

THE POLITICAL LAWYER

Thomas Grant QC



GRESHAM
COLLEGE



JOHN COOK.

(Executed at Charing Crofs. 1660)

Le Petit Journal

Le Petit Journal
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L'ATTENTAT CONTRE M^r LABORI



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The “cab rank” rule: Bar Code of Conduct rC29

If you receive instructions from a professional client.....and the instructions are appropriate taking into account the experience, seniority and/or field of practice of yourself....you must, subject to Rule rC30 below, accept the instructions addressed specifically to you, irrespective of:

- .a the identity of the client;
- .b the nature of the case to which the instructions relate;
- .c whether the client is paying privately or is publicly funded; and
- .d any belief or opinion which you may have formed as to the character, reputation, cause, conduct, guilt or innocence of the client.

"A lawyer has no business with the justice or injustice of the cause which he undertakes, unless his client asks his opinion, and then he is bound to give it honestly. ... If lawyers were to undertake no causes till they were sure they were just, a man might be precluded altogether from a trial of his claim, though, were it judicially examined, it might be found a very just claim."

Dr Johnson

"If an advocate refuses to defend from what he may think of the charge or of the defence, he assumes the character of Judge; nay, he assumes before the hour of judgment, and in proportion to his rank or reputation puts the heavy influence of perhaps a mistaken opinion into the scale against the accused in whose favour the benevolent principle of English law makes all presumptions ... "

