

La Junta junto con  
otros ciudadanos de  
Laredo el incidente  
originado por Valls y  
le ofrece sus servicios  
como abogado si se  
lo necesita en este caso.  
Cuenta respectu Mieris

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R. D. L. KILLOUGH  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
VERNON, TEXAS

December 18, 1929.

President Plutarco Elias Calles,  
Mexico City, Mexico.

His Excellency the President of Mexico:-

As a citizen of Texas I regret very much the Laredo affair and the conduct of the district attorney of Webb County, Mr. John A. Valls. His attitude toward you personally and toward your country does not represent the attitude of the Texas people and the people of the United States. I have talked with numerous citizens of our town and they tell me they are friendly toward you and toward your country. We hold you in high esteem and I write you to assure you of my friendliness and to express my regret of the conduct of Mr. John A. Valls of Laredo.

I tender you my services as an attorney without charge if at any time I can be of service to you in connection with this matter.

I sincerely hope that I may have the honor of visiting your country at some future time.

I send to you warm greetings for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Very Respectfully,

*Roy D. L. Killough*

RDLK/m

Copia de carta que le 3  
dirigió al Presidente Hoover  
sobre la confiscación ilegal que Valls  
ordenó de una cosecha de su  
madre y de los métodos mu-  
chos de dicho Valls para que  
su partido de los "Inuarachi"  
también saque el de "los botas"  
y salir así el efecto. Agregó  
que Valls es abogado de Pañi  
tres días y que por venganza  
perseguirá a los funcionarios  
mexicanos.

*E. Capria*

Edgewater, N. J.  
December 20, 1929

Hon. Herbert Hoover  
President of the United States  
Executive Mansion  
Washington, D. C.

Mr. President:

The undersigned an an American citizen, born in the City of New Albany, Indiana, in 1868, and that for the greater part of the last thirty-eight years he has been employed as a Consulting Engineer in the Republic of Mexico. In the year 1894 he met John Valls, formerly District-Attorney of the City of Laredo, Texas, at which time he was a practicing attorney and real estate agent. That the undersigned's Mother had corresponded with Valls on the subject of a ranch known as The Tapeste, intended to be presented to the undersigned by his said Mother on the strength of which correspondence said Valls induced the undersigned to plant and otherwise improve the said property, leaving the cultivation of his crop in the hands of his hired men while he returned to his professional work in Mexico.

As the undersigned's Mother did not close the deal for said ranch as soon as Valls thought should be done, said Valls leased said ranch to undersigned's hired man and crop was confiscated and sold for the benefit of said hired men, although they had received regular wages as employees of the undersigned. This was done at the suggestion of and connivance of Valls. The undersigned's Mother shortly completed the purchase of said ranch but no restitution was ever made to the undersigned for the unlawful confiscation of his crop, consequently he never again worked the ranch, although he made frequent visits to Laredo and was well acquainted with people and conditions there, including the aforesaid John Valls who had built up a political following composed largely of poor Mexican workmen, who had been smuggled into the United States for election purposes; in fact, it was common talk that by using a woman named Maria Flores, considered to be his "quierida", or concubine, as an intermediary, said Valls, while holding the office of District Attorney in and for Webb County, Texas, emptied the jail of smuggled foreigners? It was common talk in Laredo that Maris Flores aforesaid received money consideration for her intercession with Valls on behalf of said prisoners.

That Valls belongs to a political party known as the "huaraches" as opposed to the better element or "las botas", who have never as yet been able to gain an ascendancy in the election in fact it has not been so many years ago in that elections were decided by bullets and not by ballots. This is current knowledge in Laredo.

The said Valls is of foreign parentage and it is not known by the undersigned whether he is a legal citizen of the United States or not. However, it is known that the said Valls is a godson of the

Dec. 20, 1929

late General Don Poefirio Diaz, formerly President of the Republic of Mexico, and that as such he has sought to use the office of District Attorney to reek vengeance on the individuals representing the present Government of Mexico, trumping up any possible charge against Presidents and Cabinet Officers for the purpose of humiliating, embarrassing and otherwise inconveniencing them as they cross from time to time from Mexico into the United States or vice versa.

That last year he did this in the case of Minister Casaranc and recently in the case of General Calles, late President of Mexico. That Valls is apparently insane on the subject of revenging the downfall of his god-father, the late General Don Poefirio Diaz, but as such action deliberately designed and calculated to incite diplomatic discordance between the United States and Mexico and seriously imperils the interests of several thousand American citizens, including the undersigned representing large and important financial and industrial interests in the Republic of Mexico, he and his colleagues respectfully beg that some steps be taken to permanently obviate this unreasonable menace to their interests.

The undersigned will close by adding that during 38 years, the greater part of which he has resided in Mexico, he has been treated with the greatest courtesy and consideration by all branches of the Mexican Government, and it seems tragic that our greatest danger should come from an officer sworn to uphold the laws and Constitution of the United States of America.

Believe me, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*(Signed)*

*J. A. Burns*  
Consulting Engineer

FADPECF

VALLS JOHN •

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