

DRAWS BIG CROWD

TRIAL OF HUGH LONG FOR MURDER OF P. N. GUNTER

WHAT THE STATE SHOWS

The Wife of the Accused and the Wife and Children of the Deceased Are Present at the Trial, Which Excites Great Interest Among the People.

The Hon. Hugh Long, legislator from Aiken County, and erstwhile country newspaper editor with a permit to practice law, is on trial at Aiken, charged with the murder of Mr. Pickens N. Gunter, president of the Bank of Wagener, farmer and well known Aiken County citizen, the homicide occurring during a personal encounter in the town of Wagener between the defendant and the deceased on about the 8th day of last September.

The case was called the first thing Tuesday morning when the Court of General Sessions began its second day's session. Some time was consumed in drawing the jury, every man presented being placed on his voir dire, and both the prosecution and the defence excusing, or objecting to, quite a number, but finally the necessary twelve men were empaneled with Jas. R. League, of North Augusta, foreman. Twenty extra veniremen had been drawn Monday from the "seven-mile box" to meet any difficulty that might have arisen Tuesday morning in their selection. When the jury was complete the panel had not been quite exhausted.

When it became bruited abroad that the trial of the famous Long case had begun individuals began to flock into the Court House, and soon every seat and available space had been taken. Interested spectators were Mrs. Long and her sister, while the wife, children and more distant relatives of the dead man sat about. One of the dead man's daughters, a pretty little miss, apparently about fourteen years of age, wept silently during the exhibition to the jury of the clothing worn by Gunter at the time he received the injuries that brought death on October 1.

Judge Ernest Gary is presiding. Messrs. Croft & Croft and C. E. Sawyer are counsel for the defence, while Solicitor Robt. L. Gunter is being assisted by his law partner, the Hon. Herbert E. Giles, mayor of Aiken, and the Messrs. Henderson, Col. B. S. Henderson, of the last named firm, having conducted the examination of witnesses for the prosecution. The session is scheduled to adjourn definitely Thursday evening and there will be exerted every possible effort by both State and defence to give the case to the jury before that time.

The first witness was E. B. Jackson, who is cashier of the bank of which the deceased was president, he having been associated in that capacity with Mr. Gunter for the past three years or more. During which time witness stated, there had sprung up between them a mutual warm regard. With slight variations and contradictions as to minor details, the prosecution, from its witnesses, presents the following epitomized version of the tragedy:

Long was standing on the sidewalk with a newspaper in his hand. Gunter coming toward him. Just before the latter reached him, Long, it is claimed, half turned and dropped his paper toward his pocket. Gunter collared him, spun him around and knocked him out into the street, falling on top of and astraddle the prostrate man, pinning his arms. In some manner Long managed to free himself, possess himself of his revolver and fired, which, first shot, it is alleged, inflicted no serious wound.

It seems then that almost simultaneously with the first discharge, Hayes Gunter, a cousin of the deceased, and indicted with Long as an accessory, rushed from his store nearby, ran up to Pickens Gunter's back and, throwing his arm about Gunter's neck, began to choke him and drag him away from Long, the latter firing the fatal shot after Gunter was clear from him and while Gunter, it is claimed, was absolutely helpless.

Clearly, and it has been so admitted to this correspondent by one of the attorneys for the prosecution, the prosecution endeavors to establish the fact that when the fatal shot was fired Long was free of Gunter, while the latter was helpless in the grasp of one of his kinsmen, under which conditions, they contend, there was no warrant for the last and fatal bullet. Two witnesses have stated that the deceased a few hours after he was wounded gave essentially this story:

Gunter said that he was coming down the street and saw Long; that as he approached Long the latter dropped the paper toward his pocket, turned toward him with an indescribable contortion of the facial muscles and muttered some imprecation that he did not catch. Gunter did not know what Long was going to do; might have intended to shoot so far as he knew, and from that point the general thread of the story is parallel with that of eye-witnesses. One witness, E. B. Jackson, affirmed that he

did not believe Mr. Gunter was armed at the time of the encounter, and based his assumption upon the fact that on the next day he, (the witness) found a revolver in Mr. Gunter's private drawer at the bank.

On the cross-examination the defence unsuccessfully tried to have witnesses testify that Gunter went to several campaign meetings last summer and was very active in his opposition to the candidacy of Long for the House of Representatives, but with one exception they denied absolutely any knowledge of Gunter's political likes and dislikes. One witness, however, did have a faint recollection of Gunter having gone to a campaign meeting a short distance away from Wagener. The prosecution seems to have a tendency to object to the admission of testimony that may savor of the political.

