

TEXAS, WHO DIDN'T LYNCH MURDERER OF WOMAN TEACHER, WONDER IF IT PAYS TO BE LAW-ABIDING

* Part of the Confession of Leon Martinez. *
* "On July 22, 1911, about three miles from Saragosa, I met *
* Miss Brown riding in a buggy. (Then follows a statement of *
* an insult he offered her.) She said she would have me arrested, *
* and that she would kill me. Then I commenced shooting, and *
* shot four times. Her horse ran away, and when I headed the *
* horse she got out of the buggy. When I got off my horse the *
* girl ran. I stabbed her in the back. She turned around and hit *
* me with her fist. I stabbed her four or five times in the breast. *
* I got on my horse and loped away to Saragosa. She was stand- *
* ing up when I left her." *

By W. G. Shepherd.

Pecos, Texas, Nov. 28—Reeves county passed up an excellent chance for a lynching here last July, when hundreds of virile citizens were itching to string up a young Mexican who confessed insulting, then murdering a white school teacher.

The murderer isn't hung yet.

Emma Brown, pretty and 25, left the general store at Saragosa last July 22 and drove out over the prairie with a supply of groceries for her sister's ranch, 10 miles away. Half an hour later Leon Martinez, a young Mexican clerk in the store, left on a pony. Later Martinez returned. Miss Brown never reached the ranch.

Next morning a stray horse and buggy were found. Four bullet marks were on the buggy. The deputy sheriff was hastily summoned.

Some distance from the buggy he found the corpse of Emma Brown, scarred with two bullet holes and six stab wounds. Worst of all, Emma Brown had been

stabbed in the back!

Reeves county heard the news and boiled. But it agreed with District Attorney Will Brady before the murderer was discovered, that there would be no lynching. Reeves county would let legal justice be done for this terrible murder.

Then Leon Martinez was arrested and he confessed.

Race feeling and horror almost brought a lynching. But they held in. A telegram summoned Judge S. A. Isaaks from Midland, 70 miles away. He left his bed to catch a train and reached Pecos at 3:50 Monday morning.

Reeves county was doing its best to behave. Judge Isaaks sympathized.

Judge J. W. Parker, of Midland, was named by the court to defend Martinez. A number of Mexicans employed George Estes, former prosecutor, to assist. The defense couldn't deny the guilt of Martinez. But they put his father and mother on the stand in an attempt to prove that