beating again.

The following February Sheppard was transferred to the prison printing shop. Later he returned to the hospital. He also has worked as an instructor in auto mechan-

ics and as a personnel clerk.

In March, 1957, he volunteered as a "guinea pig" in a cancer inoculation test at the penitentiary.

Time Changes Others

Time has changed the lives of others involved in the case. Samuel Reese "Chip" Shep-

pard, now 12 and the only child of Sam and Marilyn Sheppard, was finally turned over to his uncle Stephen after the boy's aunt, Mrs. Henrietta Munn, dropped her fight to become his guardian.

The lad attends public school in suburban Rocky

River and appears to have a tendency toward science. Last year he won a citation in a science contest.

Chip's paternal grandparents are dead. His father's father—the founder of the family hospital—died of cancer shortly after Dr. Sam's conviction. The condemned man's mother committed suicide soon after that.

"The other woman" in the case, Susan Hayes, once a nurse in Sheppard's Bayview Hospital, is married. She lives in California with her husband, a television producer, and their son. She was called at the climax of the trial to testify about her romance with Sheppard and the week

they once spent in California.

Bay Village's mayor at the time of the murder, J. Spencer Houk, the first person to be told by Sheppard that his wife was dead, has sold his butcher shop. He is a salesman for a Cleveland auto agency. His health broke down during the case.

Death has taken Common Pleas Judge Edward Blythin, who conducted the trial; Henry Balke, Marilyn Sheppard's grandfather; and county prosecutor Frank T. Cullitan, who was too ill to attend the trial.

But Bayview Hospital has prospered. In July, the trustees announced plans for a million-dollar addition. The hospital, with 53 beds in 1954, has doubled in size and the addition will bring it to 286 beds.

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EVACUATED BY SLIDE—Residents of five duplex apartment houses were evacuated after a landslide at the site of a 16-story apartment building excavation in San Francisco. Soil and structural engineers are conferring on methods to prevent further slides and make the five buildings safe, as well as accessible. (UPI Telephoto)

Lunik III To Loop Moon Only Once Annually

Washington (Science Service)—It will be a year before Russia's Lunik III satellite can go behind the moon for another look, a National Aeronautics and Space Administration scientist told Science Service.

Dr. Homer Stewart, director of NASA's program planning and evaluation, said Lunik III will frequently cut through the moon's orbit, but the moon will not be there when it does.

13 Days for Orbit

This is because Lunik is taking about 13 days to make a complete circuit of its orbit. The moon takes 28½ days. So for about the next six months, the moon will move farther and farther away as Lunik swings out to its 292,000-mile apogee, its farthest distance from earth.

(A report from Moscow claimed earlier that Lunik would travel around the moon every four weeks.)

When Lunik goes around the moon again, the influence of the moon's gravity upon the satellite may give its present orbit a twist. The degree of "twist" depends upon how closely the satellite comes to the moon. Lunik's orbit following that event is unknown.

There has been some speculation in America that when Lunik passed the earth on Oct. 18 it found itself caught so firmly in the fingers of the earth's gravitational grip that it will never again see the far side of the moon. This, however, does not seem to represent a significant body of thought.

The theory could be confirmed or rejected mathematically, but Lunik's radio signals are not being received by NASA tracking stations. There is not sufficiently excellent tracking data available to the U.S. to enable such calculations to be made.

The reason the U.S. is not picking up Lunik's broadcasts is because Russia apparently starts and stops Lunik's transmissions at will by remote radio control. Lunik so far has broadcast its line-of-sight transmissions only when Russia was in the proper position to catch them. The U.S., in an unfavorable position, has heard nothing.

Tentative Pact In Transit Dispute

Portland—UPI—A tentative agreement has been announced here between negotiators for the Street Car Men's union and the Rose City Transit Co., on a new contract subject to membership ratification.

Spokesmen said terms of the contract offer would not be announced until drivers vote Saturday morning.

The drivers previously had rejected a 7-cent an hour raise this year with a 6-cent an hour boost effective Nov. 1.

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