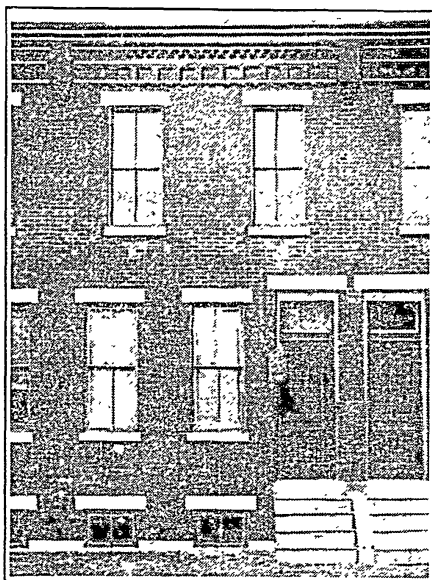


AWFUL DOUBLE TRAGEDY IN THE HOME OF A CAMDEN BRIDE



THE LEWIS HOME IN CAMDEN
The tragedy was committed in the second story front room.

Young Man, Apparently Jealous of His Pretty Sweetheart, Puts a Bullet in Her Brain While Inspecting Wedding Gifts, Then Kills Himself

Brief Letters Found on the Bodies, One Taken From the Girl Indicating an Agreement to Die Together—Both Pennsylvanians

Delaware Thompson, 28 years old, of West Chester, Pa., formerly of 716 South Eighth street, Camden, shot and killed Miss Addie Hacker, aged 23 years, of Lititz, Pa., a really beautiful girl, in the second-story front room of the home of his sister, Mrs. K. S. Lewis, at 534 Trenton avenue, Camden, shortly before noon yesterday. He then placed the revolver to his right temple, pulled the trigger and fell a corpse at the girls' side. *

On the young woman's body this note was found:

We wish to die together.
MISS ADDIE HACKER,
MR. DEL THOMPSON.

In Thompson's clothing was this note:

Notify Wilson Hacker, of Lititz, of Addie's death and tell him if he has any nerve he will take his gun and fix that man whose name I gave him.

Thompson, once a well-known young man in Camden, had been paying attention to Miss Hacker, who was employed in a laundry in West Chester for several months. About a year ago their engagement was announced. Shortly afterward the engagement was broken by the girl, but both seemed to be very friendly.

On Thanksgiving evening Mrs. Lewis' daughter by a former husband, Rebecca Baker Johnson, was married at their home to Worthington W. Snyder, under a canopy of American flags which contained the flag her baby eyes first rested on. Several days ago Thompson called on his sister and told her he was going to bring Miss Hacker over to the house to show her the wedding presents and to try to effect a reconciliation.

Threats of Murder and Suicide

According to Mrs. Lewis they called at the house shortly after 11 o'clock yesterday, and she showed them the gifts, leaving them alone but twice during their visit. Once Miss Hacker left the room when Thompson went to the kitchen to see Mrs. Lewis. When she asked her brother how he and Miss Hacker were coming on she alleges that her brother said:

"If Addie won't marry me, I'll kill her and then kill myself."

When Mrs. Lewis asked him if he had a revolver he laughingly replied: "No," and she paid no more attention to the matter.

The couple finished viewing all the presents except those in the second story front room, when Mrs. Lewis' attention was attracted by the smell of burning food she was preparing for dinner. She hastily descended the stairway, where she was startled by a shot, followed by a fall. Before she could reach the stairway another pistol shot rang out, followed by a crash. When she got to the room she found both Thompson and Mrs. Hacker lying on the floor, each with blood flowing from a wound in the temple.

She hastily sent word to the City Hall by two boys. The bride, Mrs. Snyder, ran to the residence of Walter Gleason, a neighbor, fainted, and was revived with difficulty.

Police on the Scene

Mayor Nowrey, Recorder Stackhouse, Chief of Police Foster and Captains Boyle and Stanley were soon on the scene. An examination revealed a 32-calibre revolver clutched tightly in Thompson's hand. His body lay on his left side with his back to the bed. His right arm lay on his leg and his left was under his head. His feet rested against the girl's side. She lay on her right side with a bullet wound in the left temple, the back of her head resting on the rocker of the chair. She wore a black silk dress, and over the waist in place of a coat she had a tightly fitting black and white golf waist. She

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AWFUL DOUBLE TRAGEDY IN HOME OF CAMDEN BRIDE

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wore a gaily decorated hat, and the pink ribbons in her hair were stained by her life's blood.

Coroner Takes Charge

Coroner Beale, after viewing the bodies, ordered them removed to the morgue. County Physician Jones, after a consultation with the county authorities, decided an inquest unnecessary, and a death certificate according to the facts was given.

Chief of Police Foster immediately notified the authorities at West Chester, and late in the afternoon had a consultation over the telephone with Chief of Police Jefferies, of West Chester. Chief Foster is authority for the statement that Chief Jefferies said that Thompson had been rejected by Miss Hacker and that Thompson had frequently threatened her life.

Did Girl Sign the Note?

Chief Foster also stated that he did not believe Miss Hacker signed the note found on her body. A dress suit case, carried by the dead girl, when opened by the police was found to be empty.

J. W. Hendricks, proprietor of the West Jersey Hotel, Camden, stated last night that Thompson and Miss Hacker registered at the hotel on Friday night as Mr. Dell Thompson and wife. He wrote his residence opposite the name and then scratched it out with a pen.

Girl's Father Arrives

Allen Hacker, father of the dead girl, arrived in Camden last night from Latitz, Pa., and went at once to the City Hall. He said that last Saturday Thompson called at his home and in the evening took his daughter and her mother to a theatre in Lancaster. On Sunday afternoon Thompson and the girl left Latitz in a 3 o'clock trolley car for Lancaster. That was the last Mr. Hacker heard of either Thompson or his daughter until notified of the tragedy yesterday afternoon. Hacker arranged with a local undertaker for the immediate shipment of the girl's body to her home in Latitz.

While on their way to the Lewis home, yesterday morning, Thompson and the girl stopped at a livery stable on Haddon avenue and Thompson introduced the young woman to the proprietor, whom he knew well, as his wife.