

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY – ACCIDENTAL DEATHS, DROWNINGS, SUICIDES

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

BURNING

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 10 [Thursday, May 30, 1889], page 1, column 3

THE CITY.

THE little 7-year-old daughter of **Jas. Farrel**, living near **Lake Antoine**, was seriously burned while playing with fire on last Monday. In company with a number of playmates the child had started a fire on the banks of the lake, opposite the residence of her parents, and in some manner her clothes became ignited. Hearing the agonizing screams of the little girl a neighbor named **Mrs. Peterson** ran to the scene and endeavored to subdue the flames by rolling the child in the wet sand. Before she succeeded however, **Mrs. Farrel** appeared, and seizing the girl in her arms rushed head long into the lake with her. This act undoubtedly saved the child's life but not before her clothes had been almost entirely destroyed and her back and lower limbs frightfully burned. **Dr. Mead** is attending the little sufferer and states that, with careful treatment her recovery is assured.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 25 [Thursday, November 10, 1910], page 1, column 4

Child Cremated.

At **Crystal Falls**, last Friday, the infant daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Gust Hutila** was burned to death. The mother had gone to the home of a neighbor on an errand leaving the little one playing on the kitchen floor. On her return the house was a mass

of flames and was burned to the ground together with the adjoining house. It is not known how the fire started, but it is probably that a live coal tumbled out of the stove on to [*sic – onto*] the floor.

DROWNING

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 6 [Thursday, May 2, 1889], page 5, column 3

HIS LAST BATTLE FOUGHT.

Tom Hinch Finds His Fate in the Depths of the Menominee River Last Friday.

Tom Hinch, the pugilist, who fought a glove fight with **Jim McCornick** in this city recently, was drowned while attempting to cross the **Menominee river** last Friday. Hinch, and a man named **Finn**, left this city for **Bennetts ranch** [*house of ill repute*] considerably under the influence of liquor. When they reached the river they found a small boat which they attempted to use, but being intoxicated they fell into the water several times in attempting to get in launched. They were observed from the other side by a man who told them to wait until he came across with a large boat. The accident was caused by Hinch and Finn scuffling while in the boat and Hinch fell over-board [*sic – overboard*]. In attempting to rescue Hinch the boat was upset and the other two men had to struggle for their own lives and leave Hinch to his fate. Either Hinch could not swim or was too intoxicated to make an effort to save himself. The other two men had a narrow escape from a

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like fate. A party of gentlemen from this city went down to the river last Saturday and endeavored to find the body but it is likely that it went over the falls, in which case it is hardly probable it will ever be recovered. Logs are now running in large numbers and it is the history of past events of this kind that it is very unlikely that when a body goes over the falls it is ever seen again. Hinch has a widowed mother living in Milwaukee, who we are informed was dependent upon him for support. He is said to have been very kind to his mother, and for all his rough life to have displayed many evidences of a kindly disposition. He had many friends in this city who regret his untimely end.

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 19 [Thursday, August 1, 1889], page 5, column 2

Were They Drowned or Lost in the Woods?

Miss **Lizzie Farrell**, of **Norway**, and two visiting young ladies, Miss **Nellie McCabe**, of **DePere**, and Miss **Alice McGillan**, cousin of **Mrs. R. Flannigan**, of **Appleton**, drove out to the **New York farm** last Tuesday afternoon. On their way they met **Mrs. Juno** driving to town, but continued *[on]* their way telling *[,]* telling Mrs. Juno that they would await her return. When Mrs. Juno got back home she saw their rig tied in the yard but the young ladies were not about. This, however, did not alarm her, as she thought they were somewhere about the farm, and would shortly make their appearance, so she busied herself preparing the evening meal. When supper time arrived she made inquiries of the farm hands about the young ladies, and learned from the carpenter and blacksmith that they

had been seen getting into a small dug-out tied at the river landing, an unsafe boat for even one person to ride in who is not an experienced oarsman, and totally unsafe for three young ladies. This startling information very naturally excited the gravest fears for the safety of the young ladies. Further investigation showed that the boat was missing, and that there were no signs of the young ladies to be found anywhere. Word was immediately sent to their friends in Norway and the search to ascertain their fate was begun. The boat was found some distance down the stream caught to some rocks by a chain attached to the boat. All day yesterday the utmost excitement prevailed in Norway, and hundreds of people went to assist in the sad task of recovering the bodies of the unfortunate young ladies, it being accepted as a foregone conclusion that they must have drowned in the river. Dynamite was exploded in the hope of raising the bodies, and the river bottom dragged with grappling hooks, but at the time of our arrival yesterday afternoon, all these efforts had been *[of]* no avail. Several young men dived into the water with the hope of seeing the bodies, but the river is so shaded by the high banks and dense woods, that it was found to be impossible to see any distance away under water. While they were sitting on the bank watching the men at their melancholy labor, **Dick Flannigan** came down to the opposite bank and shouted across that he had found footprints on that side of the river that satisfied him that the ladies had landed safely and were lost in the woods. The footprints indicated that one of the ladies wore rubbers and the other two did not, and there were marks indicating that a parasol had been used as a cane. A party of men, headed by **Joe. Benson**, of **Norway**, immediately started on the trail, and when we left the woods re-echoed with their shouts. We earnestly

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hope that the young ladies may be found in the woods alive and well, but to us it seems almost like hoping against hope. We can hardly believe that it would be possible for them to reach the opposite shore in the treacherous craft they embarked in, and that their bodies will not yet be found in the water, but of course the entire fruitlessness of so many hours search lends strength to the hope that this last supposition may prove to be correct.

