

WOUNDED YUMA OFFICER DIES

75-Year-Old Negro Held In Connection With Fatal Shooting

YUMA, Feb. 4.—(A)—Charges will be filed tomorrow against John Franklin, 75, Negro, in the fatal shooting last night of Yuma County Deputy Sheriff Walter Akers, 37, at Parker.

Deputy Yuma County Attorney Lewis Ingraham said on his return from Parker, where a coroner's inquest was held today, that murder charges will be filed in the morning.

Akers died at 12:55 this morning in the Parker Indian Agency hospital after being wounded by a blast from a shotgun as he attempted to help Constable Jack Harold place Franklin under arrest shortly after 11 p.m. last night.

Franklin reportedly threatened a Santa Fe railroad conductor who would not let him enter the train at the Parker station.

Calls Akers

Constable Harold was on duty and telephoned Akers to help in making the arrest. Franklin was walking toward the main street when Akers drove up, and witnesses reported that Franklin fired one shot which struck the deputy in the head.

Harold arrested the suspect and placed him in the Indian Agency jail from which he was brought to the Yuma county jail here early today.

Ingraham said that as far as he knew, no attempts have been made to question Franklin as yet.

H. H. Baker, Yuma county attorney, is in Prescott temporarily.

Funeral Services

Funeral services for Akers have been tentatively scheduled here for Friday afternoon. He is survived by his widow and a 7-year-old son.

Akers was the second Yuma county deputy sheriff to be killed within the past 10 days, as Sylvester Villa, 60, died January 24 of gunshot wounds suffered when he attempted to make an arrest.

Ingraham said Ray Marvin Graves, charged with the Villa killing, has waived preliminary hearing and will be tried in superior court, but the information in the case has not yet been filed.