

OBREGON PARTY FACES SPLIT OVER ASSASSINATION

Labor Leader Charged with Act

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MEXICO CITY.—A split is threatening in the civil forces of the federal government where a serious difference of opinion has arisen over the poorly named question of "direct action." The rumors to that effect took open form a few days ago when Vitto Alesio Robles, staunch government supporter, ex-minister of labor, and senator with socialistic tendencies, offered a motion to impeach Luis N. Morones, deputy and leader of the Laborista party, so that his dismissal from the chamber might deprive him of his parliamentary privilege of exemption from arrest. He might then be called to account for the murder of another senator for which Robles declared Morones responsible.

The break became more open when Jose Vasconcelos, minister of education in the cabinet, tendered his resignation by telegraph to President Obregon. He refused to make a statement, but it is well understood that the same question is involved.

The senator who was murdered outside the senate chambers a few days previously, was Field Jurado, Cooperatista. It is generally felt, that the assassination was political and his opponents charge Morones with the moral responsibility. They base their charge on a chain of circumstantial evidence beginning with the murder of Felipe Carrillo by the fascisti in Yucatan, followed by threats of vengeance on the part of Morones and other prominent labor leaders.

These threats gradually took the form of a punitive expedition to Yucatan on the one hand, and of using "direct action" against the senators and representatives who, altho partisans of the counter-revolution, remained in the national congress to block legislation and particularly to block the ratification of the claims convention between Mexico and the United States. These senators could not legally be touched because of their parliamentary exemption.

Leaders of the Mexican Federation of Labor gave notice publicly that if these friends of the counter-revolution did not cease their obstruction they would be made to. The federation leaders telegraphed to the president on the western front, asking him to furnish train facilities to the parliamentary fascisti so that they might go and join the counter-revolution, "where they belonged."

Senator Field Jurado then wrote a letter to Morones which is reported to declare that he would be in the senate on such a day and every day thereafter and that he would do his utmost to block the work of the government till de LaHuerta should become president of Mexico. He was there at the appointed hour and time and so was an automobile with armed men. When he left the senate house shots fired from the auto ended his life. The auto disappeared.

Immediately there was strong difference of opinion expressed on the matter. One faction of the civil government declared that such vengeance degraded the supporters of the government to the same level as the murderers of Felipe Carrillo. These included such men as Vasconcelos, Alesio Robles and others. The president from the battlefield issued a statement condemning the murder and requesting that every effort be made to apprehend and punish the responsible parties. Vasconcelos resigned when more than a week had passed and no arrests had been made. The text of his resignation is not yet public but I have reason to believe that it refers specifically to the murder of Senator Field and protests absolute loyalty to General Obregon.

Enemies of the growing domination of the Laborista party within the central government are working the opportunity for all it's worth trying to force the government to repudiate Morones.