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COOPER JURY IS COMPLETE.

Twenty Days Occupied in Selecting Men to Sit on Case, Four of Whom Cannot Read or Write and Two Others Have Vague Understanding of English Language.

Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 13.—Next Tuesday at 9 o'clock will begin the trial of Col. Duncan B. Cooper, Robin J. Cooper and John D. Sharp, charged with slaying former Senator E. W. Carmack.

After twenty days of wearisome jury drawing, this decision was suddenly and somewhat unexpectedly reached this morning.

The jury, with their ages and occupations, follows:

- * E. M. Burke, carpenter, age 47.
- * Robert McPherson, farmer, age 49.
- * G. A. Lane, farmer, age 52.
- * W. Adcock, farmer, age 28.
- * Casper Schnupp, farmer, age 41.
- * J. H. Vaughan, farmer, age 49.
- * S. M. Hyde, farmer, age 55.
- * Gus Knipfer, farmer, age 47.
- * F. O. Bierman, real estate, age 42.
- * J. A. Woodruff, farmer, age 55.
- * Jacob Frutiger, farmer, age 49.
- * William Hows, farmer, age 55.

When court adjourned yesterday the prosecution asked that the jury be not sworn until the State had a chance to investigate charges against two of the jurors. When court convened this morning Attorney General McCann made no reference to these charges, but simply said: "We are ready for the jury to be sworn, your honor."

The jury was then sworn. The State next asked several days in which to gather its witnesses. The court suggested that the taking of testimony begun at 9 a. m. Tuesday and counsel agreed. Then court adjourned until Tuesday.

Those who were sworn made those incompetent who had talked with a witness to the murder or talked with some one who had talked with the witness. On the application for bail the local papers printed stenographic reports of the testimony of witnesses. The Supreme court has held that a newspaper printing verbatim testimony becomes a witness who has talked to a witness.

Therefore every one in the county who had read the testimony became incompetent to sit in the case as a juror. This eliminated at once the most intelligent citizens of the county. As a result it was necessary to draw five venires of 500 names each and one of 519, a total of 3,019, before the jury was secured. Four of the jurors accepted can neither read nor write and two others understand English only indifferently. All except one of the twelve swore he had not read a newspaper since before the killing and some had not read one for ten years. Bierman, the only exception, had been out of the State from the week before the killing until the day he was summoned.

Hows, the last man chosen, was foreman of the jury in the famous Cox case. Cox was charged with the murder of a policeman. He was found guilty of murder in the first degree but the jury recommended mercy. Judge Hart refused to heed the recommendation and sentenced Cox to death. Cox had powerful friends and the night before he was to be executed, some one slipped poison into his cell with which he committed suicide. Judge Anderson, chief counsel for the defense in the case, also defended Cox. The fact that Anderson accepted Howe has created no little comment.

SWISS LOSING WATCH TRADE.

Output of Cases Alone Falls Off \$6,250,000 in Year.

Berne, Feb. 16.—It is reliably estimated that there has been a decline of \$6,250,000 in the value of watch cases manufactured in Switzerland during the past year. The decrease in other branches of the trade have been proportionately high, and it can no longer be doubted that a very grave crisis has to be faced. A "black year" was foreseen at the beginning of 1908, but the depression has exceeded the most pessimistic anticipations.

WIFE ASKS DIVORCE AT 75.

Charges Incompatibility After 30 Years of Married Life.

Winchester, Va., Feb. 11.—Alleging cruel treatment and incompatibility of temper, Mrs. Elizabeth Martin, of Nain, this county, who is more than 75 years old, today filed a bill in the Circuit Court for divorce against her husband James T. Martin, a farmer and former Confederate soldier.

The couple has been married over 30 years and lived amicably together until lately, when differences arose that led first to the Magistrate's Court and then to the Divorce Court. Judge Harrison has entered an order allowing counsel fees and temporary alimony. The case will come to trial at the next term.

