

TV SUPERMAN

LIFE AS LIFE

WITH BULLET

Guests Hear Shot, Find George Reeves Dead

Hollywood, June 16 [Special]—George Reeves, 45, who portrayed "Superman" in more than 100 television films, shot and killed himself Tuesday in his bedroom in his Benedict canyon home.



Reeves

In the house at the time of the shooting were Leonore Lemmon, 35, his fiancée; Robert Condon, a writer; William Bliss, a friend, of Hollywood, and Miss Carol Von Ronkel, a neighbor.

Miss Lemmon and Condon were house guests and Bliss and Miss Von Ronkel were midnight callers.

Ordered Visitors Out

Miss Lemmon, who said she and Reeves were to have been married Friday, said Reeves had retired when Bliss and Miss Von Ronkel appeared. She said Reeves came down stairs, objected to the lateness of the call, and ordered the visitors to leave.

"When Reeves went back upstairs I had a premonition he was going to shoot himself," Miss Lemmon said. "Then we heard the shot."

Friends said Reeves had not worked regularly in two years and was despondent over being identified so closely with "Superman" that he found it difficult to get other roles.

Lethargic Since Accident

Reeves suffered a head injury April 8 in an automobile crash near his home. Friends said he had been lethargic since this accident.

However he had planned to go to San Diego Tuesday to box two exhibition rounds with Archie Moore, world's light heavyweight champion, and had talked of embarking on a wrestling career. He made his movie debut in 1937 playing one of the Tarleton twins in "Gone With the Wind." He appeared in several Hopalong Cassidy films.

Miss Lemmon, daughter of a Broadway ticket broker, is a familiar figure in New York City cafe night life. She was married in 1941 to J. Vanderbilt Webb, an heir to the Vanderbilt fortune, and divorced in 1946.