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## MURDERED IN COLD BLOOD.

Frank Langley, a Young White Man, Killed a Princeton Saturday Night And His Body Then Placed on Railroad Track. To Cover up Horrible Deed, Five Men Arrested And Jailed. Albert Pearce Charged with The Killing.

One of the most horrible murders ever committed in this county came to light last Sunday when the body of Frank Langley, of Princeton, was found on Saturday night lying along side the railroad track about three quarters of a mile from Princeton with his head and left arm completely severed from his body, it having just been run over by the train. The facts surrounding the horrible crime and the circumstances attending it are as follows: Saturday night on their way home George Davis and Charlie Braswell had just reached a long cut on the railroad when the eight-thirty train passed going to Goldsboro. As soon as the train had passed they continued their walk down the railroad and having gone only a short way they came across the body of a man lying by the track and knew from his condition that the train that had just passed had run over him. They then went back to Princeton and told what they had seen. A crowd immediately went to the scene. A gun shot having been heard earlier in the night in the direction of John E. Pearce's home, which lies between the main business part of the town and the place where the body was found, a suspicion of foul play was at once created, and Mr. Ledbetter telephoned to Dr. R. P. Noble, the county coroner, to come down and hold an inquest. Dr. Noble gave instructions for the care of the body until he could arrive the next morning. On reaching Princeton the next morning he summoned a jury who looked into the matter and succeeded in bringing out the following facts. About three-quarters of an hour by sun so stated Mr. W. F. Young, a "near-beer" dealer of Princeton, Frank Langley was at his store, and left to go after some whiskey for Bithan Willoughby. About one half an hour later he heard a shot in the direction of John E. Pearce's. A negro by the name of Guilford Cogdell told of being at the Pearce home on Saturday night. That he was at the back door knocking at the door, when Troy Pearce came around the corner of the house, turned and started back, then stooped down and picked up something from under the corner of the house. He then went around in front of the house and a moment later he heard some one say, "There you have killed Frank". He said that he then left and went to Melvina Smith's. That soon Albert and Troy Pearce and Len Sauls came by and asked him to go with them to help carry Frank Langley away but he told them he could not go. This testimony of Cogdell was corroborated by Jule Richardson who stated that he saw Albert and Troy Pearce going in the direction of John E. Pearce's and that soon thereafter he heard a gun fire in that direction. That Cogdell came to him and told him about being at the house at the time of the shot was fired and of what took place. Another witness was Andrew Pearce who stated that he was at the back door with Cogdell when the gun was fired. That he did not know who fired the gun, but that immediately after the gun was fired he heard Mrs. Pearce say, "Albert has killed Frank Langley." He also stated that Albert Pearce had asked him to help take Frank away, and that Len Sauls had told him that if he ever mentioned the killing he would kill him.

Dr. Noble with the assistance of Dr. Woodard, of Princeton, performed an autopsy upon the body and found a gun shot wound in the breast which had severed the aorta from which death resulted instantly. They picked 12 No. 4 shot from the wound. The jury returned the following verdict: We the jury in the inquest over the dead body of Frank Langley have thoroughly examined the body, and the place of the killing, and after hearing the evidence in the case do give as our verdict that the deceased Frank Langley came to his death from a wound in the left breast, severing the left aorta, said wound being made by a gun shot fired from the hands of one Albert Pearce; that Troy Pearce and Len J. Sauls are accessories to the crime. We recommend that John E. Pearce and Andrew Pearce, alias Walker be held under a \$500.00 justified bond each for their appearances at the next term of the Superior Court.—Signed, W. M. Rose, John H. Edwards, Ed A. Holt, E. G. Edwards, H. Langley, L. D. Grantham.

When the coroner visited the Pearce home he noticed that there had been scouring on the porch where the witnesses said the killing took place, and a few splashes of blood on the posts which had failed to scour off. Dr. Noble asked Mrs. Pearce what was the cause of the blood being there, and she told him that she had fish for supper the night before, and that the blood spattered there when she was cleaning them. When he asked Mr. Pearce the cause of the scouring he was told by Pearce that he (Pearce) had been sick the night before and had vomited there, and that he had scoured it up.

