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ALEISTER CROWLEY SENT FOR TRIAL

Mystery of Woman's Letters

MODEL IN THE BOX

On a charge of feloniously receiving five letters, the property of Betty Sedgwick, Edward Alexander Crowley (58), of Upper-Montagu-street, W. (known as Aleister Crowley, the author) was sent for trial yesterday at Marylebone.

He pleaded not guilty and reserved his defence. His counsel stated that Mr. Crowley had an absolute explanation.

Mr. Edward F. Iwi (prosecuting) said that according to his instructions the documents were stolen while Mrs. Sedgwick was at Seymour-street and had been received by the defendant knowing them to have been stolen.

In April last Mrs. Sedgwick was a witness in the case brought by Mr. Crowley against Messrs. Constable and others, and gave evidence on behalf of Messrs. Constable. Certain documents then produced were ordered to be kept in the custody of the court. He (Mr. Iwi) was now responsible for the return of those papers to Mr. Justice Swift's Court.

A MODEL

Evidence was given by Mrs. Sedgwick, who told the magistrate that she was a model by profession usually known as Betty May, and that she was now living at South Hill Park-gardens, Hampstead.

Mr. Iwi handed to Mrs. Sedgwick a bundle of five letters which she said were her property. There were four original letters and one copy. She had them at Seymour-street, but after June last year did not see the letters again until the trial in the High Court. She did not miss them until she went to her cottage in the country.

Mr. Iwi: Did you willingly part with these letters to anybody?—No.

Mrs. Sedgwick added that four of the letters were produced in the High Court action.

"There are three originals from Waterhouse, one from the publisher and one copy," explained Mr. Iwi.

Replying to Mr. Gallop (for Mr. Crowley) Mrs. Sedgwick said that when she wrote the letter of April 25 she was living in Seymour-street.

FEAR OF ATTACK

Counsel: Was anyone else living there?—Yes.

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

Had Cruze any money?—None.

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

Did you hand any of the letters to the solicitor?—No.

Was the object to negotiate with Messrs. Waterhouse for remuneration for your services?—No.

What was the object?—To prevent me from being attacked in Soho by roughs.

Did not you yourself hand the letters to Cruze?—Never.

Mr. Gallop: Did Cruze ever see them in your presence?—Yes, he must have done.

Did you not authorize Cruze to get rid of those letters in the most advantageous manner that he could think of?—Certainly not.

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

When you went back to the place you describe as your country cottage, did you go with Cruze or without him?—Without him.

Walter William Hunt, a solicitor's clerk, was shown a bundle of five letters and said they were handed to him by Mr. Crowley some weeks before the civil trial. Mr. Crowley told him to give them to his principal and he did so.

The magistrate said the case was outside the ordinary category. He was glad someone else would finally deal with it.