On every hand the deepest regret is expressed at this unfortunate occurrence. **Mike Farrell** has but recently buried one daughter, and this calamity falls upon him with terrible force. Miss **Lizzie Farrell** was a young lady of most charming disposition, and faultless character, and her lamentable fate, if the worst fears should prove to be true, will be deeply regretted by everyone who knows her. The other two young ladies, we understand, were visiting friends in Norway, and by their winsome manners had already made hosts of friends who will mourn their unhappy end.

Just as we go to press we learn that Miss Farrell's hat was found last night in an eddy below the **Sturgeon Falls**. All hopes that the ladies have escaped death is abandoned and every effort is being made to recover the bodies. This is a difficult task and success is by no means certain. The current of the **Menominee river** is a rapid one and but a short distance below where they embarked are the Sturgeon Falls. There have been repeated instances of river men who have been drowned in the Menominee and their bodies have never been recovered. But of course no possible means will be left untried to recover the bodies of these lamentably reckless young ladies, and it is hoped that the poor consolation of giving them a Christian burial will be accorded their distracted relatives.

At the time of going to press we have not learned anything more definite than the

above concerning the fate of the unfortunate trio.

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 20 [Thursday, August 8, 1889], page 1, column 3

The Bodies Found.

The bodies of the three unfortunate ladies who were drowned in the **Menominee river**, near the **New York farm**, last week Tuesday, were recovered last Saturday and Sunday. The body of Miss **Lizzie Farrell** was the first to be found, it being recovered late Saturday afternoon. Next was recovered the body of **Miss McCabe** about 10 a.m. Sunday, and **Miss McGillan** about 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon, all being found in an eddy below the rapids, and within 50 feet of each other. The bodies were recovered by professional divers, who had been brought from Marquette and Menominee. They were very little if any disfigured, except that they were of course somewhat bloated, having been in the water five and six days respectively. The bodies of Misses McCabe and McGillan were taken home for interment by their sorrowing relatives Monday. Funeral services were held over the remains of Miss Farrell at Norway last Monday and the body taken to DePere for burial. The entire community, while sympathizing deeply with the afflicted relatives of the deceased, cannot but rejoice that their bodies have been found and can be given a Christian burial.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 5, Number 9 [Thursday, July 19, 1900], page 1, column 2

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Sad Fatality.

Howard, the eleven year old [*sic* – *eleven-year-old*] son of **Mr. and Mrs. Z. Scott**, was drowned while bathing in **Crystal Lake** last Tuesday afternoon. Howard, with two other boys, was playing on a raft. In attempting to navigate it to the shore, the little fellow fell into the lake and was drowned. The body was recovered a few hours later. Howard was a bright and lovable boy and the parents have the warm sympathy of the community. The funeral was held on Sunday last from the Presbyterian church and was largely attended.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 28 [Thursday, December 1, 1904], page 4, columns 2-3

BRIEF CITY NEWSITES.

E.A. Neubauer had an exceedingly narrow escape from drowning at **Long Lake** yesterday. He attempted to cross the lake on the thin ice and broke through some distance from the shore. He succeeded in breaking his way through the ice for some distance, but became exhausted and called for help. His cries were heard by **R.L. Hammond** and **Claude Milliman**, who hastened to his assistance. With the help of a long ladder, he was rescued none the worse for his experience. It was a narrow escape, however, as the water is very deep where he broke through the ice.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 11, Number 8 [Thursday, July 12, 1906], page 1, column 1

DEATH IN RIVER

PETER MELBOURN WAS DROWNED AT SAND PORTAGE RAPIDS.

Gets Excited, Jumps from a Raft, Couldn't Swim a Stroke, and is Drawn Under by Current.

