

# HOSTAGE SAFE SAYS REBEL LEADER

VILLA SAYS THAT HE WILL NOT EXECUTE TERRAZAS FOR LACK OF RANSOM.

# RUMOR CREATES TUMULT

Chieftains of Constitutional Host Telegraph Warnings to Villa and He Changes His Mind—Case of Boer Causes Some Excitement Among Refugees Along American Border.

El Paso, March 8.—Non-payment of the ransom demanded as the price for the life of Luis Terrazas, Jr., will not result in the execution of the prisoner, according to a telegram received tonight from General Villa at Chihuahua. Information as to the telegram came from rebel agents tonight, but these added that General Villa most certainly would expose Terrazas to the enemy's fire at Terreon unless the prisoner's father, General Luis Terrazas, refrains from political activity.

The young Luis, it is asserted, always had been held principally as a hostage to control, if possible, his father's efforts in behalf of General Huerta. Even after repeated warnings it is declared that the elder Terrazas has aided the Mexican government with men and money, until a week ago General Villa declared that his patience was at an end.

The latter's decision to waive the matter of ransom came through representations made by General Carranza, supreme chief of the revolution and by his agents.

### Would Hurt Cause.

A telegram to Villa from Federico Gonzales Garza today pointed out that to execute Terrazas for non-payment of ransom would be a barbarity which, coming on top of the indignation aroused by the killing of William S. Benton, would seriously injure the constitutionalists in the United States and Europe.

General Villa in response indicated that the ransom had been largely a pretext to cover his real purpose of preventing, if possible, any aid reaching the federals from the head of the Terrazas family.

### Boer Is Ousted.

Great interest was manifested today in the case of General W. B. Snyman, the former Boer general, who has been ordered from his 3,000-acre ranch, La Reina, 45 miles south of Chihuahua, and the estate itself confiscated.

Snyman is well known here. He was one of the leaders in forming a Boer colony in Mexico after the British triumph in South Africa. He was born a Boer, but became naturalized as a Briton and before the war was elected to the Cape assembly. He turned rebel against his adopted country, however, but was restored to citizenship several years ago by King Edward's proclamation of amnesty.

### Charges Are Denied.

Specifically, Snyman is accused of allowing the federals to use his ranch as a recruiting headquarters and there is said to be a further allegation that he has not paid for his ranch. Friends of Snyman and his son, G. C. Snyman, now here, deny the charges.

The veteran Boer fighter was outspoken against the rebellion of Madero against Porfirio Diaz, but he is said to have maintained a neutral attitude since then.

George C. Carothers, special agent of the state department, went to Douglas, Ariz., today to confer with General Carranza. He expects to return here later tonight and to leave for Chihuahua, the headquarters of General Villa, tomorrow. He will remain with Villa throughout the Terreon campaign.

# STOCK BROKER KILLED IN RESISTING ARREST

Omaha, Neb., March 8.—J. H. Hooper, stock broker, 26 years old, was killed today in resisting two detectives who were arresting him on a charge of uttering false checks. Hooper was wanted in many cities on forgery charges.

Detective Edward Fleming and Frank Murphy declared the man shot himself rather than submit to arrest.

Hooper was wanted by the police of Los Angeles for a forgery amounting to \$2,500 and it was from Chief Sebastian of that city Omaha officers received notice that Hooper was in this city.

### COUNT KILLED IN SMASH-UP.

Sanlader, Spain, March 8.—Count Moriana, brother of the Duke of Santo Mauro, grand master of the queen's household, was killed today in a collision between his automobile and a wagon.

# EARLY-MORNING FIRE BRINGS DEATH TO HUNDRED PERSONS

St. Louis, March 9.—(Monday.)—Fire early today was discovered bursting from the windows of the lower four stories of the Missouri Athletic club at Fourth and Washington avenues. The blaze threatened to destroy the building occupied by the club and the Boatmen's bank.

At 2:30 o'clock every fireman in the city was on the scene, but the blaze spread in all directions and was far beyond the control of the firemen. The entire block bounded by Fourth street, Broadway, Washington avenue and Lucas avenue, seemed to be doomed. Of 135 roomers at the club not more than 20 were accounted for an hour after the alarm was given. The remaining men are believed to have been trapped on the floors above the fourth.

The entire building is a seething mass of fire.

St. Louis, March 9.—At 2:45 this morning the roof of the massive structure occupying half a city square, caved in, carrying down with it several floors and it is believed more than 100 persons are dead. Every available ambulance and police patrol wagon in the city has been called to the scene.

