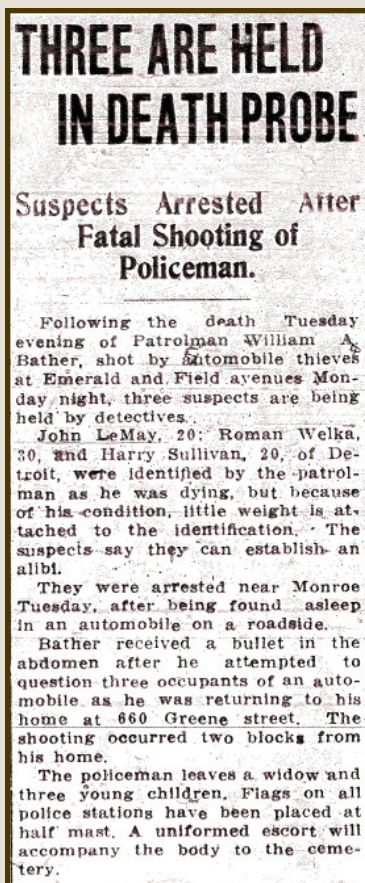


THE TOLEDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

A solemn obligation



Toledo News Bee
May 28, 1919

Patrolman William Bather
E.O.W. May 27, 1919
No photo available

Officer William Bather was just trying to make his way home to 660 Green Street after work on Monday, May 26, 1919. As he passed the saloon at 968 Emerald Avenue, he greeted the owner, Frank Lewinski, and proceeded on. The saloon keeper reported that he went inside his establishment and shortly afterwards heard several shots. He ran outside and found Bather lying on the pavement. Lewinski picked up the wounded policeman and carried him into the saloon where he notified the Central Station. It was about 11:30 p.m.

Another witness stated that Bather had stepped in front of a car that one man was cranking and two others were sitting inside. The witnesses heard Bather say "Wait a minute, I want to talk to you," as he drew his gun. One of the men in the car opened fire before the officer had time to return fire. It was believed that Bather had recognized the car as being reported stolen from 43 Oliver Street shortly before.

Bather had been shot in the stomach, and though transported to St. Vincent Hospital for surgery, he died on Tuesday, May 27, 1919. Bather was 29 years old and had been on the department for two years. He left behind a wife and three children. He was killed only two blocks from his home.

William Bather

TO PROTECT AND SERVE