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DOUBLE MURDER AT MONTREAL PROVES MYSTIFYING TO POLICE VICTIMS' CHILD ACCUSES UNCLE

Mrs. Francis Vautour Found Dead in Bed and Husband in Ante-Mortem Statement Told of Assault by a Stranger—Boy Says His Mother's Brother Was Perpetrator.

MONTREAL, Feb. 23.—(Can. Press.)—In the early hours of this morning in the home of Francis Vautour, 187 Grand Trunk street, Point St. Charles, Mrs. Vautour, 32 years of age, was found murdered in her bed and her husband, who died later in the day in the Notre Dame Hospital, was found with a gash in the side of his face, his jaw broken and teeth knocked out.

The bed on which the murdered woman lay was saturated with blood, as also were the pillows of a bed in another room, where six children of the couple, ranging in age from 3 to 9 years, had been sleeping.

Captain Coleman of the Grand Trunk street police station is holding Alfred Michael, 46 years of age, a brother of the woman, in connection with the tragedy. The husband of the dead woman was also under guard of a policeman until he died.

Early today Theodore Vautour, 9 years of age, entered the Grand Trunk street police station and informed Lieut. Bellefleur that his mother was dead and his father badly injured. The child said that his mother was lying dead in bed with three wounds in her throat. Vautour was standing in the kitchen with a bloodstained towel wrapped around his face.

Dying Man's Statement. He was rushed to the hospital, and although barely able to speak, contrived to say that sometime during the night he received a heavy blow. When he regained consciousness he found his wife dead in bed beside him and his own face smashed open. He could not say who had committed the crime. A bottle containing brandy was found in the house, and Vautour admitted he had been drinking.

Theodore Vautour, the 9 year old son, told Captain Coleman that he was awakened about 2 o'clock in the morning by a man with a lighted lamp in his hand, who walked into the room occupied by himself and his brothers and sister. He said the man placed the lamp on the kitchen table and turned the light down low. Then he came back into their room and caught him by the throat and threatened to kill him, and he also caught hold of his brother Victor, 7 years younger, threatening him in the same manner. Theodore said he recognized the man as his uncle, Fred Michael, his mother's brother.

The boy told the story in the presence of his father while waiting for the ambulance. Captain Coleman asked the father if he had seen Michael during the night. Vautour said that he would not tell. He thought he did, but was not sure.

Boy's Story Puzzles Police. When his father had been taken to the hospital, Theodore told the police that when he saw his uncle in the house he had an ax and had used the ax to break open the door at the head of the stairway leading from the street. An examination of the door disclosed no sign of having been tampered with. The boy, although questioned closely, maintained that his story was correct. The police regard the case as one of the most mysterious with which they have had to deal in years.

ALMOST RIOT AT BRANTFORD

Several Thousand People Threatened an Attack on Police Station Following Arrests.

BRANTFORD, Feb. 23.—(Special.)—Following the arrests of two disorderly men here Saturday night, there was another near riot in which several thousand people gathered around the police station. Trouble was threatened, but the police persuaded the assembly to break up peacefully.

Wilson was first taken into custody, charged with creating a disturbance in the Glen Theatre. The second arrest was that of Harry Wilson, charged with being disorderly in Brewer's store.

Friends of Wilson called on the crowd to prevent the police from arresting him and disgraceful scenes were enacted during which the patrol wagon was shunted around the block and the police given a rough time. Both arrests were finally effected.

Wilson is charged with being a participant in the riot here prior to Christmas and was out on bail of \$3000 when arrested.

MILLER MAY NOW ANSWER QUERIES

State Prisoner Willing to Talk if Questions Are Altered Somewhat—Before Bar Today.

OTTAWA, Feb. 23.—(Can. Press.)—The case of R. C. Miller, the state prisoner, will quite probably come before the house again this week. Conferences were held on Saturday between Miller, his Montreal counsel, A. E. Harvey, K. C., and F. B. Proctor of Ottawa, who has been retained.

It is intended to approach the authorities of the house tomorrow with the suggestion that if the question is somewhat altered Miller may answer. The stand he takes is that in his dealings in the matter the public interest was not involved, and any expenditure of money in connection with the matter was made to a private individual whose engineering experience was requisitioned.

It is alleged that the party was a former employe of the government, who, at the time the contracts were entered into, had left the government service and who has since died.