A careful census of those who escaped from the building was taken by the police and an officer of the club and not more than two dozen men were accounted for. It is almost certain all the others were burned to death.

St. Louis, March 9.—At 3 o'clock the bodies of seven men were found on the sidewalk, where they had jumped from the fourth floor. One of these was identified as that of John Martin Rickey of Chicago. At this hour the rear half of the building had caved in.

At 4 o'clock the fire still was beyond control of the fire department. The four upper stories of the seven-story structure had caved in. The Boatmen's bank, which occupied the two lower floors of the building, was buried in the ruins.

One hundred and thirty-five members were registered in the building at the time of the fire and it is believed about 100 others were in the building. Of these not more than 50 had been accounted for at 4 o'clock.

# TEXAS CITIZENS CROSS LINE AND FROM GRAVE IN MEXICO TAKE MURDERED MAN'S BODY

### NOT TEXAS RANGERS.

Laredo, Texas, March 8.—The body of Clemente Vergara, returned secretly to the American side of the Rio Grande from Mexico early today, was brought by unidentified persons who left no trace of their identity, it was said late tonight. Early reports that Texas rangers had crossed the border and obtained the body were officially denied.

American Consul Garrett at Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, and Captain J. J. Sanders of the Texas rangers, were the only persons on the American side who were told of the intended delivery of the body at the border. They were not informed, they said, until after the body had been brought across the river.

None of the officials would make a statement except to set at rest earlier reports that Texas rangers and friends of Vergara had acted together in crossing into Mexico and obtaining the body for burial by the family. Rumors were to the effect that former employees of the Vergara ranch were responsible for the recovery of the body. Consul Garrett also forestalled surmises that the Mexican authorities might have taken this means to return the body by saying that he did not believe they knew the body had been removed. He had never asked nor received any authority from them to return the body to Texas, he said.

General Villa in response indicated that the ransom had been largely a pretext to cover his real purpose of preventing, if possible, any aid reaching the federals from the head of the Terrazas family.

Laredo, Texas, March 8.—Texas rangers, who secretly crossed into Mexico last night today brought to the American side the mutilated body of Clemente Vergara, Texas rancher, and established the fact of his execution, after he was seized by Mexican federals.

The rangers were not opposed, accomplishing their search without the slightest violence, taking the body from a grave in Hidalgo cemetery at most within sight of the Texas border. The seizure was divested of possible grave aspects in international complications by reason of the fact that the rangers were virtually making use of permission granted officially by Mexican federal authorities several days ago for the recovery of the body.

This permission had been given to United States Consul Alonzo Garrett at Nuevo Laredo, but he did not get the body because of what he reported as dangers attending search for it in the immediate vicinity of Hidalgo.

Vergara was shot twice through the head and once through the neck, his skull was crushed as by a blow from a rifle butt and the charred fingers of the left hand indicated that he had been tortured before being put to death.

Identification was made by Vergara's son and by numerous friends, many of whom were in the party of mine led by the state border patrol, which made the grim journey to the Hidalgo cemetery during the early hours of today.

The body was not badly decomposed, despite its three weeks' burial. In addition to recognizing the features, young Vergara took a bit of cloth from the trousers on the body and matched it to the coat his father wore the day he crossed the Rio Grande.

The body was brought into the United States at a point 45 miles north of Laredo, opposite Hidalgo, and near the Vergara ranch. American Consul Garrett of Nuevo Laredo, deputy sheriffs and other authorities

# NOT AN INVASION SAYS GOVERNOR COLQUITT

Austin, Texas, March 8.—Texas rangers last night crossed the international boundary into Mexico, disinterred the body of Clemente Vergara, the Texas rancher, who was lured into Mexico by Mexican federal soldiers, and returned with the body to American soil.

Governor Colquitt, who recently was refused permission by the state department to send the rangers across the Rio Grande to pursue the alleged slayers of Vergara today would make no comment on the incident or say whether Captain Saunders, who commanded the rangers, acted under instructions from him.

"We wanted Vergara's body to determine the manner of his death and we have it," the governor said tersely and added: "Some people may call this an 'invasion' but it was not."

The official report of Captain Saunders on the incident was given out by the executive department. It simply said:

"I proceeded to Hidalgo, procured Vergara's body and returned to Laredo."

He was awaiting to receive it and pending the arrival of an undertaker from Laredo, an armed force stood guard over the body.

