Newspapers by ancestry

The Birmingham News
Birmingham, Alabama • Tue, Nov 22, 1949
Page 4

Assault Charge Made Against Bus Operator, Passenger After Row

Police today had obtained warrants charging assault with intent to murder for M. A. Weeks, 54, Beco streetcar conductor, and Sammy Lee Williams, 34, Negro passenger on the streetcar.

City Detectives R. A. McMurdo and W. J. Haley said Williams, who lives at 133 16th Avenue, West, was shot by the streetcar conductor Sunday night during the trouble on the streetcar. Williams was taken to the Hillman Hospital where he is in a serious condition. The streetcar conductor was hurt on the leg and arm. He was placed under bond this morning.

Two other Negro passengers, John Garlington, 21, of 40 Fourth Avenue, South, and Amos Crosby 24, of 108 Fourth Avenue, Southwest, were wounded by stray bullets fired by the conductor, the detectives said.

Weeks told the detectives he fired in self-defense after Williams, in a drunken condition, grabbed his arm and began cursing him. The conductor, who lives at 2517 18th Avenue, North, said the trouble began when Williams got on the streetcar and sat in the white passenger section.

Article clipped from The Birmingham News