There can be no doubt but that the horrible crime was committed just as told by the witnesses and that the body was placed on the track in hopes of covering the crime and concealing the guilty parties. But murder will out. The position in which the body was placed caused the train when it struck to cut off only the head and left arm instead of mangling the body all over, and as soon as the clothing was removed the gun shot wound in the breast was fully revealed.

## ANOTHER ACCOUNT

Princeton, N. C., Jan. 22.—A most brutal murder was committed here on the 22nd between five and six o'clock P. M.

John E. Pearce, a noted moonshiner, blockader, and of late, a blind tiger proprietor, lives near the corporate limits of the town, less than 150 feet of the Free Will Baptist church. His family, consisting of himself, wife and two boys, Albert and Troy, both grown. Not one of the family knows a letter, all illiterate. That is the place where Frank Langley met his doom in broad open daylight, by a gun in the hands of Albert Pearce.

Frank Langley was about 22 years old and was a smart fellow to work; his greatest failing was whiskey; no harm in him and he was well thought of. We all regret the sad occurrence.

From what we can learn, it appears that Frank went there at the above time and bought a pint of whiskey and started to leave without paying for same, when Albert snatched up a gun and got in front of him and fired, the whole load entering his body just above the heart. They then hid the body until near time for the eight o'clock train. Then taking it on a one-horse wagon they carried it to Big Hill Cut, one mile from town. There they placed the body with head on one side of track and body on the other, being careful to place same on fireman's side. The train passed in a few minutes, severing head from body.

Mr. George Davis and Charley Braswell, passing by right after the train, saw the body, and coming on to Princeton, notified the coroner, Dr. R. P. Noble, who came down Sunday morning and empaneled the following jury of inquest: Wm. Rose, J. H. Edwards, Ed. A. Holt, Z. G. Edwards, L. D. Grantham Henry Langley. After they had fully investigated the matter they committed the following parties to jail without bond: Albert Pearce, Troy Pearce, John E. Pearce, Len J. Sauls and Andrew Pearce, alias Walker.

## Policeman Shot From Ambush.

Wilson, Jan. 24.—Last night about nine o'clock Cornell Pearson, a policeman of Black Creek, this county while returning from visit to friends in the country, was shot from ambush while passing through some woods, and was seriously injured. Nearly 100 shots took effect in his body. Parties hearing the gunshot came up and carried Mr. Pearson to town, where he was given medical attention. Pearson thinks he knows the identity of his would be murderer, as threats have been made against him. Arrests are expected.

The Methodists at Morven are to have a new \$10,000 church building in the near future.

## HORRIBLE RAILROAD DISASTER.

Train Leaps Into Stream, Carrying Death and Dismay to many. The Bitter Cold Weather Added to the Horror of The Scene. Fifty May be Dead While Hospitals Are Filled With The Injured.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Jan. 21.—Though it is impossible to secure names of the dead and injured and details of the Canadian Pacific wreck reported on the "Soo" branch of that line near Espanola this afternoon, it is asserted here that forty-eight lives were lost and ninety-two passengers injured.

According to reports the rear portion of a westbound train was derailed by a broken rail on the bridge over the Spanish river. A first class coach and dining car were submerged, it is said, in the stream. All of the killed are thought to have been in these cars.

A special relief train with a submarine diver aboard left the Soo at 9 o'clock tonight for the scene of the wreck. Until the diver reaches the submerged cars, none of the bodies of the dead can be rescued, nor the names of the victims secured. A portion of the injured were transferred on a special train to Sudbury, where they are being cared for. Espanola, the scene of the accident, is 140 miles east of Soo.

Sudbury, Ont., Jan. 22.—With three big dryloads of rough boxes waiting to receive the bodies of upwards of two score victims, the scene of yesterday's Canadian Pacific wreck at Spanish river presented today almost a hopeless field of labor for the hundred or more men sent to clear away the wreck and recover the victims' bodies. A blizzard raged all day down the valley of the Spanish river with a blinding snow and bitter cold.

