

CHESTER TIMES – January 24, 1937 – POLICEMAN, SHOT FROM AUTO, DIES – Two Men Held for His Death; Folcroft Woman Linked as Witness
Patrolman William Slook, shot at Seventeenth Street and Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, by a man riding in an unlighted automobile, died at 12: 01 this morning from the six bullet wounds inflicted.

While the sergeants of the various districts were reading off an appeal for the patrolmen and officers to volunteer their blood for a transfusion to save his life, the wounded officer ended his tour of duty after sinking gradually during the evening.

Slook, the first patrolman to lose his life in a line of duty in 1927, was shot by William Meyers of Fifteenth and Thompson Streets. He had identified Meyers as the man who shot him and also identified Francis L. Hines, the second man arrested, as Meyers' companion.

The two men were held without bail by Magistrate Garney. Their two women companions, held as material witnesses, were admitted to bail.

Slook's shooting was one of the most cold-blooded in the annals of the Philadelphia police. The patrolman noticed an unlighted automobile at Sixteenth and Callowhill Streets and, believing that it was being used by suspicious characters, called on the driver to stop.

When his bail was ignored, Slook took up the chase in a taxicab which was nearby and twisted around after the men for about three miles, when they were finally cornered near Seventeenth and Ogden Streets.

As the machine stopped, Slook jumped off the running board of the cab and went over to it. The driver, Hines, got out of the right side of the car and began fumbling for his license cards, which Slook demanded.

Meyers, the other man, got out on the left hand side and walked around the back of the machine. Slook did not see him coming. As he approached the patrolman, he whipped out a revolver and opened fire.

The first bullet struck Slook in the chin and as he staggered back he tried to reach for his own gun. Meyers then fired four more shots into the patrolman's body, and as the latter staggered away, walked up and fired once more as Slook fell to the ground.

Mrs. Barbara Bell of Folcroft, this county, and Mrs. Mabel Shockley of Philadelphia, were arrested later. They admitted they were with Meyers and Hines. The car they were riding in had been stolen from V. B. McKendrick of Norwood last month.