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Judicial Drama in Jerusalem

ONCE AGAIN the ancient city of Jerusalem is the site of a historic trial. It was there, 2,975 years ago, that Solomon won fame as a judge by his handling of a child custody case. There again, 1,047 years later, Jesus of Nazareth was tried and sentenced to death. Now Adolf Eichmann is on trial in Jerusalem for mass murder of Jews in the last world war.

Much has been written by scholars and historians in praise of Solomon's decision and in criticism of the trial of Jesus. A thousand years from now, what will they be saying about the Eichmann trial? That it will be remembered and discussed we have no doubt, but we think this may be as much on account of the remarkable publicity accorded to it as its unique jurisdictional and procedural problems or the final decision.

Every word is being recorded in sound and film, and months ago plans were being made to show these films throughout the world. Every news story comes with photographs snapped during the course of the proceedings. As the trial unfolds, American newspapers, magazines, radio and television are reviewing the Nazi atrocities. Eichmann is being tried simultaneously in the Jerusalem court and in the court of world opinion.

Israeli authorities have gone to commendable lengths to provide able defense counsel and to assure procedural regularity, but their planned publicity program suggests that one of the major objectives of the trial is

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