Two of the wrecked cars, the colonist car and the first-class coach, whose ventilators were visible above the water this morning drifted under the bridge during the day and finally were completely submerged. The dining car remained partly on the river bank and partly submerged in the river. Little remains of the second-class coach which was split in two when it struck the bridge girders and took fire. Ice that will bear a man's weight has closed over the first-class coach and the colonist car and it is impossible to determine their exact location.

More than thirty injured were taken to the general hospital and the hotels of Sudbury.

The numbers of bodies lying in the submerged cars may not be known for many days. Among the passengers unaccounted for are Rev. Mr. Childerhouse, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., and Auditor Robertson of the Canadian Pacific railroad.

The wreck occurred on a 200-foot steel bridge with overhead girders and a thirty-foot embankment sloping down to Spanish river underneath. The engine, combination mail and baggage car and express car had passed safely upon the bridge when the forward trucks of the second-class coach jumped the track. The car struck an immense steel girder with such terrific force as to snap the girder in two and split the car as though it had been divided with a cleaver. The rear of the second-class coach swerved far out to one side, pulling the colonist car, first-class coach and diner off the bridge into the river and tipping over the Pullman beside the track. Fire that broke out at once in that portion of the second-class which remained on the right of way added to the horror of the accident.

## QUADRUPLETS MAKE UP DOZEN.

Two Sets of Triplets and One of Twins Preceded Them.

Los Angeles, Jan. 22.—A mixed quartette of babies, two girls and two boys, arrived early to-day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wilson in this city, making 12 children to this couple in nine years.

The Wilsons were married 25 years ago. Two sets of triplets and of twins have previously been born to the couple.

Last week the entire ginney and fifteen bales of cotton and a large quantity of cotton seed belonging to Nell Alford at Floral College was destroyed by fire, which started from a hot box on an engine. There was no insurance. The loss is \$5,000.

## BIGGEST YEAR FOR CATTLE

Increase in Value Over half A Billion During 1909.

Chicago, Jan. 22.—In connection with the high prices for beef, the Orange Judd Farmer makes the statement that 1909 was the most prosperous year ever known in the live stock industry, as shown by the annual census review of farm stock.

"The total value of all classes of live stock in the country of January 1, 1910, was \$4,880,068,000," says the periodical. "The increase during 1909 was the greatest ever recorded in 12 months, amounting to \$569,000,000."

"There is an increase in the numbers of all classes of animals except beef cattle and hogs, showing an increase in numbers and a heavy advance in average values per head at the same time. Cattle, other than milch cows, total 48,780,000, head worth on an average \$20.76 each. The number of sheep is increasing rapidly, and now stands 54,726,000, worth \$4.97 each. Hogs showed a marked decline in numbers, reaching only 44,966,000, but the price per head, \$9.15, is the highest on record. "With the exception of beef cattle, every class of animals showed the highest average price ever recorded."

## HALLEY'S COMET OUTRIVALED.

Drake's Which is Visible by Day, Excites Intense Interest.

London, Jan. 22.—Many European astronomers have had an opportunity of observing the new daylight comet whose appearance was first reported from South Africa as an object visible to the naked eye.

It easily outrivals Halley's comet in popular interest, and since Sir Robert Ball announced that it had been seen from the Cambridge Observatory in the neighborhood of Venus, it has been eagerly scanned each evening by thousands of British eyes. No comet of the magnitude of Drake's comet, as 'the new arrival is called, has been since 1872, and as it was observed at Cambridge the brightness of its nucleus was equal to that of the planet Mercury, and the tail, estimated to be two degrees long, is equivalent in sky measure to four times the breadth of the moon.

Drake's comet has no connection with Halley's, nor is it, like the great comet of 1872, a member of that family of comets which almost graze the sun's surface at the time of their nearest approach to it.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS, \$400,000.

Pittsburg Pledges So Much for 1910 At Layman's Missionary Rally.

