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Forty Years at the Old Bailey

"FIELDING" A HAMMER MEANT FOR THE JUDGE.

The pleasant-faced official who, in barrister's wig and gown, sits at a desk of his own under the Recorder in the Central Criminal Court, is a puzzle to strangers unfamiliar with legal procedure.

True, he steps into the limelight at the beginning of the trial when he tells the accused in the dock that he is "indicted for, and also stands charged with—" the crime and asks prisoner if he is guilty or not guilty. And at the end of the trial he asks the jury for their verdict ("And is that the verdict of you all?")

Began at Sixteen.

At other times he is either listening to the case as keenly as if he were the judge's shadow, or is busily writing. And occasionally you will see him stand up and hand the judge the paper on which he has been writing. Then he sits down and perhaps rubs his chin expectantly.

The pleasant-faced official has been at the Old Bailey for forty years. On the day he completed the round figure the Recorder himself was the first to congratulate him.

Mr. Herbert Austin came from Reading School into the Old Bailey—as a clerk in 1883—when he was sixteen. He rose to the position of Deputy Clerk with his years, and may be said to have been immersed in the technique of the law all his career. He ought to be a dry-as-dust—a living tomb of lengthy phrases and concise expression.

Actually once he is free of the Court and of the mass of papers on his desk in his private room he can relax into smiles and good fellowship, and be a very human and charming man indeed.

Thrilling Scenes at Trials.

He has seen many changes in the administration of Criminal Law, notably the Act of 1898, enabling accused persons to give evidence on their own behalf, and the establishment of the Court of Criminal Appeal in 1908. The Indictments Act in 1915 was a welcome innovation, in that it rendered pleadings in criminal cases much more intelligible to accused persons.

He has seen many changes in the personnel of legal administration, and has acted as officer of the Court under four Lord Chief Justices (Lord Coleridge, Lord Russell, Lord Alverstone, and Lord Reading), and has served under four Recorders (Sir Thomas Chambers, Sir Charles Hall, Sir Forest Fulton, and Sir Ernest Wild).

The Clerk of the Court is responsible for all arrangements, indictments, and sentence of death. His head is packed with an exact knowledge of procedure in the conduct of cases, and it often happens that the Clerk, free to study from his impersonal position the working of the machinery as the case develops, is able to hint to the judge a way out of a difficulty. As to drama, it goes without saying that Mr. Austin has witnessed exciting scenes. There was the terrible struggle in the dock in 1896 between Albert Millsom and Henry Fowler, subsequently convicted of the murder of Mr. Henry Smith at Muswell Hill.

A Fight in the Dock.

There had been a desperate fight with the police when these two men were arrested at Bath. In the course of the trial one gave the other away in cross-examination—whereupon the aggrieved one sprang upon his colleague, and these two strong and active men, each about thirty years of age, fought furiously.

The glass screens about the dock were smashed as they rolled, a struggling, cursing mass, with the police trying to separate them. It took five police to do this—and the dock by this time was nearly wrecked!

The trials of the Suffragettes provided lively moments at the Old Bailey. During one of these a hammer was thrown, presumably at the judge, from the back of the Court. However, Mr. Austin looked like being the target, and would have received a nasty blow had he not "fielded" it with the skill

of a good cricketer—which Mr. Austin certainly was at that time.

What amused the judge and counsel and others was the calm way Mr. Austin resumed his work—as if hammers were pitched at him periodically every day.

A less dangerous missile took him by surprise while another Suffragette trial was in progress; it glanced off his shoulder, and the marks of it are still to be seen on the woodwork of his chair. It was well that the missile was wide of the mark, nevertheless, for it was a rotten tomato.

A Callous Murderer.

Of all the criminals whom Mr. Austin has seen in the dock—from O'Donnell, convicted of the murder in 1883 of James Carey, the Phoenix Park informer, down to Mrs. Thompson and Bywaters—the most stony-hearted villain was James Seddon, the poisoner of Miss Barrow.

His meanness, avarice, selfishness, and smug self-satisfaction, were such as to leave a sordid memory (writes A. W. S. in the Evening News). The judge, a fellow Mason, was much moved in passing sentence, but Seddon preserved a contemptuous, unemotional front to the very end.

Mrs. Dyer, the baby farmer; Mrs. Pearcey, "the perambulator murder" (she wheeled the bodies of Mrs. Phoebe Hogg and her child away from her rooms in Kentish Town and left them in different places); Bennett, who murdered his wife on Yarmouth Beach; Thomas Neill, alias Cream, the poisoner; Crippen, the murderer of Belle Elmore; and Stinle Morrison, who killed Louis Beron on Clapham Common—these are some of the most notable characters Mr. Austin has seen in front of him fighting for their lives.



