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# The Ogden Standard.

FEARLESS, INDEPENDENT, PROGRESSIVE NEWSPAPER.  
OGDEN CITY, UTAH, MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 6, 1913.

**THE WEATHER**  
TONIGHT FAIR, CONTINUED COOL, HEAVY FROST; TUESDAY FAIR, WITH RISING TEMPERATURE.



Forty-third Year—No. 242—Price Five Cents.

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## SPENCER GUILTY OF MURDERS

Police Believe His Claim That He Killed Twenty Is Exaggeration.

## IS OPIUM FIEND

Joliet Authorities Considered Him Unusually Defective.

Chicago, Oct. 6.—As one after another of the "murders" confessed to by Harry Spencer were disproved today, the police were practically convinced that, while he was the murderer of Mrs. Mildred Allison Rexroat, the rest of his monstrous story was mostly fiction engendered in a drug-crazed mind.

Spencer is addicted to the opium habit a symptom of which is a weird and grotesque imagination. Some years ago the police had occasion to investigate his conduct and learned that while in prison at Joliet on a charge of larceny the prison authorities had regarded him as mentally defective and from time to time confined him in the infirmary. He told fellow prisoners of having committed several murders.

Spencer Mentally Unsound. After he was released from the penitentiary he came to Chicago and visited detective headquarters where he said he wanted to "live square" and asked to be assisted in employment. He told Frank Shennessy secretary to Chief of Detectives Halpin that he had committed several murders. Shennessy identified him today and said that at the time of Spencer's visit in search of employment he considered the man mentally unsound.

Dispatches from Detroit, Delavan, LaSalle, Wis., and Goshen, N. Y. today further shook official faith in the confessions. Investigations at these points while not absolutely disproving Spencer's statements indicated that there was little likelihood that they were true.

Some time will be necessary the police say before the truth in Spencer's story can be sifted.

Some Stories Fiction. "Some of the stories are probably fiction," said Captain Halpin today, "but on the whole I believe he is almost as great a criminal as he claims to be."

The woman Spencer said he murdered near the county hospital was shown by police records today to have been Mrs. Annabel Wright, who was beaten on the head last December, robbed of \$50 and two diamond rings and who succumbed to her injuries June 19 last.

After being questioned continually for 14 hours, during which he confessed to having committed more than 20 murders, Spencer, exhausted by the ordeal, was allowed to retire in a cell at the Central Police station shortly after 5 o'clock this morning for a few hours sleep.

Can't Remember All He Killed. After the long siege he put his hands to his head and said: "I am too tired to remember any more just now. I've got to have sleep. Maybe when I am rested I can remember some more. The truth is I killed so many I can't remember all of them."

From an unofficial source it was learned that Spencer had amplified his story of the murder of one of his wives. He said the woman's name was Nellie, but refused to give her surname.

"One day we took a trip up the Hudson river to West Point and from there went by bus to Fort Montgomery. In a secluded spot I struck her twice with a hammer, killing her instantly. I took \$300 from her clothing and returned to Chicago."

not give the bartender's name, but said he robbed the man of several hundred dollars. After his arrest last night for the Rexroat murder, Detectives went to Spencer's room where they found the tanzanite suit case which the tango teacher had taken with her on her fatal trip to Wayne, Ill. In the suit case was part of her clothing and in the room was the revolver with which Spencer ended her life.

Will Swing for Crime. Enroute to the detective bureau Spencer admitted to Chief of Detectives John J. Halpin that "You've got the goods on me. I know I'll swing for this."

The man who claims this almost unbelievable record is a Chicago product. He does not know his real name and the first he remembers he was in the home of the friendless, located within a block of the scene of his arrest last night. He has spent half of his thirty-two years in the state penitentiary at Joliet. He was sentenced twice for robberies and was returned twice following violation of paroles.

He is short, weighs about 145 pounds, wears glasses and has the appearance of a clerk whose life has been a worshiper at the prayer meetings of the Immanuel Baptist church and attended the wedding of his pastor's daughter three nights before he accompanied Mrs. Rexroat down a railroad track near Wayne and killed her.

