

## FIND CLEW.

LOS ANGELES, June 2.—A private detective, now held by the police on a blackmail charge, may prove the clew to the finding of Millionaire F. Lewis Clark, who is believed to be a captive of kidnapers somewhere in the Sierras. The man, who disappeared from Santa Barbara, was given up as dead after the police searched some time. But since the capture of the detective clews have been discovered that have led to a second chase. Edgar Byron, the man now in the toils of the police, was captured on a charge of attempting to blackmail Mayor Dudley, and, on going through his possessions the police discovered letters giving clews to the Clark case. One letter, written to friends of Clark, declared him in captivity and offered to free him for the sum of \$50,000.

Byron is now held in the jail at Santa Monica on a charge of attempting to extort \$500 from Mayor T. H. Dudley of that place. According to Special Police Investigator Fletcher Felts this prisoner has intimate knowledge of plans and plots which netted large sums of money to private detectives, mediums and clairvoyants. With considerable vigor Byron denies these charges and claims that he is the victim of a political conspiracy.

## REMARKABLE DEVELOPMENTS.

Here, however, are the chief developments announced by the authorities in the remarkable entanglement of deceit, mystery and trickery:

1. Special Investigator Fletcher Felts stated that he believes that F. Lewis Clark, who supposedly committed suicide near Santa Barbara, is alive and a victim of a band of detectives and clairvoyants. On one occasion, Felts claims, a Long Beach man offered to produce Clark for \$50,000 if "no questions were asked."

2. Deputy District Attorney John Richardson issued a warrant for a young woman who is widely known as "Clarisse, the Blonde." She is charged with attempting to blackmail Earl Nash, a prominent barber-shaver of Santa Monica. The authorities say that Nash and his bride were recently held up and robbed in their home by an agent of the alleged gangsters.

## SEEK PSYCHIC TRICKSTER.

3. Concerted search was started to locate Thomas McCollough, a clairvoyant, who is charged with obtaining large sums of money from wealthy women by psychic trickery. Among his victims, according to the detectives, are Mrs. J. Harris, a widow of Alabama City, Alabama; Mrs. Mary T. Eales of Long Beach; Mrs. Maud Buckles of Long Beach, and a Mrs. T. Donovan of Los Angeles.

4. Search was started by Acting Chief of Police S. L. Browne of Long Beach for Sol Alexander, who is alleged to have represented himself in dealing with Mrs. Eales as a secret service operator.

5. Chief of Police Sebastian and Police Commissioner Vincent Morgan stated last night that a number of clairvoyants would be summoned before the Police Commission Wednesday to explain their work.

6. Former Chief of Police Austin of Long Beach announced that an investigation of the charges against Byron would throw interesting light upon the recent sensational charges which were directed against a number of police officials in Long Beach.

Much of the information given out by the authorities yesterday was based upon documents and correspondence found in Private Detective Byron's room at 1404 South Hill street. Following the arrest Thursday in Santa Monica, Mayor Dudley gave to a search warrant and Detective Felts confiscated Byron's memorandum and notes.

Byron's quarters were a literal store room of varied information, said Felts, literature relating to clairvoyance and spiritualism was carefully indexed and a clipping bureau of press notices was maintained.

A number of code books were found with many telegrams which had been sent in code.

Clipped By:



liz\_wood

Wed, Dec 27, 2017