

## HAINS KEPT WIFE BACK FROM ANNIS

Testimony at Murder Trial Shows Mrs. Annis Not Permitted to Give Aid.

### MANY WITNESSES ON STAND

Brother of Captain Hains Tried to Assume Murderer's Name, According to Statement of Witness, to Prevent Capture.

FLUSHING, L. I., Dec. 22.—Testimony of a character designed to corroborate the stories of the killing of W. E. Annis which have been told in the trial of Thornton J. Hains, was developed today from several of the prosecution's witnesses.

William Knapp, a Bay Side Yacht Club member, was given a rigorous cross-examination after testifying that, while sailing toward the dock after the impromptu boat race, he heard shooting and saw Mrs. Annis run down the runway.

"I saw her move across the float," continued Knapp. "Then she was stopped and she went back up the runway again. Someone took her by the arm at the runway. I could not see who stopped her, because she was hidden by the jib of Annis' boat."

### Wife Kept From Husband.

Mrs. Helen E. Annis testified yesterday that Thornton Hains turned her back with a revolver when she ran across the float toward her wounded husband.

John C. Stephens, fellow club member of Annis, testified that he heard the defendant say after the shooting: "I came to protect my brother and would have shot anybody who interfered."

Both the witnesses, Knapp and Stephens, asserted on the stand that there was a noticeable interval between the first and subsequent shots fired by Captain Hains at Annis.

Morrill L. Downs, of Flushing, a Bay-side Yacht Club member, was the first witness called. He was on the clubhouse piazza when the shooting took place. Immediately after the shooting he went to the float.

"The defendant had a revolver in his hand and it was cocked. Captain Hains stepped forward and I put my hands on his shoulder, and the defendant said:

### Two Captains at First.

"No, this is a matter for the police," I then said to the defendant. "Who are you?" and he said: "I am Captain Hains, son of General Hains, of the Regular Army."

"Then the real Captain Hains broke in and said:

"I am Captain Hains and he is my brother." I then said that this was a gentleman's club and we could not allow strangers to be admitted.

The defendant asked his brother if he should give the pistol up. Mr. Downs said that Thornton Hains then brought his revolver and handed him the weapon, after which the defendant took his holster and belt off and turned that over.

Lawyers for Thornton Hains asserted that every effort will be put forth to shatter that part of Mrs. Helen E. Annis' testimony that the defendant beckoned his brother and the two men went out to the float, where Captain Hains shot and killed Annis as he was making a landing.

### Was Witness Coached?

"Mrs. Annis must have been coached in this part of her testimony," said Joseph Shay, associate counsel in the Hains case, today. "We intend to subpoena District Attorney Darrin and Special Prosecutor White as witnesses. It is a strange thing that she did not recall this beckoning episode or speak of it to any one until last week."

Attorney Darrin may recall Mrs. Annis to the stand for a further brief examination.

It was reported that Mrs. Claudia Hains, wife of Captain Hains, came to New York today, and is now in Jersey City, holding herself in readiness to be summoned to testify at the trial. Counsel for the state denied this emphatically.

## GOMEZ IS NOW SUPREME

(Continued from First Page.)

day. He has not yet reached a definite opinion as to the disease, but he is inclined to believe that his patient is suffering from severe ulcerations of the kidneys, which can be treated without operation.

### ALL APPROVE HOLLAND'S ACT

Powers Give Moral Support—America Would Allow Invasion.

THE HAGUE, Dec. 22.—A yellow book which has just been issued on Venezuelan affairs states that all the powers with which The Netherlands government has been in communication, without exception have notified the government of their agreement with its actions. The Dutch government has not asked for any assistance, being convinced of its own ability to bring about settlement of the difficulty with Venezuela, but will rely entirely on its own forces. Nevertheless, it has received moral support of all the powers, particularly the United States, which made the declaration that the Monroe Doctrine was not opposed to armed action on the part of The Netherlands, nor even to the temporary occupation of Venezuelan territory.