Spencer Unconcerned. In an unconcerned manner, Spencer sat with detectives and newspaper men in the office of Captain Halpin and told of the lives he had taken. Details as to names and dates he could not always supply, but as to whether he "beat 'em in the head with a hammer" or "shot 'em to death," his memory was better. He also remembered approximately how much money or jewelry he got from his victims.

He said he did not drink nor smoke—except opium. He repeatedly asserted that he had not "touched a pill" for two days and a physician who examined him declared he was not under the influence of the drug.

"My head is as clear as a bell," Spencer said. "You have got me down to rights on the Rexroat murder and I know that I shall be hanged in a couple of months. That is why I want to tell everything else and get it out of the way. I want to tell all and then be treated decently until they pull the rope."

Hunted and Hounded Through Life. "I have been in and out of prisons since I was a boy. I have been hunted and hounded all my life. I am sore on the world. My own life doesn't amount to much and nobody's life has meant much to me."

The proceeds of Spencer's crimes have amounted to more than \$10,000 in the last year, according to his confession. He has spent the money in the Twenty-second street district, where he said he has been a big spender in the cafes.

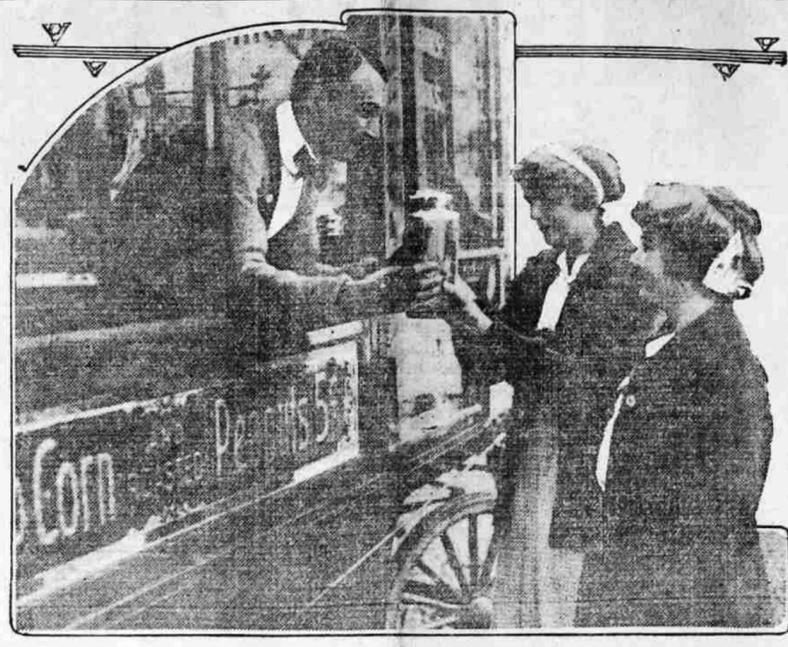
"I killed Mrs. Rexroat because she was trying to make a sucker out of me," he said. "She told me I was responsible for her condition and how badly she needed \$300. We intended going east to be married but I decided right then to put her out of the way and save all that trouble. I didn't murder her for the ring. I took it just because it was there."

Ten Victims Were Women. "Ten of Spencer's victims were women. Two, he said, came from New York. He said he married four times and had killed two of his wives. He always mutilated his victims with the idea of preventing identification.

"I married Helen Gould's maid in New York," said Spencer. "I took her to Fort Montgomery and killed her in the woods nearby. She had about \$300 and \$800 in diamonds." The jewelry he got, he sold to denizens of the district he frequented and did not go to pawn shops. Shortly after the murder of Frankie Thompson, he said he was arrested for robbery and pleaded guilty to one of eighty-two charges. The last "job" he did was a few nights ago when he robbed the Astor cafe.

Chief of Police McWeeny believes Spencer is telling the truth. It was discovered in the police records this afternoon that Spencer was in prison at Joliet when "Female Thompson" was murdered, January, 1908. The records show that he went to the prison in 1906 and was not paroled until 1910.

