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A SEMI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF WARRENTON AND WARREN COUNTY

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GET 20 YEARS STATE PRISON

Verdict In Hale-King Case Reached Thursday Night

The Trial Drew People From All Over The County.

No trial of recent years has brought such large crowds to the Warren Court House as did the trial of James A. Hale and his son Percy for the murder of Mrs. Sallie King, of River Township.

Picture a humble home by the wayside—a building once used as a public school house—; picture a mother with nine children, one an infant in arms; picture an old used cart way running through this old school house yard (now the home of the Kings) down through the woods and fields to the home of the Hales, just a short distance away, and you have the scene of the tragedy, upon the old Tarkill road in River Township.

Bad blood existed between the parties; a dog had been the cause of ill feeling; Percy Hale had slapped the face of one of the King children, for impudence to Mrs. Hale. Neighbors had tried to smooth over the troubles; the deceased and the prisoners denied bad feeling, but the elder Hale was "standing on his rights" to use the path across the yard of the Kings. Mrs. King objects to its use because the younger Hale would ride and drive recklessly through the yard and endangered the lives of her little brood. Threats to stop the path and prevent its use by the Hales were made, and counter threats if the path was stopped up that the "ball would be set a-rolling." This leads us to the tragedy.

On Thursday August 1st, Mr. T. D. King, the Road Commissioner of River Township was at the home of Mr. Ham King, the husband of deceased, for the purpose of getting a few posts to be used in Road work. While there he was asked by Mr. King if he could change the path through his yard to a location about twenty feet away on the edge of the yard. This permission was given. King then made the change in the path and cut a small black-jack down across the old path where the new one commenced, and placed a pole across the entrance to the old path at the yard.

Soon along comes Percy Hale and his young wife on their way to Littleton. Finding the tree across the path he removes it, drives through the yard, removes the pole at the exit of path into Tarkill road, and drives on to Littleton. There he finds his father (a Painter by trade, often working in Littleton) and informs him that the "Kings have stopped up the path." James Hale, the father, immediately goes to a Hardware store, where he had previously seen a revolver that struck his fancy and informed the merchant that he would try it and if it suited him he would keep it; he also bought ten cartridges of 32 calibre. The revolver and cartridges were placed in a container and wrapped and tied up. Hale Senior and Hale Junior immediately left for their old home, the elder Hale standing on the rear axle of the buggy; James A. Hale having placed the package (pistol and cartridges) in the rear compartment of the buggy.

In the mean time Mrs. Sallie Hale had observed the conduct of Percy Hale—that he had disregarded her effort and her husband's to close the path through their yard; that he had taken down the bar and removed the tree and refused to travel the new path (twelve steps longer than the old one) and she knew that trouble was brewing. Sitting in her yard with her baby in her lap, and her little nine-year-old daughter, Sarah, near her, she soon saw the Hales returning from Littleton. Placing her infant in the arms of the little girl she stepped into her home and emerged with a single barrel twelve gauge

shot gun. As the Hales approached the pole across the path she advanced and threatened to shoot them if they removed the pole and across her yard. The elder Hale advanced to the pole at one end and started to remove it; she again warned him. The younger Hale advanced to the other end of the pole and she turned to threaten him. In the mean time young Mrs. Hale sprang from the buggy, never looking back went on the path towards her home. While the attention of Mrs. King was drawn to young Hale, the elder Hale rushed in threw up the pole, grabbed the gun and the shot that ended the life of this mother of nine children rang out on the evening air, and her body crumpled and lay face foremost in the dirt of her own yard. The younger Hale called to the elder "bring along the gun," and driving off immediately left this humble mother ebbing away her life-blood along with God—for little Sarah had sped away to call help at the sound of the pistol.

If the Hales looked back; if they expressed concern at the shedding of human blood there was no evidence produced at the trial of such concern.