One of the State's most interesting witnesses was Benjie Baldwin, who, under the Long administration—for Long was mayor of Wagener at the time of the homicide—was chief of police. He followed Long to the house of one Mr. Gardner, next door to his (Long's) own home, to find Long barricaded at the head of a narrow stairway and armed with a Winchester rifle and a .38 calibre revolver. Witness said he stood at the foot of the stairway and Long at his end, and they discussed the case. Baldwin said that he asked Long what was the trouble with him and Gunter, when the latter told him:

"Pick' got me before I knew it, and I just pressed my gun' against him and shot him off."

The witness continued that under the orders of the district magistrate he stayed guard with Long, to protect him from the mob outside the house, until the sheriff and his posse arrived on the scene.

On cross-examination the witness admitted the presence of men, (he was uncertain that they were armed) around the house, and after a little persuasion on the part of counsel he even admitted that he heard quite a number of shots fired during the night. Counsel then had him testify that he made no effort to arrest the parties, nor did he ever prefer any charges against any of them. He did claim, though, that he made an unsuccessful attempt to find out who smashed up and fired into the printing office of Long.

C. K. Lybrand testified that he heard Long tell a friend, who was accompanying him home, "I intended all along to kill the anyway." This statement created a little ripple of surprise, and counsel for the prosecution had the witness repeat his statement.

N. G. Schual admitted that he lay outside the yard that night with his gun loaded, waiting to see, he said, that Long was not removed, and with him were numbers of others. Counsel for defence on cross-examination wanted to know if witness didn't see several runs at night with the tags of Lake Lybrand on them. Lybrand was a little at a loss, and Long's, and it is known that he fought him bitterly during the campaign last summer, but the witness said he did not remember to have seen any such guns.

At 5:45 Tuesday afternoon the prosecution rested without having it would appear, made a very strong case against the defendant. Wednesday morning the defence will offer testimony in support of its plea of self defence.

One of the most interesting incidents of Tuesday afternoon's session was the spectacle of witness and attorneys stretched out on the floor of the Court room with Long's revolver re-enacting the tragedy.

TAKEN CRIME ON HIMSELF.

Confesses a Murder for Which Another Was to Die.

"I alone am guilty of the crime for which Fred Nye is under sentence of death. I fired the fatal shot and planned to rob Miller. Nye knew nothing about it," declared David Everitt, in a written confession to District Attorney Strouss.

Frederick Nye is under sentence of death for the killing of Henry E. Miller, at Sunbury, Pa., last year. Miller was found dead in his pool room with a bullet hole in his neck. The corpse had been robbed of \$30. Nye and Everitt were arrested and at their trials each blamed the other.

Nye was sentenced to be hanged, and Everitt received a sentence of manslaughter for the crime. The case was taken to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania which declined to interfere, and an appeal is now pending before the pardon board.

In his confession, Everitt said that he could not sleep at night "because it worries me so to think that another boy is to die for a crime I alone committed."

Grasshoppers in Kansas.

In a bulletin issued the Kansas Agricultural College has warned the farmers of Kansas that the grasshoppers are likely to cause serious damage in that State this year. The open winter left 90 per cent. of the grasshopper eggs uninjured; the bulletin stated the pests already are at work in some parts of the State.

Brother Booker says: "We did not know before that there was a mint bed at the White House but when we are not so awfully familiar with the White House surroundings any way."

YOUNG MAN DROWNS

PROMINENT AIKEN LAWYER LOST HIS LIFE AT ISLAND.

WENT TO CATCH CRABS

Cut Off on Reef by Rising Tide Not Knowing Safe Retreat, Steps in Deep Water.—Cries Mistaken for Calls to His Dog.

The Charleston Post says Charles Ashley, a prominent young lawyer of Aiken, who was spending a few days at Sullivan's Island with his mother, at station 28, was drowned Wednesday afternoon off station 29, when, cut off by the rising tide while on a reef extending out from the beach, he attempted to return to the shore by the shortest route, and stepping into deep water, he perished, his cries for help being mistaken for calls to his kitle dog who had accompanied him on a crabbing expedition.

Mr. Ashley left his boarding house about one o'clock Wednesday afternoon, taking with him a crabbing net and basket, planning to catch a mess of crabs for supper. His pet dog went along with him. Friends in cottages along the beach watched his progress toward Breach Inlet, and saw him go out, the tide being low, along a reef that is notably treacherous. He waved his hands to watchers from time to time and was apparently enjoying the novel excursion.

