



THE DAILY NEWS

Ship's Cook Tried for Murder Following an Unlucky Voyage to Africa

NEW YORK, Sep. 1.-Terror and the superstition of the sea were aboard the Kingsway during that unlucky schooner's voyage to the African Gold Coast in the Gulf of Guinea, according to testimony in the Federal Court at the trial of the ship's cook for the murder of his wife on the trip. The dread settled on the veteran salts after the cook, wiry little negro, had twice slipped the irons that held his wrists. He had used a rusty razor with terrible effect on his wife, and with that vivid memory the crew scanned the shadowy decks at night fearful of another escape and another crime.

Many things stimulated the imaginations and the uneasiness of the able seamen. The flap of a loose rope, the ghostly flight of a piece of white paper along the dusty companionways, the screech of timbers in the bulkheads complaining under the builet of a wave these quickened the fears of the sailors as they padded about barefooted or on rope-soled shoes, often startling each other by unexpected encounters in dark corners. MATE DIED Arousing the superstition bred by wild nights amid the desolation of the restless wastes, were other events that seldom come to proper craft. First, the mate, a quiet spoken old man, who too old to keep on being a lion, curled up in his bunk and died. There had been a funeral at sea, with the skipper reading a prayer, and all hands on deck, and a splash as the weighted canvas went over the side. Then Earl Battice, the cook, had slashed his wife and her groans had sounded on the ship for seven days and nights when there had been another splash alongside. Bad as all these had been for nerves of men who had signed on merely for a peaceful venture, involving lumber and cocoa beans, there sons. There had been an emotional Spanish gir! with a knife in the pocket of her skirt-it really wasn't carried there but she had it and it was out of lawful spouse went astray. NIGHT SCREAMS Another knife there had been, keen-edged affair, which the cook holstered in the mattress of his berth.

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original keg in which the celebrated "Seagram's 83" was first





