

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

July 31, 1897

Never before, in the history of Crystal Falls, have the people of this quiet village been brought face to face with such a heinous crime as that was committed in our midst. Pearl Morrison's body was found after an extensive search by over fifty men. Pearl, the 21 year old third oldest daughter of Capt. and Mrs. William Morrison, had gone on a selling trip and berry picking to the Western Location in the afternoon and when she failed to return home the search began. A hint from a tramp lead authorities to Blaney Creek Road where her body was found about 30 feet off the road half buried and covered with brush behind a pine stump. Her clothes were torn to shreds and the condition of the face with blood oozing from her mouth and ears indicated that she had been assaulted and strangled to death. Coroner Aberle had begun inquest and authorities have arrested the tramp, Peter Bons, under suspicion of murder and he is being held in the Iron County Jail pending a trial date.