

George Richard Cook (- 11 May 1918)

Cook. Suddenly on Saturday, May 11, 1918 at his residence, 1407 Swann street northwest, George R., beloved husband of Florence A. Cook, aged 47 years. Funeral from the chapel of Thomas S. Sergeon, 1011 7th street northwest on Tuesday, May 14 at 2 p.m. Relatives and friends invited to attend.

The Evening Star, May 11, 1918, p. 2

Wife Put To Flight As Man Ends Life

George Richard Cook, forty-seven years old, was found dead in the bedroom of his home, 1407 Swann street, this morning shortly after 9 o'clock, when his wife returned from the home of friends, where she had spent the night, she explained to the police, because her husband had driven her from home.

She declared he had fired a number of shots at her, and Detective Mullen, who participated in an investigation of the tragedy, reported finding at least fifteen bullet holes in walls and other parts of the house.

A bullet hole in the man's right temple explained his death, while the absence of the weapon with which he was killed gave the affair an air of mystery. Its absence was explained by Mrs. Cook, who told the police it had been taken from the house last night by Maurice H. King, a neighbor, who responded to her request for assistance. Four cartridges taken from the pistol by King were left in the store of J. Bogorad, 1820 14th street, and the weapon was retained by King, according to information obtained by the police.

Mrs. Cook told the police she did not know her husband had a pistol until he brought it home with him last night, and it was learned by the police that the weapon was a new one, suggesting it probably was purchased yesterday.

Inquest This Afternoon

Dr. William B. Carr, deputy coroner, and Detective Mullen were early arrivals at the house, reaching there shortly after police of the eighth precinct had started an investigation.

Detective Mullen said everything learned about the case suggested that the painter committed suicide, and Dr. Carr also was of that opinion. The latter said there were several points in connection with it that should be cleared, however, and that he would hold an inquest at the morgue this afternoon, and have a jury determine the question as to how Cook was shot.

Mrs. Cook stated to Detective Mullen that her husband had been drinking during recent days, and told of a trip he made to Baltimore. Yesterday he threatened her life, she said, and told her: "I'll fix everything before I go."

Early in the night, according to the wife's statement to Detective Mullen, her husband was brought home by a fellow painter, and shortly after the latter's departure the trouble started. Shot after shot was fired, she declared, and she had to flee from the house to save her life, her sister and two nieces also being forced to leave.

Gets Coats From House

The wife and other members of the family met a policeman on the street and told their story to him. The policeman, they stated, told them they would have to get a warrant for the man's arrest and made no further suggestions. Sometime after 10 o'clock, Mrs. Cook said, she found Mr. King, who resides at

1803 14th street, and told him of the conditions. She and her sister wanted to get their coats from the house, and King consented to make an effort to get them, entering the house quietly in order not to disturb the belligerent man, getting the coats and returning to the street.

When he met Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Clara Chambers, her sister, and nieces, he told of having found the revolver on the floor near the bed, on which he took it for granted Cook was sleeping. Thinking Cook might awaken and again use the weapon, he told the family, he picked it up and brought it from the premises with him. He stopped in Hogorad's store, emptied four chambers of the weapon and took the pistol away with him.