LAZ RANDELL KILLED HERE

Shooting Affray in Meat Market Results in Instant Death The Soper Democrat March 19, 1925 - transcribed by Ron Henson

Yesterday afternoon about 6 o'clock, Lazarous Randell, about 30 years old, was shot and instantly killed in the front of J.D. Dumas' Meat Markte [sic]. T.J. Lacroix surrendered to officers, admitting the shooting, in defense of his son, Julius Lacroix.

Randell according to stories told by different parties, sent word to Julius Lacroix, who is a brother-in-law of Randell, that he was coming to town and clean up on him. He came to town and went to the Dumas Market where Julius was employed as meat cutter, and started a quarrel, and according to witnesses, drew a gun and fired two shots at him, both bullets striking a meat block, behind which Julius was crouching. Hearing the shooting J.T. Lacroix, father of Julius, opened the door and in defense of his son, fired three shots into Randell, one hitting him in the head, another in the chest and another in the stomach. Randell died almost instantly.

Eye witnesses say that Randell started the fight and fired the first shots. Sheriff Speer came over from Hugo last night and investigated the killing. Lacroix was released on his own word and reported to officers at Hugo this morning. His bond was placed at \$500.00 which he made and was released.

Randell was out on parole for an assault on his father, Gus Randel, Antlers stockman, about four years ago, and is said to have figured in several gun plays in the county in the last few years, according to authorities.

The body was taken to the Norwood & Woodruff undertaking establishment and prepared for burial. The remains were taken to Antlers this afternoon for burial. The unfortunate young man leaves a wife and small baby, a father and brothers and sisters.