

THE DEATH OF RAMOS

STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS DEATH

WAS IT THE WAGES OF SIN?

Either a Sudden Stroke of Apoplexy or a Blow From an Indignant Observer

SAN BERNARDINO, March 20.—The finding of the dead body of Florentino Ramos Saturday evening about 8 o'clock under peculiar circumstances in the home of the Garcia family is the latest sensation that is puzzling the officers. The deceased is an old resident of this city, about 62 years of age and quite a well known citizen among the Mexican portion of the inhabitants. He is a man of some property, and recently sold his home place on the corner of Seventh and L streets, and has of late resided at the corner of Seventh and I streets.

Saturday evening he was seen on the streets until about 7 o'clock or a little later, when he was heard to remark that he would go home. He was not apparently under the influence of liquor at the time and was in apparently good health. On his way home he called at the residence of the Landers and Garcia families on G street, between Fourth and Fifth, where he was well acquainted. He made a short call and then proceeded on his way home, as was supposed.

After his departure members of the family left the house and went down town, leaving the grandmother Garcia, an old lady about 80 years of age, and one or two of the little children. The old lady, who is the mother of Mrs. Landers, had gone to bed, being quite feeble, and the children were in another room, when they thought they heard a noise in their grandmother's room and went in there, thinking she might need something, or that the clothes had slipped partly from the bed and that she wanted them replaced. As the boy entered the bedroom, he observed that the head body of Florentino Ramos, which lay with its feet resting on the bed where the old lady was lying and his head on the floor.

The alarm was given and the police removed the body, under directions of the coroner, to the undertaking rooms of McDonald & Sons, and without a close examination of the body was made, no signs of a wound or any external cause of death was found. The inquest will be a most searching examination and may reveal the manner of death of the deceased.

From the appearance of the surroundings including the clothing on the dead man, it was evident that he was about to commit an assault upon the old lady and that as she pushed him away he fell to the floor with his feet still upon the bed, and striking his head, either broke his neck or died instantly of concussion of the brain. The only other cause is attributed to a sudden stroke of apoplexy or some kindred disease.

It is thought that he watched the family out of the house and entered stealthily and attempted to commit the crime when overtaken by death in some form. His victim speaks only Spanish and the police learned of her horror only by questions being an unintelligible muttering in her native language that gave no light to the awful tragedy, she being greatly frightened evidently over the affair.

LATER—Coroner Keating conducted an autopsy of the body this morning and found that there were no external signs of violence. There were evidences of congestion of the lung and internal hemorrhage, but the doctor would not say that he attributed death to either of these causes. In fact, Coroner Keating is so dubious about the case that he has postponed the inquest to Thursday, when he expects to have more reliable evidence. There is a distinct impression abroad that Ramos met with foul play, and it is suggested that he never left the Garcia house at all, but was poisoned while there. No arrest has been made at present, but the attitude of the coroner is such that an arrest is expected before Tuesday's inquest.

Independent Party

SAN BERNARDINO, March 20.—The county central committee of the Independent party, as completed at the Saturday convention, consists of nearly 100 of the most prominent and best men in the parties that locate their faith on the white material of the constitution with the yellow. On the committee are some names of persons who were supposed to be solidly connected with the "Old Glory" party, but who have now come out on the advanced platform, to the surprise of their former party affiliations who had not mistrusted their defection. The committee organized by the choice of Mrs. B. Parazette of San Bernardino as chairman and A. E. Martin of Redlands as secretary. After completing the business portion of the program the convention listened to a rousing speech by Judge J. Noonan Phillips of Los Angeles that raised the enthusiasm to the highest pitch. He was followed by A. F. Judson of Colton, who gave a good speech in behalf of the new movement. The coalition of the various factors of the Independent party is most complete for the local political campaign, but each side will keep up its organization for the state and congressional battle, if it is necessary, but the hope is expressed that the Independent movement may extend to all branches of the coming campaign contest.

Bound to Kill

SAN BERNARDINO, March 20.—There is evidently trouble and a tragedy brewing on the desert, and the news from Bagdad will be watched with more interest for the next few days than the actions of congress and Spain. Sheriff F. L. Holcomb last night received the following startling dispatch over the wires: "BAGDAD, March 19.—Sheriff, San Bernardino: I will kill Stewart tonight if he comes out of his place tonight."

