

# PRES. MADERO, HIS BROTHER AND SUAREZ MURDERED

Former President and Associate Were Being Taken to Penitentiary

## TRAGEDY FOLLOWS ATTEMPT AT RESCUE

Members of Guard Having Prisoners in Charge are Arrested and Held Pending Inquiry to be Made by Mexican Government

Mexico City, Feb. 23.—Francisco L. Madero and Jose Pino Suarez are dead. In a midnight ride under guard from the National palace to the penitentiary they were killed.

The circumstances surrounding the death of the deposed president and vice president of the republic are unknown, except as given in official accounts, which do not in all cases conform. The only witnesses were those actually concerned in the killing.

The provisional president, Gen. Victoriano Uerta, says the killing of the two was incidental to a fight between their guard and a party attempting to liberate them. The minister of foreign relations, Francisco de la Barra, adds that the prisoners attempted to escape. Neither makes a definite statement as to which side fired the fatal shots. It is not impossible that neither knows.

An official investigation has been ordered to determine the responsibility and promises have been made that the guilty will be punished.

### View With Doubt.

Not unnaturally a great part of the public regards the official version with doubt, having in mind the use for centuries of the notorious "ley fuga" the unwritten law which is invoked when the death of a prisoner is desired. After its application there is written on the records, "prisoner shot trying to escape."

The widow of the ex-president received the first definite information of his death from the Spanish minister, Senor Cologan y Cologan. She already had heard reports that something unusual and serious had happened, but friends had endeavored up to that time to prevent her from learning the whole truth.

Soon afterward, accompanied by her brother, Jose Perez, and Mercedes Madero, a sister of Francisco, Senora Madero drove to the penitentiary, but was refused permission to see the body of her husband. Senora Suraz also was denied admittance to the mortuary, where, in accordance with the law, physicians were performing an autopsy. In contrast to the widow whose grief was of a pitifully silent character, expressed in sobs, Mercedes Madero, a beautiful young woman, educated in Paris, who has been a brilliant leader of society since the revolution of 1910, was dry-eyed and dignified in her emotions. By the side of the two women whose husbands had been killed, the girl hurled accusations at the officers who barred the entrance.

"Cowards! Assassins!" she called them, her voice pitched high while the officers stared impassively.

"You. The men who fired on a defenseless man! You and your superior officers are traitors!"

No effort was made to remove the women nor did the officers attempt to silence them. Senora Madero continued weeping and the girl did not cease her hysterical tirade until the arrival of the Spanish minister and the Japanese charge d'affaires, who came to offer their services.

The minister spoke with the officers in charge but was told that on account of the autopsy it would be impossible for anyone to see the bodies. Later in the day, they said, the request would be complied with. The diplomats then conducted the women away from the penitentiary.

### To Recover Bodies.

Madero's father and Rafael Hernandez, former minister of the interior, and other friends made efforts early in the day to recover the bodies and it was said this afternoon that the American ambassador had interested himself and secured the promise of Minister de la Barra that the bodies would be delivered to their families or burial.

The tragedy occurred shortly after midnight. Madero and Suarez, who had been prisoners in the National palace since their arrest on Tuesday last, were placed in an automobile, which was accompanied by another car and escorted by 100 rurales under the orders of Commandant Francisco Cardenas and Col. Rafael Pimento.

With instructions not to outdistance the escort, the cars moved slowly. No incident occurred until they had reached a point near the penitentiary, where in an open place the guards' attention was attracted, according to the official version, to a group of per-

sons following. Shots were fired at the escort out of the darkness. The rurales closed in an ordered the prisoners out of the car.

Thirty of the guards surrounded the prisoners, while the remainder dispersed themselves to resist an attack. About 50 men, some afoot and some mounted, threw themselves upon the detachment guarding the cars and the exchange of shots lasted 20 minutes when the attacking party fled. The dead bodies of Madero and Suarez were then found.

### Madero Wounded Once.

The body of Madero shows only one wound. A bullet entered the back of the head and emerged at the forehead. The body of Pino Suarez shows many wounds, entering from in front.

Of the male members of the Madero family only two now are in the capital. One is Francisco Madero, the father, who bitterly opposed his sons conducting a revolution in 1910 and rode across northern Mexico in an effort to overtake and dissuade him. The other is Ernesto Madero, the former minister of finance, an uncle, though only one year older than the late president.

Gustavo Madero, a brother, was obliged to submit to the fugitive law the day after the deposition of the president and was shot down in the arsenal.

Senora Madero and the two sisters of the ex-president, Mercedes and Angela, are tonight at the Japanese legation.

Not far from the penitentiary there are two small piles of stones, some 20 feet apart. They mark the spots where the men who a few days ago ruled Mexico had fallen. Holes in the wall of the penitentiary show where some of the bullets lodged.

The stones were piled by groups of sympathetic persons of the lower class, whose curiosity early drew them to the scene. From the top of each pitiful monument tonight flickered candles, placed there and lighted by those who thus thought to offer the last rites of the church to the souls of the dead.