PEACE WILL BE CONCLUDED BY FIRST WEEK IN MARCH

Secret Negotiations Between Turkey and the Allies May Conclude in Termination of Balkan War Before the Surrender of Adrianople, Which Is Threatened.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—(Can. Press.)—The correspondent at Belgrade of The Daily Mail says he learns from a reliable source that Turkey and the allies are secretly negotiating, and that peace is likely to be concluded by the first week in March.

An uncensored despatch from Constantinople to The Daily Mail says that the correspondent hears that Shukri Pasha, the military commander at Adrianople, has informed Scheffket Pasha, the grand vizier, that he will be unable to prolong the defence of Adrianople beyond another week, and that the grand vizier replied urging Shukri to hold out for three weeks, by which time he said he hoped peace would be concluded.

REV. C. T. COCKING PASSED AWAY SATURDAY

Missionary Son of Methodist Missionary Had Been in Failing Health For Six Years—Spent Many Years in Japan and Was Well Known in Canada.

The death occurred at the Wellesley Hospital on Saturday of Rev. C. T. Cocking of Toronto, in his 52nd year. He had been compelled to retire from active ministry in the Methodist Church about six years ago owing to ill-health, but was able to be up and out of doors until the beginning of the year. Three weeks ago he took a turn for the worse. He was removed to the hospital last week.

The Rev. Mr. Cocking had become widely known through the Methodist Church as the missionary son of a missionary. He was born in India in 1863. His father was Rev. C. Cocking, a missionary sent to India by the Methodist Church. He received his education in England and came to Canada in 1890, taking the position of pastor in the Methodist Church at Markham.

Went to Japan. In 1884 Rev. Mr. Cocking followed the example set him by his father and became a missionary. In that year he was sent to Japan under the auspices of the foreign mission board of the Methodist Church in Canada. He remained in Japan until 1890. The two main stations to which he was attached were Tokyo and Yokohama.

On his return to Canada, he served under the Toronto Methodist Conference in several northern churches, among which were Penetanguishene and others.

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LIBERALS WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT

Caucus Decided to Introduce Temperance Policy, to Demand More Protection in Factories, to Continue the Fight For Tax Reform and Check Combines' Growth.

It is just now beginning to be understood that the caucus of Liberal members of the legislature, held last Thursday, was an important meeting. It is said that four matters were definitely decided and the results of at least two of the decisions have already been apparent in the action of the opposition since Thursday. At the caucus, for example, it was decided to introduce immediately the temperance policy of last session. Mr. Rowell is going to move his abolition of the bar resolutions this afternoon.

Another more settled upon was to demand a modern up-to-date factory act for the protection of workers in shops and factories especially women and children. The opportunity came quickly, for on Friday afternoon the government asked for the second reading of its new Factories Act. Mr. Rowell objected that it was not sufficiently modern and tried to prevent the second reading.

For Tax Reform. In the third place the caucus decided to keep up a strenuous fight for tax reform all session. It is expected that a number of important proposals amending the Assessment Act will be submitted by the Liberals.

Finally it was determined to continue to fight against what the Liberals considered the government's protection of combines. In this connection it was pointed out quite clearly that the opposition of the Liberals is not so much a condemnation of the government's failure to go on with combining prosecution several years ago, as the fact that in their opinion the offence is continuous, going on year in and year out, and that the combines are still unchecked.

GRANT MADE TO POLAR EXPLORER

Stefansson Will Be Committed to Undertake Work Solely on Behalf of Canada.

OTTAWA, Feb. 23.—(Special.)—It was decided at the cabinet meeting yesterday to grant \$75,000 to Vilhjalmur Stefansson, the explorer, to assist his equipping an expedition to explore the north of Canada. This grant was made on condition that the American Geographical Society and the American Museum of Natural History released him, in order that any exploring he may do, will be done solely on behalf of Canada.

Stefansson expects to make a start early in the spring, and will be gone for about four years. If conditions are favorable he may attempt to make a dash to the pole, but his main object will be to compile geographical data of the far north. Stefansson, it will be remembered, was the man who discovered the blonde Eskimauk.

MADERO AND SUAREZ SHOT DEAD AT MIDNIGHT ON WAY TO PRISON PLOT OF GOVERNMENT SUSPECTED



EX-PRESIDENT MADERO

INTERVENTION IS LAST RESORT SAYS TAFT

Supporters of Popular Government Must Not Despair, Tho Outlook Is Discouraging One, President Declares at Peace Dinner—Gives Rebuff to Exploiters.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—(Can. Press.)—President Taft, guest of honor at a peace dinner tonight, at which a medal was presented to him in token of his services in the cause of universal peace, spoke frankly of conditions in Mexico as he viewed them and declared for the exercise of every possible effort in avoidance of intervention in the affairs of that republic.

