

Union Official Dies After Injury In Gun Fight

Percy Lemley Fatally Injured In Argument Over Union Hospitalization Service

As a result of an argument growing out of hospitalization service for members, Percy Lemley, 25, president of the United Mine Workers of America local, at Aldrich, died in a Birmingham hospital Tuesday morning and George W. Nasworthy, about 58, night-watchman at Aldrich Mines, was in jail in Columbiana.

Nasworthy surrendered to Montevallo Chief of Police Clyde Gardner Sunday afternoon after he confessed to shooting down Lemley in the heat of an argument in front of the Aldrich post office.

According to Gardner, there had been a disagreement between the two men over the hospital service plan sponsored by the union, and that Nasworthy had insisted Lemley used his authority to change hospitals. He said that Lemley had told Nasworthy that he did not have this authority.

The argument reached a climax Sunday afternoon. Lemley had come into town to meet the train and met Nasworthy in front of the post office.

Gardner said that after an exchange of words, Nasworthy drew his gun and fired five times, three of the bullets striking Lemley in the body.

The union official was carried to a hospital in Birmingham and died Tuesday morning.

Gardner said Nasworthy came to his office in Montevallo soon after the shooting and gave himself up and asked to be put in jail.

He was placed under arrest and sent to the county jail at Columbiana. His bail, which was first placed at \$2000 was raised to \$5000 Monday morning, according to Sheriff W. B. White.
