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Copy of a report from "SPENCER" dated the 22nd of November, 1913.
at San Francisco, Cal., U. S. A.

139 A. Tilton Steele to W. C. Hopkinson

Wm. C. Hopkinson Esq.,
Oakland, Cal.

San Francisco, 22 November, 1913

My dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of August last, in which I informed you of H. D's movements, during Emma Goldman's lectures, in this city; and furnished you with certain clues, as to his future plans and purposes, I followed up the work I then did, in accordance with your instructions, and endeavoured from time to time as my leisure permitted, to meet H. D. or people in touch with him and his associates in the Hindu Revolutionary movement.

In order to render my task easier, I suggested to you the advisability of granting me a contingency allowance of say \$15.00 per month, to enable me to meet certain necessary expenses, which I was loath to pay out my own pocket.

This, you intimated to me in your letter of September 15 1913, was satisfactory to you, and in accordance with the wishes of the authorities concerned- so in keeping with that arrangement, I formulated a plan, whereby I could meet certain close friends of H.D. and even H.D. himself, if I could manage it, without exciting his suspicion, and in that way, keep posted as to his whereabouts, and his movements.

My plan was to meet two or three times a week, some friend or acquaintance of H.D's have supper or a drink with him, or go to some show or other. and in the course of an hour or two of general conversation endeavour to possess myself of the latest information relative to H.D's revolutionary activities- so far as it was possible for me to obtain from such sources.

The first person I arranged to meet, and have supper with, was Mr Daniel; this man is an anarchist and a follower of Emma Goldman- a member of H.D's "Bakunin Club" and an intimate friend of H.D's.

This club, by the way, has not met for over two months now Mr Daniel tells me, that insufficient financial support, was the cause of its present moribund condition; whether it may be resuscitated again is more than I can tell.

I learned from Mr Daniel that H.D. had moved from Berkeley, Cal., and was living at # 137 Castro Street, San Francisco, Cal., that he (H.D) was busy printing and publishing a paper, for circulation in India; he had a small printing press in his rooms, where he and a couple of Hindu students were working day and night, getting the first issue out. Mr Daniel could not tell me the name of the paper and could not say for certain whether it was in Hindi, Urdu or English; all he could say was, that it was "Revolutionary in tone and purpose" and that several hundred copies had been sent to Switzerland, for forwarding to the revolutionary centres in India, whence it would be circulated all over the country. It was to be issued every month, to start with, and in time, as funds permitted, it would become a weekly magazine.

I have met Mr Daniel several times since that occasion. The last time he dined with me, he gave me a card announcing the stereopticon lecture on India at the Jefferson Square Hall- the lecturer being H.D. I sent that card to you, and as you attended that lecture, and heard H. . himself, I will leave the reporting the same to you. It is unfortunate that we did not have a stenographer, with us, to take down his remarks verbatim, although on second thought, it would seem to me that with the room darkened as it was, it would have been difficult for a person to take notes.

That lecture, you will I am sure concur with me, was the limit; if some Police officer, or other proper authority, were present at it, I am positive H.D. would have been considered a fit subject for deportation.

As you will recall, he not only advocated bomb-throwing in India, as perfectly justifiable under the circumstances, but openly boasted of having secured financial assistance in this country, to enable him to continue his nihilistic propaganda in India.

Well, it is now up to you to gather further incriminating evidence against the man. You have heard his rabid diatribes, upon the public platform, against British rule in India, you have heard him talk openly about his plans, his operations in this country, among the anarchists and I.W.W.

anarchists and I.W.W's - his aims and objects, and it is for you to devise ways and means to bring him to book, through the proper channels.

Among other friends of H.D. whom I met, during the period under review, I must not forget to mention Taraknath Dass whose present address is C/o the Pacific Gas & Electric Co, Ohm P.O. via Smart, Cal., he sent me a copy of "Bulletin #1" of the Hindoostan Association of the U. S. A. I enclose it herewith, also, the letter which came with it, for your information.

You will notice that he refers to the "Nations Day" dinner which took place at Berkeley, Cal, on Saturday October 18th: I met Miss Fiske and Taraknath Dass, that evening at the Ferry Depot, San Francisco upon their return from that dinner - and I told them how disappointed I was that I was not present. H.D. had told me that the dinner was postponed sine die - Thursday the 16th October was the date first set, and both Mr Daniel and myself, saw H. D. about it and he promised to let us know before hand, when and where it was finally to take place; he told Mr Daniel - but he did not tell me - and I believe he kept me out purposely, so that I would not meet Mr Barry, Winston Churchill, and the other Americans, who were present; he was afraid of my non-revolutionary ideas, and my ability to show up the actual conditions of the people of India to Americans, different from his statements and descriptions, of the said conditions. An account of that celebration appeared in the "Bulletin" and as you have a clipping of the same, I will not enlarge upon the subject.

