"I might get twenty years for this,

CONVICT SCORES IN TILT IN COURT WITH A LAWYER

Burns, in Confessing to Save Baksa Girl, Amazes and Amuses Courtroom

New York .- James F. Burns, in Sing Sing under the name of Regan, confessed in court that he and not hzabeth Baksa murdered Mrs. Helen Hamel, for whose death the firl was being tried.

His native acuteness made him a pert and fascinating witness. afgued with the judge, upset the prosecutor by his knowledge of law, blandly confessed to numerous pandly confessed to numerous rimes, including the robbery of the home of one of the alienists who recently examined him, and when pressed too hard took refuge in technical objections, in which Judge Rosalsky was forced to sustain him. He time and again provoked laughter by his presyneted frankalm. He time and again plants and evident pride in his pro-fessional accomplishments.

Resilonal accomplishments.

Burns' reason for confessing, he said, was pity for the girl and a desire to see fustice done her, although in the next breath he admitted that perhaps he wasn't the sort of person who would be interested in justice as a general proposition.

"Did your conscience trouble you?" asked Assistant District Attorney Talley, rigorously probing for his construction of a motive.

"Well," said Burns easily, "I top't know as I have any, from what I've heard."

Tells of His Exploits

don't know as I have any, from what I've heard."

Tells of His Exploits

He crooked one leg over the other as he told of his many midnight excursions into other people's homes and of a career so successful that he was able, when he chose, to buy an expensive automobile in which he could trail his other prospective victims and become acquainted with their habits.

He smiled easily as he told of going about with Brooklyn detectives on the occasion of his last conviction, and pointing out to them houses he had robbed.

"One of them was, I think, the

He smiled easily as he told of going about with Brooklyn detectives on the occasion of his last conviction, and pointing out to them houses he had robbed.

"One of them was. I think, the home of a minister next to Judge Dike's." he said reminiscently.

"Why didn't you rob Judge Dike's?" he was asked.

"Well, I would have, but he was in," he said quickly, and a laugh rippled over the court in which Judge Rosalsky joined.

The only things Burns refused to divulge were the name of his partner in the Hamel murder, or details of the crime he committed in the days when he spent part of his time following Mrs. Hamel in his automobile. The morning of the murder, February 13, he and his partner went down to West Thirty-third street about 11 o'clock and stood for a time across the street watching. "Well, I would have, but he was in," he said quickly, and a laugh rippled over the court in which Judge Rosalsky joined.

The only things Burns refused to divulge were the name of his partner in the Hamel murder, or details of the crime he committed in the days when he spent part of his time following Mrs. Hamel in his automobile. The morning of the murder. February 13, he and his partner went down to West Thirty-third street about 11 o'clock and stood for a time across the street watching the Hamel house. He had a revolver and a blackjack in his pocket.

"We saw two men enter and my partner went in about half past 12 or so, or 1 o'clock. I stood outside ten or fifteen minutes before I entered."

"How did you go in?"

"Yes, a woman."

She dashed out a door leading into the hall near the front of the house, he said, and he followed her to the street to see if she went in the direction of the West Twentieth street police station. Then he went back and say his partner again. He had and leak silk mersaline.

colice station. Then he went back and saw his partner again. He had hold of Mrs. Hamel.

d of Mrs. Hamel. Saw Her "Cave in." He Says

Saw Her "Cave in." He Says
"I saw a struggle going on, and
then she sagged, sort of caved in,
as I went in the room."

At this point Judge Rosalsky
again took occasion to warn him
that his testimony could be used
against him, but Burns repeated that
he appeared voluntarily and that
he fully appreciated what the effect
of his testimony might be.

"What did you see in the kitchen,
or do after you saw your partner
and the woman?"
"I tied a towel around her neck,"

tied a towel around her neck, then Burns ran upstairs and took

Then Burns ran deseates and cook what money and jewelry he could find. He went outside, signalled to his partner and they both left. Later they met in Harlem, at a place he refused to mention, and divided up the money. He didn't get as much as he expected, he said, because he forcet the mattress in which was forgot the mattress in which was

\$2,400.
"Do you care for this girl?"
"No; why should I care for her?
I never saw her before."
"You know of your own knowledge that this girl didn't kill Mrs.
Hamel?"

Hamel?"
"I do. I ought to," was the reply.
When Mr. Talley took Burns in
hand it was with the attempt to
show that writing letters confessing
crimes was almost a habit with him.
He admitted that in April of this
year he had written to District Attorney Swann that he had information about the murder of Harry
Cohen, called Harry the Yot, a gambler whose death had never been
cleared up.

