



4-14-1918

## Letter from William Langer to George Laney Regarding the Henry Biersdorf Case, April 14, 1918.

William Langer

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April 14th, 1918.

{ Hon. Geo. Laney, Sheriff,  
Napoleon, N. D.

Dear Sir:

From reports which have reached me from reliable sources, I am convinced that Henry Biersdorf, who was found dead in a bank at Napoleon, was murdered. Will you please hasten to immediately make a thorough investigation of this case?

Under the law it is your duty to make exceptionally thorough investigations of death under such circumstances as these and the law contemplates that all expenses in connection with such investigations shall be paid by the County. Should it be necessary for you to take trips on the railroads it would be wise to keep receipts but in any case where the taking of receipts might cause suspicion as to the character of your work, do not take any.

With reference to the length of time and expense you should incur in this case I advise you that an expense of five or six hundred dollars would not be at all exorbitant and you should put in time until you are absolutely certain that you are unable to get the evidence before you quit.

Should it be necessary to hire some first class detectives in this matter, I suggest that you take it up with the Bankers Association of Fargo and if they fail to send detectives you can depend upon it that if you write me I will put you in touch with some first class men who are reasonable in their fees. However you may be able to dig up this evidence yourself and if you can do so without the aid of detectives so much the better.

I would appreciate it if you would acknowledge receipt of this letter by return mail telling me just what steps you propose to take.

Yours very truly,

W.L.P

Attorney General.