

**UNKNOWN NEWSPAPER
Unknown Date**

DEFAMATION WITOUT DAMAGE.

**(Before Mr. Justice Scrutton
and a Common Jury)**

**JONES v. "LOOKING GLASS" PUBLISHING
COMPANY AND OTHERS.**

This was an action for damages for alleged libel brought by Mr. George Cecil Jones, consulting chemist, of Great Tower-street, against the Looking Glass Publishing Company, Mr. West de Wend Fenton, the editor, and Messrs. Love and Malcomson (Limited), printers. The statements complained of were published in a series of articles in the weekly journal *The Looking Glass*. The articles dealt with Mr. Aleister Crowley, who put himself forward as the high priest of a sect, and the articles described various proceedings which were animadverted on. There was the headline "By Their Friends ye Shall Know Them," and a passage which stated that two of Mr. Crowley's friends and introducers were still associated with him—"one the rascally sham Buddhist monk Allan Bennett. . . the other a person of the name of George Cecil Jones." Defendants pleaded that the words complained of were not capable of bearing a defamatory meaning, and also that they were fair comment. Mr. Schiller, instructed by Messrs. Bullock and Co., appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Schiller, instructed by Mr. Gottlieb, for the defendant publishing company; Mr. Fenton appeared in person; Mr. Rowlands, instructed by Messrs. White and Leonard, represented the printers.

The jury answered the following questions.

Were the words complained of defamatory of the plaintiff?—
Yes.

If so, were the defamatory statements in fact substantially true?—Yes.

Were the statements so far as they consisted of opinions fair comment on the facts?—Yes.

What damage has the publication caused to the plaintiff?—
None.

On these findings, judgment was entered for the defendants.