Meanwhile tide had come in, shutting from sight parts of the sand reef, and when Mr. Ashley discovered that he was being cut off, he turned shoreward. Unfamiliar with the safe course to take, he tried to wade back across intervening waters, and suddenly found himself over his head. Unable to swim, and being physically weak, Mr. Ashley called for help, his voice reaching children playing on the beach, but they misunderstood his calls, thinking he was commanding his dog to follow him, perhaps.

The unfortunate young lawyer disappeared from sight and his body has not been found, although diligent diligent search was made by organized parties, who went as far as the Isle of Palms, thinking perhaps that he had succeeded in getting out of the water's grasp and had continued his journey across Breach Inlet. His log made its way to the shore safely, and later the crab net and basket were found on the beach.

There is deep grief at the Law Cottage, known as Aiken Inn, at station 28, and in the neighborhood where Mr. Ashley and his widowed mother were staying. Mrs. Ashley is overcome with grief. He was an only son, his brother meeting death some time ago from fatal burns. Mr. Ashley had visited Sullivan's Island before, enjoying a large circle of friends who admired him for his genial disposition and charming manner.

For the past year or two the reef where Mr. Ashley met his death has been considered dangerous by those using it for bass fishing. The shifting sands in this section have changed the character of the beach, and now a long reef runs off from the shore that is covered by water, when the tide is high, although any one familiar with the lay of the land can make its way back safely to the shore by following the course of the reef carefully.

However, Mr. Ashley did not take this fact into account, and made the mistake of coming straight in from where he was stationed, when he found himself cut off by the rising waters. He was not a good swimmer, and when he sank over his head he must have been practically helpless. He was several hundred yards from his cottage when the accident happened, but in sight from the shore, his movements being followed through opera glasses. Mr. Ashley was in his early thirties, and unmarried. Deep sympathy is extended to his bereaved mother.

RATS WERE THE THIEVES.

Built Nest Costing \$50 Worth of Postage Stamps.

A Yorkers Dispatch to the New York Herald says the baffling mystery of who stole \$50 worth of postage stamps from the Yorks post office three years ago has been solved after postal inspectors and detectives had given up their efforts to find the thieves and clerks had to make good to Uncle Sam the missing stamps. Workmen on an addition to the office found a quantity of the stamps chewed to bits and made into mice nests under the floor. The fragments will be sent to Washington and the government asked to reimburse the clerks.

When the Democracy was defeated in 1908 the Atlanta Constitution advised that the Democrats of the South join the Republican party as it was in power for all time. This sentiment was endorsed by a few other papers in the South, but as the people were true, it fell flat and the Southern Democracy remained true to principle. Some of these papers are now trying to run the Administration.

NEEDED REFORMS

POINTED OUT AND URGED BY JOHN J. McMAHAN.

Legal Safeguarding of Primary and Protection of Ballot Principle One to be Considered.

All other political reforms wait on the legal safeguarding of the primary election. The protection of the ballot is the foundation of free government. A fraud, or an error, knocks somebody out of his vote. Using a club roll containing names of absentees or dead men, affords opportunity for false voting and "repeating", sometimes pursued by professionals hired for the purpose. Dishonest or careless preparation of the club rolls may defraud voters by errors of initials or spelling or by entire omission of names. There is no safety in depending on messages to see that your name is put on the roll. The only certain method is to go personally. Allowing votes to be cast by minors and non-residents may change the result. As long as the rules permit these practices, there is no assurance of the will of the majority—the rule of the people. Democracy is turned into a farce.

People learn little except by experience. The man who before an evil is upon the country perceived the tendencies that will bring it, and urges a change from the prevailing system while yet there is time, can arouse no following. Noah foresaw the flood but could prevail on nobody to join his family in being saved. Most people see only the immediate present and are deaf to the appeals of the pioneer reformer. Hence most of the sufferings of mankind, most of the horrors of history affording ample lessons if we would but apply them.

Thomas Jefferson advocated gradually freeing the negroes and transporting them to Africa. The race problem was then generally unrecognizable and unbelievable. In their enjoyment of the negro as a slave the people could not see the misfortune of thus excluding the development of a sturdy laboring white population nor could they foresee the inevitable final emancipation with its attendant train of dangers including the menace of social equality and ultimate amalgamation.