Had a Motive For Lying

He said he had told detectives that he had pegged a bullet into the Yot, but that it was not the truth that he had an object in doing it.

Burns had a lively little tilt with Mr. Talley when the prosecutor tried to find out where it was that Burns had twice tried to commit suicide by, his concession to Mr. Talley to "bring it out in your own way."

A little later Mr. Talley took up his last conviction in Brooklyn, when there were five other indictments against him. Burns took a plea of guilty and said he was told that the other indictments would be quashed. He had been convicted six times.

"You knew you would be sent up for life as an habitual criminal?" asked Mr. Talley.

"I knew better," he snapped back. "I knew I could not."

Amazement on the part of the prosecutor, and Judge Rosalsky asked him why he made such a positive statement.

"I had only been convicted twice cleared up.
Had a Motive For Lying

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and then I would have it wrapped around my neck for the others." That was the reason he wouldn't tell where he got \$1,690 which he "I take it that you mean you are familiar with the laws of commutation and compensation?" asked "On the ground that it would incriminate you?" asked Judge Itosal-

Antics in Airplane
For Wilson Costly

New York—For one "zoom," two talispins, divers volplanes and other antics in the air above President Wilson's head as he stood on the George Washington on Wednesday, the crack hurd-he had been ordered to report to he bad been ordered to report to two hond permission to take out the air bon became so nervous at the atrice would not say whether or not they had no orders for what followed.

When 1.390 feet above the ship, Lieut. Kelly, according to his friend, did a talispin. Then he came down to support to the would not say whether or not they had no orders for what followed.

When 1.390 feet above the ship, and part to a support to the would not say whether or not they had no orders for what followed.

When 1.390 feet above the ship, and part to

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Thousands Of Gift Articles For Every Member Of The Household Have Been Gathered Here In Greater Array Than Ever Prices, As Usual Here, Are The Lowest For High Quality

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Judge Rosalsky with a smile at his sky.

"Yes," said Burns, chuckling.

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'Yes," said Burns decidedly

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36 inch percales, light and dark, 44 inch colored voiles 50c

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Wash cloths to match towels, 10c, 12½c, 15c and 19c. Khaki Turkish towels55c Huck towels ...19c, 25c and 35c Mercerized table damask, linen finish, 69c, 75c, 89c and \$1.00 Linfeel napkins, 12½c, 15c, 17c Bed spreads, full size, \$1.48 \$1.98 and \$2.25.

and 58c.

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Cut Glass Baskets, 39c, 69c, \$1.19
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Covered Buckets, 1 and 2-qt., at

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\$1.00, Children's plain and silk lisle Hose, black, tan and white. 59c, 69c and 75c Ladies' Silk Boot Hose, 33c, 39c, 75c, 98c and \$1.23 Ladies' Wool and Fleece-lined Hose, 29c, 39c, 45c, 50c, 69c and 75c Children's Hose, 29c, 33c, 39c, 45c, 55c, 59c, 69c and 75c. Infants' Hose, 33c 39c and 50c TOYS---DOLLS---Games

Santa Claus has brought from his workshop to this store for the coming Christmas a wonderful collection of Toys, Dolis and Games that surpasses anything we have ever shown heretofore.

Aside from the Games, old and new, all of which are to be found here, are many new War Games apropos of the times. There are Checker Boards, Crokinole Boards, Dominoes, Lotto, Blocks, and so we might go on indefinitely. Prices start at 10c,

Toys include all the usual pleasure-bringing articles to be found at Christmas time, and, in addition, many new War Toys, Soldiers, Camons, Guns, etc., that will bring smiles to the youngsters' faces on Christmas, Prices start at 10c,

Dolls are to be seen in an unusually noteworthy array in dressed Dolls, Rag Dolls and Celluloid Dolls, at 29c to 9Sc, Prices will prove as pleasing as the articles,



Gifts for Everybody

Whether it be father, mother, sister, brother, husband, wife, relative or friend, you will find something here worthy of the recipient, worthy of you as the giver.

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A-Plenty

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Ribbed Underwear Makes an Acceptable Gitt

Excellent Qualities Here at Very Low Prices Ladies' Fancy Fop Vests,

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Misses' Union Suits, 89c, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.39 100, \$1.00, \$1.20 Infants' Vests and Pants, 50c and 65c

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Holiday Neckwear in all the newest and latest styles, a large assortment for gift pur-poses 25c, 50c and 98c poses 25c, 50c and 98c
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50c, 69c, 75c and 98c

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Ladies' black Waists ... 48c
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