

MYERS. Yes, indeed you have. In your view had the prisoner such an influence over Miss French that he could have persuaded her to dismiss you?

JANET. I'd like to have seen him try. He'd not have succeeded.

MYERS. Had the prisoner ever shown any dislike of you in any way?

JANET. No, he had his manners.

MYERS. Just one more question. You say you recognized Leonard Vole's voice through that closed door. Will you tell the Jury how you knew it was his?

JANET. You know a person's voice without bearing exactly what they are saying.

MYERS. Thank you, Miss MacKenzie.

JANET. *(to the JUDGE)* Good morning. *(She stands down and crosses to the door up left.)*

MYERS. Call Thomas Clegg.

(The POLICEMAN opens the door.)

USHER. *(rising and crossing to center)* Thomas Clegg.

POLICEMAN. *(calling)* Thomas Clegg.

(JANET exits. THOMAS CLEGG enters up left He carries a notebook. The POLICEMAN closes the door. The USHER moves to the witness box and picks up the Bible and oath card. CLEGG crosses and enters the witness box and takes the Bible from the USHER.)

CLEGG. *(Saying the oath by heart)* I swear by All mighty God that the evidence that I shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

(He puts the Bible on the ledge of the witness box.)

(The USHER puts the oath card on the ledge of the witness box, crosses and resumes his seat.)

MYERS. You are Thomas Clegg?

CLEGG. Yes, sir.

MYERS. You are an assistant in the forensic laboratory at

New Scotland Yard?

CLEGG. I am.

MYERS. (*indicating the jacket on the table*) Do you recognize that coat?

(*The USHER rises, crosses to the table and picks up the jacket.*)

CLEGG. Yes. It was given to me by Inspector Hearne and tested by me for traces of blood.

(*The USHER hands the coat up to CLEGG, who brushes it aside. The USHER replaces the jacket on the table, crosses and resumes his seat.*)

MYERS. Will you tell me your findings?

CLEGG. The coat sleeves had been washed, though not properly pressed afterwards, but by certain tests I am able to state that there are traces of blood on the cuffs.

MYERS. Is this blood of a special group or type?

CLEGG. Yes. (*He refers to his notebook.*) It is of the type O.

MYERS. Were you also given a sample of blood to test?

CLEGG. I was given a sample labelled "Blood of Miss Emily French." The blood group was of the same type - O.

(*MYERS resumes his seat.*)

SIR WILFRID. (*rising*) You say there were traces of blood on both cuffs?

CLEGG. That is right.

SIR WILFRID. I suggest that there were traces of blood on only one cuff - the left one.

CLEGG. (*looking at his notebook*) Yes. I am sorry, I made a mistake. It was only the left cuff.

SIR WILFRID. And it was only the left sleeve that had been washed?

CLEGG. Yes, that is so.

SIR WILFRID. Are you aware that the prisoner had told the police that he had cut his wrist, and that that blood was on the cuff of this coat?

CLEGG. So I understand.

(SIR WILFRID takes a certificate from his ASSISTANT.)

SIR WILFRID. I have here a certificate stating that Leonard Vole is a blood donor at the North London Hospital, and that its blood group is O. That is the same blood group, is it not?

CLEGG. Yes.

SIR WILFRID. So the blood might equally well have come from a cut on the prisoner's wrist?

CLEGG. That is so.

(SIR WILFRID resumes his seat.)

MYERS. *(rising)* Blood group O is a very common one, is it not?

CLEGG. O? Oh, yes. At least forty-two per cent of people are in blood group O.

MYERS. Call Romaine Heilger.

(CLEGG stands down and crosses to the door up left)

USHER. *(rising and crossing to center)* Romaine Heilger.

POLICEMAN. *(opens the door, calling)* Romaine Heilger.

(CLEGG exits. ROMAINE enters up left. There is a general buzz of conversation in the Court as she crosses to the witness box. The POLICEMAN closes the door. The USHER moves to the witness box and picks up the Bible and oath card.)

USHER. Silence! *(He hands the Bible to ROMAINE and holds up the card.)*

ROMAINE. I swear by Almighty God that the evidence that I shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

(The USHER replaces the Bible and oath card on the ledge of the witness box, crosses and resumes his seat.)

MYERS. Your name is Romaine Heilger?

ROMAINE. Yes.