Thomas Erskine



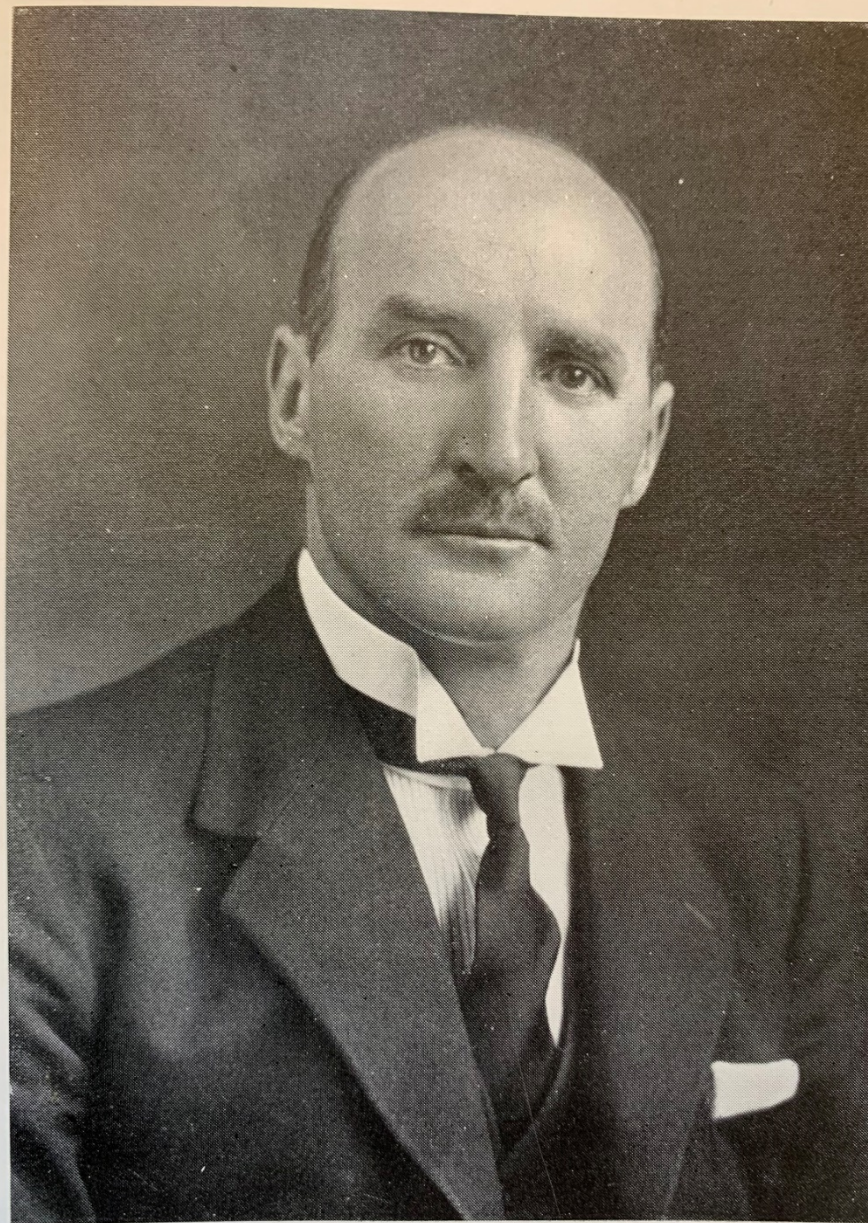
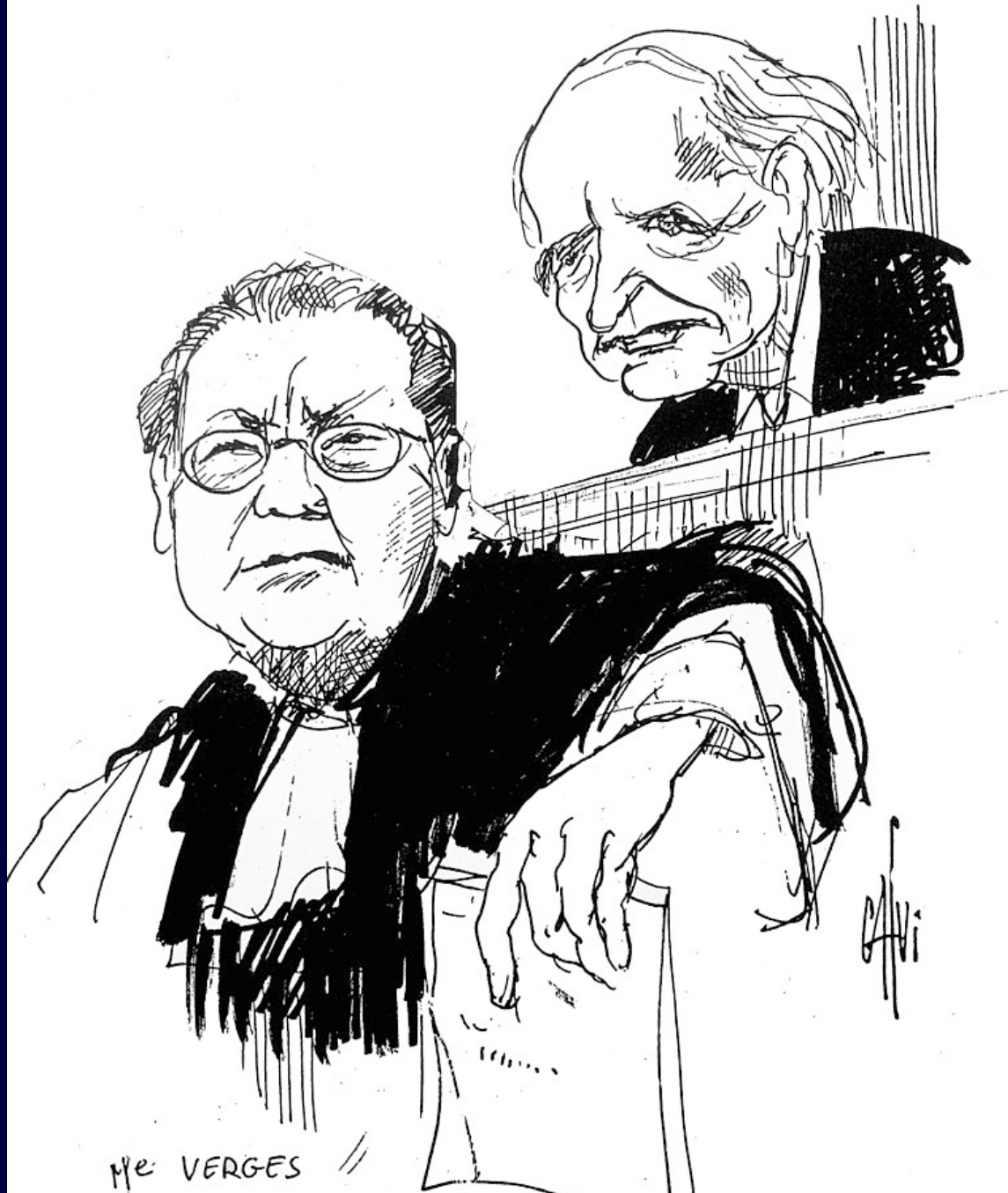


Photo. by Lafayette

Mr. G. O. Slade, K.C.



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Mr VERGES

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"Where an advocate does what I have done, his conduct is not determined by any disrespect for the law nor because he hopes to benefit personally by any 'offence' he may commit. On the contrary, it requires an act of will to overcome his deeply rooted respect of legality, and he takes the step only when he feels that, whatever the consequences to himself, his political conscience no longer permits him to do otherwise. He does it not because of a desire to be immoral, but because to act otherwise would, for him, be immoral."

Bram Fischer

"The Respondent in effect admits that his political beliefs are such that he is not prepared to conform to the laws of his country. It is the duty of the Court to uphold and enforce the laws of the country duly enacted and promulgated. It would be inconsistent with that duty for the Court to allow an advocate to remain on the roll when he is defying these laws and instigating others to defy these laws."

Judge President De Wet

“We will do what is necessary to cut off the bloody path from attorneyship to terrorism.”

President Erdogan