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Aleister Crowley Committed For Trial

"BETTY MAY" GIVES EVIDENCE

QUESTIONS ABOUT FIVE LETTERS



Aleister Crowley

Aleister Crowley, the author, who figured recently in the "Black Magic" case, was at Marylebone police court, W., sent for trial, charged with receiving five letters, the property of Mrs. Betty Sedgwick.

Mr. Edward F. Iwi, prosecuting said the alleged receiving took place between June 21, 1933, and April 10, 1934 from a house in Seymour-street W. where Mrs. Sedgwick was living.

She left for a cottage in Berkshire at the end of June, and when she arrived she found the documents were no longer in her case.

Last April Mrs. Sedgwick was a witness in a High Court libel action. Crowley v Constable and others, and gave evidence for the defence.

"CAPTAIN CRUZE"

Certain documents were produced in court, and were put to her.

"I do not propose," said Mr. Iwi, "to ask what Mr. Justice Swift remarked on this particular occasion, but the documents were ordered to be kept in the custody of the court."

Mrs. Sedgwick said she was a model by profession, usually known as Betty May. She was now living at South Hill Park-gardens, Hampstead, N.W.

Cross-examined by Mr. C. Gallop, for Crowley, she said that when she was living at Seymour-street there was someone else living there.

Mr. Gallop: When did you last see him?—Not so very long ago, in a public-house before the trial.

Did you know when you went to the public-house that these letters were missing from your possession?—Yes.

What was his name?—Captain E. Cruze. Sometimes he spelt it Cruse.

Who typed the copy now produced?—I do not know.

Did you type the original?—Yes.

Did you go with him to see a solicitor?—Yes.

Was the object to negotiate with Messrs Waterhouse, the solicitors, for remuneration for your services?—No. It was to prevent me from being attacked at Soho by roughs.

The letters from you were requests for money, weren't they?—Yes.

Crowley pleaded not guilty and reserved his defence.