Peter Melbourn, who was employed in the log yard for the **Kimberly & Clark Co.**, was accidentally drowned last Sunday while out fishing in the **Menominee river**, at **Sand Portage**, about two miles from town. He was in company with **Karl Van Gienkel**. Melbourn got on to a small raft and with a pole pushed the raft out about thirty feet from shore, when he accidentally dropped the pole in the river. He then became excited and jumped from one side of the raft to the other until it tipped over and he was thrown into the water and drowned. Van Gienkel did what he could to save him by reaching out with a log pole, but the distance was too great and he could not get close enough for Melbourn to get hold and neither of the men could swim. When Van Gienkel saw that Melbourn was drowned, he started for town to give the alarm, and a party of men were soon at the scene to try and recover the body. The accident occurred about noon and the body was not recovered until the next morning about eight o'clock. The unfortunate man was forty years of age and leaves a wife and seven children without means of support. He was a native of Belgium and a member of the Flemish Brotherhood of **Norway**, where he recently resided, having moved to **Niagara** about three months ago. Funeral

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services were held at St. Anthony's church yesterday. Interment was had at **Quinnesec cemetery**.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 11, Number 8 [Thursday, July 12, 1906], page 1, column 3

FATHER CAVICCHI

WAS DROWNED YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AT LYON'S LAKE.

Was pastor of the Catholic Church at Vulcan – Former Pastor of the Local Italian Church.

Rev. R. Cavicchi, pastor of Saint Barbara's church at Vulcan, was drowned yesterday afternoon, about two o'clock, while fishing at **Lyon's Lake**, on the **Felch Mountain road**, about twelve miles north of **Norway**.

Father Cavicchi went out to the lake with three boys from Vulcan and he and one of the boys were in a canvass boat. They had a stone in the boat for an anchor. In shifting the anchor from one end of the boat to the center the boat was capsized.

The boy clung to the boat until the other two boys, who were on shore, came out with a raft and got him, but Father Cavicchi drowned before the raft reached the place where the boat capsized.

As soon as the boys reached the shore they started for Norway with the horse to give the alarm and get help to find the body.

They did not reach town until about eight o'clock in the evening, when a party

was organized and started out to search for the body. Another party left Norway about three o'clock this morning to relieve them.

Father Cavicchi was about forty-three years of age, and was at one time pastor of **Holy Rosary church** in this city, going from here to **Lake Linden**, and later to **Vulcan**. He was an eloquent speaker and was well liked by his congregation, who will long mourn his untimely death.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 11, Number 10 [Thursday, July 26, 1906], page 4, column 2

Drowning Fatality.

Last Sunday, while in bathing near the **Water Works pumping plant**, on the **north shore of Lake Antoine**, **Nibole Casaldo**, [sic] was drowned. Casaldo, being unfamiliar with the lake channels, stepped into a deep hole and was drowned before his companions could reach him. The body was recovered a few hours later. He was about eighteen years of age and had been employed on one of the North-Western work trains. As near as can be learned, he had no relatives in this section, coming to **Iron Mountain** about six weeks ago from **Italy**. He had a brother in Chicago and it was his intention to leave for that city on Monday. He was buried last Tuesday afternoon by the United Italian societies, the funeral being held at the same time as that of the late **Angelo Sonaglia**, who was killed at the Concentrating Works last Saturday.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 12, Number 3 [Thursday, June 6, 1907], page 1, column 3

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A YOUTH DROWNED

HOWARD VAN LANNAN *[sic]* THE VICTIM OF BOATING ACCIDENT.

Drowned Last Saturday Noon in the Presence of a Number of Companions in the Shea Pond.

Howard VanLaanan, aged thirteen years, eldest son of **Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. VanLaanan**, was drowned last Saturday noon in **Shea pond near River avenue**.

With a number of companions Howard had launched a small boat about six feet in length and of their own construction in the pond. Howard had embarked in the boat. When a short distance from the bank the boat commenced to leak freely. The lad became frightened and, at the suggestion of his companions, jumped into the water and attempted to wade ashore. The bottom of the pond is of a boggy nature, and his feet becoming fastened in the mud, he was unable to extricate himself. Finding that the mud was gradually drawing him under, he called for help, but his little companions were unable to render him any assistance. However, an alarm was given and a number of men came to the rescue, but too late to save the precious life. The body was recovered in about fifteen minutes after it had disappeared and a determined effort was at resuscitation was made under the direction of **Dr. Cruse**, but it was unavailing. The remains were taken to the **Hansen undertaking room** and prepared for burial.

The funeral was held last Monday morning from **St. Mary's church** and was one of the largest ever seen in the city. All his classmates at the **Lincoln school**, with

whom he was a great favorite, attended the services chaproned *[sic – chaperoned]* by **Principal Price**. The sermon by **Pastor Nosbisch** was a particularly touching tribute to the youth and his many manly traits. The floral offerings were abundant and most beautiful, his classmates contributing in a large measure.

The afflicted parents are assured of the heartfelt sympathy of the entire community. Howard was their pride and constant joy and he was in every way worthy of the love which was lavished upon him.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 13, Number 7 [Thursday, July 9, 1908], page 8, column 5

Drowning Fatality.

