

Amy Cooke

Isle of Wight County Press 5 April 1947

NEWPORT

Suicide Follows Brother's Death.--Miss Amy Cooke, aged 59, of 40 Lugley Street, was found dead in tragic circumstances on Sunday, less than a month after the death of her brother, Mr. Charles Cooke, to whom she was devoted. At the inquest, conducted by the Island Coroner (Mr. R. E. A. Webster) on Tuesday, Miss Cooke's nephew, Bertram H. M. Cooke, of Dibden Lodge, Hythe, Southampton, told of finding his aunt dead in the gas-filled scullery at her home with her head in the gas oven. Dr. G. L. Peskett, who had attended both Miss Cooke and her brother, said he thought Miss Cooke yielded to a sudden impulse to take her own life. She was only in fair health, having suffered from bronchitis during the winter. She was extremely grieved at her brother's death, as they had been inseparable. Edwin James Hurry, of 14 Crocker Street, said that both he and Mr. Cooke visited Miss Cooke on Saturday evening, when she at first seemed depressed, but brightened up in the course of conversation. She gave no indication whatever that she contemplated taking her life. P.C. Floyd said he could find no letter or note in the house. The bed had been turned back but had not been slept in. The Coroner recorded a verdict that deceased took her life while the balance of her mind was temporarily disturbed, and expressed sympathy with the relatives. Miss Cooke was well known and respected in the neighbourhood and much regret is expressed at the tragic nature of her death. During the last four years she had contributed £20 to the Merchant Navy Comforts Fund by collecting "ship" halfpennies. The funeral took place on Wednesday.

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