KNOX'S TITLE MADE CLEAR.

Eligibility Bill Passes House But Only After a Furious Fight Against It.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15.—The bill designed to make Senator Knox eligible to the position of Secretary of State in the Taft Cabinet was passed by the House this afternoon, but under such circumstances, and in the face of such determined and militant opposition, that friends of the Senator are tonight very uncertain as to whether he will accept the post.

The bill was twice before the House today. The first time an effort was made to pass it under the suspension of the rules which prevailed today, but it failed to obtain the necessary two-thirds majority needed on suspension day.

An ordinary bill would have been marked dead right there, but in the interest of this bill Rules Committee held a hurried special meeting, made a new rule providing that the Knox bill should again be brought before the House and that if it received a majority vote it should be declared passed. This rule was put into effect and the bill was passed.

The whole fight is exceedingly embarrassing to Senator Knox, who accepted the position of Secretary of State in the first place with great reluctance, and the only consolation that his friends can find in the proceedings of today is that the fight was not a partisan one. The vote that finally passed the bill was 173 to 117, the majority being made up of 151 Republicans and 22 Democrats, and the minority of 99 Democrats and 18 Republicans.

PUT ON \$210,000,000 FINES.

Seven Negroes Each Ordered to Pay \$30,000,000, But Get Off for \$1.

Augusta, Ga., Feb. 13.—The sum of \$210,000,000 was assessed in fines here today, but the money is not yet in the City Treasury.

"I'll go Judge Landis one better and make the fine \$30,000,000," said Recorder Picquet in imposing sentence upon seven negroes convicted of violating the health ordinances in allowing garbage to accumulate on their premises. The fine was imposed upon each of the defendants.

Appreciating their inability to pay such fine, the negroes sank to the bench with groans and staring eyes. When the laughter which the Court's decision caused had subsided Recorder Picquet suspended sentences upon condition that each of the defendants deposit \$1 with the Clerk. The ordinance under which the sentence was imposed provides that the Court "may impose any fine he sees fit."

Judge Long and Pistol "Toter."

The other day Judge Long fined a negro \$20 for carrying a pistol. "All right," said the defendant, "I have it right here in my jeans." Whereupon his honor turned and said, "I'll give you six months on the roads. Have you got that in your jeans?" The negro was from New York, but he now registers from the county jail.—Statesville Mascot.

Macadam Road to Selma.

A bill has been prepared and will be presented to the Legislature to pass a law calling for an election in Smithfield and Selma townships to levy a tax and issue bonds to build a macadam road between Selma and Smithfield.

6,000 LOST IN EARTHQUAKE.

Sixty Persian Villages Wholly or Partly Destroyed by Shock of January 23.

Teheran, Persia, Feb. 17.—News was received here today showing that the violent earthquake recorded January 23 at almost every scientific observatory in the world where seismographs are installed, had its location in the province of Luristan, in western Persia. Sixty villages in this district where wholly or partly destroyed and the resultant loss of life is placed between 5,000 and 6,000.

This information was conveyed in belated reports to the government. The districts of Burujurd and Selahor in Luristan province were the center of the greatest violence and here the heaviest casualties occurred. Several villages are reported to have been completely engulfed. The destitute survivors are flocking into the town of Burujurd, whence appeals for assistance are now reaching the government.

The peasantry lost practically all their herds and it is estimated that from 10,000 to 12,000 head of cattle perished.

This is the first accurate location of the violent earthquake shock of January 23, it being supposed up to today that the disturbance had centered in western Asia, in Asiatic Russia, or even in the waters of the Indian ocean. The records showed that the tremors were practically of the same force as those which on December 28 converted the coast regions of Sicily and Calabria into a scene of desolation and ruin.

The province of Luristan is very mountainous and sparsely settled. It is about 300 miles southwest of Teheran, and the only communication with the Persian capital is by courier. The inhabitants are chiefly Bakhtyaris, an offshoot of the Iranian people.