Thomas Truscott, eleven-year-old son of **Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Truscott**, of Chapin street, was drowned in **Bass Lake** last Thursday about noon. The little fellow, with a younger brother and another boy, had gone to the lake to play. At the time of the accident Thomas was on a raft constructed of small logs. His companions had shoved the raft from the shore. Thomas, who was unable to swim, evidently fearing that the raft would float too far from the shore, and thinking he was still in shallow water, jumped off. The water, however, was beyond his depth, and he sunk. His little companions sounded an alarm and **H. Person**, and several of the men employed by him on the **Spread Eagle road**, responded to their cries. By the time they arrived, however, it was too late, the little fellow had disappeared under water. **Anton Franckini** *[sic – Frankini]*, after several attempts, succeeded in recovering the body, and it was brought to the **Smith undertaking rooms** and prepared for

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burial. The funeral was held on Sunday. Young Thomas was a bright and attractive child and will be mourned by many friends, old and young. The bereaved parents have the sympathy of the community.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 13, Number 8 [Thursday, July 16, 1908], page 8, column 5

SECOND DROWNING FATALITY.

Herbert Sjogren Meets Death While Bathing in Power-House Lake.

A third attack of cramps resulted in the drowning of **Herbert Sjogren**, aged twenty years, in a small pond known as **Powder-house Lake**, a few miles south of the city, at about four o'clock last Friday afternoon.

Sjogren, accompanied by two other young men, had gone to the pond to go in swimming. The water in the pond is very cold even in midsummer. The day was very warm and it is probable that the young man became overheated by the walk to the lake. It is known that the first and second plunge into the chilly water brought on an attack of cramps. The young man refused to be alarmed, however, and again entered the water. The third attack rendered him helpless and he sank to the bottom.

Charles Anderson and **Edward Peterson**, his companions, made an effort to save his life. Neither were expert swimmers and their efforts were futile. Assistance was summoned from town and the body was recovered about an hour later by **Carl Israelson**, who entered the water and fastened a grappling hook to the clothing.

The young man was the son of **Mr. and Mrs. Emil Sjogren** and resided with his

parents on East A street. The funeral was held on Tuesday from the **Swedish Baptist church**.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 13, Number 52 [Thursday, May 20, 1909], page 4, column 2

FOSTER CITY FACTS.

While trying to dip a small pail of water at the **spring near their home** last Monday, **Ward**, the three-year-old son of **John Korten**, fell into the box, which always holds on a level, two and a half feet of water, and probably was in the box three minutes when he was missed by his mother, who ran to the spring the first thing for him and found him lying on his back with his head stretched back and mouth and eyes open with about eight inches of water over his face. His mother pulled him up, but was so weak she dropped him the first time and finally succeeded, and with the aid of **Mrs. Brault**, a neighbor, undressed the lad and rubbed him with towels for about ten minutes, when he came to. He recovered rapidly and little realizes his narrow escape from death.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 13, Number 52 [Thursday, May 20, 1909], page 4, column 4

NIAGARA NEWS NOTES.

Carl Wennergren, a Prominent Young Man, Accidentally Drowned.

Carl Wennergren was accidentally drowned last Tuesday forenoon **just below the falls at the hydraulic power plant**. He

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and a friend, **Harry Passno**, went out to the falls with a camera to take some views. Wennergren climbed out on a high rock, just below the falls, so that Passno could take a picture of him. In some why he missed his footing and fell about twenty feet into the seething whirlpool below[,] sinking out of sight almost immediately. Passno was arranging his camera at the time and did not see him fall, but heard the splash in the water and heard Wennergren call for help. He rushed to the edge of the rock and saw him go down for the last time. Passno then returned to Niagara and told the sad news. A party of men went to the scene at once, but could not accomplish anything toward recovering the body as the water is very high and swift. Wennergren was a single man, about twenty-five years of age, and has a sister, **Mrs. August Green**, and a sister-in-law, **Mrs. Louis Wennergren**[,] residing in **Niagara**. He was highly esteemed among his associates and his untimely death will be mourned by a large circle of friends.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 4 [Thursday, June 16, 1910], page 1, column 4

Bathing Fatality.

The first bathing fatality of the season occurred last Sunday afternoon. **Guisseppi [sic – Giuseppe] Attelio**, an Italian, aged twenty-four years, was the victim. The accident happened on the **Menominee river near the Badwater farm of M. Metzler**, where Attelio, [sic] was employed. Attelio, with another man, had gone to the river to swim. The victim of the accident had been warned by his companion not to venture into the river at a certain place, as the water was very deep. Atellio [sic –

Attelio], announcing that he was a good swimmer, sprang from the bank into the deep pool. The water was very cold and it is the supposition that he was at once taken with a cramp. He came to the surface twice and apparently was unable to swim. The water at this point is about thirty feet deep. The authorities have been unsuccessful in the endeavor to secure the body, grappling and blasting having been resorted to, and it is the opinion of those familiar with the river currents that it was caught by the underton [sic – undertow] and carried down the stream. Attelio had no relatives in this country and but little is known concerning his affairs.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 5 [Thursday, June 23, 1910], page 1, column 2

Body Recovered.

