

SPEECH UP BY THE JUDGE ADVOCATE:-

There are just two or three points that before closing I want to bring to the attention of all interested parties and which have nothing whatever to do with the facts in this case. The Court is sole judge of them. My function is to advise the court and various parties before it on the points of law which may arise and on those points of law my advice must be taken by the court or if disregarded must be so disregarded for a very serious reason. And so I will address myself not to facts but to law. Criminal Law in British Jurisprudence is based on one great concept. That is *Gaius*. White came into this room this morning and unless proven guilty must leave this room an innocent man, which is another way of saying that a man is innocent until proven guilty. The Prosecutor must prove him guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. Not any silly reason but reasonable as a sensible business man would so consider it under similar circumstances. It is true that evidence produced in this instance is to a great extent circumstantial. I must point out that in a crime of this nature that evidence will be such as I have indicated. It is very seldom that any criminal commits a crime with an audience. The Prosecution is nearly always forced to rely on circumstantial evidence. A man may be convicted on circumstantial evidence if the court is convinced as to its sufficiency. One element of the charges I must also bring to mind and that is the element in the charges of forgery, intent to defraud. Intention is a state of mind and not open to proof by anyone and all that is required is that the prosecution present such evidence as that court may reasonably infer intent therefrom.

COURT CLOSED TO CONSIDER FINDINGS

*Gaius**Gaius*