

MEXICAN GOVERNMENT EXECUTES ASSASSIN OF PRESIDENT-ELECT

Vivid Scenes Are Pictured of the Rifle Squad's Quick Work.

Mexico City, Feb. 9.—The pistol shots that killed General Alvaro Obregon last July had their last echo today with the execution by a firing squad of Jose de Leon Toral, the president-elect's assassin.

The young slayer, who throughout had maintained that he felt his act was for the good of Mexico, went to his death calmly and bravely, facing the firing squad quietly and dropping swiftly before a rapid hail of shots. The execution had been set for noon, but it was put over until 12:30 p. m. A few minutes before the hour Toral was taken to a small patio and instructed how to act before the firing squad. He listened calmly to the instructions and even smiled a little as the men told him how to die. Then he was led to a stone wall on a large courtyard of the federal penitentiary and was placed before a partition scarred by the bullets of many other executions.

At 12:35 p. m. (1:35 eastern standard time) the fatal shots rang out and Toral slumped down. His body twitched and Captain Rodriguez Rabiela, in charge of the squad, fired the coupe de grace, using a pistol once presented to him by General Obregon, Toral's victim.

Just as the rifles of the firing squad cracked, Toral tried to shout. "Viva—" That was as far as he got. He had hoped to cry "Viva Christo Rey" (Long live Christ the King). But his words were cut short by death.

A Catholic priest, dressed in civilian clothes as all priests have been in Mexico for some years except when in churches, was with Toral in his cell until the walk to the execution ground. The distance from the cell to the firing

squad was very short, just down the corridor.

Toral was dead in less than a minute after he left the prison and only a few seconds after he had stepped into the courtyard. The squad was ready as he approached. The instant he was in position the rifles cracked. This rapidly seemed to startle Toral and he carried into death an expression of astonishment as if he had expected an opportunity to say something before death while facing the squad. He was not blindfolded.

A moment after he received the coup de grace, the priest who had been with him in his cell, Rafael Ruiz Soto, pushed through the soldier guards, advanced to the corpse, knelt and dipped his handkerchief in the blood of Toral. He made the sign of the cross and pronounced extreme unction. He was detained by the guards for having broken through the lines. However, he kept the blood stained handkerchief, as a relic of what Toral earlier had called his martyrdom.

During a final conference with one of his attorneys this morning Toral said:

"I am absolutely convinced that I will go direct to heaven and join God there. I die absolutely tranquil."

One of the guards, when asked by reporters just before execution how Toral was conducting himself, replied: "He has the courage of a bull."

Toral was shaved at his request by the prison barber this morning. He felt of his face and said: "It is not smooth enough. Go over me once more." After the barber had repeated the operation Toral attempted to pay him, but the barber refused.

In accordance with another request, half an hour before his death a bottle of cognac was brought to Toral of which he drank about half. Some spilled on his carefully polished black shoes and he meticulously wiped it off. He said he wanted to face the firing squad spick and span.

He was dressed in his best clothes, a double-breasted black coat, dark pin-striped trousers, with an old varicolored sweater over his best.

Less than fifty persons witnessed the execution. Most of these were Mexican and foreign newspapermen with a few high government officials, members of congress and army generals. As the newspapermen rushed out after the execution seeking telephones by which to send their bulletins they were besieged by prison guards with the question, "How did Toral die?" "Bravely," they replied. "Ah, what a brave boy," exclaimed the guards.

Now crowds were permitted to gather near the prison gates and walls. Perhaps 5,000 persons assembled several hundred yards distant across the big bare plaza fronting the prison. They were mostly residents of the poor slum district in which the penitentiary is situated. Most of the men were in overalls and the women in cheapest of dresses with many of both sexes bare-footed. Numbers of the women wore black. Some wept. However, there was no attempt whatever to make a demonstration.

While Toral was being executed Mother Conception was praying in the penitentiary infirmary near the court yard. She could hear the rifle volley which ended the life of the man with whom she was convicted of conspiring. She refused to see any one or say anything and asked to be left alone to pray.

Toral had only about two hours of sleep last night. Several different priests were with him at one time or another and he prayed with them or alone most of the night. He went to bed after four a. m. and was up again at about six o'clock.

None of his family witnessed the execution. His ten day old son was brought to him again early this morning but his wife was too ill to see him again as she had last night. His mother remained in the prison until an hour and a half before the execution when she was taken away in a state of nervous collapse. His elderly father remained an hour longer.

Father Soto said "one of Toral's last expressed wishes was that his new born son might become a Catholic missionary."

Toral had kissed the cross held by the priest as he left his cell and he carried in his pockets a cross and religious emblems.

Prison guards said Toral had told them that he declared last night that the Virgin Mary appeared to him and beckoned him to Heaven. He said he heard celestial music. Then he awakened with a start to find the prison bugles blowing the reveille.

The body was to be turned over to his family for burial. It was expected that the funeral will be held tomorrow but details have been withheld to prevent possible demonstrations.