The body of **Guisseppi [sic – Giuseppe] Attelio**, the Italian who was drowned in the **Menominee river near the Badwater farm** on the 12th, was found floating several miles down the stream by a party of river drivers last Sunday. The body was first discovered by **Joseph Dessereau** near the **Twin Falls bridge**. Dessereau notified **Coroner Cudlip** from **Spread Eagle**. It was not considered necessary to hold an inquest, as the drowning was due to the fact that the man was attacked by cramps while in bathing.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 16, Number 15 [Thursday, August 31, 1911], page 1, column 2

Little Boy Drowned.

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Louis, the nine-year-old son of **Mr. and Mrs. Egidio Aliprandini**, residents of the first ward, was drowned in the presence of about twenty companions last Tuesday afternoon shortly after five o'clock. The fatality occurred *[sic – occurred]* at a **small pond which had been formed by the late rains near the Walpole mine**. Louis and his playmates were engaged in playing boat in the pond. He was riding on a plank, which capsized precipitating him into the water. The other boys were too frightened to attempt to rescue their companion and it was twenty minutes before the body was brought to the surface. Louis was found in a sitting *[sic – sitting]* position at about the center of the pond, the water barely covering his head. Life was extinct when the body was brought to land.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 17, Number 7 [Thursday, July 4, 1912], page 1, column 2

Young Man Drowned.

Roy Nancarrow, of **Florence**, aged eighteen years, was drowned in the **Menominee river near the mouth of Fisher Creek**, last Friday afternoon. With two companions, **George Baird** and **Emmett Tully**, he was engaged in swimming across the river with his clothing on. Becoming exhausted Nancarrow and Baird sank in a deep hole a short distance from shore. Baird, after sinking twice, was rescued by Tully and a young man named **Goodreau**. It is said that Nancarrow never came to the surface after sinking the first time. The body was recovered three hours later with a drag. Roy Nancarrow was a nephew of **Mrs. Henry White**, of this city, and resided with his grandparents, **Mr. and Mrs. J.S. Penberthy**.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 23, Number 3 [Thursday, June 6, 1918], page 1, column 3

TRIPLE DROWNING

Three Young Italians Meet Death at Spread Eagle Last Sunday.

Bass Lake, at **Spread Eagle**, was the scene of a dramatic tragedy that cost the lives of three young men at about five o'clock last Sunday afternoon.

The victims were **Luigi Andreoli**, **Gianbattista Milanese** and **Edwardo Ercoli**, all unmarried.

The young men were in a small boat and were about midway between **Eagle and Bass Islands**. It was evident that the young men were not familiar with the management of the boat. The lake was rough. Getting into the sea, the boat commenced to ship water. Becoming alarmed, one of the men stood up in the boat. His example was followed by the others and this caused the boat to rock worse than ever. The men, evidently badly frightened, clinched and all fell out of the boat into the water in a struggling mass. One man made frantic attempts to swim. He was clinched by the other two, and after a struggle of a few seconds, all disappeared and never came to the surface again.

The accident was witnessed by many people. There were many boats on hand. Several rushed to the point where the young men had disappeared, but their endeavors at rescue were fruitless, as the lake at this point is very deep.

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A rescuing party was organized by Alderman Payant and others. Grappling hooks and other implements were secured and the work of dragging the laks [*sic – lake*] for the bodies started at once. The body of **Ercoli** was recovered first, about five o'clock Monday morning, that of **Milanesi** shortly after the noon hour, and **Andreoli** in the evening. **Milanesi** was thirty-two years of age, **Ercoli** thirty-three years of age, and **Andreoli** twenty-two.

Andreoli had one brother, **Peter**, residing here. Another brother, **Albert**, enlisted here and is now in France, and a third brother is in the Italian army. His father and mother and only sister reside in Italy.

Ercoli is a brother of **Mrs. Luigi Pollicani**, who resides in the first ward, and has no other relatives in this country.

Milanesi's relatives all reside in Italy and he had two brothers in the Italian army.

All had resided in the city for six or eight years and had many friends. They were affiliated with several of the Italian societies.

The funeral was held this morning from **Holy Rosary church** and were [*sic – was*] largely attended, many of the **Italian organizations** attending in a body.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 25, Number 27 [Thursday, November 18, 1920], page 8, column 3

DROWNS IN CRYSTAL LAKE

Ten-Year-Old Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. LaHaie, Falls in Air Hole.

While playing on the ice at **Crystal Lake** late last Sunday afternoon, **Archie**, the ten-

year-old son of **Mr. and Mrs. Joseph LaHaie**, 614 West Hughitt street, broke through and met death by drowning. The water was about twelve feet deep where the unfortunate lad went down. The boy was alone at the time of the sad affair.

The boy let his home yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock and went to the home of some other boys to play. Not finding them at home he went to Crystal [*Lake*] and went out on the ice. The place where the lad went down is an air hole and it is thought that while he was running along he did not notice the hole and stepped into it.