Hindoostanee Association of the U.S.A. I understand that a branch of this association has been established in in Berkeley. I've become a subscriber to the "Hindoostanee Student" and am waiting for an opportunity to join the California Branch of that association - so as to be able to give you from time to time, some inside information about it, and its members.

I have met two of them recently - Mohan Lall Dyalji Sha and Shanti Lall, the former is proprietor of a hand laundry at 1940 Sonita Avenue, Berkeley - while the latter is a grammar school student in the same town. I expect through them to meet some hindoostanees, students

and others, now in Berkeley. In this connection I have a plan of reaching these people which I would like to go over with you, before carrying it into effect.

I have also joined the International Radical Club in this city. Miss Bertha Fiske is the secretary of it. I attended one of their dinners on Monday November 3rd, at the Kosmos Grill. I enclose the Post Card notice, which I received, of its monthly meeting. It was rather a tame affair, compared with Emma Goldman's meetings. Professor Kofoed gave a talk on "Darwinism." There was no reference to India, except as regards stating that the Theory of Evolution was first promulgated or taught by Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism in India, 500 years B. C.

The only advantage or purpose, I could achieve by being a member of this organization, is the opportunity it would give me meeting American Ultra-radicals and revolutionary spirits - men and women of the same class of mind, as H.D. - who might prove useful news-getters, from time to time, as I got better acquainted with them. I met Miss Fiske and Jack Sloan, there, two ardent anarchists and supporters of H.D. in his revolutionary propaganda.

Jack Sloan is the man, whom I met at the E.G. lectures last August - who told me about H.D. having collected a lot of money from I.W.W. people, socialists et al, for the revolution in India - which I informed you of in my last report.

Miss Fiske is the young actress (Modern Drama) who was associated with Emma Goldman, and interested ~~xxxx~~ in starting over here a "Little Theatre" for the dramatic production of plays, of the revolutionary order. That "Little Theatre" by the way is still reposing in the womb of time, where it will remain, I guess for some years to come - as anarchists are great on talk-feats but short on ready money, and the latter is very necessary for such enterprises as theatres.

From her and Sloan I learned that H.D. was progressing very nicely with his revolutionary movement; he had - so they told me - collected a lot of money again, and was kept busy getting out to India a paper - in three languages - that he had secured the friendship and co-operation of such wellknown writers as the Bulletin's John D. Barry -

Winston Churchill, the author, and very many university professors, and that H.D. in a year or two would be a power to be reckoned with, like Emma Goldman in America, Eugene Brieux, in France, and Tom Mann in England; his health unfortunately, was not of the best, and it was causing him and his friends some concern.

I am satisfied that this revolutionary movement, with H. D. at its head, over here on the Pacific coast, has assumed a most menacing shape, at present; it appears to have a definite plan and purpose and a recognised status.

When writers like John Barry, of the Bulletin, and Winston Churchill, the author, and men of that calibre, are persuaded to foster and encourage it in this country, it is time for the Government in India, not only to take cognizance of it, but also, to adopt means and measures to stop it from growing and developing, before it assumes gigantic proportions.

It was "a cloud no bigger than a man's hand" to use Lord Canning's own phrase, that grew and grew to be a most gruesome and ghastly affair in 1857, and this revolutionary movement, as it is engineered by H.D. over here, will surely spread, and find sympathisers and adherents, in larger and larger numbers in U. S. A. if allowed to grow unchecked - what the consequences will be in India itself is hard for any one to predict.

H.D. thinks he is safe in the United States, and can say and do what he likes over here - that this is a "free country" where "free speech" prevails and political agitators, and criminals, can find a safe retreat - and rendezvous, for their various schemes, he should be taught the lesson that there are limitations to "free speech" that only "law abiding" persons are wanted here in the United States and that people with "lawless aims and objects" can, under the law be sent out of the country.

I am sorry, I have been unable to reach him upon a friendly basis: whether this is due to his exclusiveness, as regards mixing with people, he knows, are not and cannot be in sympathy with his ideas, or whether it is owing to his suspicious character, I cannot say, this I

do know however, that he has tried several times to avoid me - and even to evade seeing me at his rooms, on Castro street. I find it very hard to get any information out of him personally - I have to be very cautious and circumspect in my dealings with him.

Perhaps, if I were to subscribe to his work, I may be able to reach him, and get him to open up to me.

I would like to get closer to him, and with that end in view would like to tell you of a plan I have, I will explain it to you personally and upon your approval of same, with any modifications of it, that you may in your judgement see fit to suggest. I will endeavour to carry it out. You are an experienced detective, and I feel diffident about going about anything in connection with these investigations, without first consulting you, and having your endorsement.

Hoping that success may eventually crown your efforts, and H.D. may get his deserts in time, I remain,

Very truly yours,

" SPENCER "

P.S.

I enclose my bill for \$45.00 for September, October and November, as per agreement, @ 15.00 per month, out of this sum, I have already received \$20.00 on account, leaving a balance in my favor of \$25.00. Kindly forward this statement of account, to the proper authorities, for prompt settlement and oblige.