The doctor was phoned for, Chief Cullom of Littleton was quickly on the scene; but the slayers had passed on, and the mother, too, had gone to that bourne from which no traveller returns—in the flesh at least. Chief Cullom approached the home of the Hales and arrested James A. Hale, the father, who informed him "You have the wrong man—I did not do the killing. Percy shot her." "Where is Percy?" "I told him to go away until I could investigate the matter."

Chief Cullom examined the gun of Mrs. King which the Hales took away from the scene of the killing, and found it loaded. His testimony being that the shell had not been indented by "snapping." He was unshaken in this testimony. The shell produced at the trial had been indented. The gun and both revolvers (both of the Hales had revolvers) had been in possession of defendants or their Counsel since the murder.

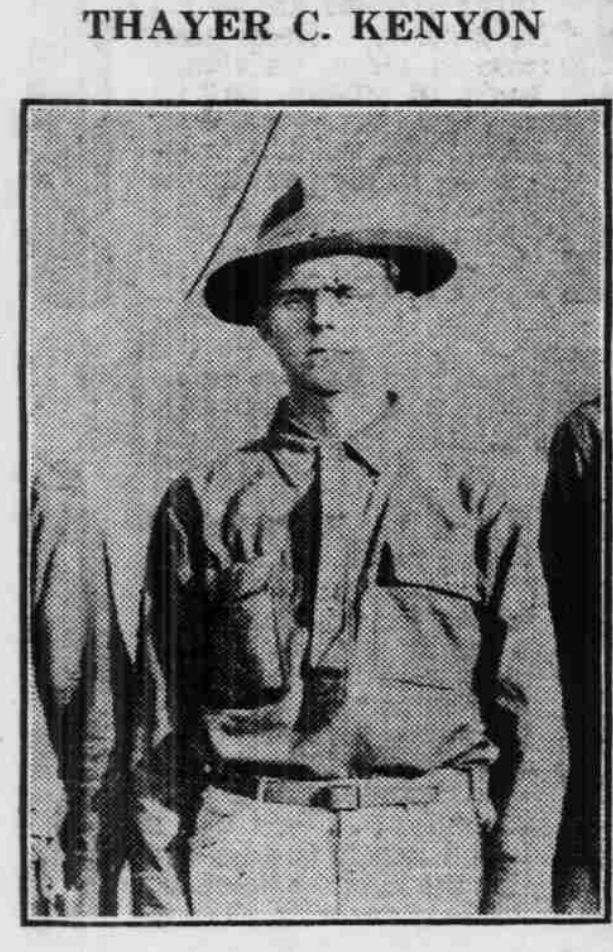
James Hale was brought to Warrenton and placed in Jail, and within twenty-four hours Percy Hale gave himself in custody and acknowledged that he did the killing. So much for the scenes and acts of that peaceful August day.

The defendants immediately procured able counsel in the person of Messrs. S. G. Daniel, Tasker Polk and T. T. Hicks, who appeared before His Honor Judge John H. Kerr and sued out a writ of habeas corpus. Judge Kerr denied the writ. Tuesday the Grand Jury found a True Bill for murder in the first degree. One hundred venire were summoned for Wednesday, the day set for trial.

The State was ably represented by its astute Solicitor, Mr. Garland Middleton, Mr. Walter Daniel, of Weldon, and Mr. John Picot. The following Jurors were procured by one o'clock and empanelled: J. E. Miles, S. W. Neal, Fate Weaver, L. N. Kimball, W. T. Duke, Geo. Hester, Arthur Peter, S. T. Alston, J. D. Moss, Peter Powell, W. O. Hester and J. M. Milby.

The case went to the Jury after able defense and prosecution, at about five o'clock Thursday evening, and the Jury returned its verdict of MURDER IN SECOND DEGREE about eight-thirty o'clock last night, being out about three and a half hours. Court had adjourned for the day, but Judge Kerr was notified, and the prisoners were brought from the jail, and standing in the presence of the Court and of the Jury received the verdict. They were remanded to Jail, after the usual motion of Counsel for Defense made in such cases, to await sentence.

