

SPOKANE MILLIONAIRE IS KIDNAPPED AND HELD FOR BIG RANSOME, SAYS LETTER

BLACKMAILERS HOLDING F. LEWIS CLARK WHO HAS BEEN MISSING SINCE JANUARY 17---WANT \$75,000

(By United Press.)

LOS ANGELES, CAL., JAN. 29.—F. LEWIS CLARK, A SPOKANE MILLIONAIRE HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED AND IS BEING HELD FOR \$75,000 RANSOM, ACCORDING TO A LETTER SIGNED "BLACK MAILERS" WHICH WAS RECEIVED BY THE POLICE AND MADE PUBLIC TODAY.

CLARK HAS BEEN MISSING SINCE JANUARY 17TH, WHEN HE DISAPPEARED FROM SANTA BARBARA. HIS HAT WAS FOUND ON THE WHARF SOON AFTER HIS DISAPPEARANCE, AND IT WAS SUPPOSED THAT HE HAD DROWNED.

IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER THE LETTER IS A HOAX OR NOT. THE CHIEF OF POLICE IS INCLINED TO CREDIT THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE LETTER.

MRS. CLARK HAS ALWAYS INSISTED THAT HER HUSBAND WAS NOT DROWNED. IT IS NOW BELIEVED THAT CLARK WAS SEIZED AT THE WHARF AND HIS HAT KNOCKED OFF IN THE STRUGGLE. CLARK'S FAMILY WILL, IT IS STATED, ENTERTAIN THE RANSOM PROPOSITION IF IT BE ASSURED THAT THE LETTER WAS GENUINE. THE LETTER INSTRUCTED THE FAMILY TO ANSWER THROUGH THE NEWSPAPERS.

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Wed, Dec 27, 2017