Pittsburg, Jan. 23.—At the closing rally to-day of the Layman's Missionary campaign a resolution was adopted increasing Pittsburg to foreign mission work from the \$194,000 of last year to \$400,000 for 1910, and it was announced that \$350,000 of the desired amount had already been pledged by the various denominations. The United Presbyterians guarantee \$107,000 of the amount.

George Sherwood Eddy, a missionary from India, the principal speaker to-day, said that \$3,000,000 more was spent last year for chewing gum in America than for foreign missionary work. A. E. Marling of New York brought out the fact that Pittsburg laymen were 10 cents behind New Yorkers in last year's per capita contribution for foreign missions. New York men gave \$1.23 each, while in Pittsburg the rate was \$1.13.

## Died At Age of 116 Years.

Patagonia, Ariz., Jan. 24.—Mrs. Juana Corona, said to be the oldest person in Arizona, died here yesterday at the age of 116 years. Her youngest surviving child is 60 years old. Mrs. Corona was born in Sonora, Mex., October 21, 1794. She had been married three times.

Within less than 15 minutes of each other, James medlin and his wife, Mrs. Sarah Medlin, of Mecklenburg, died last week. The husband was 70 years old and the wife about five years his junior. They were apparently in perfect health last Wednesday, the sudden death of the man being followed on its announcement by that of the wife.

## STATE NEWS.

The progressive town of Wilson is to have street cars in the near future.

It is stated that the last State Fair at Raleigh made a profit of \$5,000.

The Methodists of Weldon are planning to build in the near future a \$13,000 church.

Halifax county is having a new court house built. When finished it will be a work of art.

The township of Randleman, Randolph county, has voted \$50,000 of bonds for good roads.

A woman blind tiger, of Albemarle, was given a sentence of twelve months in jail last week.

E. M. Beery, a wellknown insurance man of Wilmington, was accidentally, but not seriously, shot while kunning on the Wrightsville turnpike last week.

S. S. Dunlop, of Wadesboro, became critically ill one day last week from taking a tablet of bichloride of mercury, which he did not know was poison.

Fire of an unknown origin destroyed several business houses in Asheboro, last Friday. The loss was estimated at \$10,000 with only \$3,000 insured.

The enrollment of the State University for the present session is the largest in the history of the institution, there being 820 students registered.

The enrollment of the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Raleigh now reaches 530. This is the largest number of students ever admitted in one year.

Rev. Braxton Craig, pastor of the Baptist churches at Mount Olive and Warsaw, has been called to the pastorate of the church at Monroe, N. C., and has accepted the call.

Bernice Mangum, a boy of 11 years, died at Durham Monday morning of hydrophobia, the result of a dog bite two months ago. He was taken to the hospital for treatment Saturday.

Rev. J. W. Ham, pastor of the Baptist Tabernacle of New Berne, has accepted a call to become assistant pastor of the Tabernacle of Atlanta, of which Rev. Dr. Broughton is pastor.

The Southeastern Division of the Association of County Superintendents, which comprises 20 counties with 31 public high schools, will meet in annual session at Goldsboro February 3rd.

As a result of the laymen's convention last week in Greensboro, Mrs. A. C. McAllister, of Ashboro, it is said, will support a missionary as a memorial to her son, John Worth McAllister, who died last year.

The bodies of Mrs. J. A. Mullis and her three weeks old infant, were roasted to a crisp, last Friday at their home near Lincolnton. Being subject to fainting spells, it is thought Mrs. Mullis fainted and fell into the fire.

The architect's plans for the Trinity College building, known as the West Wing of the new administration building, which is to cost \$50,000 or more, are out. As soon as the suitable bid has been made on the work, the contract will be let.

Trains are now being run over the bridge which has been completed across Albemarle Sound, on the Norfolk and Southern railway. The bridge is about five and one-third miles long, cost nearly \$1,000,000 and was a year in building.

A very desirable site in Statuary Hall in the Capitol at Washington has been secured for the statue of Zeb Vance which North Carolina will place there next January. It will have a place by the images of Robt. E. Lee and George Washington.