Referring to the fact that North Carolina has abolished the fee system as State officials, the Norfolk Virginia-Pilot says: "This system is a cancerous sore upon the body politic, the weakening and corrupting effects of which extend to every department of the government. It makes for inefficiency in public office, adds to the cost of government, encourages political corruption and pollutes the administration of justice. The removal of this evil would mean a healthier condition of affairs in every respect—a more efficient government, a more economical government and a cleaner government."—News and Observer.

A Happy Marriage.

On Wednesday afternoon, February 10, at 4:30 o'clock, Miss Fannie Outland, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Outland, of Wayne county, became the bride of Mr. T. W. Wiggs, of near Pine Level. The marriage took place at the home of Mr. Walter Batten, at Micro. Quite a number were present to witness the interesting ceremony. After the ceremony was over, the wedding party drove to the home of Mrs. Wiggs, the mother of the groom, where a sumptuous supper awaited them. After supper the party was delightfully entertained with music furnished by Mr. Philip Wiggs. The bride is the beautiful and attractive daughter of Mr. J. T. Outland, of Wayne county, while the groom is a prosperous young farmer of Johnston county. We wish for them a long and happy life. A FRIEND.

Death of Mrs. J. D. Dodd.

Spring Hope, N. C., Feb. 12.—Mrs. J. D. Dodd, of this place, died yesterday morning after an illness extending over several weeks. The funeral services will be at Clayton, her former home, Saturday. Mrs. Dodd was 60 years of age, and was formerly Miss Evelyn Creech, of Johnston county. Mr. and Mrs. Dodd moved to Spring Hope eight years ago. Mrs. Dodd is survived by her husband and seven children—Dr. William E. Dodd of Chicago University; Rev. Walter H. Dodd, of Madison, Ga.; Messrs A. L. Dodd and John L. Dodd, of Spring Hope; Mrs. Mattie E. Jones, of Knightdale; Rev. E. David Dodd, of Vanceboro, and Mrs. Annie Griffin, of Spring Hope. She was a niece of Col. Ashley Horne.

CLAYTON TO HAVE WAREHOUSE.

Death of Ed. L. Jones.—Mrs. John D. Dodd Buried Sunday—Other Items of Interest.

Clayton, Feb. 17.—Mr. J. H. Wood, one of the best hunters of this section, killed a big wild turkey last Thursday, February 11, which weighed 18 pounds and had a beard 8 inches long. He remembered this correspondent very substantially in the shape of about 5 pounds of the turkey already dressed.

All the old buildings have been moved and Barbour street is open for travel. It's one of the best things that could have been done for the central portion of the town.

The American Auction and Realty Company will sell at auction, next Tuesday 75 choice building lots in West Clayton. The sale will begin at 1:30 and Penny Brothers, the twin auctioneers, will have charge.

Mr. Ed. L. Jones, who has been ill some time with tuberculosis, died at the home of his parents here last Friday and was buried on Saturday. The funeral was conducted from the residence by Rev. Mr. Starling, his pastor. His many friends here extend their sympathies to the bereaved relatives.

The Tobacco Warehouse promoters met at the mayor's office Tuesday night and arranged to effect a permanent organization next Tuesday night. Farmers in this section are already arranging for more tobacco.

Mr. Paul C. Duncan, who has charge of the Princeton plant of the Clayton Manufacturing Company, is spending a few days here.

Mrs. John D. Dodd, of Springhope, N. C., was buried here Sunday at the Horne burying ground. The funeral was conducted at the Baptist church by Rev. T. H. Thornton, the pastor. All of Mrs. Dodd's children except Dr. Wm. E. Dodd, of Chicago, were here.

Mr. N. J. Allen, one of our most progressive farmers, has originated a cotton seed which he has named "Allen's Multiplier" and which he claims is far in advance of anything in the cotton seed line shown about here. Mr. Allen has already sold several pecks of this seed at \$1.00 a peck. His many friends throughout the county will be glad to learn that Mr. Arthur Gulley is doing nicely and hopes to be at home in a very few days.

