

19 POLICEMEN GET MEDALS FOR VALOR; They Are Honored for Bravery While in the Performance of Duty. TEN POSTHUMOUS AWARDS Two of These for Detectives Shot While Arresting Luther Boddy.

May 15, 1923



See the article in its original context from
May 15, 1923, Page 13 Buy Reprints

VIEW ON TIMSMACHINE

TimesMachine is an exclusive benefit for home
delivery and digital subscribers.

About the Archive
This is a digitized version of an article from The Times’s print archive, before the start of online publication in 1996. To preserve these articles as they originally appeared, The Times does not alter, edit or update them.

Occasionally the digitization process introduces transcription errors or other problems; we are continuing to work to improve these archived versions.

Names of nine policemen who have received medals for bravery in performance of duty, and of ten who have received posthumous awards, were made public yesterday by Police Commissioner Enright. The names of the ten who died in line of duty will be inscribed on the honor tablet at Police Headquarters. The Police Department Medal of Honor went to Patrolman Eugene T. O'Connor, Shield 9458, of the Oak Street Station, who captured two armed holdup men after an automobile chase in which he was fired upon by the robbers. O'Connor was on patrol duty near Canal and Baxter Streets about 7 o'clock on the evening of Nov. 9, 1922, when a citizen ran up and told him that he and another man had been held up at the point

of pistols in a garage at 40 Bayard Street. O'Connor commandeered an automobile and gave chase to the bandits who were then speeding west on Canal Street. He pursued them to Fourth Avenue and Tenth Street, where the robbers car swung into the curb and the engine stalled. Jumping from the running-board of the commandeered car, O'Connor ordered the robbers to throw up their hands. One of the robbers opened fire, but missed the officer, who returned the fire and wounded one of them. Two of the robbers jumped out of the machine and escaped running, but the other two surrendered, the wounded man collapsing as he stepped out of the machine. The Automobile Club of America Medal was awarded to Patrolman Charles J. Flannagan, Shield 3224, of the East Twenty-second Street Station, who when off duty and on his way home caught an escaping murderer who tried to shoot him. About 9 o'clock on the morning of Jan. 2, Flannagan was told by a citizen that a man had been shot in a saloon at 1,732 Second Avenue, and that the man who had done the shooting was hurrying south on Second Avenue. Flannagan followed the man, who turned around, drew his pistol, and aimed at the officer. Flannagan grabbed his hand and subdued him after a desperate struggle. Taking his prisoner back to the saloon, Flannagan found the door locked. He forced it open, finding the proprietor lying dead the floor with a bullet in the heart. The Isaac Bell Medal for Bravery was given to Acting Detective Sergeant William J. Hauptman, Shield 767, of the Amsterdam Avenue Station, who, when held up in a Harlem hallway by two negroes who mistook him for a rent collector, fought them off in a pistol battle and wounded both of them, one mortally. Hauptman was descending a stairway after making inquiries about a woman's fur coat and bird of paradise, when the negroes cornered him, with pistols in their hands, at the foot of the stairs. Pretending to faint, he fell to the floor. When the negroes started to leave him, he drew his own pistol and fired three times, hitting both men. The negroes were caught soon afterward in a nearby cellar. The Brooklyn Citizens' Medal was received by Patrolman Thomas E. Dowling, Shield 254, of the Rapelyea Street Station, Brooklyn, who subdued an armed murderer and arrested him at the scene of his crime. While patrolling his post near President and Carroll Streets, about 9 o'clock on the evening of Sept. 24, 1922, Dowling heard a shot and saw a man run into the hallway at 22 President Street. Following, the officer heard another shot. As he ascended the front stoop, a man came out at Dowling, with a revolver pointed at the officer. The officer jumped at the man and disarmed him after a struggle. A dead man with a bullet in his chest was found inside the door. The Daniel B. Freedman Medal went to Acting Detective Sergeant William Reilly, Shield 514, of the Detective Division, who broke up an attempt to commit a burglary, shot and mortally wounded one of the burglars attempting to escape and caused the arrest of four others. Reilly, in an automobile, and two other detectives on foot, trailed four men on the evening of Jan. 17 to the Import Fur Company, 13 West Twenty-ninth Street. Reilly stopped his machine nearby, got out and slipped back unobserved, lying down in the automobile and covering himself with a robe. Soon a sedan,