## PROFESSOR FINDS JOY IN PEANUT PEDDLING; MUNIER SAYS HE'S PUTTING AWAY \$200 A MONTH AND COULDN'T DO IT TEACHING



Professor Munier making a sale. Prof. A. E. Munier, erstwhile instructor in French in Lake Forest college, near Chicago, speaking seven languages, has forsaken the halls of learning to become a traveling peanut vendor. He says he has found joy in his new work, and is laying aside \$200 a month, which is much better than he ever did at teaching. He is twenty-six years old.

## NEW TESTIMONY IN SULZER CASE

Attorneys for Assembly Board Managers Re-open Care and Bring Witnesses

## MORE CONTRIBUTIONS

Governor Received \$10,000 From Allen A. Ryan—Wanted Road's Influence

Albany, N. Y., Oct. 6.—Despite the protest of Governor Sulzer's counsel, a motion by attorneys for the assembly board of managers to permit them to reopen their case and introduce further testimony, was allowed by Presiding Judge Cullen this afternoon. The new testimony was expected to be brief.

## TREATY RIGHTS NOT VIOLATED

Solicitor Folk Declines to Make Representations in Thaw Case to Embassy.

Washington, Oct. 6.—None of Harry K. Thaw's treaty rights as an American citizen were violated when Canadian immigration authorities forcibly deported him a few weeks ago. That was the ruling today of Solicitor Joseph W. Folk of the state department.

## Real Estate Transfers.

The following real estate transfers have been filed with the county recorder: Walter H. Berrett and wife to Fredrick Barker, lot 6, block 2, plat A, North Ogden survey; consideration, \$10.

## YUAN SHI KAI TO BE PRESIDENT

Receives Necessary Two-thirds Vote of United House of Chinese Parliament.

Peking, Oct. 6.—Yuan Shi Kai was today elected president of the Chinese parliament for a term of five years. He is and the necessary two-thirds vote of the united houses of parliament on the third ballot.

Of the 550 members of the house of representatives and senate, 559 were in attendance. On the final vote, Yuan Shi Kai received 507 votes, only one more than the necessary two-thirds. Li Yuen Heng, provisional vice president received 178 votes. The other ballots were scattered among twenty minor candidates. Li Yuen Heng, it was declared, had asserted that he would not take the nomination.

The announcement of the result was received with enthusiasm. The proceedings lasted 12 hours. Yuan Shi Kai, first president of the Chinese republic, is 54 years old. He was born in the province of Honan in 1859. During most of his adult life he has been in official life. At the age of 23, he was sent with a Chinese detachment to Korea and three years afterward became Chinese imperial resident at Seoul. He remained there for 12 years, until he was expelled during the Japanese-Chinese war.

On his return to China he occupied various provisional posts until 1912, when he became consulting minister to the government. Yuan Shi Kai took a prominent part in the reorganization of the Chinese army on modern lines, and in the closing years of the empire, became its most influential and powerful statesman. He was always thoroughly practical in his methods of administration and by this means worked his way up to the presidency in 1911. Early in 1912, it was he who was given full powers to arrange the terms of abdication of the throne and to organize a republic government on conference with the republican leaders. Shortly afterward, in February, he was elected provisional president of the republic by the national council at Nanking and took the oath of office on March 10.

## FIRST PRIZE WON IN BUTTER EXHIBIT AT STATE FAIR

To the Blackman & Griffin company of this city was awarded first prize for butter exhibited at the Utah State fair last week. The product of the local creamery scored 95 per cent. The Ritter creamery was a close second, scoring 94 1-2 per cent. The first prize consisted of a gold medal and \$20 in cash. Besides the award given by the fair association, the Manufacturing Association of Utah awarded a blue ribbon to the creamery.

## HARRISON LANDS IN PHILIPPINES

Announcement Regarding General Policy of United States Is Well Received.

## U. S. RESPONSIBLE

Filipinos on Trial Before an International Tribunal—Door to Independence Open.

Manila, Oct. 6.—J. Francis Burton Harrison, New York, newly appointed governor-general of the Philippines, arrived here today on board the steamship Manchuria. Traffic in the streets of the city was brought to a standstill by the crowds. Several of the welcoming delegations were accompanied by bands.

