

Annie S. Moore **(- 5 Dec 1907)**

The Evening Star, December 5, 1907, p. 1

Shoots Woman; Tries Suicide

Tragic Sequel to Double Lives of Infatuated Pair

Both Are Near to Death

William White Fires Twice at Mrs. Annie Moore

First Met at Local Hospital

Both Are Married -- Man's Wife Had

Tried in Vain to Break Rival's Power

William White, fifty years of age, and Mrs. Annie Moore, thirty-three years, are at the Emergency Hospital in a critical condition, the result of a tragedy enacted this morning in a back room at 476 M street southwest. White shot Mrs. Moore through the head and left hand and then turned the pistol on himself in an effort to end his own life.

Wife Threatens Wife

White's duties called him to all the buildings on the grounds and it was while making his rounds each day that he came in contact with Mrs. Moore. It was not until after the members of the Moore family left the quarantine station that Mrs. White experienced any trouble with her husband. She learned of his infatuation and called on Mrs. Moore several times to induce her to keep away from her husband, even going so far as to threaten to choke her to death if she caught her on the streets wearing a picture of White which Mrs. Moore had. Mrs. Moore ordered Mrs. White from her house when she called upon her, and gave her to understand that she had as much claim to White as Mrs. White had.

Calls White Unbalanced

"But," said Mrs. White to a Star reporter this morning, "last night I was happier than I had been for a long time because of the great change which had taken place in my husband. He brought two boxes of oysters home with him and we chatted together and enjoyed them, reminding me of the days before he became so friendly with the Moore woman.

"But," she added, "All the blame should not be placed upon him. That woman was running after him all the time and he seemed as if he could not resist her. My husband was not in the right mind, however, having received an injury to his head when he was a boy. Lately his actions seemed so queer that I was afraid he was going crazy. He would sit about the house, pull his hair and tell of how his head hurt him, and only last night he said his skull was pressing against his brain."

Wife Finds Revolver

Mrs. White said that her husband had been in the employ of the Southern Railway Company. He was born in Richmond, she said, but had been here since he was a boy. The Moores had lived in Alexandria some time ago. It was stated by Mrs. White that her husband had probably purchased the revolver Tuesday or yesterday, as he had pawned a weapon he had once had and had given the ticket to his married son, who is employed on a street railway. Her husband, she said, was exceptionally pleasant last night, and she went to bed feeling that her future was to be much happier than the past three years of her life. This morning, she said, when she went to the lower floor she happened to brush against her husband's overcoat and felt something hard in one of the pockets of the garment. She soon saw that

what she had touched was a revolver, but she thought nothing of it, having an idea that he had obtained it from the pawnbroker to take to the Philippines.

Finds Husband Unconscious

About 9 o'clock this morning, Mrs. White said her husband left the house telling her he was going as far as the car barn at the foot of 4 ½ street. She stood at the front door and watched him until he reached the corner of N street and then she returned to her duties in the house. A little more than one hour after she saw him walk down the street a small child came to her house and told her of the tragedy. She hurried to the M street house, but her husband was unconscious and unable to recognize her. Mrs. White repeated what she had said about her husband's mental condition and suggested that his defense would be insanity in the event of his recovery. Others who were in the house also said they thought his mind had been affected for some time.

Three Shots Heard

At the time of the shooting the only persons on the upper floor were White and Mrs. Moore. On the lower floor were Mrs. Nettie Daniels, her two small children and Mrs. Willie Ann Doleman. They say White when he appeared at the house about twenty minutes before the shooting occurred. He met them in the lower hall and asked if Mrs. Moore had gone out. Then he went to her room, and had been there about twenty minutes when three pistol shots were fired. Mrs. Daniels and Mrs. Doleman became alarmed and rushed from the house, taking the two children of the former with them. No time was lost in telephoning for assistance, and a crowd of curious persons remained about the house until after the wounded ones had been taken to the hospital. The two children of Mrs. Moore, Margaret, seven years of age, and Heloise, twelve years of age were at school when their mother was shot. They were sent for by Mrs. Daniels and turned over to relatives who live in South Washington.

Bodies on the Floor

Alfred Gibbs, a member of the fire patrol, living at 1325 Huntoon place, was the first person to enter the room after the shooting occurred. He found the man and woman on the floor together, the head of the woman resting on the side of the bed. He made an effort to lift the man, and as he did so the revolver fell to the floor, but where it was before it fell he cannot say. He thinks it was probably resting upon White's body. There was very little blood in the room, all that was visible being spots on the bed. Gibbs remained at the house until the arrival of the police, and he assisted the latter in removing the wounded couple to the patrol wagon.

Husband Summoned

An effort was made to find Mr. Moore, who is employed as a harnessmaker at 400 14th street, but he could not be summoned until after his wife had reached the hospital. It is stated that he had remained away from his wife's home for some time. He had been recently sleeping at the M street house, however, and was there last night. He went to work early this morning, and his wife had about completed her housework when White called. Mrs. Daniels said that White had been in the habit of coming about her house whistling for Mrs. Moore. The latter, she said, had told her she wanted nothing more to do with him. She had told him, she said to Mrs. Daniels, that she wanted him to let her alone and that if he did not do so she would find somebody who would keep him away.

It is believed that when White called upon Mrs. Moore this morning she objected to his visit and that he became enraged and the shooting followed. Occupants of the house say they are certain that Mrs. Moore had tried to get rid of White, but that he was persistent and would not let her alone.

Investigation Follows

Inspector Boardman sent Detectives O'Brien and Mullen to make an investigation of the affair. They visited the scene of the shooting and also called upon Mrs. White. At the M street house they questioned Mrs. Daniels and Mrs. Doleman and were told that Mrs. Doleman heard only two shots, while Mrs. Daniels said she heard all three of them. It is thought the first shot took effect in the woman's head, entering just above the left ear. The second bullet, it is thought, went through Mrs. Moore's hand.

The bullet that passed through the would be murderer's head also went through the head of the bed, carrying splinters from the bed and a small bunch of hair against the wall.

Dr. William B. Carr of the Emergency Hospital took charge of the wounded persons and proceeded to do what he could for them. He soon reached the conclusion that the case of the woman was hopeless, while that of the man was not much better, although, he said this afternoon, there was a possibility that the man might live some time. Both patients were unconscious when they reached the hospital.

Mr. Moore called at the hospital this afternoon to inquire about his wife's condition. He said he had been separated from her for about two years, returning to live with her only a short while ago. He told the policeman on duty at the hospital that his troubles were caused by White. He left the hospital without seeing his wife.

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Mrs. Moore Dies

One Victim of Tragedy Passes Away at Hospital

Mrs. Annie Moore, who was shot through the head yesterday morning by William White while at her home, 476 M street southwest, died at the Emergency Hospital last evening about 6 o'clock.

White regained consciousness last night and Dr. White and his assistants, Drs. Heflebower and Carr, inserted a tube in the hole in the head of the wounded man. His condition this morning showed a slight improvement. A policeman from the fourth precinct is detailed at the hospital to see that the patient makes no effort to escape, as a charge of murder is to be preferred against him should he recover.

Acting Coroner Glazebrook has arranged for the holding of the inquest over the remains of Mrs. Moore tomorrow morning at the morgue.