



Questioned Documents Section – 2005

J21 Leopold-Loeb Revisited: The Documents in the Case

Larry A. Olson, MFS, IRS National Forensic Laboratory, 29 North Wacker Drive, 3rd Floor, Chicago, IL 60606*

The goal of this presentation is to display photographs and charts prepared by two documents examiners who testified as expert witnesses in this historic case.

The year 2004 marked the 80th anniversary of the thrill-killing of Bobby Franks by Nathan F. Leopold, Jr., and Richard A. Loeb, two wealthy teenaged geniuses in Chicago.

The physical evidence in the case included handwritten, hand printed, and typewritten documents. According to newspaper accounts, as many as nine "experts" in handwriting and typewriting may have been consulted at the behest of various parties, although only two questioned document examiners testified at trial in July of 1924.

The author will display charts and photographs from the two examiners' files that were presented as evidence in court.

Questioned Documents, Photography, Court Testimony