At 12:30 p. m. today the prisoners appeared in open Court, and after earnest pleas by Counsel for minimum punishment, and a request by Counsel for the State that justice be done, His Honor, Judge Kerr sentenced J. A. Hale and Percy Hale to TWENTY YEARS hard labor in the State Penitentiary. Thereupon Mr. Hicks, Coun-



He hails from Macon, North Carolina, but is now a Sergeant in Co. H across the Big Pond. He has been up against the Hun and came thru with his organization in a creditable manner. Friends on this side are many and good wishes attend him in his efforts to make the world safe for the rights of the individual and the advancement of civilization.



Big, healthy, strong, and of pleasant manner Harry Kenyon has many friends over Warren. He, too, hails from Macon, a brother of Thayer Kenyon. He has been in service several months, going to Camp Jackson thru the Warren County Local Board. He will do his duty with a smile for America and what he'll do for Germany, oh, well, ask the Kaiser?

sel for Defense, gave notice of appeal to the Supreme Court. Pending said appeal bond was fixed at Five Thousand dollars each, and the prisoners were remanded to the custody of the Sheriff. Of course, this appeal is a stay of sentence, until the matter can be heard by the Supreme Court.

This ended a trial which has been closely attended by a packed Court room. Many ladies were present to hear arguments of the Counsel. The defendants cannot complain of lack of astuteness, diligence or ability on the part of their counsel. All that could be done in their behalf was done. No step was left untaken that would lessen punishment or procure a verdict of "not guilty." The plea of self-defense was ably presented, but an impartial jury of unusual intelligence could not get from the evidence a less degree of punishment than second degree murder. The fact that the prisoners were armed; that they expected trouble; that they were prepared for it, and that they had made up their minds to go through the yard of Mrs. King at all hazards, the damaging fact that the elder Hale bought a pistol (or rather got the use of one on trial) just a short time before the killing and left immediately for the scene of the tragedy; that he "wrung" the gun from the hands of the deceased before she received, or, at least, just as she received the mortal wound; the fact that young Hale had been carrying a pistol for a long period; the admission by Percy Hale that he fired the shot that killed Mrs. King and the testimony of little Sarah Jane King, unshaken by cross examination, that "Jim Hale grabbed the gun and shot Mama," made a plea of self-defense rather hard to substantiate.

The tragedy is deplored by every one. Mr. James Hale proved to be by the testimony of creditable witnesses, a hard working, peaceable man—a man of good character as that term is understood in the Court room. The deed was consummated; the mother is dead; the children have lost that greatest earthly blessing—the care of a good mother. The Hales must suffer for their rash deed, they must suffer in mind, in body and in estate. Young Mrs. Percy Hale must tread alone Life's pathway for years, and sorrow is brought to friends and loved ones of both the King and Hale-families.

Canteen At Norlina

The ladies of the Norlina Canteen have served to passing Troop trains between August 3rd and September 15th the following: 13,955 cookies, 3,785 apples, 1,660 cantaloupes, 2,120 sticks of candy, 1,425 sticks of chewing gum, 7,725 post cards, 10,050 cigarettes, 535 gallons coffee, 2,642 lunches, 700 tomatoes, 10 gal ice water, 22 gallons coffee. Any donation of any kind from anyone in the County will be appreciated. H. C. FLEMING, Vice-Chairman.

Must Back Our Boys.

Raleigh, Sept 23rd—"If the people at home give our armies and our Allies the backing they deserve we will win the war in 1919," today declared Henry A. Page, State Food Administrator, upon his return from Washington where he attended a conference of all State Food Administrators with Mr. Herbert Hoover and his staff. "If the war is not won next year several years may be required, and a dreadful sacrifice of American soldiers will be called for. The opinion is frankly expressed at Washington that failure to win the war during the campaign of 1919 will cost not less than one million of American soldiers, above the tens of thousands that we must inevitably lose in next year's fighting."

There is no question about the part the soldiers are going to play. They are under orders, and they are keen for the fray. If the people at home are to do their part, however and give the soldiers a fair chance to win in 1919, they must strip to the bone, consider the war as their most important business individually, and be guided in every action by the influence of such action upon the winning of the war. Our people have not yet realized what real war strain is. Before we can win, we must taste of real sacrifice, and the quicker we reach that point, the greater the number of lives of our fighting men will be preserved.