"CHARLES ELLIOTT." The doomed man is the keeper of the Bagdad saloon, and there has evidently been trouble. The place is becoming notorious for its murders, and the sheriff looked upon it as no idle threat and telegraphed back to Stewart, warning him to get out of Bagdad. This will not avert the attempt probably, but as Stewart is a fearless man, it may result in his getting the drop and killing the other man, in which case the telegram would be important evidence to make it appear to be self-defense.

San Bernardino Brevities

SAN BERNARDINO, March 20.—The funeral of Capt. N. J. Platon took place this afternoon under the auspices of the Odd Fellows, with the following pallbearers: F. M. Johnson, Ed Daley, D. H. Wix-

"MORROS THE GREEK"

IS ALMOST RUN IN FOR BURGLARY

Mrs. Anna Brown's Alarm—A Boy in Blue Gets Warm—Local Brevities

PASADENA, March 20.—(Office of The Herald, 58 East Colorado st.) The Greek fruit dealer who was arrested last night upon suspicion of having been implicated in the burglary of Mrs. Anna Brown's house on the corner of congress street and Orange Grove avenue, was discharged this morning from custody after being confined overnight in the city jail. A telephone message at about 1 o'clock last night brought Marshal Lacey to the state of trouble. Mrs. Brown had entered an upstairs room and found a man there. She screamed and the man jumped from the window, alighting on his hands and knees and leaving an imprint in the soft dirt. The marshal saw a man sitting on the stone curb on the East Colorado street when he went up. Upon his return the man was still sitting there, and the marshal, after questioning him, arrested him. He proved to be "Morros the Greek," as he is dubbed in Los Angeles, where he is well known to the police. Morros denied all knowledge of the burglary and stated that he had simply gone up there to see a party who had fruit to sell. He had not seen the party owing to the lateness of the hour. He was sat down on the wall to rest. He contradicted himself several times, and his suspicious circumstance was the fact that he had hailed the marshal with "Hello, Charley," before seeing who the marshal was. Mr. Lacey suspected that Morros had taken him for his partner in the burglary, assuming that the man really was guilty. The man also gave an assumed name. However, there seemed not enough evidence in the eyes of the marshal, to hold the suspect.

SMASHED THE WINDOWS

All Because He Disliked the Chinese Cook

SANTA MONICA, March 20.—The twenty-six windows on the ground floor of the Mooney mansion, the Santa Monica home of Colonel and Mrs. B. Hotchkiss, were smashed to smithereens on Friday night by an Irishman named John, employed by the colonel as a sort of caretaker. In the colonel's employ also is a Chinese cook, to whom John has taken a violent dislike, so violent, in fact, that he gave vent to his feelings on the windows when his employer refused to discharge the Colonial. This son of Erin tried to convince the colonel that the feeling of the residents in that neighborhood was identical with his on the subject of the cook, by telling him that the deed was done by masked men who wished to "boycott" the attorney prosecuting a Chinese man. However, this morning he began to realize that it was a fishy story and confessed to Colonel Hotchkiss that he did the deed. The officers say that Mr. and Mrs. Hotchkiss will not prosecute the offender.

Riverside Notes

RIVERSIDE, March 20.—Arbor day and the planting of trees has become quite a popular thing with the schools of this county and many of the schoolhouses in the country districts are now surrounded by fine groves of trees, where a few years ago all was bare and uninviting. A majority of the district schoolhouses observed this year on February 22, but Olive school district observed the day last Friday. Five acres were laid off and set to 20 trees on that day. The schools of this city will engage in tree planting Saturday next.

Recent statements in a Los Angeles paper and in a San Francisco publication to the effect that the fruit blossoms of a great part of the orchards of this city were destroyed by frost the past week could not well be farther from the truth. As a matter of fact the damage was very slight, so little in fact that it is not worth noting. The fear held by some in this city that there would be a scarcity of water for irrigation purposes the coming summer has been dispelled by the generous fall of snow which came with the stormy weather in the mountain ranges the past week.