The yellow book states that, notwithstanding the acute character of the present situation, the Dutch government still is ready to enter upon serious negotiations, provided Venezuela, conceding what Holland regards as indispensable, the withdrawal of the decree of May 14. Further, the yellow book declares that arbitration would have meant the acceptance of the status of affairs created by President Castro and the prolongation of the sufferings of the people of Curacao, while the previous experience with Venezuela gave ground for the belief that arbitration would have been but a problematical advantage, so far as The Netherlands was concerned.

### GOMEZ FRUSTRATES PLOT

Coolly Arrests Leaders Himself and People Rally to Him.

CARACAS, Monday, Dec. 21, via Willemstad, Dec. 22.—The downfall of President Castro in Venezuela was completed Saturday last with the frustration of a desperate plot to assassinate Juan Vicente Gomez, the acting president.

Secret cablegrams have passed between President Castro in Berlin and his agents here since the popular anti-Castro demonstration of December 13 and 14.

A prominent lawyer has filed accusations in court, charging Castro with complicity in the attempted assassination, and proposing his impeachment.

There was a meeting Friday night of the plotters at the residence in Caracas of Gabriel Guzman, Secretary-General in the last Castro Cabinet and who was placed in charge of Castro's personal business in Venezuela when the President left for Germany.

The conspirators decided upon a coup d'etat. They determined to assassinate Acting President Gomez, Jose de Jesus Paul, the Foreign Minister, General Leopoldo Baptista and other prominent men; seize the administration of the country and with the army terrify and overawe the population. Torres Cardenas, who was at one time Minister of the Interior under President Castro and later his personal secretary, was the active leader of the conspiracy. He had as lieutenants the commanders of three battalions.

Intimation of what was on foot reached the ears of Acting President Gomez, and he took immediate steps to frustrate the attempt. Early Saturday he went alone to the barracks in Caracas, where a marine regiment under the command of President Castro's brother was quartered. With cool courage he entered the building and placed the brother of the President under arrest. The nerve of Gomez made it possible to carry out this dangerous maneuver successfully. He went into the executive mansion, where he had a brief interview with Torres Cardenas. The chief official conspirator denied the existence of any plot. Gomez would not be deceived by such assurances. He seized Cardenas by the shoulders and said:

"I have discovered your plot to assassinate me! You are my prisoner!"

Torres Cardenas tried to use his revolver on the acting President, but Gomez was too quick for him. He pinned the man's arms, called the guard and Torres Cardenas was hurried away to jail.

The two arrests, made single-handed by Gomez, broke the plot. Gomez's friends came forward quickly to his support. Orders were carried out for the arrest of Gabriel Guzman, Lopez Barral, Minister of the Interior in the Cabinet that was forced to resign December 17; Senor Bermudez, director of the National telegraph system; Commanders Casanova and Angulo and other adherents of Castro suspected of complicity.

As soon as the news of the sensational occurrences became known, an immense crowd gathered in the Plaza Bolivar and gave unmistakable evidence of its satisfaction with the turn affairs had taken.

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### MORE WAR VESSELS SAIL

Dolphin and Des Moines Start for Venezuela.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—A special dispatch to the Herald from Port Au Prince, Hayti, says that the United States gunboat Dolphin left that port last night under orders to proceed at once to Curacao to await developments in the Venezuelan situation. The cruiser Des Moines is leaving also for Curacao, according to the dispatch. News of the movement of these vessels adds interest to the secrecy surrounding the battleship Maine, which is presumed to be en route to Venezuela, to be followed by the North Carolina.

### ANNULS OFFENSIVE DECREE

Government Removes Dutch Grievance and Invites Rebels Home.

WILLEMSTAD, Curacao, Dec. 22.—The new Venezuelan administration has rescinded the decree prohibiting the trans-shipment of goods destined for Venezuela.

The measure in question has been the principal difficulty between Venezuela and Holland. The deduction of the latest news received from Curacao—the enforced resignation of the Castro Cabinet—is that the reign of President Castro in Venezuela is over.

The strictest censorship has been preserved at Curacao, but secret advices state that Gomez has assumed control of the Presidency and appointed a new Cabinet.

