

Downtown proved dangerous for deputy prosecutor in 1911

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ple of punches before the fight was finished. But in his testimony, Regester denied that, saying, "I quickly got hold him and did not attempt to strike him . . ."

Using some of the dramatic language of courtroom rhetoric in those days, Regester concluded his testimony with, "I am not demanding blood money of my assailant, have no ill feeling toward him now, and while I am not seriously injured, I do not like the motive that prompted the attack."

It was his very last sentence that may have caused some of the professional trial watchers to smile at its triteness. He said, "I do think Sipes is more to be pitied than censured." That line came from the title of a popular song of that time: "She's more to be pitied than censured," referring to the plight of a "fallen" woman.

All rhetoric aside. Sipes wasn't really sorry, saying only that he was guilty as charged. His grudge cost him \$10 and costs. And maybe, J.F. Regester didn't spend very many evenings downtown after that.