A son of **Harvey Baril**, [*sic*] and another boy saw the LaHaie boy coming to ward [*sic – toward*] the lake while they were going in another direction to their home. When the lad failed to put in an appearance for supper his parents became alarmed and upon learning that he had gone to the lake they summoned some of their friends and wnet [*sic – went*] there to make an investigation. The **Rev. Fr. J. Beauchene** notified **Undertaker J.A. Payant** that the boy was missing and had probably been drowned. **Coroner MacDonald** was also summoned. Mr. Payant took charge of the work in recovering the body. He and **Chief of Police Gibeault** organized about twenty men and boats were procured and the work of dragging the lake was started at once. At 8:30 o'clock the boy's cap was found floating in the water. The party worked diligently until 11 o'clock last night to recover the body, but it proved in vain. This morning **Iver Carlson**, who is employed by Mr. Payant, and **Fred Luckman** and **Officer Corey** went out in a boat, again dragged the lake and located the body at about 9 o'clock.

The boy is survived by his parents, five brothers and four sisters. The funeral will be held Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock at **St. Joseph's church**, the **Rev. Fr. J.**

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Beauchene officiating. Interment will be made at Cemetery park.

Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, _____ Year, Number _____ [Monday, June 8, 1925], page 2, columns 1-2

HIGH SCHOOL BOY DROWNS IN LAKE

Rescuer Almost Loses Life in Attempt to Save Him

Stricken with cramps, **Bernard Alfred Peterson**, 16-year-old high school student, was drowned Saturday night at 7:30 o'clock at **Bass lake**, about a mile north of the city, while in swimming with two companions.

Peterson and his pals, **Joseph Dulan**, 14, and **Harry Stevens**, 12, had waded out into the water with a raft to a point about 50 yards from shore. After playing about for 15 minutes, Peterson complained that he was tired and asked his companions to scull the raft back to shore.

While returning, Peterson remarked that the raft was "moving too slow" and he would prefer swimming. He dove off and swan approximately 10 yards when suddenly he went under. His companions paid no attention to this as they knew he was a fairly good swimmer.

Calls For Help.

Peterson soon came to the surface, struggling for his life, and shouted "help, help." The other two boys could make no attempt to rescue him as they were not good swimmers.

Fred Pastori and his brother, **Charles**, 35 West Smith street, who were about

ready to go in bathing, heard the cry for help and immediately set out to rescue the drowning boy. They succeed in getting the boy to within 30 feet of the shore when Peterson, with a death grip, pulled his rescuers under water.

The Pastori brothers were exhausted and Fred almost met the same fate as Peterson. Charles carried his brother to shore, where fully 10 minutes elapsed before he was revived. Instant artificial respiration saved his life.

A number of swimmers then started the search for Peterson's body but could not locate it because of the mud at the bottom of the lake.

Recovers Body.

Finally **Toby Person**, known to be a good swimmer and diver, pulled the body out of the water. The body was found in water about 10 feet deep and had been submerged about 10 minutes.

First aid workers of the Chapin mine, including **Frank Antonio**, worked on the body for more than an hour but efforts to revive the victim proved futile.

Peterson was the son of **Mr. and Mrs. Oscar G. Peterson**, who reside in the new addition on West Stanton street. The boy moved here with his parents last December from **Scandinavia, Wis.**, where he was born. He would have completed his sophomore year at the high school this month.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by three brothers, **Russell** and **Milton**, of **Iron Mountain**, and **Herbert**, of **Scandinavia**.

The body will be taken tonight to Scandinavia where burial will be made tomorrow. Short services will be held at the family home tonight at 7 o'clock.

High school students today sent flowers to the bereaved family.

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[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

ELECTROCUTION

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 16, Number 4 [Thursday, June 15, 1911], page 1, column 3

KILLED INSTANTLY

DR. TREIBER IS VICTIM OF A LIVE WIRE AT THE POOR FARM.

Voltage Estimated at 6,600 Passes Through Body When a Charged Guy Wire is Touched.

Dr. Edward Treiber, the well-known young **veterinary surgeon of Norway**, was instantly killed last Tuesday morning at the **Dickinson county poor farm**, death being caused by a live wire connected with *[the]* hydro-electrical plant of the **Penn Iron Mining company at Sturgeon Falls**.

Dr. Treiber had been summoned to the farm by **Keeper Tauscheck** to attend to some sick cattle. He was enroute *[sic – en route]* home and was passing through a gate at the farm, accompanied by Mr. Tauscheck, when a dead calf was noticed at the roadside, near one of the poles carrying the transmission wires from the power plant to the mines at **Vulcan and Norway**.

Dr. Treiber alighted from the carriage to examine the animal for the purpose of learning the cause of death. Noting a burn at the animal's neck, he lead *[sic – leaned]* over to make a closer examination. In doing so, Dr. Treiber grasped the guy wire supporting the pole and was instantly shocked to death. This wire, which was uncovered, had in some manner become

[sic – become] charged with the full power of the feeding motor. Mr. Tauscheck says death was instantaneous, Dr. Treiber falling to the ground as if struck by lightning. He had grasp *[sic – grasped]* the wire with his right hand, which was slightly burned. The voltage passing through his body is said to have been over 6,600. The calf had evidently been killed by the same wire.

