

Died on June 3, 1908 at age 27 years
Tacoma, Washington

Viborg Enterprise -
June 11, 1908
June 15, 1908

Hangs Herself With Hair Ribbon.

**ANNA ERICKSON ENDS HER
LIFE WITHOUT CAUSE.**

*Leaves Note Bidding Goodbye to
Life, Which She Liked, But
She Preferred Death---Much
Mystery in the Case.*

(Tacoma, Wash., Daily News.)

All efforts have been in vain to find a motive for the suicide of Miss Anna Erickson, aged 27, at 1301 South 1 street yesterday afternoon, who hanged with a black hair ribbon. Friends and relatives alike are unable to give a reason.

The body is now at Mellingers. The white veil, which had been wound tightly around her face four times, was taken off in spite of the last request made by the young woman, "that no one but God should remove the veil from my face."

This request was written on a piece of paper and was lying on the bed in her room. It was stated at the undertaking parlors today that they had to take the veil off, although some believe that her wish should have been complied with.

The suicide is one of the most peculiar on record, as it now appears she must have been planning on her death for several days at least, although she gave no hint of her intentions. The end came without a struggle, apparently, as a woman in the next room heard no sounds of any kind during the afternoon.

FRIEND DISCOVERS BODY.

The body was discovered about 7 p.m. by Louis Hanson, a coachman, employed by C. H. Jones, 322 North Fifth street. Hanson had called to take Miss Erickson out walking, as was his custom.

"When I knocked on the door and received no answer, I was frightened," he said afterward. "I saw that the key was in the door, so I pushed it out with a key of my own and unlocked the door."

Hanson had been in the habit of entering without ringing the bell and going direct to Miss Erickson's room, which was at the head of the stairs leading to the second floor. As soon as he opened the door and saw the young woman apparently dead, he went to the next room

and told the woman there that Miss Erickson had hanged herself. He then returned to the death chamber and cut the ribbon with which she had hung herself to the head of the bed.

The young woman had apparently been dead for several hours. H. Rasmussen, a cousin, was immediately notified and took charge of her belongings.

HER PARTING NOTE.

Miss Erickson was hanging in a sitting posture between the bed and the bay window, a few inches above her suitcase. The notes she had written lay on the bed a few feet away. In addition to the note requesting that the veil be left around her head, was one to the public which reads:

June 3, '08.

"I fear not death because I know not of having done wrong or harmed either man or animal. I owe no one anything except my best friend, H. L. H., from whom I have borrowed money, not because I needed to do so, but because I have my money where I can't get it at any moment I wish. I have plenty of money as I have had a savings account since 1900, which has gradually increased from my earnings.

"I have enjoyed the different kinds of work which I have done and have health and strength to do most anything, I may not have so many friends as some but have as good friends as anyone, even though they may not all be here.

"I have enjoyed life but prefer death now. May the health and strength that I cast away be given to those who are in need of such.

"Wishing you all a long and happy life and bidding you all goodbye,

"ANNA"

PLANNED FOR SEVERAL DAYS.

That Miss Erickson had been planning her death for at least several days is apparent from the fact that since last Saturday she had been cleaning her room. When she paid her room rent Monday she said she was going to mop the floor and get things all cleaned up. This was the only thing said in the house which could possibly be connected with her death, and this was not thought of until this morning, when the conversation was recalled.

The young woman was always cheerful, especially so of late. She came to Tacoma last February from North Yakima and since that time has been teaching art. During March she was unable to get many pupils, but she said that when things did not look so cheerful on the outside, a person should be cheerful

Death of Miss Anna Erickson.

The remains of Miss Anna Erickson, whose death at Tacoma, Wash., was chronicled in this paper last week, arrived in Viborg this morning and the funeral is being held this afternoon from the D. B. S. Hall. A sister who also resides on the coast is expected to arrive in the morning, but it was thought best not to postpone the funeral any longer. The remains will be buried in the Lutheran cemetery west of town. Miss Erickson went to the coast about seven or eight years ago. She is the daughter of Rasmus Erickson, of Irene, and a sister of Mrs. P. C. Paulsen, of this place. She has two brothers, Anton and George, living west of Center Point. The cause of death as given was suicide by strangulation by rope. The entire community sympathizes with the family in their deep sorrow and affliction. We hope to be able to give a full biography in our next issue.