Patrolman Gurney L. Royal

Winston-Salem Journal/Twin City Sentinel

original newspaper articles

Winston-Salem Police Department scrapbook

Negro Shoots Royall Down; Blackburn Is Cut on Neck

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Funeral Is Held For G. L. Royall

Funeral services were conducted at Central Terrace Methodist Church at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon for Gurney L. Royall, member of the Winston-Salem police force, who was killed in the line of duty Friday night.

The body lay in state from 4 to 5 o'clock. Burial was in Salem Cemetery. Pallbearers were members of the Winston-Salem police force and the Forsyth county sheriff's department: J. F. Easter, J. C. Tinker, Joe Crawford, G. C. Bailey, C. A. Tatterow, G. E. Vestal, W. S. Parker and Sheriff Ernie G. Shope.
Cop's Slayer Held On Maximum Count

A Negro killer who slashed Policeman Garnet L. Royall with a knife and then shot him to death with the officer's own service revolver, was held in jail without bond, today, charged with murder, the official reports of the crime showed.

Several eyewitnesses told authorities that Nathaniel Shadd, 27, cut Officer Royall with a knife and, as the bleeding officer struggled with him, wrested his revolver from him and shot five times, emptying the gun at the policeman.

Policeman P. T. Blackburn slashed about the throat and face by the Negro as he raced to Royall's aid, narrowly escaped death from a wound which just missed his jugular vein, but was reported in good condition today.

Another Negro reportedly interfered with Blackburn, grabbing his gun arm, while he grappled with the Negro slayer. Police had picked up a second of the Negro and were questioning him in this connection.

Clung to Slayer

The story of a heroic policeman, who had become wounded and weakened from the assaults of a Negro's knife, still clung to his prisoner and grappled with him until he was shot through the head with his own gun, when the Negro was graphically told today in the official report of the investigation.

Policeman Royall had arrested Shadd in the 300 block on North Church street, at about 10:23 p.m., on a charge of nuisance and disorderly conduct.

The Negro, cursing, started to fight the officer, grabbed him around the hips and threw him to the ground. He had drawn a knife when the officer first started to arrest him, a witness said, and it was believed that he slashed the officer with it as they rolled over the sidewalk.

Regained Feet

The officer managed to regain his feet and struck Shadd with his blackjack before the Negro closed with him and threw him down a second time.

As they scrambled, the Negro tore the policeman's flashlight from his pocket and got his gun out of his holster.

They regained their feet again, the officer fighting for his pistol, and the Negro emptied the gun at him, shooting five times.

The Negro's first two shots went wild, the third hit the policeman on the side of the head and the fourth struck him just above his left ear.

Fell to Street

He fell to the street at the edge of the sidewalk and did not speak or move again.

The Negro stood over him, fired another shot which missed him, snapped the empty gun at him and then threw the pistol down at the side of the dead officer and walked off.

Meanwhile, Blackburn, who was a short distance away, had heard the shooting and rushed up to Shadd before he got away.

The Negro slashed him across

(See Cop Slayer—Page 8)