

Columbia  
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# NEGRO IS DEAD FROM FIVE WOUNDS

Melvin Pearson, negro, about 57 years old died at a local hospital Thursday morning at 5 o'clock as the result of several wounds inflicted by a revolver in the hands of a white man considerably his junior in years, it was said, and for whom the dead man and family worked on the crop sharing plan. Pearson was brought to the hospital late Wednesday afternoon and given examination which disclosed that he had been wounded in the hip, back, shoulder and face. The bullet that entered the negro's back penetrated vital organs and it was seen from the first that he was perhaps mortally wounded. The dead negro has a son living in Columbia by the name of Tom Pearson, who, several people said, is a very industrious negro. The death of the negro was reported to Coroner Scott by the hospital management, but as the trouble leading up to the homicide developed in another county, the coroner of Richland was without authority to make a move in the way of an investigation, but he reported the fatal termination of the shooting to the coroner in Fairfield county.

The police authorities here were without details of the fatal shooting, but the wife of the dead negro and his son who accompanied him to the hospital, said that white children and negro children were playing in the field near which both white and colored people were engaged in working crop. The children began to quarrel and the white man who is said to have fired the fatal shots into the negro and Pearson had some words which developed into an argument that terminated when the white farmer mortally wounded the colored renter in the field and in plain view of a number of people of both races. It could not be learned whether the white man has been apprehended on a charge of slaying the aged darkey.

REAL ESTATE