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Outline of Legal History, by Franklin Russell

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would surely have been a miscarriage of justice. Hall never gave up his belief in Bennett's innocence.

In Chapter viii we have a full account of the pitiful case of Robert Wood (1907), which was perhaps the greatest of Hall's triumphs and may be taken as a model of advocacy. Hall's theory as to Crippen is more than ingenious, though it is difficult to romanticize that medical quack into a martyr.

In the next chapters there are the well-known trials of Seddon and G. J. Smith, the only cases apparently in which Hall himself believed his clients to be guilty.

Chapter xi includes two highly interesting acquittals of 1920, those of Light and Greenwood. In the former, it is not clear why Hall insisted that the bullet found six yards from the body had nothing to do with the case. As to the latter, we may remark that if Hall had not been quite so successful, in all probability Major Armstrong would never have ventured to poison his wife.

There is in this fascinating book much more than can be summarized. Without straining for effect the style is effective. The reader will find little of the law, but much of the facts as sifted through the brain of one who was "not merely counsel, but also detective, showman, rhapsodist, actor, friend, and even father confessor."

BERNARD FREYD.

OUTLINE OF LEGAL HISTORY. By Franklin Russell. New York, 1929, pp. xii, 152.

Some familiarity with the history of English law is essential to a complete understanding and appreciation of the present legal system. Knowing full well that the average student lacks this familiarity, the author has presented this outline in order to make available in condensed form the outstanding facts in English legal history.

The work is based on the lectures of Professor Holdsworth and follows his order of approach to the subject. The first four chapters deal with the general history of the law from the Anglo-Saxon period down to the present. The last three chapters are devoted to the history of particular doctrines of the law under the heading of contract, tort, and land law. Each chapter has references to Professor Holdsworth's nine-volume "History of the English Law."

Possessed of the weaknesses of all outline presentation, the work, nevertheless, accomplished the purpose of the author. It has the merit of serving as a convenient reference for the high points of the history of the law and might be useful as a guide to more detailed study of the subject.

RUDOLPH H. NOTTMANN.