

Gothic Ripples

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Dear Mr Baron,

Thank you for your considerate letter dated 15 August.

Yes, I saw the Gable reference to me in the course of his tirade against John Tyndall.

It is certainly true that I was not involved in any of the synagogue cases of the 1960s, and I recall that there was a question asked in the House of Commons as to whether I was involved and to which a Government spokesman answered that there was no evidence of such involvement, which is why I was never approached by the police in the matter.

Probably somewhere in the disordered mass of my cuttings from the period I have one concerning the above question and answer, but I cannot at this stage go searching for it. Some time ago I tried to locate it by way of an enquiry to the Hansard people but, while they sent me some parliamentary references to me, they failed to locate what I was after.

I believe I quoted it at Birmingham Magistrates Court in the late 1970s when I brought a case of criminal libel against 'Searchlight' and at least got the stipendiary magistrate to denounce that periodical as 'scurrilous'.

I have never had contact with Mr Adrian Davies though of course I have known of him and in particular in connection with the proceedings against my co-defendant, Tony Hancock. I much considered a while back civil action against that magazine over its falsehood that I had lied to Leeds Crown Court over my medical condition - testified to the court by three cardiac consultants including one acting for the prosecution - and that he had imposed some ban on all political activity by me henceforth which, as the court transcript shows is untrue. However, and moreover for one with my degree of notoriety with the powers that be, a case could be a very costly gamble indeed, and I decided I was not prepared then - and the same holds good now - to risk the resources of my old age in such a way. I prefer to work to expose Gable and his gang, and let them, if they so wish, bring a case against me.

Yours sincerely,



Colin Jordan