"The task of the American people in the matter of foodstuffs is gigantic and were it not for the magnificent accomplishment of our people, already, we would not dare hope to attain what is expected of us. During the present fiscal year we must export to our Allies 15,000,000 tons of foodstuffs against the 10,000,000 tons which we exported last year; and in addition to this, we must lay up a reserve of wheat and other products sufficient to insure us against disaster which might result from short crops next year."

Greater Economy Necessary "Our campaign for conservation this year will not have the spectacular features of 'meatless' and 'wheatless' days and meals which were necessary last year. Our food products are well distributed and well balanced. What we need, and what we must have, is greater production and greater economy in the use of foodstuffs. In fact, we get right down to the point where we must follow the Food Administration's motto of 'Buy less; eat less; waste nothing,' while the producer must add to this 'produce more.'"

Rev. C. N. RIGGAN CLOSES SUCCESSFUL MEETING HERE Rev. C. N. Riggan, of Mountain View closed a successful series of meetings here at the North Warrenton Baptist church Sunday night. Good music, forceful, earnest preaching resulted in twenty-five conversions and exert much influence for the spread of the Kingdom. The meeting were well attended.

SMASH INTO GERMAN LINE

Advance On Two Mile Front On River Scarpe

London, Sept 22nd—British cavalry units operating between the Jordan and the Mediterranean, in Palestine, have advanced some sixty miles from their original positions and have occupied the Biblical renowned town of Nazareth and Afule and Beisan, according to a British war office announcement today.

General Allenby's troops have surrounded part of the Ottoman army and are collecting the disorganized masses of men and transports arriving from the south. So far 8,000 prisoners and 100 guns have been counted.

18,000 Turkish Prisoners London, Sept 22—British troops in their drive north through Palestine already have counted 18,000 Turkish prisoners and have collected 120 guns and four airplanes, according to an official statement given out this evening by the British war office.

"By 9 o'clock on Saturday night on our left wing the infantry about 40 miles had reached the line Beit-Leian-Samaria Beitar shepharding the enemy on the west of the Jerusalem-Nabulus road into the arms of our cavalry operating southward from Jenin Eeisan.

"Other enemy columns, vainly attempted to escape into the Jordan valley in the direction of Jisr-Ed-Dameer which still is held by us. These columns suffered severely from our aircraft which constantly harassed them with bombs and machine gun fire from low altitudes.

"In the vicinity of Lake Tiberius our cavalry detachments hold Nazareth and the rail and road passages over the Jordan at Jisr-Ed-Dameer.

"Already 18,500 prisoners have been captured and 120 guns collected."

Airplane Supremacy On the British air supremacy was so complete that not one German machine was able to show itself British aviators harassed the enemy by a series of bombing raids, while camps, troops and transports were effectively machine gunned by low flying planes.

The German airdomes at the same time were dominated by British machines which dropped bombs on any enemy plan that attempted to rise. The airmen also assisted the infantry to advance by means of smoke screens and night fliers bombed the Turkish army headquarters effectively.

Ottoman Forces Annihilated This means the virtual annihilation of the Ottoman forces in this region. The British losses were surprisingly slight, considering the importance of the advance.

Serbian Advance In Macedonia Washington, Sept 22—Serbian troops pressing the Bulgarian and Germans in Central Macedonia advanced more than 20 kilometres Friday and are now within four miles of the Uskub-Saloniki railroad, the main artery for the supply of the Austro-German and Bulgarian forces opposing the French armies on the Serbian general headquarters at Saloniki received today by the Serbian legation said the Serbians captured sixteen villages and twelve guns and now are several kilometres to the north of the village of Kavadar. Fresh Bulgarian and German troops are arriving.

Cutting of the Uskub-Saloniki railroad it was said here officially today, will force the retirement of the enemy left wing, and cause a general readjustment of the enemy lines in the entire section.

