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Lane Succumbs On West Coast

Recently Captured Felon,
Dr. Morris' Slayer,
Dies In Hospital

Thomas Lane, sentenced to a life term for killing a doctor in Calhoun County in 1931—and the man who gave himself up in California after escaping prison—died in a Los Angeles hospital before he could be returned to Kilby Prison, it was reported here today.

Lane who escaped from Atmore Prison farm in December of 1945, was convicted in Circuit Court here for killing Dr. J. E. Morris, prominent Piedmont physician, in a field near Dr. Morris' home.

Prison director Frank Boswell at Montgomery said he received word that the 38-year-old man had died two days ago from a lingering illness that caused him to surrender to a California sheriff after four years of freedom.

Lane gave himself up in California five weeks ago and was hospitalized after his illness worsened. Prior to his Dec., 1945 escape, he had broken away from custody twice before, both times from Bryce Hospital at Tuscaloosa, where he had been sent for a mental disorder.