

SPENCER REVEALS HIS PAST CAREER

Asserts He Robbed the Dead After San Francisco Disaster.

BLAMES HIS FATHER FOR LIFE OF CRIME

Confession of Miss Blackstone's Murder Excites Populace.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., April 10.—Revelations made by Bertram G. Spencer, the marked murderer and burglar, that have hitherto been kept secret by the police, reached the public today, and as a result the indignation of this city has been aroused almost to a lynchng frenzy.

Some of the startling facts learned related to his treatment of the women he bound with ropes.

The prisoner, whom no lawyer will step forward to defend, has also confessed that he robbed the dead of the San Francisco disaster, whose bodies, as a member of the United States Navy, he was assigned to protect.

Spencer blames his plight upon his father and another man, who, he says, mistreated him as a boy, and threatened to kill his father if he ever gets the chance.

He says that he would have shot Harriet Dow through the heart, instead of in the head if the young woman had not slipped and fallen at the time he murdered Miss Martha Blackstone.

Pats Bloodhound During Chase.
He asserts that when the bloodhounds were trying to run him down he met one of them in the street and patted it on the head. The dog jogged on. He wears in prison a pair of trousers that he stole from Sheriff Smead, of Springfield.

This full story of how the "spell" that has led him on since a boy to the commission of crime was responsible for his actions on the night of the murder is made public today. He says that brilliant lights hypnotized him and that he walked toward them as though charmed by the glittering eyes of a serpent. Daylight dispensed the "spell," he said.

"If my father comes here I will kill him," cried out the prisoner in his cell. "I'll kill him if I have to throttle him. I should have killed him long ago. He and that old man, that I know have made a fiend of me."

Present at his startling denunciation of his father was Dr. Elizabeth Young Myers.

"Don't talk that way, Bert," one of the State officers remarked. "Don't say such a thing as that, for your mother's sake."

Says He Could Not Help It.
"Yes, I have a dear mother," he cried, "but I can't help it. Oh, mother, mother, is there a God in heaven?" "Why did you do it, Bert?" asked the mother, and the agonized tones could be heard far out in the reception room of police headquarters.

"I couldn't help it," answered the youth as tears ran down his cheeks and his mother and sister and Dr. Myers wept also. "Father was a brute, and that old farmer down in Lebanon was a beast. A spell came on me and I could not get away from it. I have confessed all to the police and I have told them all the truth."

Spencer's story of his career of crime dating back from the time he was nine years of age was told in Lebanon, Conn., June 17, 1881. I will be twenty-nine years old in June, and I have been a criminal for twenty years. My father's brutal treatment, his assaults on me when I was a young boy, striking me over the head frequently with the butt end of his whip and that awful creature on the neighboring farm, have been the cause of it all.

Tells of Robbing Employer.
"I had the dearest mother in the world, but the spell was on me and I could not shake it off. When I left the store and the farm I got work in Hartford. I stole from my employer there."

"Money came easily. I would alter the checks as they were sent up to the desk from sales. I reduced the cost of the sale and pocketed the excess change. The customer got his goods and his proper change and I got just what I happened to make out on the slips. I was never caught."

"I longed to see the world, and to get away from the humdrum of life in the country or the city. That's why I joined the navy. Even before this, somehow or other, I couldn't get away from the idea of guns and revolvers. I had them all the time, and my life in the navy satisfied for a while the craving

for excitement."

"I had for firearms. When I left the navy I went back for a while to Lebanon and then to Springfield."

Career in West.
"Then I went West. I was then about twenty-four years old. I went to Oakland, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. I thought for a while that I was to go into consumption and I had all kinds of fears, and with these fears the same old spell came back to me."

"I joined the militia and when the San Francisco disaster broke, I was one of those ordered out on guard duty. I went to Seattle and robbed there. Then I came back to Oakland. The revolver that I used in killing Miss Blackstone I stole from a drunken soldier in Oakland."

"When I came back East and that was only four years ago, I got work on the Boston and Maine railroad as a brakeman, running from Springfield north. The old spell would come on me and I could not resist stealing."