Italy Joins In Offensive Rome, Sept 22—In conjunction with the general entente allied offensive against the Teuton and Bulgarian forces in Macedonia, Italian troops yesterday began a vigorous advance in the bend of the river Cerna, to the east of Monastir. The official statement issued today by the Italian war office says that the front enemy positions were captured.

issued today English troops, near Gavrelle, north of the river Scarpe, advanced on a two-mile front. East of Epehy the British captured several organized points of resistance.

This morning the Germans attacked the British positions northwest of La Bassee in Flanders. Fighting is still in progress.

Text of Statement "Durig the night our troops east of Epehy (between Cambrai and St. Quentin) renewed their attack and again made progress, capturing Little Priel farm and their organized point of resistance. A number of prisoners have been taken by us in our operations yesterday and last night in this sector.

"South of Villers-Guislain a local attack made by the enemy last evening was repulsed after sharp fighting. In the course of the night our troops advanced their lines in this sector and captured several prisoners.

"Yesterday afternoon the enemy again attacked at Moeuvres and was repulsed. There also our troops have improved their positions and have taken a few prisoners.

"A hostile raiding party was driven off last night west of Acheville. "This morning the enemy delivered a local attack against our new positions northwest of LaBassee. Fighting still is taking place in this locality.

Farmers Who Aided

The Red Cross work is receiving material aid from all sections of the Tobacco Belt this fall. The resolution of the United States Tobacco Association to ask every farmer to give some tobacco from each load sold will mean thousand of pounds of the weed donated for the work of a Mother heart.

The requests to the farmers of Warren meets a response whenever the urgency of the need becomes apparent. In this great cause of aiding the suffering the following last week donated tobacco:

- Robert Robinson, R. E. Shearin, Emma Strong, W. C. Brown, Henry Alston, C. W. Brown, Jeon Harris, J. M. Aycock, J. V. Shearin, Jerry Bell, Jr., C. T. Thornton, J. R. Shearin, Graham Daniel, Charlie Young, Ayscue & Williams, W. M. White, Edward Harper, T. M. Aycock, G. S. Hedgepeth, G. L. Aycock, Mc Henderson, Geo Marrow, Ed Davis, W. A. Yancey, I. S. Ingram, John Davis, Adam Alston, Howard Overby, E. P. Vaughan, Plummer Williams, R. S. Shaw, W. B. Williams, W. S. Faucette, Aycock & Person, Alex Hicks, Eddie Towns, Peter Allen, Alston & Jackson, Jim Perkinson, L. L. Fuller, R. R. Radford, Charlie Myrick, W. H. Tharrington, R. L. Jeremigan, H. T. Kearnington, McKinley Price, C. B. Overby, Harry Perry, C. C. Burgess, M. E. Bolton, Ed Williams T. A. Tackett, Branch Williams, S. T. Thorne, King Pinnell, John Collins, G. R. Davis, Gus Miller, Joseph Small, H. R. Russell, T. R. Riggan, W. G. Rodgers, S. W. Alston, Adcock & Green, J. W. Adcock, W. T. Green, W. H. Aycock, J. T. Lassiter, H. W. Fowler, Walter Davis, A. L. Weaver, Henry Green, James Dent, Sol Aycock, Alfred Boyd, Lillian Painter, C. A. Allen, Jerry Bell, W. M. Stallings, W. L. Felts, W. A. Myrick, J. W. Smithwick, John Hawkins, H. P. Reams, George Robinson, L. B. Bowden, J. S. Spruill, G. E. Talley, William Jones, Jim Brown, Paul Alston, Samuel Drake, Mac Alston, June K. Alston, Nannie Shaw, W. J. James, Tarwater & Howard, Jim Williams, Williams & Adcock, Daniel & Davis, Eugene Hudgins, W. E. Alston, John Edwards, Kearney and Clements, Willie H Walker, James Algood, Lucy Jones, Ernest Kittrells, Jimmie Jiggetts, J. A. Ingram.