Burton Webster DeLoss

(- 3 Jun 1928)

DeLoss. Suddenly, on Sunday, June 3, 1928, at his residence, 1735 New Hampshire ave. n.w., Burton W. DeLoss. Remains resting at the S.H. Hines Co. funeral home, 2901 14th st. n.w.

The Evening Star, June 4, 1928, p. 2

Court Reporter Jumps To Death

B.W. DeLoss Bids Family Goodbye and Leaps From Apartment Roof

A few minutes after bidding his wife and daughter goodbye, saying he was going for a walk, Burton Webster DeLoss, 40-year-old court reporter, jumped from the roof of an upper=floor window of the Portsmouth Apartment, 1735 New Hampshire avenue, where he lived, and was instantly killed shortly before 7 o'clock last night.

Occupants of the apartment heard the body crash through a tree and hit the pavement of an alley. Emergency Hospital and police of the third precinct were called and DeLoss was pronounced dead. He had suffered a broken back, neck and arm. Coroner Nevitt issued a certificate of suicide.

Suffered From Nervousness

The widow, Mrs. Sallie DeLoss, could give no reason for his act other than her husband had suffered considerably from nervousness since an operation for appendicitis about six months ago.

DeLoss came to this city from New York a few years ago and had been employed as a court reporter for the firm of Smith & Hulse. He was one of the men assigned to cover the recent Staples case before the police trial board, and accidentally offended Representative Blanton, Staples' counsel, toward the end of the trial.

Trouble Amicably Settled

Their controversy threatened to temporarily stop the trial, but was amicably settled after a few minutes.

In addition to being a shorthand expert, DeLoss was an accomplished mandolin and guitar player and well known locally for original arrangements of standard compositions for stringed instruments. The widow and daughter are the only survivors.