From the ground has been scraped away blood-saturated earth, which was carried off by the morbid seeking. After the engagement on the road to the penitentiary Commandant Cardenas reported to the military commander, who conducted him to Gen. Huerta. The president summoned his cabinet, and after apprising his cabinet of the occurrence, issued an official announcement.

Both the president and members deeply deplored the affair, and decided upon a full investigation to fix the responsibility and to punish the guilty. Already formal action has been taken by the authorities, as the members of the escort are under arrest, pending the inquiry.

In his capacity of minister of foreign relations, Senor de la Barra addressed a note to the diplomatic representatives giving an account of the killing and assurances of a thorough investigation.

There were no signs of a demonstration in the central part of the city during the day. The news was received quietly and apparently philosophically. This was due perhaps not only to the fact that the majority seem to be in favor of the present government, but because the people are still overawed by the developments of the past two weeks.

One hundred representative members of the British colony have sent a memorial to the American ambassador expressing "appreciation for the able manner in which the ambassador has handled the delicate situation caused by the recent disturbance."

The memorial extends sincere thanks "for the help afforded all foreigners by the American embassy, without distinction of nationality and more especially all British residents."

Francisco de la Barra, the foreign minister, sent an official statement to the foreign diplomatic representatives in which he said:

"The department of foreign relations desires to make known, as already announced to the ambassador of the United States, the British minister and other members of the diplomatic corps on various occasions, that the government decided at a council of the ministers, that all acts relating to Madero and Pino Suarez had been adjudicated strictly according to law, as was due, and that in consequence, the accusation process, if such had taken place, would not have departed one iota from the legal measures applicable to the case.

"That after making this decision, the government agreed to remove Madero and Suarez to the penitentiary, where they would have the necessary security, consideration and comfort.

"That yesterday morning the minister of foreign relations so informed Ambassador Wilson, saying that the Mexican government would proceed always in accord with the law and that the removal of the ex-president and the ex-vice president to the penitentiary was for the reason afore indicated.

"That it was further expected that with the passing of time political pas-

sions would be subdued, resulting in the establishment of greater calmness and judgment throughout the republic.

"I desire to give all the facts of which I am cognizant connected with the affair of last night, which is deeply deplored both for sentiments of humanity and because of the gravity of the affair, which has surprised the government and the importance of which is not underestimated by the government.

"Last night about 10:30 o'clock I was called with all haste to the National palace by the chief staff of the president. An automobile was sent with an aide to take me, as well as the secretary of interior, Albert Gracia Branas. Surprised by the unusual call, I attempted to talk by telephone with Gen. Blanquet, the military commander, who made known that something serious had occurred.

"On our arrival at midnight at the palace, the president explained that Francisco Madero and Jose Pino Suarez, while being conducted to the penitentiary in automobiles were killed in an encounter which the escort guarding the prisoners had had with a group of individuals who attempted to liberate the two men.

### For an Investigation.

"Other members of the cabinet having arrived, it was agreed that it was an absolute necessity for the honor of the government that we proceed to a minute investigation of this act, as the law demanded, but going further, that immediate notice should be given to the chief attorney of the military court, Jose Vasquez Tagle, that he, with the judge advocate, should make investigations and consign those responsible, whoever they might be, to custody, and that he proceed to examine them in conformity with the law.

"It was agreed also that Attorney General Castellanos, whose energy and competency are well known, should take action in this most unfortunate affair.

"According to the reports which President Huerta received and communicated to the ministers, a group of five individuals, at a point about half way between the palace and the penitentiary, fired upon the chauffeur of one of the automobiles, which was under escort. The order was given for more speed. Shortly afterwards another group, more numerous, sallied from the cross streets, firing on the escort. It seems that Madero and Suarez at this point, attempted to escape.

"President Huerta communicated to the ministers the news of the death of the ex-president and the ex-vice president, adding that there was another person killed and two persons wounded, according to the information he had at the moment, without being exact as to which they belonged.

"He also informed the ministers that there had been some arrests.

"The secretary of foreign relations, echoing the feeling of the government and moved by personal sentiments which have caused him to view with horror the shedding of blood outside of those cases wherein the law has imposed the punishment, not only laments the fact but is convinced that the honor of the republic demands a thorough investigation and punishment for those who may be proven guilty of this act whose transcendency can not be hidden.

### The President's Story.

The following official statement of President Huerta was given out at the palace:

"I called together the cabinet to report that Madero and Pino Suarez who had been detained at the palace at the disposition of the war department, were taken to the penitentiary in accordance with a previous decision, as the result of which that establishment was placed yesterday afternoon under the charge of an army officer for its better security.

"When the automobiles had traversed about two-thirds of the way to the penitentiary, however, they were attacked by an armed group and the escort deserted the machines to offer resistance. Suddenly the group grew larger and the prisoners tried to escape.

"An exchange of shots then took place in which two of the attacking party were killed and two wounded. Both prisoners were killed. The automobiles were badly damaged.

