Car Details Added In Boy's Death

Some additional descriptive details about a car, but no definite make or year, were products of another session with the witness who told police he saw slain newsboy Jerry "Mike" Bayles abducted at knifepoint near his home Saturday.

Capt. Robert Gray, chief of criminal investigations for the Indiana State Police, said today the witness recalled the car at the scene had a chrome-rimmed rear window, one round taillight on each of two high-finned rear fenders, and that the license plate was on or recessed in the back bumper.

Gray said the details were added to an earlier description of a light blue or green auto with a license number beginning with 49P, F or E, and containing a combination of 5 and 8.

Gray said the information did not pinpoint the make or model of the car, but that investigators still are theorizing it was a late 1950s Chrysler product.

The car and Mike's black jeans, pink-striped yellow shirt, blue windbreaker and black tennis shoes still are prime objectives of the search for Mike's slayer.

The 10-year-old boy, substituting for his 15-year-old brother, was delivering The Star when he disappeared two blocks from his home at 3025 W. Jackson.

His body was found 40 miles away four hours later by a farmer along a Henry County road. Stabbed eight times, the youth bled to death, two autopsies revealed.

Indianapolis police, who are assisting in the investigation, said yesterday they are operating on "good information" but are not close to an arrest.

Meanwhile, The Star reported its reward fund had grown to $5,369.32, with contributions from corporations, organizations and individuals.

Eugene C. Pulliam, publisher of The News and The Star, began the fund by offering $5,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Mike's slayer.