Recovery of the body was made by a force of Texans, including friends of Vergara, acting with a troop of Texas rangers and Captain Saunders, who have been investigating for Governor Colquitt the circumstances of Vergara's seizure by federals. A secret investigation in which many Mexicans had been questioned is understood to have produced the trip into Mexico.

### Witness Leads Foray.

Leading the force was a man who claimed to have been a witness to both the execution and burial of Vergara's body. The force gathered near the Vergara ranch, not far from the spot where Vergara crossed the river to meet the Mexican federals, who promised remuneration for stolen horses. Moving silently they began the overland march of about five miles to Hidalgo. They avoided the town. It is said, under cover of night and met no one to question their journey.

Location of the grave proved an easy task, for it has been a center of speculation and wonder since it appeared after a swining body had been cut down from the place of execution, when the hies and cry at Vergara's disappearance started an investigation. The body had been rudely interred, with little effort to protect it with earth. With their burden on a stretcher, carried by six of Vergara's friends, the procession started unchallenged on the return journey.

It is understood a thorough examination of the body has been ordered by state authorities.

Vergara left his ranch near Balafex, Texas, Friday, February 13, and crossed the river into Mexico on a message from three federal soldiers that Captain Apolonio Rodriguez of the Hidalgo garrison wished to settle for 11 horses taken from Vergara's island pasture on the Rio Grande.

Mrs. Vergara pleaded with her husband not to risk seizure by the Mexicans, but disregarding her warnings, he crossed the river in company with his young nephew. Mrs. Vergara since has told how she saw her husband as-

saulted by the waiting soldiers and after being knocked unconscious, carried off.

Vergara's nephew, at the time of the attack on his uncle, escaped and hid in the brush until he could recross the river.

### Found Husband in Jail.

On the following day, Mrs. Vergara went in search of her husband and found him in the Hidalgo jail. As far as known there was no charge against him. He had been cruelly beaten, according to the wife. She dressed the wounds, she said, and remained with him until forced to leave. That was the last time she ever saw him alive. For early next morning he was taken from the jail, supposedly to be transferred to Pedras Negras, and disappeared.

When a search was begun for the missing man it was learned that a man had been shot and his body hanged to a tree outside of Hidalgo early Sunday morning, February 15, and the body left hanging for several days.

Soon after United States Consul Garrett at Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, forestalled inquiries, the body was removed and a fresh grave was noticed in the old Hidalgo cemetery. It finally was determined by American investigators that he had been executed.

Persistent denial was made by the Mexican federals, however, and prior to this, General Alvarez, commander at Pedras Negras, had promised American Consul Blocker at Pedras Negras that Vergara would be released and his captors called to account. This allayed the fears of his friends until his continued absence set in motion an exhaustive examination in which the United States government took a hand.

### Execution Hidden.

Consul Garrett proceeded to Hidalgo and personally interviewed Captain Rodriguez, the man held responsible for Vergara's kidnapping, but the federal captain denied all knowledge of the ranchman's death and said he had been sent to Pedras Negras, but had escaped en route and that the federals were certain he had joined the constitutionalists.

Consul Garrett, however, after interviewing numerous Mexicans and others, reported officially that Vergara had been executed. He added that he was convinced from the federals' attitude while he was in Hidalgo that it would have been dangerous for him to demand surrender of the body.

The island pasture of Vergara, where it first was reported the ranchman had been assaulted, complicated the affair by the question whether it was Mexican or American territory, until it was found that Vergara had been actually seized on the Mexican mainland. This rendered those responsible safe from prosecution in Texas. The horses were alleged to have been taken from this pasture, however, and county records showed it belongs to the state of Texas. Mrs. Vergara filed an affidavit charging Captain Rodriguez and three of his men with horse theft.

Governor Colquitt requested permission of the state department to send Texas rangers across the border to pursue the "abductors and murderers" of Vergara, and was told by Secretary of State Bryan that the United States government alone could take the authority for sending an armed force into a foreign country. Later, when Mrs. Vergara made the charge of horse theft, Governor Colquitt asked of the state department "whom the United States recognizes as constituted authority in northern Mexico so that he might make requisition under the Mexican treaty for the men named. This question was never answered to the satisfaction of Governor Colquitt.