After the primary last August there was a general realization of the prevalence of irregularities in the voting and of opportunities for fraud and the probability that there had been serious frauds. Whether or not these had been enough to change the result or whether frauds on the other side had been offset by frauds of personal opinion or bias. Whether the irregularities and frauds had been more numerous than in previous primary elections or whether they were simply more closely criticized because of the greater interest is likewise a matter not beyond controversy. But certain it is that the unusual interest throughout the State concentrated attention upon the laxity of our primary rules and methods and the need of reforming them. Never before had the weakness of the voting system, the absence of safeguards been so brought home to the people. They now saw the danger of "repeated" ballots with padded rolls, duplicate enrollment and no restriction of the voter to his locality. Suddenly waking to these things they may have magnified in their minds the extent of the actual practice of the frauds which were so possible under the rules.

Yet the same situation had been previously apparent in spots in the State. In heated and close contests over an important county office and in warm races for township commissioner or for magistrate. How often has a magistrate been elected by voters from an adjoining district? The candidates and their supporters have been frequently alert and active to place on the club roll the names of friendly neighbors across the line. The rules of the party have not forbidden it. Similarly, many a voter has his name habitually on two or three or four club rolls and can take his option as to the one at which he will vote—he may be dishonest enough to vote at all these boxes or his name may be used by others who "repeat" in voting. These are plain frauds, but are facilitated by the rules permitting the duplication of names on the rolls.

These things have stirred neighborhoods and counties, but the reports had made no impression on the mass of our citizenship because the evil seemed too remote. Last summer the whole State became aroused. Even those on the winning side admitted the appearance of evil and the necessity of avoiding it in future. A reform of the primary seemed at last in sight—the good that comes out of evil, nature's compensation in the long run. But by the time the legislature met the keenness of public interest had worn off. The bills for the remedial legislation were postponed to the next session upon the argument that there would still be ample time before the next general primary election, and that it would be well to give the matter longer consideration. And so the reform was sidetracked, while interest further cooled. This is the standard patient for defeating reforms—putting

VERY QUEER CASE

FATHER'S SPIRIT CALLS TWO AND ONE DIES

WAS TALK OF THE TOWN

Two Brothers Named Freedman at New Brunswick, N. J., Have Exactly the Same Dream, Neither One Telling the Other, and Shortly After One of Them Died.

The death dreams of Joseph H. Freedman and Max Freedman, brothers, of New Brunswick, N. J., followed by the passing away of Max, were discussed with awe in that city by many people for days.

Ten days ago Joseph dreamed vividly that the spirit of his dead father appeared and begged him to join him in the grave. This dream neither, his wife nor any other member of the family told to Max, who was dangerously ill of a kidney disease.

But his wife told Joseph's wife of a dream the sick man had had and Mrs. Joseph Freedman was startled nearly into hysterics, for in every detail it was the same ghastly dream that had come to her husband a week before.

Not merely did each man dream of the spirit of his dead father calling him, but the words spoken by the spirit were the same on both occasions. Joseph Freedman is a produce wholesaler at 131 Burnet street, New Brunswick, a man not given to superstition. Max was equally practical.

One morning about ten days ago Joseph came to the breakfast table looking so pale his wife asked if he were ill. He told her he was still feeling the effects of a dream. A gray, gauzy apparition had appeared to him, had stretched out entreating hands and had said:

"Come with me, Joe. Come and we'll lie down together up there under the grass, where we can sleep and not know or care what the striving men are doing in the world. Learn with me the wonderful things that have come to me since I have passed to where knowledge really is."

Freedman said he told the apparition that he did not want to die, as it would be cruel for him to do so and leave his wife and children unprotected. When that plea was made the ghost vanished.

Max Freedman became very ill a few days later and Joseph and his wife went to Max's home in Cedar street. To the consternation of Mrs. Joseph, Mrs. Max began weeping violently and said:

"It is hopeless. Max is going to die." That can only be the meaning of the dream he had two nights ago. He saw his father's ghost and the old man urged him to join him in the grave."

Lobby Should be Exposed.

The New York World says every member of the United States Senate should know that an investigation of the lobby is always in order. In truth, the attitude of a legislative body properly actuated toward those who would swerve it from its most conspicuous pledges ought at all times to be one of inquiry, if not of suspicion and hostility.

The lobby now active at Washington represents interests which for many years have exerted an undue influence upon government. These interests have grown rich, powerful and insolent upon their ability to tax the people. They have shackled our industry. They have corrupted our politics. They have filled the land with class prejudices. They have given to monopoly and graft the dignity of an economic theory.

It was these conscienceless interests that were voted down last November. If they appear now by agent and attorney in the National Senate it is not because they have any misgivings as to the nature of the verdict that was rendered against them, but because in that body the force of their popular condemnation is expressed in the feeblest terms. The majority against them there is small. On that weak spot in the people's defenses they naturally concentrate their efforts.

