

TAMPA MORNING TRIBUNE

TAMPA, FLORIDA

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RELEASE ITALIANS FROM COUNTY JAIL

ONLY ONE SUSPECT IN FICARROTTA CASE REMAINS

*Strenuous Work of Officers for Past Five Weeks Seems to
Have Resulted in Little Progress*

With the release yesterday from custody of Paolo Chiramente and Ignacio Ferlita, or Felipe Ignacio as officially given out, there remains now in jail only one man in connection with the recent sensational assassination of G. Ficarrotta, the West Tampa councilman and wholesaler. One by one the half dozen or more men arrested at first by the authorities have been turned out and this has led many to express the opinion that Castenge Ferlita, the last one, distantly related to the murdered man, will be released also.

Chiramente and Ferlita were released on account of a lack of evidence, nothing of a substantial nature having been unearthed against them by the officers. The alleged sensations which were to have been sprung before the grand jury have not proved of sufficient importance to allow of indictment or further confinement, the men having already been in jail for over a month. What evidence there is against Ficarrotta is not known, but it has been alleged from the first that the evidence against him is stronger than against the others.

May Hold Ficarrotta

Asked last night if there is any substantial evidence against Ficarrotta or if he will be released shortly, State's Attorney Phillips declared that there is some evidence against him and that Ficarrotta will not be released for the present at least. Mr. Phillips stated that he expected to be able to introduce some new evidence before the grand jury when that body reconvenes June 14 which may fasten the stigma of guilt on Ficarrotta and lead to an indictment. Further than this Mr. Phillips stated that there was nothing to be said for publication.

If Ficarrotta is finally released the strenuous work which has been done by officers for the past five weeks will be in vain and it will be seen that they have been following a series of false clues and winding uselessly in a labyrinth of deceptions returning finally to the point of starting, confused and bewildered. Public opinion is strongly in favor of seeing the guilty parties punished in connection with the recent murders, and if it is found that Ficarrotta is not the right party a great deal of disappointment will be felt.

Even if Ficarrotta is indicted there will be two other guilty parties at large, three having been engaged in the shooting, as shown by circumstantial evidence. It is now strongly believed that the assault of LaCarse, his wife and mother-in-law on Mrs. Rometta indicates that they were accomplices.