W. S. Dunn, of Roberdel, while sawing wood with a saw run by a gasoline engine, one day last week, met with a fatal accident. The saw, having become loosened, hit Mr. Dunn, tearing one side open. He had recently moved to Roberdel from Duke.

Seemingly in good health with the exception of a bad cold of which he complained, Capt. Henry Wood Clark dropped dead in the cotton exchange of Charlotte Sunday morning about 10:15 o'clock. He had entered the exchange and just sat down when suddenly his head was seen to drop forward. Friends carried him into a rear room and placed him on a bed, but he expired within a few minutes.

## BANKER WALSH IN PRISON.

Begins A Five-Year Term at Leavenworth. He Meets 29 Bankers Who Arrived Ahead of Him. He is The Oldest Man in the Prison.

The following from Leavenworth, Kansas, tells of the beginning of the prison life of Chicago ex-banker and millionaire, who arrived at the United States Penitentiary last week to serve a five-year sentence:

John R. Walsh the ex-Chicago banker, was brought to the federal penitentiary at noon today to serve his five-year term. He was accompanied by his son, two sons-in-law and an attorney, aside from government officials.

Walsh seemed feeble and was assisted up the steps to the penitentiary sally porte by Dr. L. B. Baldwin, his son-in-law, whose request to be allowed to remain with Walsh two days was granted. Walsh's prison number is 6861. He will be dressed in a prison gray suit. Only escapees and bad actors wear stripes here.

Walsh is the oldest prisoner in the penitentiary and he is to have an indoor position as reading clerk in the bureau of criminal records and identification. It will be his duty to read the newspapers from all parts of the country and cut out everything relating to crime and criminals and paste the clippings in a book. This is an easy assignment, always given to an old prisoner of intelligence.

Notwithstanding there are twenty-nine bankers in the colony ahead of Walsh, his arrival set the penitentiary on edge. He arrived exactly at 12 as the officers had to give sharp commands of "eyes front" to prevent the convicts from staring at the old man. Talking is permitted at this penitentiary and Walsh can exchange reminiscences with Bigelow, Broderick, Montgomery and other noted banker prisoners next Sunday, if he so desires.

## WERE MARRIED 60 YEARS AGO.

English Preacher, Age 93, and His Wife, Age 83, Married in 1850.

London, Jan. 22.—Not often does a diamond wedding anniversary find a couple with so firm a grip on life's pleasures and activities as the Rev. Charles and Mrs. Holland of Shottermill, Surrey, possess. Mr. Holland, who is aged ninety-three, was for nearly forty years rector of Petworth, Sussex, and is a former prebendary of Chichester Cathedral. Mrs. Holland is eighty-three years of age.

It was 1850 that Mr. Holland, then rector of St. Stephen's, Ipswich, married Miss Emily Torless, daughter of the Rev. C. M. Torless.

The old clergyman, who has had nine children and thirty-nine grandchildren, besides a host of friends in many parishes made during his seventy years in holy orders, always attends to his voluminous correspondence himself. When he found with increasing years that writing became laborious he learned typewriting, and now clicks off his letters on the keyboard.

Mrs. Holland, a virile old woman, is an ardent motorist, and, octogenarian though she is, enjoys nothing better than a brisk spin along the Surrey and Hampshire roads. Not long ago she motored to Yorkshire, and she thinks nothing of a run up to town in her car.

The management of her poultry farm at the Watchers, however, occupies most of her time. Last year she raised 13,000 eggs. The grain used for the feeding of the chickens is grown on the farm.

## Has Had 27 Children.

London, Jan. 22.—Mrs. Cross, who won the prize given at a Bristol gathering for the largest family, said that it was true that she had had twenty-seven children, but that only seven were living.

"I was married when I was only fifteen," said Mrs. Cross. "My husband six years my senior. At that time he was in the engineers at Chatham. My first babies were twins, a boy and a girl, but the boy died when young. I have had twins on three other occasions.

"We had a hard struggle, as the children came so rapidly. One of my boys served fourteen years in the royal navy." Mrs. Cross is sixty.