Society at Santa Monica

SANTA MONICA, March 20.—The second of a series of Saturday afternoon teas by the ladies of St. Margaret's guild at the parish hall was given Friday afternoon, Misses Jamison, Hill, Fisher and Gouge presiding.

A very pleasant dancing party was given Saturday evening at Fraternal hall by the ladies of Unity circle. It was called a St. Patrick social, and the refreshments and decorations conformed to the general suggestion of green in color.

Mrs. W. R. Corson gave a tea on Saturday afternoon at the Casino in honor of Mrs. Elliott and the Messrs. Elliott of San Francisco, which was the largest social affair of the kind given here since last summer. The large rooms were decorated with a profusion of purple fleur de lis and yellow California poppies. An informal program of music, including solos by Misses D. B. Baker of Temple Hill and Mrs. Nora Wilshire, and instrumental music by Miss Dillon of Los Angeles, was rendered.

Amongst those invited besides the guests of honor were: Misses J. P. Jones, W. G. Doble, D. D. Acker, H. G. Wilshire, Patrick Robertson, Victor Upham, H. A. Winzler, B. Parazette, J. B. Proctor, Lester Gorham, Buckley, Jamison, Hamilton, Templar Allen and Bishop; Misses Henshaw, Dunn, Brooks, Wilshire, Roberts, Corson, Nihad, Dunn, Alice Jones, Kennedy, Bishop and Dillon and Mr. Peffer.

Rialto Ripples

RIALTO, March 19.—Frank Moore and family of Chicago are visiting J. B. Tibbott and family.

The concert given at the M. E. church Thursday evening was a success. A large house was in attendance, although it rained quite heavily. Henry Ralston has been quite sick for the past week with grippe.

Woman's Parliament

SANTA BARBARA, March 20.—The executive officers of the Southern California Woman's parliament, consisting of Dr. Belle L. Reynolds, president; Miss Gertrude G. McCurdy, treasurer, and Mrs. Emma Hardacre, general secretary, all of this city, have just issued the program for the fifteenth session of the parliament, opening at Redlands, April 26th. The meetings will be held at the Baptist church in Redlands, April 26th and 27th.

Mr. Burnham's Death

ORANGE, March 20.—John Burnham, one of the most esteemed residents of Orange, died at 8 o'clock this morning. He came to Orange from Batavia, Ill., about four years ago. He was a man of considerable wealth and aged about 82 years.

Contracts wanted to drill oil wells

Contracts wanted to drill oil wells or deep wells for water. Might take an interest. Chas. Victor Hall, 2600 Central avenue.

MINES AND MINERS

A Good Clean-Up

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J. T. Osenburg, the first harness maker of Phoenix, but now a mining man of Congress, is in the city. He has for years given up the pick and drill and has prospered fairly well. He is now associated with Charles Shellsburg in developing five claims, located three and a half miles northwest of Congress. They began last October and have in the meantime sunk fifteen shafts from ten to twenty feet, along on the blind ledge. In each place the vein is encountered. It ranges from eighteen inches to two feet in thickness, and assays an average of \$30 a ton. There is at present 20 tons of assayed ore on the dump that runs from \$20 to \$30 a ton. Four men are now working, and it is proposed to put the group in good condition so it will be a producer. The character of ore is free milling and the vein quite regular.—Phoenix Gazette.

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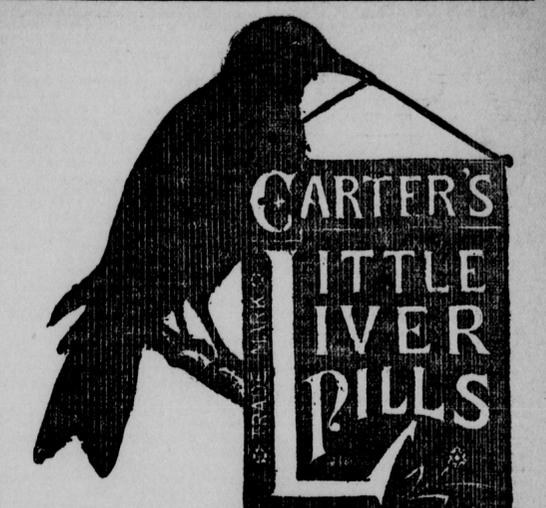
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