

SLICK MAN LURES BOY FROM AFRICA; BEATS AND ROBS HIM

Dr. L. W. De Laurence, Operating Occult Philosophy Agency and Head of Brotherhood of Magic, Fails to Hypnotize Mitchell D. Williams—Breaks Chair Over His Head.

SECURES ALL OF HIS MONEY

Attorney Finishes Copies of Schemer's Correspondence — Williams Was Student of Pharmacy at Lagos, South Nigeria, When Roped Into Fake Study.

If the plans of Attorney Franklin A. Denison are carried out Dr. L. W. De Laurence, 117 North Wabash avenue, maintaining the Occult Philosophy Agency, or the Brotherhood of Magic, will have a chance to demonstrate his power from within the prison wall. In a few days the head of this mysterious concern will be placed on trial for assaulting an African boy by hanging a chair over his head and for misappropriating all of his money.

Leaves School to Join.

The victim of this schemer with the high-sounding name is Mitchell D. Williams, a youth from Lagos, South Nigeria, on the west coast of Africa. William had just completed a three years' term as an attendant in a hospital and was studying pharmacy when he received some of Dr. Laurence's literature setting forth the wonders of Occult Philosophy and the powers of the Brotherhood of Magic. He was induced to join and, as the story goes, left his home for that purpose.

Puts Up \$150.00.

He arrived in Chicago and was introduced to Dr. Laurence. May 6 he paid the doctor \$150 and his instructions began. A part of the mystic lessons was hypnotism. The doctor tried his power on the boy and when he failed to yield to his influence he hung one of his office chairs over his head. Williams then demanded his money back but instead of complying the doctor made him work a week for nothing. He still had \$25, but when he fled his tormentor had secured all of his money except \$6.

Col. Denison Takes Case.

His case was placed in the hands of Col. Denison, who had Dr. Laurence arrested, and who is now preparing to prosecute him to the full extent of the law.

"I have the doctor's receipt for the \$150 and other evidences of the fraud," said the attorney to a Chicago Defender reporter, "and the case will come to trial in a few days."

A crusade against these fake cults is now on in Chicago, and the Occult Philosophy Agency is to be thoroughly investigated with the idea of locating any other victims. This is another story in letters. Dr. Laurence has been very careful with his literature, but Attorney Denison has furnished The Defender with a copy of his letters.