The lobby which to-day assails the Senate is looking first of all for weak men, but it will be content, no doubt, if it can find corrupt men. All that it asks is that by unscrupulous and narrow bargaining and cozening, three or four Democratic Senators shall nullify the will of the American people. Its purpose is treacherous and treasonable. Can there be any doubt that, given an opportunity, its methods of persuasion will be equally desperate?

A great conspiracy against representative government is under way at the capital. It contemplates the betrayal of a Nation. It is not politics. It is not business. It is crime. Every Senator whose vote is dependent upon to consummate this perfidy knows it is crime. It is crime that never again should go unpunished. Why not investigate?

John J. McMahan, Columbia, May 31.

CREATED A SENSATION

SUFFRAGETTE TRIED TO HOLD UP A HORSE

Was Dragged Some Distance and Was Seriously Hurt by Her Foolish Act.

At Epsom, England, Thursday's race for the Derby, the "blue ribbon" of the British turf, was one of the most sensational on record. It was made memorable by a daring militant suffragette outrage, in which a woman was terribly injured while trying to stop King George's horse, Anmer, when he was running at full speed around Tattenham corner; by the disqualification for bumping of Craganour, the favorite, after he had finished first; and by the award of the race with its stake of \$32,500 to Aboyeur, a 100 to 1 shot.

King George, Queen Mary and a large assembly of royalty were witnesses of these exciting incidents.

While interest in the classic was at its most tense point, just as the fifteen horses were turning Tattenham corner into the stretch, a woman rushed out of the dense crowd and plunged in front of Anmer and another horse, Agadir. Apparently she hoped to interfere with the progress of the race by seizing Anmer's reins and placing not only herself in danger but also the two jockeys.

The horses were at the end of the string or the consequences might have been more serious. Agadir, ridden by Jockey Earl, passed in safety and unhurt, but the woman managed to cling to Anmer's reins and brought down both horse and rider.

Jones, the king's jockey, received injuries necessitating his removal in an ambulance while the woman was thrown under Anmer's hoofs and kicked. She was taken unconscious to a hospital, suffering severe injuries to her head.

Suffragette papers are said to have been found in her possession and a suffragette flag was found round her body. Her name was given as M. Davison.

Jones, the jockey, suffered from a cut in the head but his injuries otherwise were not serious.

WILL DO MUCH GOOD.

A Yearning-Up Conference to be Held Soon

A conference for South Carolina along the same lines as those covered by the Conference for Education in the South, recently held in Richmond, has been advanced and promoted by the leading Carolinians and educators interested in the welfare and prosperity of the State. This idea was first presented to the public by Prof. W. K. Tate, and it had hearty welcome in furthering the plans a letter has been addressed to a number of persons believed to be interested in the general good of the commonwealth, inviting them to meet in Columbia and map out a program for the conference.

This letter is signed by Prof. W. K. Tate, E. W. Dabbs, president of the State Farmers Union, E. J. Watson, Commissioner of Agriculture, W. M. Gonzales and Dr. William E. Weston, president of the State Medical Association, and is in part as follows:

The coming summer seems especially appropriate for the united effort. The movement must be absolutely free from politics, and must have as its aim the advancement of the welfare of the people of the State rather than the furtherance of personal ambitions and political aspirations of any individual.

This is, in a measure, an off-year in politics. Matters relating to the public welfare may be freely and frankly discussed, and public issues will not be obscured by their association with the personality of men who are seeking office. We may now give every man an opportunity to state his grievances and may discuss the needs and remedies with open minds.

It has been suggested that the State conference should either be preceded or followed by county conferences and by public discussion in the press of the State. Such a program requires careful planning in order to prevent dissipation of effort. It is our opinion that we should select for discussion one fundamental topic from each domain or interest or a few subject of most vital concern to all and that we should not attempt to cover the entire field.

In order to prepare this program this committee has invited many representative men and women who have the welfare of the State at heart to meet with its members to discuss and formulate the program. The preliminary meeting will be held at the P. M. C. Auditorium, Columbia, at 12 o'clock on Tuesday, June 10, and it is desired that the meeting will be fully attended. The movement to inaugurate such a conference or conferences as proposed is in every way desirable and commendable.

The Times and Democrat hopes that the bill introduced in the United States Senate to raise the salaries of the rural mail carriers will soon become a law. They are an important lot of officials, and are entitled to better pay than they are now receiving.