Death of Mr. Needham Branham.

Mr. Needham Branham, of near Clayton, died Tuesday morning, February 9th, at 11 o'clock. Mr. Branham was 85 years old. His health had been failing for some time, but was confined to his bed only five days. Nothing that could be done for him during this time produced the desired relief, and death ended his sufferings and released the tired spirit from the tenement of clay. He served in the Confederate army during the Civil war. He had been a member of the Missionary Baptist church for nine years. The remains were laid to rest in the cemetery of Mt. Moriah Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. He leaves a wife, two sons, one daughter and a host of grand children to mourn his loss. L. B.

DEAD OF ELEPHANTIASIS.

Former London Detective Expires in Virginia, Weighing 400 Pounds.

Winchester, Va., Feb. 16.—Weighing more than 400 pounds and his body so ponderous that he could no longer walk. John M. Cook, who was for 30 years a member of the police force of London, England, died today of elephantiasis at his home at Stephens City, this county. He was 85 years old, and had been living here for the past twenty years, drawing a pension from London.

Mr. Cook knew every nook and corner in the city of London, and at the time he was retired on a pension was one of the best known of the London detectives. His career as a detective was notable, and he was for years attached to Scotland Yard. His remains will be buried here.

Marble monuments, about 30 feet high, with suitable inscriptions, are to be erected by the Government to the Confederate soldiers buried in the cemeteries in Alton, Ill., and Indianapolis, Ind.

GIANT SIGNS FOR WIFE.

Advertises in Vain, for Stature Frightens Women.

Sayre, Pa., Feb. 14.—Oscar Kraus, of Richford, who was at one time Barnum's star giant, being six feet eleven and a half inches tall has been in Sayre for several days looking for a wife and has advertised in the local papers.

He has a good farm and a comfortable farmhouse at Richford and says his only handicap in the matrimonial race is his height.

A number of women have answered his advertisements, but all balked when they learned about his stature.

He now has almost given up hope, and says that if he does not soon get a wife he will consider his chances gone.

REMARRY AFTER 42 YEARS.

Old Soldier, Divorced Just After War, to Wed Former Bride.

Bangor, Feb. 14.—Among the intentions of marriage which have been recorded at the office of the city clerk of Augusta this week are those of Nelson L. Nourse, of the National House, at Augusta, and while apparently there is nothing unusual in the announcement, it really is the center of a strange romance. Mr. and Mrs. Nourse are both elderly people being on the shady side of seventy, and of the same age, and at one time were man and wife.

According to the story told at the office of the clerk, they were married in 1860. Mr. Nourse enlisted in the cause of the Union in the civil war. After the close of the war, in the year 1867, they decided that it would be better for them to part, and so they were divorced. That was 42 years ago, and now, in the sunset of their lives, they are to be reunited, and their friends will wish them years of happiness.

Die in Storm-Rent Church.

Learned, Miss, Feb. 14.—A storm from the northwest struck this place this afternoon with terrific force blowing down a negro church, killing Mrs. Dick Harris, a child of Maggie Bennett and injuring ten others.

Seventy-five persons were in the church at the time, and but for the arched ceiling all probably would have been killed.

SEA'S TOIL OF WRECK 75.

Increase in Estimate of Victims of the Penguin.

Wellington, N. Z., Feb. 15.—It is now believed that the death roll of the wrecked steamer Penguin will reach 75. Twenty-three bodies have not yet been recovered.

Rural Carriers Attention.

