

Papp, Joseph

DREADED ARMY, KILLS SELF

May 25 1942
Private Joseph Papp Dies Instantly from Bullet at Steel City.

A dread of army life is the cause advanced for the suicide of Joseph Papp, 26, a resident of Steel City, on Saturday, sometime between 2 and 2.30 p. m., according to a statement today by Dr. D. F. Bachman, Coroner of Northampton County.

A private in the 26th. Infantry, stationed at Camp Gordon, Ga., Papp had been home on a furlough, and was scheduled to return on Saturday night. Early on Saturday afternoon he took a .32 calibre rifle and three boxes of cartridges, telling members of the household that he intended to do some target shooting.

About 250 yards from his home, he sat beneath a tree, midway between the Lehigh River and the tracks of the Lehigh Valley River, and placing the barrel of the weapon in back of his right ear, he discharged it, the leaden pellet crashing into his brain, causing instant death, Dr. Bachman said. The lifeless body was found by Joseph Di Jrolanio.

Dr. Bachman stated that the cause of death was due to a bullet fired through the skull and brain with suicidal intent.

Before leaving for the U. S. Army in June of last year he was employed as a nozzle setter at the Bethlehem Steel Company plant. He was a member of the Bethlehem Steel Relief Association.

He is survived by his parents, George and Mary (Nagy) Papp; one brother, Laslo, and a sister,

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Elizabeth, at home.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 10 a. m. from the home, with interment in the family plot at Hellertown Union Cemetery.

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