# PERSONAL AUDIENCE WITH ENGLAND'S RULER IS DEMAND MADE BY LEADER OF SUFFRAGISTS

"We utterly deny the constitutional right of ministers who have not been elected by women and are not responsible to them, to stand between ourselves and the throne to prevent us having an audience with your majesty. I have the honor, therefore, respectfully to inform you that in pursuance of our undoubted constitutional right to petition the sovereign in person, I and other representatives of the Women's Social and Political Union will present ourselves at Buckingham palace for the purpose of claiming an audience."—Sylvia Pankhurst's letter to King George.

# ANTI-SUFFRAGETTES STRANGE DEBATERS

Mrs. Medill McCormick Discusses Arguments Presented by Senators Opposed to Amendment Extending Franchise to Women of United States.

Washington, March 8.—I have been entertained and at times amused in listening to the debates in the senate on woman suffrage," said Mrs. Medill McCormick, chairman of the congressional committee of the Woman Suffrage association. "In the senate, as in other legislative bodies, I find that every man can find some sort of an argument to support the side upon which he wants to vote. The supporters of suffrage, such as Senator Shafroth of Colorado, Senator Gullinger of New Hampshire, Senator Clapp of Minnesota, Senator Ashurst of Arizona, Senator Owen of Oklahoma, and all others who are earnestly in favor of suffrage, found no reason why they could not vote for a constitutional amendment permitting suffrage.

"On the other hand, it was not very difficult for Senator John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, and men of his type, to give a reason for opposing the constitutional amendment. Senator Williams would repeat the 15th amendment if he could.

### Aristotle Quoted.

"But the entertaining feature of the debate was to observe how other men expressed themselves. Senator Bryan of Florida quoted Aristotle. For a man in his situation perhaps what was written many centuries ago was as good as anything else. Senator Borah of Idaho, was for suffrage very earnestly, but he threw a monkey-wrench into the machinery by solemnly inquiring of the advocates of suffrage if the negro women of the south were to be permitted to vote under the proposed constitutional amendment.

"Most interesting of all was the argument of Senator McCumber of North Dakota, because the very day he pointed out how impossible it would be for him to vote for a constitutional amendment by which the federal government would prescribe voting qualifications in the states, he made a most elaborate and consistent argument that the federal government should inspect and grade the grain produced in North Dakota and other states. He was as earnest as Senator Williams against the federal government doing anything relating to suffrage in the states, but Senator Williams always has been for large federal appropriations for the building of levees on the Mississippi river to protect the southern states.

"Senator Oliver of Pennsylvania called attention to the fact that be-

# SYLVIA JAILED IN LONDON AGAIN

SUFFRAGE LEADER IS ARRESTED AND RIOT IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE FOLLOWS.

# AMERICAN IS ARRESTED

Miss Zelle Emerson, Several Times a Prisoner, Is Again Under Arrest and May Be Deported as Undesirable Alien—Audience With King George, Once Refused, Is Demanded.

London, March 8.—Militant suffragettes again engaged in battle with the police today on their favorite field—Trafalgar square—in a pouring rain. The arrest of Sylvia Pankhurst for the sixth time under the "cat and mouse" act, precipitated the conflict. In addition to Miss Pankhurst seven women and three men were arrested.

Among those arrested was Miss Zelle Emerson of Jackson, Mich. Miss Emerson has been arrested several times for participation in suffragette demonstrations and recently there were rumors that steps were being taken by the British government to deport her as an undesirable alien. Replied, February 26, to a question as to whether this report was true, Reginald McKenna, the home secretary, asserted no such steps were being taken. He added, however: "If Miss Emerson again commits an offense bringing her within the provisions of the alien act the question of applying to the court for a recommendation for her expulsion will be considered."

### Leader Is Captured.

This afternoon several women and men had marched to the square to attend a meeting of the Men's Federation for Woman Suffrage. Sylvia Pankhurst, who for some weeks has been hiding from the police, arrived in the square in a taxicab to deliver a speech, but detectives surrounded the cab and started it for Holloway jail before the militants realized what was happening.

When it was discovered that Miss Pankhurst had been abducted the chairwoman of the meeting, Miss Peterson, who later was among those arrested, shouted to her supporters from the base of the Nelson column, "Follow the flag and see if we can't find something to do."

The militants then surged toward the government buildings in Whitehall with the suffragette banner borne aloft, but the cordon of mounted police barred their way. Some of the women assailed the police with short sticks, but the marchers were soon dispersed.

Having received a refusal of an audience with King George in which it was proposed that a deputation from the Women's Social and Political union should lay before him their claim for the vote and their complaint

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# WHERE ALIBIS DON'T GO