Man Robbed As He Steps Up On Porch

Winston-Salem, Feb. 9.—J. O. Turner, Winston-Salem merchant, was held up and robbed of \$500 by an unidentified white man here late tonight.

The robbery occurred when Mr. Turner stepped upon the front porch of his home, the highwayman placed a revolver in his face and demanding the money.

Mr. Turner told police that the robber appeared to be only about 25 years of age and was wearing a mask.

PEPSI-COLA has proven a revelation as a refreshing drink.

Flat Rock Baptist S. S. Growing

We believe that we have obtained a record for that building in the Flat Rock Baptist Sunday school. In November we graded our Sunday school along the line scheduled by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. A young man's bible class was organized with an enrollment of three. On last Sunday February 10 we had an attendance of 25 out of an enrollment of 37.

Our Sunday school has shown a healthy growth through the winter months. The average attendance for January 1929 was 115. The average attendance for the same month 1928 was 92 which shows an increase of more than 25 per cent. The average for the Sundays in this month has been 128.

The Flat Rock Baptist young people come to Sunday school and remain for preaching. They attend prayer services on Wednesday evening also. On last Wednesday we had 30 young people at the prayer service and two weeks ago there were 35.

There is a standing cordial welcome to attend any of our services. You will always be spoken to and welcomed.

Notice of Sale of Land

By virtue of the authority vested in a certain deed of trust executed to the undersigned trustee by Fred Phillips for L. G. Moore dated May 21, 1926, and recorded in book 110 page 124 in the office of the Register of Deeds for Surry County, N. C., default having been made in the payment of the notes there in secured, at the request of the holder of said notes I will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash in front of the Bank of Mount Airy, Mount Airy, N. C.,

Saturday, February 23rd, 1929 at 1 o'clock P. M.,

the following described real estate to-wit: Beginning at David Hall's line at Lum Easter's corner and runs South with Easter's line 210 feet to a planted rock; thence east 150 feet to a small white oak; thence north 200 ft. to David Hall's corner; thence west with Hall's line 150 feet to the beginning.

Sale made to satisfy principal \$910.00, interest and costs of sale to add. This 22nd day of Jan., 1929. Edw. M. Linville Trustee.

Notice of Sale of Land

By virtue of the authority vested in a certain deed of trust executed to the undersigned trustee by T. G. Barber and Maude E. Barber for I. W.

Barber dated February 1st 1926, and recorded in book 102, page 38 in the office of the Register of Deeds for Surry County, N. C., default having been made in the payment of the notes therein secured, at the request of the holder of said notes I will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash on the premises in Shoals township Surry County, N. C.,

Thursday, February 23, 1929 at 2 P. M.

the following described real estate, to-wit:

First tract: Being the home place of the late W. N. Brown, dec'd and adjoining the lands of W. A. Sullivan, other lands of T. G. Barber, J. W. A. Wall et al. and beginning on a stake in th Rockford road the corner of W. J. Spalhower's lot of land now W. A. Sullivan's and runs with Sullivan's line S. 53 deg. E. 5 chains to a stake in the old field; thence S. 31 deg. E. 45 chains to a stake in the late F. A. Butler's line, now W. A. Sullivan's line; thence E. 13 chains to a dead black gum and pine knot; thence N. 22 deg. E. 19.50 chains to a stake on the west side of the said Rockford road; thence with the said Rockford road as it runs 68 chains to the beginning. See deed from W. V. Stone dated January 1, 1922, recorded in book 29, page 516, from this deed the description of the above premises is taken see plat made by

W. V. Stone by Joe Denny about 1922 also deed from I. W. Barber, executor will of W. N. Brown, dec'd to T. G. Barber said deed being on record.

Sold subject to a first deed of trust made to the Methodist Protestant Children's Home, High Point, N. C., for \$4500.00 also a mortgage of I. W. Barber for \$300.00

Second tract: Being a part of what was once the R. A. Barber home place and adjoining the First Tract above described, lands of R. A. Barber and the clay road leading from Stony Ridge to Pinnacle and also the Rockford road mentioned in the description in the First Tract, and beginning at a black gum, runs N. 58 deg. W. 7.90 chains to a stone on the south side of the road; thence S. 34 deg. W. 25 chains to a black gum and pine. Thence S. 1 deg. W. 3.34 chains to a spanish oak; thence S. 59 deg. E. 4.30 chains to a road leading from Winston-Salem to Pinnacle; and thence northward with said road 25 chains to the county line; thence N. 85 deg. W. with said line 9.90 chains to the beginning, containing 22.75 acres, more or less. See book 85, page 228 R. of D.

Sold subject to a Federal Farm Loan for \$1000.00 and Bank of Mount Airy Deed of Trust for \$1000.00

Sale made to satisfy principal, \$2500.00, interest and costs of sale to add. This 28th day of January, 1929. Edw. M. Linville, Trustee.

Advertisement for J. C. Penney Company Stores. Text: 'To Serve You with Quality Values at Moderate Prices — will be the mission of our New Store, soon to be opened in this Community'. Includes an illustration of a family sitting at a table in a home-like setting.