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THURSDAY, MAY 30, 1918.

# THOMAS RUDD SHOOTS SELF

## Returns From Races and Dies by His Own Hand.

## THREATENS A COMPANION WHO WOULD INTERFERE.

## Room in Henson Block Scene of Tragedy — Ill-Health the Only Known Reason—Had Lived Here Many Years.

Thomas Rudd, a resident of Chattanooga for more than twenty years, shot and killed himself yesterday afternoon, the circumstances and evidence satisfying the police that such was the case. The tragedy occurred at about 4 o'clock, shortly after Mr. Rudd had returned from a trip to Louisville in company with a close friend, M. M. Vaughn.

The first news of the act was learned by Officer Tom Gillespie, to whom Vaughn made a report immediately after it happened. The officer was standing near the corner of Broad and Ninth streets when approached by Vaughn, who stated that Rudd had committed suicide in his room above the Manhattan cafe and asked Gillespie to accompany him back to the scene. When they arrived there Rudd was lying on the bed with a pistol at his side and a death wound in his head.

Vaughn was taken to police headquarters and his story was heard by Chief of Police Hackett, the man telling his tale without a suggestion of nervousness and in such a straightforward manner that Chief Hackett was convinced of its truthfulness.

He said that Rudd and himself were very close friends and had been so for several years. Last Thursday they made a trip to Louisville, Ky., where they attended the races, returning to Chattanooga about 3 yesterday afternoon, he stated. They called a taxi, he said, and went to Rudd's room, where he started unpacking some of Rudd's belongings, the other man sitting down on the edge of the bed. Vaughn stated that he had been over near a window with his back turned toward Rudd, and when he turned around again the man was holding a revolver in his hand.

Vaughn started to say something to him but was told that he would be killed if he interfered. Then he placed the gun against the right side of his head and fired, the shot killing him instantly. Vaughn said that he then went out and returned with the officer.

When questioned as to any information he might be in possession of that would throw light upon the reasons for the suicide, Vaughn stated that he knew nothing that could be construed as a cause for the act, with the exception of Rudd's general bad health. He was afflicted with intermittent stomach trouble, he said. Tuesday, while at Louisville, Rudd had been under the care of a doctor.

Chief Hackett stated that there was no doubt in his mind that it was a simple case of suicide. Supporting this was the fact that the shot had evidently been fired when the revolver was almost touching Rudd's head, because the flesh was badly seared by the fire. The bullet entered through the right ear and lodged in the back of the head.

The body is being held at O'Donohue's pending funeral instructions. The deceased is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Kate Sherman, of Athens, Tenn., and Mrs. J. S. Loder, of Chattanooga.

R. O. Engledow, by whom Rudd had been employed for a long time, and who had known the man for many years,

stated that he held him in high esteem. He could advance no reason for the suicide.

## FIVE CAMPS SELECTED FOR REPLACEMENT UNITS

### Camps Gordon and McClellan Among Number—The Latter Being Field Artillery Center.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—Selection of five national army cantonments for the exclusive training of replacement units for the infantry and field artillery was announced tonight by the war department.

Camps Gordon (Georgia), Lee (Virginia), and Pike (Arkansas), will be the infantry training camps, while Camps Jackson (South Carolina) and Taylor (Kentucky), are designated as field artillery training and firing centers.

The department also announced that field artillery firing centers are contemplated at Camps Doniphan (Oklahoma) and McClellan (Alabama), which have been used as national guard training camps.

## BATTALION OF DEATH LEADER

WASHINGTON, May 29.—Mme. Marie Botchkarova, former commander of the Russian regiment of women known as the Battalion of Death, was in Washington today. Mme. Botchkarova, who arrived at a Pacific port two weeks ago, would not disclose the purpose of her visit here.

Mme. Botchkarova called during the day on Secretaries Lansing and Baker. At the state department it was said she was seeking aid for Russia, but officials did not say what kind of aid, whether military, political or financial, was asked.

Swim at McCallie lake.—(Adv.)

### Charge Refuses to Talk.

LAREDO, Tex., May 29.—Alberto C. Franco, former Mexican charge in Havana, Cuba, passed through here today en route to Mexico City. He refused to talk further than saying he had been called by his government.

Swim at McCallie lake.—(Adv.)

# h Vegetable Oil