The remains of the young man were taken to his home in Norway and **Coroner Cudlip**, of **Iron Mountain**, was summoned. A jury was empaneled *[sic – empanelled]* and the facts brought and at the inquest are about as noted above. The verdict rendered was that Dr. Treiber had come to his death by coming in contact with a guy wire at the Dickinson county poor farm, said wire being charged with electricity from the Penn Iron Mining company's power plant at Sturgeon Falls. The jury also recommended that the company take immediate steps to have all the guy wires on the transmission line insulated.

Dr. Treiber was a member of one of the pioneer families of Norway and was held in high esteem by many friends. He is survived by one sister, **Mrs. Otto Marinelli**, and several brothers.

EXPOSURE

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 25, Number 24 [Thursday, October 28, 1920], page 1, column 4

Boy Still Missing.

Albert Chiesa, the **Loretto** young man who disappeared several weeks ago, is still missing. Not a clue has been found of his whereabouts. The country through which the boy was supposed to have hunted has been carefully searched, but no clue has

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been found. A blood-hound [*sic* – *bloodhound*] was secured from **Gladstone**, but the dog was unable to find any trace of the young man. In another column the father offers a reward of \$300 for information leading to the finding of the boy alive or dead. The notice contains a good description of Albert.

SHOOTING

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 12 [Thursday, August 11, 1910], page 4, column 5

BOY IS SHOT DEAD

Five-Year-Old Johnny Murphy Killed by a Playmate at Channing.

John Murphy, a five-year-old boy, was shot dead by a playmate named **Steel** [*sic* – **Steele**] at **Channing** yesterday afternoon.

The boys were playing in a vacanhouse [*sic* – *vacant house*] west of the village. A shot-gun [*sic* – *shotgun*] was found by the Steel [*sic* – **Steele**] boy. He announced “look out, Johnny, I am going to shoot you!” and pulled the trigger.

The charge of shot lodged in the back of the head of the Murphy boy killing him instantly.

It is the opinion that the Steele boy did not know the gun was loaded.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 13 [Thursday, August 18, 1910], page 1, columns 1-2; page 4, column 1

CHANNING KILLING

JOHNNIE MURPHY ACCIDENTALLY KILLED BY THE STEELE BOY.

Testimony of the Boys Before Coroner Reveals a Shocking Condition of Youthful Minds.

The tragedy at **Channing** which resulted in the killing of four-year-old **John Clinton Murphy**, son of **Mr. and Mrs. James D. Murphy**, as briefly noted in the last issue of *The Press*, appears to have been entirely accidental, but reveals a degree of youthful degeneracy that is most shocking.

After the **Steele** boy, aged twelve years, had discharged the contents of a shot-gun [*sic* – *shotgun*] into the head of the Murphy boy, killing him instantly, the handler of the gun, assisted by two other boys, aged seven and four years, respectively, hauled the remains a distance of several hundred feet to a brush-pile [*sic* – *brush pile*], where they carefully concealed the little body. Then the trail of blood was carefully covered up and the little cap of the dead boy was pushed deep into the mud of a swamp some distance in another direction from the scene of the tragedy.

It appears from the evidence, that, in order to still further deceive the people and ward off suspicion, the Steele boy, upon his return to town a few hours later, made inquiries as to the whereabouts of the Murphy boy.

It also appears from the evidence of the lads, [*sic*] that they seemed to have no

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comprehension of the awfulness of the accident – that the killing of their little playmate caused them no uneasiness of mind – no unhappiness – no sorrow. The boys spent the time from the hour of the killing to the hour of the finding of the body in playing as usual. There appears to have been no emotion at any period. Johnnie, their playmate, had been killed by the discharge of a gun which one of them had found and did not know was loaded. They had concealed the body, destroyed as well as they could the evidence of the accident, and continued their games. Had the lads not been questioned, they would not, it seems, have volunteered information regarding the missing Murphy boy. They questioned, one boy coolly led the hunting party to the place where the body was concealed, at no time showing any feeling of emotion for the death of his playmate. In their crude minds there was no occasion to mourn. Johnnie was dead. One of their number had caused his death. In order to avoid any talk the body was concealed and evidence destroyed. This, in their minds, was all that was necessary. The book had been closed as far as their playmate was concerned. Why waste time in mourning? Why incur possible punishment by disclosing the accident? Why not continue to laugh and play?

The case is one that will afford the students of criminology ample opportunity for scope for investigation [sic].

Young **Darius Steele**, who fired the gun, told the following story at the inquest held in Channing last Saturday by **Coroner Cudlip** and **Justice Stevens**:

“I am twelve years old. I was born at **Middle Inlet, Wis.** I lived at **Sagola**. I came to **Channing** last winter. I go to school. I have a brother younger. I am the oldest of the family. I was twelve the 18th of March, 1910.