driven by a man known to the police as Butler, drove up and stopped in front of Reilly's car. The four men who had been trailed stopped to talk to Butler and another man, named McArdle, got out of Butler's car and examined Reilly's machine, satisfying himself that no one was in it. Then McArdle tried to force the door of the fur shop. The burglar alarm went off and McArdle dashed into the sedan and drove away. Reilly jumped out of his own car and fired several shots after the fleeing machine, one of which hit McArdle. The men were arrested later in the evening and McArdle died. Award for Bravery. The Peter F. Meyer Medal for Bravery was awarded to Patrolman Richard Heneberry, Shield 3390, of the West Sixty-eighth Street Station, who captured one of two gunmen who had shot a brother officer twice. Heneberry and another policeman were trailing two men in a car near the Hotel Ansonia and had separated to watch both sides of the hotel. The other officer came on the machine just after it had stopped opposite the Seventy-third Street entrance and had ordered one of the men, who was getting out of the car, to put up his hands. The men fired at the officer and wounded him in the stomach and arm just as Heneberry turned into Seventy-third Street. Heneberry caught this man as he tried to jump back into the automobile and subdued him in a struggle so desperate that Heneberry broke a knuckle. The other man escaped in the automobile, although Heneberry fired several shots after it. The Rhinelander Medal for Valor went to Patrolman Kavanaugh, Shield 5601, of the East Fifth Street Station, who broke into a locked apartment through a fire escape, under heavy fire from a maniac whom he could not see in the dark, and mortally wounded the man in a pistol battle carried on in the apartment with the aid of a flashlight. Kavanaugh was standing at Second Street and Avenue B when a citizen told him that a man was running amuck with a revolver in his hand at Thirteenth Street and Avenue C. Hurrying to that corner, the officer learned that the man with the weapon was one Danley, and had gone to his apartment on the third floor of 644 East Thirteenth Street. After getting into the apartment Kavanaugh found the man under a bed, and had to shoot several times before subduing him. Danley was hit three times and died from his wounds. The Walter Scott Medal for Valor was received by Acting Detective Sergeant Charles Eisele, Shield 158, of the headquarters division, who was shot three times in arresting two hold-up men. Eisele was one of several detectives placed on guard at the Kowalski poultry market, near 145th Street and Morris Avenue, the Bronx, on the night of Oct. 21 last, after robbers had held up another store in the vicinity. Fights Three Masked Men. Three masked men, with revolvers in their hands, got out of an automobile that drove up to the Kowalski store about 11 o'clock that night. As they entered the store Eisele ordered them to put up their hands. They replied with a storm of bullets, in spite of which he arrested two of them. He was shot once in the neck, and two bullets went through his coat. The Martin J. Sheridan Medal for Valor was awarded to Patrolman John F. Smith, Shield 9833, of the West Sixty-eighth Street Station, who was the policeman shot in the battle near the Hotel Ansonia, for which Patrolman Heneberry received