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Crystal Vinegar.
Malt Vinegar.
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Green Chillies.
Dried Red Chillies.

sept 28, 1923



On Watch

MAURETANIA THE MARVELLOUS.

A very sensible scheme of co-operation has been arranged between the Cunard and White Star Companies with regard to winter sailings between Southampton and New York. Instead of each company maintaining a weekly service, a Cunard steamer will be despatched one week and the next weekly sailing will be taken by one of the White Star fleet. The advantages of such an arrangement are obvious. The Transatlantic passenger trade is practically a seasonal one. There is, of course, a constant steady stream of traffic right through the year, but those who travel for business or other essential reasons are comparatively few in number compared with the tourist element. This class of traveller fills the ships either eastward or westward from May onwards to September. During the remainder of the year competition for business is naturally very keen, and neither of the British lines running between the southern port and New York could hope to anything like fill their first and second-class accommodation. Under these circumstances the maintenance of a fast weekly winter service by the two rival lines was from the business point of view by no means a paying proposition. The new arrangement will therefore afford a certain amount of relief to both undertakings, especially as a similar policy is to be adopted with regard to Liverpool sailings. The public will not suffer in any way, for there will be a mid-week sailing from Southampton to New York and a Saturday departure from Liverpool, alternately by Cunard and White Star vessels. Apart from the economical advantages of such a scheme, the companies will be assisted in another way. Under the strain of providing a regular weekly service it was difficult to arrange for the withdrawal of the big, fast vessels for their periodic overhaul. The substituted ships were usually smaller and slower and their accommodation on a level of luxury with the natural result that intending passengers frequently held back for a more attractive vessel, and thus diminished the earnings of the stop-gan. Under the new arrangement abundant leisure will be afforded for the withdrawal of units which require reconditioning. Thus during the winter months the Olympic, Homeric and Mauretania will all come under the hands of the ship-repairers. The first-named will undergo an extensive overhaul, while the Homeric, which

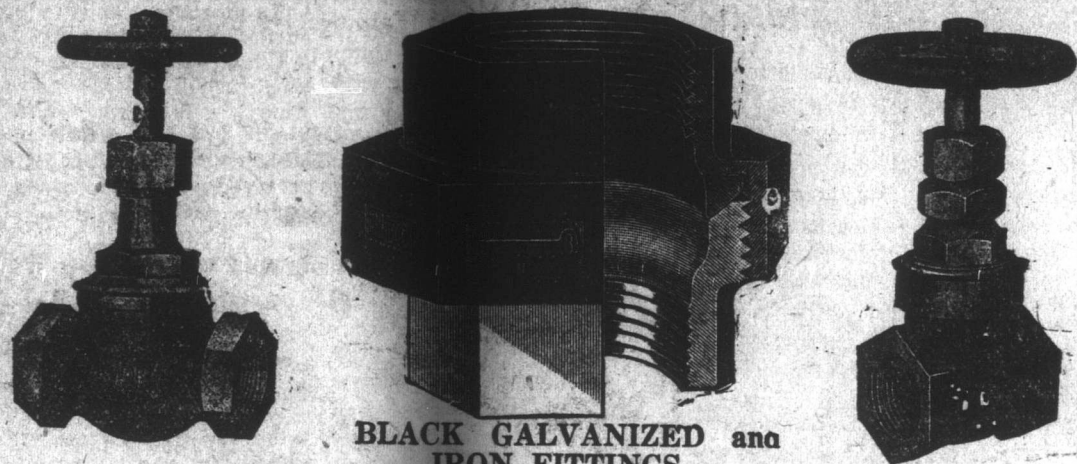
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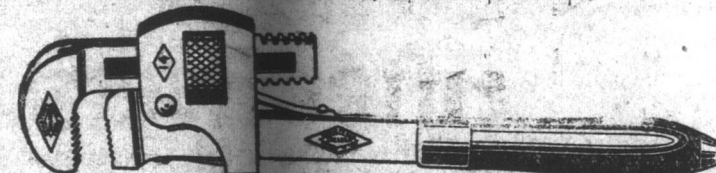
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is the largest vessel driven by reciprocating engines, and at present raises her steam in coal-fired boilers, will be converted to oil-burning. The Mauretania will receive more extensive treatment, for not only are her passenger quarters to be reconditioned, but her turbines are to be overhauled, and, incidentally, rebled. It has been the custom in recent years to apply special descriptions to the Atlantic "greyhounds" which loom most prominently in the public eye, and in some cases these distinctive appellations are quite appropriate. The Mauretania is indubitably the world's largest vessel, as our Transatlantic cousins now recognize; while the Aquitania is generally admitted to fully merit the title of "The Ship Beautiful." Were we asked to coin a phrase descriptive of the Mauretania we would, without hesitation, suggest "Mauretania the Marvellous." Not only does the fact that she holds the record amongst ocean liners for fast steaming, having averaged 28.06 knots across the Atlantic, warrant the title, but it must also be remembered that she has been in a way experimental, seeing that they far exceeded in size and power anything hitherto attempted in that system of propulsion. When she made her advent the fastest vessels on the Atlantic were as follows:

Ship	Speed in Knots.
Lusitania	25
Kronprinzessin Cecilie	23 1/2
Kaiser Wilhelm II.	23 1/2
Deutschland	23 1/2
Campania and Lucania	22
La Provence	22
St. Paul and St. Louis	21.08

The Majority of these vessels have passed away. The torpedoing of the Lusitania will never be forgotten. The Campana was sunk in collision after doing much useful work, both mercantile and naval, subsequent to the burning out and breaking up of her sister-ship the Lucania. The St. Paul, St. Louis and La Provence have all been removed from the Register. The Kronprinzessin Cecilie and the Kaiser Wilhelm II., now known as the Mount Vernon and Agamemnon, are lying rusting in American waters, the United States Shipping Board apparently unable to decide whether they are worth reconditioning. The

Deutschland has reverted to her original owners, the Hamburg-American Line, and, having been "rebuilt," is doing service—but not at the speed for which she was built—as the Hansa. The Mauretania is as staunch as ever, and there is no reason to doubt that when "she emerges rejuvenated from her overhaul she will secure a firmer grip than ever upon the Atlantic record.

Brown bread is delicious toasted, crumbled and served with hot milk.

Serve stuffed leg of pork with boiled cabbage and buttered carrots.

Wonderful Guarantee!

Of Over a Million Bottles of Carnol Sold—Only Four Have Been Returned

If you will read the second to last paragraph of the circular which accompanies every bottle of Carnol, you will notice the following guarantee: "If, after taking your first bottle of Carnol, according to directions, you find that it has not helped you, that its action is not already recognizable, and you can say so sincerely, take back the empty (or partly empty) bottle, and get your money back. Remember we refund the druggist the purchase price—he loses nothing." Do you think the manufacturers would make this guarantee if they did not know that Carnol possessed properties of unusual merit? But, would it be fair to say that Carnol does not possess merit when, out of a million bottles sold, only four were returned? If the other bottles sold had not proved beneficial, they also would have been returned. These four bottles were returned and the money refunded without question, the only explanation being that Carnol had not given relief. As disease is of slow growth it naturally takes time for any medicine to eradicate it. The full benefit of Carnol is clearly stated in the circular that you should take a "Course of Carnol," although many people have been completely cured after taking one or two bottles. Perhaps the reason why these people didn't benefit by taking Carnol was because they did not take enough of it—brades it is not claimed for Carnol that it will cure everything.

Carnol is sold by all good druggists everywhere.

—By Bud Fisher.

MUTT AND JEFF

MUTT GETS AN EARFUL—A BIG EARFUL OVER THE RADIO.



Sea-Water at Medicine

are subject to rheumatic pains, of the finest cures is sea-water. It is now claim to be able to drive this complaint, which was once thought to be incurable, by infection that fluid.

Sea-water has another curative property. Many nasal troubles yield to influence, and infantile cholera has been successfully combated with its

Sliced cucumbers are nice to serve with creamed oysters in patty shells. Cinnamon buns are quite good when toasted and served with coffee. Just before serving creamed asparagus toast sprinkle it with paprika. Planter's mashed potatoes and garnish with parsley and radish roses.

certain London business firm is trying on a big trade in the new machine. In order that the water may be quite free from contamination, it is chiefly obtained from the Dogger Bank, where the sea-water is very pure.

Special trawlers are regularly sent to procure the water, which is sealed and kept on ice during the journey home.

Newspapers a "Key Industry"

Westminster Gazette: City life of today is a very intricate thing and newspapers are related to it as a "key industry." Most of us have felt very grateful of the existence of key industries; but if such things can exist in the newspaper, the industry of the newspaper is a very important part of trade and commerce.