

Spree and Tragedy.

SHOOTS HIS LIFEMATE THEN COMMITS SUICIDE.

G. LEE RUSSELL, a horticulturalist of No. 106 South Alma street, in Belvedere, shot and seriously wounded his wife, Mrs. Maggie Shaeffer Russell late yesterday afternoon. Then he put a bullet through his own breast and died immediately after being taken to the Receiving Hospital.

Though shot through the neck and in the right upper arm, the wife struggled to prevent his self-destruction and called for help that arrived too late to save him.

The shooting occurred in the Russell home, and followed a prolonged spree upon the part of Russell, according to relatives, had reduced the wife to a highly nervous condition.

Remonstrances of relatives yesterday angered Russell. He went to his room, secured a revolver and found

his wife alone, working at her sewing machine in the living-room of their home. Leveling the gun, he fired twice, the first ball going through the flesh of her neck and the second shattering her arm.

Though almost fainting from pain and fright, when she saw him turn the revolver toward his own breast, she screamed and called to her aunt, Mrs. Helen C. Shaeffer, in an adjoining room.

"My God, Aunt Helen, come! she cried. "He is trying to kill himself! Stop him!"

Mrs. Shaeffer ran into the room, arriving before the fatal shot was fired. Endeavoring to catch Russell's arm, she deflected his aim and the ball meant for his heart went high. It pierced his body just above the heart, barely breaking the skin at the back.

Dr. S. G. Edwards was summoned and gave first-aid treatment.

Mrs. Russell will recover.

Russell had been working for some

time about Beaumont, and according to the family, had been drinking heavily. His wife was made very nervous, they say, by several incidents due to this, and was, for a short time, in a hospital, suffering from nervous breakdown.

A number of relatives called at her home yesterday and remonstrated with Russell about the condition of affairs. His desperate act followed at once.

The man was in a dying condition when Dr. Edwards arrived. At the Receiving Hospital, he expired on the operating table, just after the bullet had been taken from his back by the surgeon, who was able to pick the fatal pellet out with his fingers.

Mrs. Russell was treated at her own home.

Russell was about 35 years old. Mrs. Russell is ten years his junior.



Mr. and Mrs. G. Lee Russell.

Principals in an attempted murder and suicide yesterday. Russell, who used the gun, is dead. His wife will recover.