

Illnesses' Effect on Writing Of Hughes Is Questioned

HOUSTON, Sept. 22 (UPI)—A complete examination of the autopsy performed on Howard Hughes may disclose medical evidence explaining physical inconsistencies in the so-called Mormon will a lawyer said today.

George Parnham, attorney for a former aide of Mr. Hughes, Noah Dietrich, said an illness or temporary physical condition might have been responsible for the shaky handwriting and the misspellings in the will Mr. Hughes allegedly wrote on a yellow legal pad in March 1968. He said he would discuss the autopsy with the Harris County Medical Examiner.

"If anything shows Hughes could have misspelled words on a particular day then we're in business," Mr. Parnham said. "The purpose is to determine in layman terms if the condition of Mr. Hughes could have been instrumental in the obvious errors in spelling that appear on the face of his will."

The "Mormon will," which names Mr. Dietrich executor, has been challenged by some heirs and others close to his business empire who say that Mr. Hughes would not have made the spelling errors. Mr. Hughes, 70 year old, died April 5 on a flight from Acapulco to Houston.

Officials who have seen the autopsy report have attributed Mr. Hughes' death to kidney failure. His brain was reported to be normal. But Mr. Hughes was known to have been suffering from other health disorders, including the effects of having been injured in three airplane crashes in his early life.

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