The medal, given by the National Institute of Social Sciences at the dinner of the American Peace and Arbitration League, was presented by Joseph H. Choate, former ambassador to Great Britain.

"Mexico for two years," said Mr. Taft, in his address, "has presented a very sad picture to every lover of his kind, to every supporter of popular government, to every man hopeful of establishing peace under a stable government. But we must not despair. We must not, in a case like Mexico, for it differs from the Central American republics—take such action as we are moved by selfish purposes, or are urged to in opposition to us."

"We must avoid in every way that which is called intervention and use all the patience possible, with the prayers that some power may arise there to bring about peace through that great country. We have to take precautions, and these have been taken.

No Sympathy With Exploitation. "But I have no sympathy—none at all—and the charge of cowardice does not frighten me—with that which prompts us for purposes of exploitation and gain to invade another country and involve ourselves in a way, the extent of which we could not realize, and the sacrifice of thousands of lives and of millions of treasure—and then, when we have succeeded, what?"

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A CLEVER CLEAN PLAY. Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm is one of those bright, clean, wholesome comedies that appeal to all classes alike. The star, Edith Talford, is very clever and supported by a splendid company. It looks like a banner week at the Princess.

Comfort For Auto Show Week. The large, gaunties and coats for Automobile Show week. Opera and silk hats for the arena, fur caps and gaiters for driving and fur-lined coats best for the arena, and in the car. Every day's accessory for the Automobile Show at Dineen's and at prices which admit the lateness of the season. Men's fur-lined coats reduced by one-quarter their actual value and ladies' fur-lined coats reduced to half price. W. & D. Dineen Company, Limited, 140 Yonge street, corner Temperance street.

While Official Version is That Escorts Were Surprised by Band of Unknown Assassins Public Largely Discredits it—New Administrators Profess to Be Greatly Disturbed and Declare Full Investigation Will Be Held and Perpetrators Punished—Mexico City Receives News Quietly—Details Are Shrouded in Mystery

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 23.—(Can. Press.)—Francisco I. 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 the official accounts, which do not conform in all cases. The only witnesses were those actually concerned in the killing.

The provisional president, Gen. Victoriano Huerta, says that the killing of the two men 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 solemn promises have been made that the guilty will be punished.

DOUBT OFFICIAL VERSIONS. Not unnaturally a great part of the public regards the official versions 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."

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

Soon afterwards, 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 Suarez was also denied admittance to the mortuary, where physicians, in accordance with the law, were performing an autopsy.

SISTER HURTS ACCUSATIONS. 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 very excited and agitated in her emotions. By the side of the two women whose husbands had been killed, the girl buried accusations at the officers who barred the entrance.

"Cowards," "assassins," she called them, her voice pitched high. The officers stared impassively.

"You, the man who fired on a defenceless man, you and your superior officers are traitors."

No effort was made to remove the women, nor did the officers attempt to silence them.

BODIES WERE GUARDED. Senora Madero continued weeping, and the girl did not cease her hysterical tirade until the arrival of the Spanish minister and the Japanese charge, 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.

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 stated this afternoon that the American ambassador, Henry Lane Wilson, had interested himself and secured the promise of Minister De La Barra that the bodies should be delivered to their families for burial.

TRAGEDY DEEPLY DEPLORED SAYS DE LA BARRA IN NOTE HAD INTENDED FAIR TRIAL

HUERTA'S NAME DEEPLY STAINED

Statement Given to Foreign Diplomatic Representatives by Minister Lays Emphasis on New Administration's Wish to Comply Fully With Processes of Law.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 23.—(Can. Press.)—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 should be 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 taking the decision the government agreed to remove Madero and Suarez to the penitentiary, where they would have the necessary security, consideration and comforts."

Compliance With Law. "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 would be for the reasons aforesaid."

"That it was further expected that in the passage of time political passions would be subdued, resulting in the establishment of greater calmness and judgment through the republic."

"I desire to give all the facts of which I am cognizant connected with"



PRESTIDIGITATOR WHITNEY: And all these, you will observe, ladies and gents, I find artfully concealed in this lad's pockets.

6-cylinder Hudson... side Mr. Coffin...