The second annual meeting of the Rural Letter Carriers of Johnston county will be held in Selma February 22, 1909, at 2 P. M. It is very necessary that every carrier in the county be present. Besides the electing of officers for the ensuing year there is other very important business that should be attended to. There is one or more adjoining counties that desire to unite with us. This should be brought before the Association and it is important that the members be present when this is up for consideration. I have had a few carriers to ask "what good in these meetings?" To such carriers I will say, if you are wholly satisfied with your present condition then these meetings to you seem worthless. But if you are not satisfied it is your duty to be up and doing. If you are not satisfied with the condition of the roads which you drive over daily, if you are not satisfied to continue hauling one or more packages besides your own mail, if you are not satisfied with your present salary then it is your duty to yourself and family and every carrier in the service to join your county association and attend these meetings. JAS. T. HOLMES, Pres. Benson, N. C.

The President urges Congress to require ocean going steamers carrying passengers to be equipped with wireless telegraphic apparatus.

FEAR THAT 180 ARE DEAD.

England Mining Town Scene of Fearful Disaster—Two Explosions Kills Many Outright and Closes Up Channels of Escape.

Newcastle, England, Feb. 16.—A terrible disaster occurred at West Stanley, a small mining town 12 miles distance in which, it is feared, 180 lives have been lost. There were two explosions at 4 o'clock this afternoon in the West Stanley colliery, which employs 400 men. Nearly 200 of the men were in the pit at the time, and up to a late hour tonight none of them had come to the surface, although rappings have been heard, and it is supposed that these are from some of the miners who escaped death from the explosion and the fire which followed it.

Almost immediately after the explosion flames burst through the shaft, scorching the workers at the pit head and blowing out the fencing and apparatus at the entrance to the mine. The flames spread rapidly and it is impossible for the rescuing party to descend into the workings. Thousands of anxious people gathered at the mouth of the pit, but for hours the fire burned furiously. At midnight it was still impossible to attempt a rescue and it will be many hours before the entrance is cleared. An explosion involving 12 lives occurred at the same colliery in 1882.

Two dispondent women hanged themselves, and a third shot herself to death at Chicago Saturday.

A Letter of Warning.

EDITOR HERALD:

We have a man in our section styling himself as Franklin A. Schelling, Eye Specialist. He came up here and got the confidence of the people by telling them that he had helped Dr. R. H. Lewis, of Raleigh, perform an operation and got \$50 for it. I was afraid he was a fake, so I wrote Dr. Lewis about him and I will give you Dr. Lewis's letter just as he wrote me. It is as follows: Mr. J. Willis Creech, R. F. D. No. 1, Benson, N. C. My dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 5th inst., just received, I beg to say I have never heard of Franklin A. Schelling, Eye Specialist, which means that he is a faker of unusual viciousness. His statement of having assisted me in an operation is an unmitigated falsehood. As a matter of fact you can set down all travelling opticians, coming from outside the State especially, as fakers. The way they swindle our people is simply outrageous. I had a patient in my office a few days ago with a pair of gold filled glasses of inferior quality worth at retail about \$2.50, for which she one of these travelling opticians \$14. If this man pretends to do anything else than sell glasses, that is prescribe medicine for the eyes or attempt to operate, he is violating the medical license law and I would advise that the best way to run him out of the county is to get the sheriff after him. The penalty for practicing medicine without a license is one hundred dollars. If he is not practicing medicine it would be well to see if he has paid for his license as a peddler or not. I am very glad you wrote me for the people ought to be protected against these frauds. Very truly yours, RICH. H. LEWIS.

Raleigh, N. C.

The above letter is the exact words of Dr. R. H. Lewis. This man says he and his father and an uncle of his have an optical parlor in Washington, D. C., and that they grind their own glasses to fit each person they may treat, but I learn from our jewelry man at Benson that he has sold him some glasses and that Schelling told him that he had bought some from Mr. T. C. Jordan at Smithfield. This has done considerable work in this community and the work he has done for us is not at all satisfactory. I feel like Dr. Lewis says, the people ought to be protected against these frauds and I take this method to warn the people of my county against such fellows. Very truly yours, J. WILLIS CREECH.

Eleven ships of the North German Lloyd and Hamburg-American lines are to be equipped with wireless.