

Baie, Andy & Mrs. Baie

d. 1-15-1920

MAN SHOTS HIS WIFE AND THEN COMMITS SUICIDE

STATE CENTER, Ia.—Andy Baie, aged 35, killed his wife, wounded his father-in-law, O. J. Eastman of this place, and then turned his gun on himself, ending his own life at his farm two miles southeast of town at 1:30 o'clock this morning. Worry over a real estate deal is believed to have unbalanced him mentally and to have led to the murder and suicide.

Ellen Edna, aged 10, and Miriam, age 7, the two daughters of the Baie's escaped their father's fury as if thru providential interference, when a physician and the town night watch, summoned by neighbors, called at the house.

The Baie family had driven to town last night and visited at the home of Mrs. Baie's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eastman. Baie's real estate deal and financial matters had preyed on his mind, and to continue talking it over, Mr. and Mrs. Eastman drove out to the farm with the Baies on their return home.

The matter was discussed in the Baie home until 1:30 o'clock in the morning, when Eastman left the house for a few minutes. When he returned Baie met him at the door and shot him in the chest.

A scuffle ensued, in which Eastman and Mrs. Baie attempted to wrest the gun from the infuriated man, but without success. Eastman was shot a second time, this time in the right arm.

Baie then turned the gun, a 38 Oliver Johnson revolver, on his wife, shooting her in the head. Eastman managed to drag her into the front parlor room, which he barricaded against Baie, who attempted to get into the room from various sides. Eastman finally managed to escape and hide in a stairway where he remained, he believes, fully half an hour.

Mrs. Eastman had made her escape when the shooting first began, and ran to the home of a neighbor, George Yeager, to summon aid. Dr. A. D. Woods and Night Watch G. T. Chaunce hastened out to the place, but when they reached the Baie home they found the house dark and after prowling around there for a few minutes they returned to the Yeager farm, where they found both Mrs. Eastman and Mr. Eastman, who had also meanwhile made his escape from the Baie house.

The two girls, Ellen Edna and Miriam, were sleeping in an upstairs room in the home. Their father called to them to get dressed at once and to come downstairs, evidently with the intention of killing them also.

More physicians and armed men soon arrived on the scene and they broke into the barricaded house from two sides. After breaking through three doors they found Baie and his wife, dead, side by side, on the parlor floor.

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