"The president and his cabinet have resolved that the affair shall be consigned to the military judicial authorities having to do with the attempts against military prisoners such as were Madero and Pino Suarez, so that they may make a strict intervention of the military prosecutor general.

"The minister of justice has asked that when these investigations are over—the case being of so exceptional a character—that the prosecutor general of the republic make a further investigation.

"The government deprecates the event, and wishing to attend to the necessities of the public welfare, had asked the minister of justice to formulate a plan of legal action against the prisoners for their several re-

sponsibilities, at the same time making an effort to have some of the friends of Madero assist in the solution of this difficult question.

"Filled with the desire to guard itself as well as the prisoners the government had appointed Col. Luis Valletores director of the penitentiary and had given him strict instructions to provide for any contingency.

The government promises that society shall be fully satisfied as to the facts in the case. The commanders of the escort are now under arrest and the facts above recorded have been ascertained so as to clear this unhappy event, however comprehensible it may be under the present sad circumstances."

Heavy patrols were sent out to guard the streets. At 9 o'clock the bodies of Madero and Suarez were still lying in the mortuary at the penitentiary.

Notwithstanding the apparent air of calm, tenseness prevails as though the people of the capital were on the watch for further grave happenings. As an indication of conditions, a rumor spread rapidly through the city this evening that Senora Madero had committed suicide. This was followed by a rumor that Gen. Felix Diaz had been shot. Investigation showed that there was no foundation for either report.

Early tonight small groups congregated about the penitentiary. They were composed almost entirely of men and women of the lower classes.

There was a decided feeling of sympathy for the Maderos. Many women were crying. Some of the men attempted to make speeches, but such attempts at public display were quickly suppressed by the guards.

The Maderistas have been discreet in their utterances and the pro-government men almost equally so. Apparently the populace remembered the cannonading of the past week and patrols of soldiers as well as mounted police have served to remind them that the country is now ruled by a government whose administrative program is of the sternest character. No attempt is made at the National palace to disguise this fact and, President Huerta himself has said that drastic measures will be adopted to restore order.

### MADERO'S BROTHER SLAIN.

Mexico City, Feb. 25.—Emilio Madero, a brother of the late president, has been shot and killed near Monterrey, according to reliable information received here.

With an escort of 35 men, Madero, it is said, was attempting to join the rebels holding Nuevo Laredo, when he was overtaken by troops sent by General Trevino. The reports do not indicate whether Madero was killed in action or was executed.

The shooting took place between Villadama and Bastamante. As the rebel leader in the district, Geronimo Villareal, is a partisan of General Trevino, the government expects that the trouble in that vicinity will be adjusted soon.

Emilio Madero, in conjunction with his brother, Raoul, a few days ago began a counter revolution at San Pedro, in the state of Coahuila, in the expectation of uniting the rebels about Saltillo with those in the Laredo district.

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F. E. Walling, a farmer living near Yukon, Mo., strongly recommends Foley's Honey and Tar Compound and says: "I have been advised by my family doctor to use Foley's Honey & Tar Compound for my children when there was a cough medicine needed. It always gives the best of satisfaction and I recommend it to others."

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### MASTERS SALE.

State of South Carolina County of Union. Court of Common Pleas. Mutual Supply Company, Plaintiff, Against Barnett Dawkins, and Mrs. M. J. Mabry, Defendants.

Pursuant to an order of sale made in the above stated case, I will sell at public auction before the court house door at Union, S. C., during the legal hours of sale, on Salesday, March 3rd, 1913: "All that certain piece, parcel or tract of land, lying, being and situate in Fish Dam township, Union county, State of South Carolina, known as the Barnett Dawkins Home place, containing one hundred and twenty-five acres more or less, bounded and described as follows: on the north by land belonging to the estate of Cornelia Dawkins; on the East by land of Mike Dawkins, Sr.; on the South and Southeast by land belonging to the estate of Mary Jane Jeter; on the West by land of Henrietta Williams, and hath such shapes, marks, buttings and boundaries as more fully represented by plat made by J. Clough Wallace and Russell Goss, in the division of the estate of William Dawkins."

Terms of sale: One-third cash, balance on a credit, payable in two equal annual instalments one and two years from day of sale, with interest on each instalment from day of sale, secured by bond of the purchaser and a mortgage of the premises, the bond and mortgage to provide for the payment of ten per cent attorney's fee in case of default and collection by an attorney, or suit or foreclosure; purchaser to pay for papers and recording, and to have the privilege of paying all the purchase money in cash.

R. C. WILLIAMS, Master for Union County. Dated Feb. 11th, 1913. St.

### Final Settlement.

State of South Carolina, County of Union. Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of March, 1913, at 11 o'clock a. m., the undersigned will apply to the Hon. W. W. Johnson, Judge of Probate for the county aforesaid, in the Court of Probate, for said county, to be allowed to make a final return and settlement of the estate of Miss Ann E. Rice, deceased, and that, thereupon, they receive their discharge as the Executors of said estate.

January 20, 1913. William Coleman, P. M. Farr, Executors of Estate of Ann E. Rice, Deceased. 4-6t.

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