"After the shooting I simply went out on the front piazza, vaulted over the railing, got my black derby hat, put my soft felt hat and the handkerchief in my pocket, and the gun back in the holster and started for home."

Gives Candy to Wife.
"I didn't run one foot of the way. I gave my wife the candy and went to bed. I didn't feel the least bit disturbed. I even nodded on my way over to the policeman."

DOCTOR MUST TEST ALL DRUNK ARRESTS

New Police Rule to Protect Sick Persons From Being Jailed.

SCHMITZ REGAINS STANDING IN UNION

Former San Francisco Mayor Back in Musicians' Organization.

LOS ANGELES, April 10.—Beginning today every man arrested in this city on the charge of drunkenness is to be carefully examined by a physician to determine whether or not the diagnosis of the case is proper, or whether the unfortunate should be taken to a hospital for treatment.

This is the first time in America that it has been officially recognized that a man accused of being drunk might be suffering from anemia or a number of other diseases. In some cities the desk sergeant examines each prisoner, but no medical examination is given.

Dr. C. E. Zerling will take the temperature of each suspect, test him for pulse, color of skin, tremor of fingers, dilation of eye pupils, coherence, mental, and physical poise to determine the ailment and make a record to be filed with the charge.

Taft to Be Psi U Guest.
President Taft, 78, of the Beta Chapter, of Yale, will be the guest of honor at the banquet Saturday night at the Raleigh, by the Psi Upsilon Fraternity Association. Robert A. Taft, son of the President, will represent the active Yale chapter.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 10.—Former Mayor Eugene E. Schmitz, who became a national figure for his courage in the earthquake days, but whose surrender to graft in the construction times that followed ended his career, was this morning reinstated in the Musicians' Union.

His first prominence was acquired in this union and he became the union candidate for mayor. After he was ousted from the mayoralty he ceased paying dues to the union, but he has now paid all his arrearages.

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The crack orators of George Washington University will meet in George Washington Hall, at 1:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, to battle for the Davis prize—a handsome gold medal for the best orator in the university. The prize is awarded at the commencement exercises. The judges of Tuesday's contest will be Prof. Jennings, Croissant, and Peake.

LOS ANGELES, April 10.—Campaigns were opened today by the Anti-Saloon League throughout southern California. For a year plans have been maturing, and the league has now come out openly prepared to fight. The leaders are already claiming that several southern counties will go dry this fall.

PITTSBURGH, April 10.—Formidable opposition to the renomination of Representative John Dalzell will be made at the June primaries, Dr. H. J. Black, of McKeesport, seeking the nomination. In announcing his candidacy to succeed himself, Dalzell points to his long record in the House, and asks if a new man could do as effective work as he. Dalzell plans to meet personally all the voters in the district.

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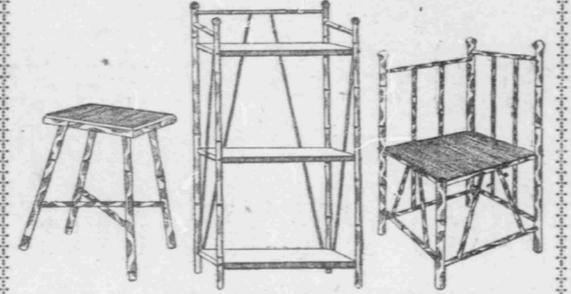
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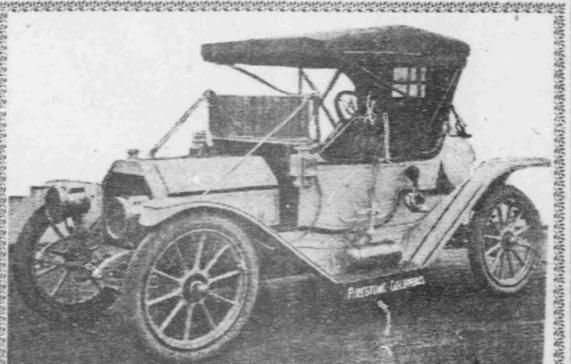
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