The Manchuria was met down the harbor by a flotilla of steam launches, one of which took out Newton W. Gilbert of Fort Wayne, Ind., the vice governor. Governor-General Harrison's address embodied instructions received from President Wilson through Secretary Garrison, stating broadly the administration's policy toward the Philippines. The instructions declared that every step would be taken with a view to the ultimate independence of the islands. Also it was announced that the first step, to be taken at once, would be to give native citizens the majority in the appointive commissions, and thus a majority in both houses of the Philippine legislature.

The instructions of the American government as thus embodied in the governor-general's address were as follows: "We regard ourselves as trustees, acting not for the advantage of the United States, but for the benefit of the people of the Philippine Islands. Every step we take will be taken with a view to the ultimate independence of the islands and as a preparation for that independence, and we hope to move toward that end as rapidly as the safety and the permanent interests of the islands will permit. After each step taken experience will guide us to the next."

"The administration will take one step at a time. It will give to the native citizens of the islands a majority in the appointive commission and thus in the upper as well as in the lower house of the legislature. "I will do this in the confident hope and expectation that immediate proof will thereby be given in the action of the commission under the new arrangement, of the political capacity of those native citizens who have already come forward to represent and lead their people in affairs."

gather complete security for life, liberty and property. "I call on every good citizen, native and foreign for assistance and support. We place within your reach the instruments of redemption. The door of opportunity stands open and the event, under Providence, is in your hands."

Manuel Quezon, Filipino delegate to congress, translated the inaugural address. Every reference to independence was greeted with applause. Governor-General and Mrs. Harrison then held an informal reception and afterward drove to the palace in the suburb of Malacanang.

An inaugural ball is to be given to-night in the marble ball and on Wednesday a popular banquet. Washington, Oct. 6.—Secretary Garrison today received this cablegram from Governor-General Harrison at Manila: "The reception of the president's announcement in regard to the commission and the general policy for the future was most enthusiastic. President Wilson's plan to give the Filipinos a majority of both branches of the Philippine legislature will be accomplished in this way. The Filipinos already have a majority in the assembly, the lower branch. They will get a majority on the commission, which is the upper house, when American Commissioner Frank Branganza and Vice Governor Gilbert are retired in the near future and their places are filled by natives. Two new American commissioners, however, soon will be appointed in place of Commissioners Worcester and Elliott, recently resigned. Under the new arrangement there will be six native commissioners and three Americans."

## SEIGER WILL CONTEST CLOSED

Adopted Daughter's Application to Have Abrogation Set Aside Is Denied.

New York, Oct. 6.—A decision in the contest of the will of the late William Seiger the baking powder manufacturer, who left \$13,000,000, made public by surrogate, Fowler, rules against the claim of Florence Brandt Seiger, whose adoption in 1906 as a child of Seiger was abrogated six years later. Surrogate Fowler denied the young woman's application to have the abrogation decree set aside.

Seiger left his fortune to William Seiger, Jr., brother of the girl who is contesting the will. The two were adopted the same time. Their father, George Washington Brandt, now of Chicago, later divorced his wife, and subsequently Seiger and his wife relinquished their claim on Florence, who went back to her own father.

## CHANGES ARE MADE IN NAVY COMMAND

Washington, Oct. 6.—Rear Admiral R. M. Doyle was detached from command of the Norfolk Navy yard today and ordered to command the Pacific reserve fleet. Rear Admiral A. M. Knight was detached from command of the Atlantic reserve fleet and placed in command of the Newport, R. I., naval station. Rear Admiral W. B. Caperton was detached from command of the Narragansett station and ordered to command the Atlantic reserve fleet. Rear Admiral Alfred Reynolds was transferred from command of the Pacific reserve fleet to Washington as a member of the examining board.

## NO PLAYERS MAY WRITE FOR PAPERS

Ban Against Playing Baseball and Reporting It to Be Enforced in 1914.

New York, Oct. 6.—No baseball player or manager may write for the newspapers after the present world's series but those with contracts with newspapers signed prior to September 27, may go ahead with their writing this year. This was the decision reached by the National Baseball commission this afternoon.