the Peter F. Meyer Medal for Bravery. Patrolman Smilth was removed to a hospital in a critical condition, remained on sick report for eight months, after which he reported for duty, only to be returned to sick report, still suffering from his wounds. Among those who lost their lives in the performance of duty, and to whose families will be presented the department Medals of Honor, was Lieutenant Albert L. Duffy of the Headquarters Division, who died from injuries received when two stills exploded while he was investigating a complaint that liquor was being made illegally at 102 Beaufort Avenue, Jamaica. The other posthumous awards are as follows: Acting Detective Sergeants William A. Miller, Shield 120, and Francis J. M. Buckley, Shield 012, both of the detective division, who were shot and mortally wounded in trying to arrest Luther Boddy, the notorious negro criminal, near the West 135th Street Station on the night of Jan. 5, 1922. Wanting Boddy on suspicion of shooting another policeman, the detectives arrested him when he reported to his probation officer in a public school at Lenox Avenue and 135th Street. They were taking him to the police station when he slipped from their grip, drew a revolver, shot both of them at close range and escaped. He was caught later in Philadelphia, after a sensational chase in which he disguised himself as a woman, held up a taxi driver at the point of a pistol and commandeered the machine. He was put to death in the electric chair at Sing Sing. Shot in Struggle. John J. Moriarty, Shield 225, detective division, was shot in a fight with burglars in a store at 306 Fifth Avenue on June 24, 1922. Moriarty and other detectives cornered the burglars in the premises, whereupon the burglars opened fire, shooting Moriarty in the neck. He died several days later. Patrolman John H. McMall, Shield 3029, of the Liberty Avenue Station, Brooklyn, was shot by a man whom he was trying to arrest for assaulting a woman at Osborn Street and Sutter Avenue. Trying to escape, the man turned and shot McMall through the head with an army automatic pistol. The murderer, one Tony Rabasovich, was caught by another policeman after a pistol battle in which the contestants hid behind gravestones in a monument maker's yard. Patrolman Otto W. Motz, Shield 5110, of the West 135 Street Station, was shot by a negro prisoner in the back room of the West 123d Street Station while Motz was helping an ambulance surgeon dress the wounds of another prisoner. Motz had removed his overcoat, leaving his pistol exposed. As he was passing, the negro prisoner seized the pistol and fired. The bullet struck Motz in the left temple and killed him instantly. Wounded by Hold-up Man. Patrolman Henry L. Pohndorf, Shield 3842, of the West 135th Street Station, was shot and mortally wounded by a negro hold-up man named Chambers, who had wounded another negro in an office at 420 Lenox Avenue on the morning of May 8, 1922. The officer, hearing the shot, ran to the scene and met Chambers leaving the office. Chambers shot Pohndorf, causing his death within a few days. The negro was caught in a pistol battle with other policemen. Patrolman Douglas W. Hay, Shield 154, of the Bathgate Avenue Station, the Bronx, was shot in the back three times on the afternoon of May 18, 1922, by a man named Michael Fradino. When he was shot Hay was walking away

after having served a summons on the man for throwing refuse in front of his premises at 3,892 Third Avenue, the Bronx. The policeman was taken to a hospital, where he died. In- Patrolman Arthur Lowe, Shield 5273, of the Fifth Avenue Station, Brooklyn, was shot in the right side and the right arm by one of three men whose suspicious actions he was investigating. Informed by a woman that strange men were in the back yard of 253 Eighth Street, Brooklyn, on the afternoon of July 22, 1922. Loewe went to the yard and asked the men what they were doing. One of them shot him twice, and he died in a hospital that evening. Patrolman Frank S. Mondo, Shield 4589, of Motorcycle Squad No. 2, ran into an automobile on Fourth Avenue, Brooklyn, on the night of June 12, 1922, while pursuing a speeding car. He was taken to a hospital, where he died two days later.

Gets Medal for Saving Lives. Detective James H. Redmond of the Information Bureau at Police Headquarters received a United States Volunteer Life Saving Service medal yesterday for saving three men from drowning at Far Rockaway on Aug. 8, 1922. The presentation was made at the Astoria Police Station by Lewis Livermore, Secretary to Congressman John F. Kindred. One of the men rescued was Leo Howe of 126 West Ninety-fourth Street, an actor playing in "Up She Goes." Howe was going under when two men rushed into the water and tried to save him. They also got into difficulty and all three would have drowned had not Redmond plunged in and kept them afloat until a lifeboat picked them up.