Willemstad is still without direct news from Venezuela, but reports brought in indicate that the political outbreak against President Castro at Caracas has been followed by other developments showing the continued unrest of the country.

It is said that the political prisoners at Puerto Cabello have been set at liberty and that several of the partisans there of President Castro have been imprisoned.

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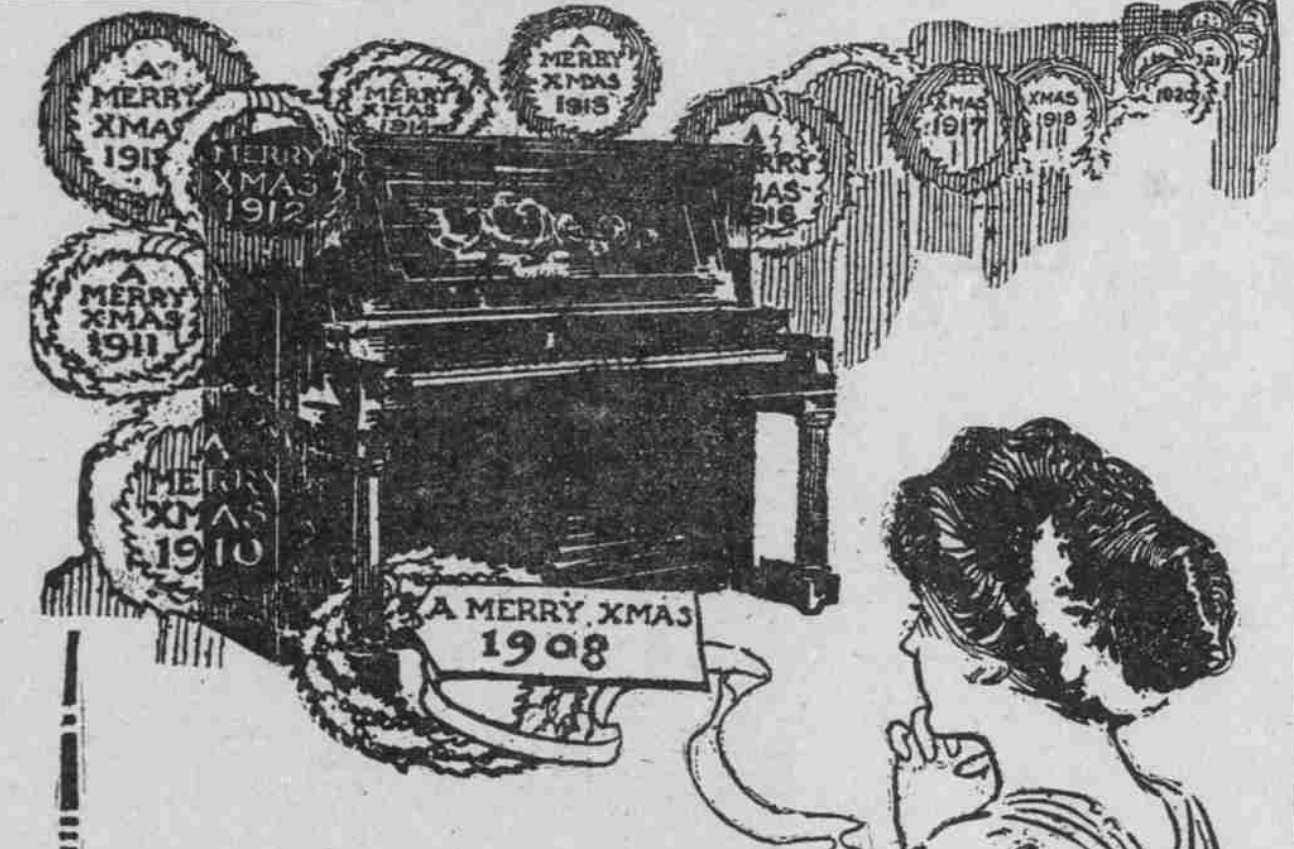
shipment at Willemstad of goods destined for Venezuela points. This revolution is regarded by well-informed persons as practically the settlement of the dispute between the governments of Venezuela and Holland.

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