So far as is known, all of the player-writers made the contracts prior to September 27, so none would be affected by today's ruling. In other words, the ban against playing baseball and reporting it at the same time will not be enforced until the season of 1914.

## MURDER MYSTERY STILL UNSOLVED

Little Found to Indicate Motive for Killing Young Art Student.

## LURED TO HIS DEATH

Woman Led an Exemplary Life and Was Sculptor of Ability.

Chicago, Oct. 6.—A brown leather satchel thought to have belonged to Miss Ida Leegson, the sculptress, who was murdered here Saturday night or Sunday morning, was found today by C. F. Brochmier, a game warden.

The bag, slit from end to end, was found near the scene of the crime. Its contents were disturbed, after which the murderer threw it into the bush. There remained in the satchel only a pair of stockings and a piece of surgical soap. A watch, two rings and a pocketbook which she carried when she left her rooms, were missing.

The authorities are struck with the fact that Miss Leegson, like Mrs. Allison-Rexroat, was lured by a telephone call to the spot where she was murdered.

Marshal Michael Kerr of the suburban village of Arto, after closely examining the ground, said he believed that the attack was made by two persons. The satchel and the piece of silk fish line with which the woman was garroted, form the most important of the clues since the finding of the body.

Chicago, Oct. 6.—Mystery still shrouds the murder of Miss Ida G. Leegson, an art student, who was lured by a telephone call to the prairie southwest of the city Saturday and strangled with a silken cord. After her identification little was found to indicate a motive for the crime.

Hurried investigation has shown only that she led an exemplary life, had no men callers at any of the places where she resided and she is not thought to have possessed any large amount of money.

Miss Leegson was a graduate of the University of Chicago, a sculptor pupil of Lorado Taft and a student at the Art Institute. Her murder marked the end of a long, pitiful struggle to make her way as a sculptor. Her studies at the University of Chicago were to fit her for work by which she could earn enough to complete her art education. For several winters she taught school, returning to the city to resume work at the art institute.

Lured to Her Death. Late Saturday afternoon, a man, who gave the name of Wilson, telephoned the residence where Miss Leegson lived and asked her to take a position as nurse in a maternity case. She was directed to go to Seventy-first street and Western avenue and walk to an address four miles west. The body was found three miles west of the street intersection in a clump of bushes. The address to which she had been directed does not exist.

Game wardens followed a trail of torn clothing to the spot where her nude body was lying. On her neck were finger marks and encircling it was a thin blue line which was made by a piece of cord nearby. There also were fresh tracks made by an automobile. A guard at a railroad crossing on Seventy-first street saw a large black car go west on Seventy-first street Saturday evening. It returned about three hours later.

Although the body was not viewed tonight by anyone who had known Miss Leegson, the notes found in the clothing seemed to make the identification certain. Among them was a telegram from Mason City, addressed to Miss Ida M. Leegson and signed Hugh M. Gilmore. "Am sending \$65. Come immediately," was the text of the message.

Miss Leegson at one time was an art student of Lorado Taft, according to Miss Morris, who said she had much ability as a sculptor.

Mason City, Ia., Oct. 5.—Miss Ida Leegson was employed as a teacher in the grade schools from September 1 to noon on September 9. At that time she asked the board of education for a release, saying that she had a position as supervisor in another school which she did not name. She left this city last Monday evening. She came here from a Chicago teachers' agency, and had pleased the local board with her work.

TRAINS COLLIDE; ENGINEER KILLED. St. Louis, Oct. 6.—Baltimore & Ohio westbound passenger train No. 3, New York to St. Louis, ran into the rear end of a freight train which was taking a siding at Sumnerfield, Ill., 25 miles east of here, today. None of the passengers was hurt. The engineer was killed.

NOME DEVASTATED. Nome, Alaska, Oct. 6.—Nome has been almost destroyed by a storm. All the south side of Front street is gone. The sandspit is gone. Two miles of territory next to the sea was devastated. No lives were lost.

**World's Series**  
PLAY BY PLAY  
Bulletin and Megaphone  
---at---  
The Standard Office  
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