“I was at home last Wednesday morning when **Van Allen** came after me. He came after me about half past nine or ten o'clock. He said, “Come over to my house and we will go and play.” We walked up town and met a team on the way and asked the man for a ride and he said, “No,” so we walked.

“We went up town and saw **Freddie Grant** and **Johnnie Murphy**, and Van Allen asked us all to go over to his house. We went over by **Peskey's** and got the horse. We put the bridle on the horse and we all rode on him. I just went so far as the door of the house. I did not go in. I saw a rifle in the house. It was standing in a corner right beside the door. I took the rifle in my hand and we took it outside and Van Allen took it and pointed it into the air. I took it and put it back. I did not open it to see if it was loaded. Van Allen said Hoe did not have any shells for it.

“I saw Van Allen with a little rifle. Van Allen went into the bed-room [sic – bedroom] and got it and brought it out. I had the little rifle in my hands. I pointed it at Johnnie and Freddie. I done it because we were playing. Van Allen said there was [sic – were] no shells for it. I saw the gun (the gun with which the Murphy boy was killed) when I was riding the horse. It was leaning against a stick at a stump-pile [sic – stump pile]. We rode the horse for awhile [sic – a while] after I saw the gun and then we took the horse back to the barn and took the bridle off and came back to the house. We did not give the horse any food. We started to play with the guns. This was when we first started to play with them. We played with the big rifle first; then we played with the little one; then we noticed this gun standing at the stump-pile [sic – stump pile]. I went and picked it up.

“Johnnie was standing about fifteen feet from me. Freddie Grant and Van Allen were sitting in the door playing with the little gun. When I first got the gun I pulled the

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hammer back and it stayed back. I then pointed the gun and it went off. My finger was on the trigger. I have never handled this gun before. I have handled ones like it. I have shot guns before. I have shot shot-guns [*sic* – *shotguns*] like this one. I could tell if a gun was loaded if I opened it and looked at it. I did not open this to see if it was loaded. I did not think to open it to see if it was loaded. I knew if I pulled the hammer back and I touched the trigger it would go off, but I thought it was not loaded.

“When I pointed the gun at Johnnie I said, “Watch out, I am going to shoot,” and when I put it to my shoulder my finger touched the trigger and it went off. I was not going to shoot. I was just playing. I snapped the big rifle when we had it out.

“When the gun went off Johnnie fell and I said, “Did I hurt you, Johnnie?” “He did not answer me. Then I said, He is dead,” and took him to the brush. I took him to the brush because I was afraid. I don’t know what I was afraid of. Van Allen helped me to take him over a log and to the brush. He helped me pretty near all the way.

“There was blood where Johnnie fell. There was some blood in one little place in the grass where we dragged him. Van Allen covered one blood spot and I covered the other. We covered it with sand.

“I covered the blood because we did not want anyone to see it. I said to Van Allen and Freddie, [*sic*] not to tell; that it would cost me a lot of money if they told. I did not intend to come back to him after we put Johnnie in the brush. We were not going to tell anybody.

“I played with Johnnie very often. Johnnie was not mean to play with. He did not throw sticks and stones unless we passed his house sometimes. I never got mad at Johnnie in my life.

“Johnnie’s cap was lying on the ground after we covered up the blood. Freddie

Grant did not say anything about the cap. Van Allen said, “Let us hide it down in the pond.” Van Allen took the cap down to the pond. He stuck it under his blouse and carried it that way awhile and then took it out and carried it under his arm. When we got to the pond I rolled up my sleeve and stuck it down in the mud so that it was out of sight.

I “dragged [*sic* – “I dragged] Johnnie by his feet. I did not get any blood on my hands. Johnnie fell down on his back. When we stuck the cap in the mud we came up to the path and on the road as far as **John Coullard’s** house and then we followed the road around the northeast through the woods and came out by Hinckley’s. Then we came down the road as far as **Aylward’s**.

“I met **Anthony** [*sic* – **Anthony**] **Forzell**. I said to him, “Have you seen Johnnie? I am looking for him to play.” And Anthony said, “I saw him go up the road toward **Sawyer Lake** this morning.” And then we came down town [*sic* – *downtown*] and I met some boys and we got some candy and went up to **Anderson’s Park** and were swinging there awhile; then we went to **Ford river** and went in swimming.

“I stayed out there about half an hour and then Van Allen, Anton Forzell and me caught a team and came back to town. This was about half past two or three o’clock in the afternoon. It was about half past ten or eleven when Johnnie was shot. I threw the gun down when it went off, right by the stump-pile [*sic* – *stump pile*]. I did not hide the gun. I put it back just the same way it was. This was after we put Johnnie in the brush. I don’t remember what reason I had for putting the gun back where it was.

“When I came back at half past two or three, I went home to my mother’s house. Van Allen went up town on the wagon when I got off. I got my dinner when I got home. I ate a little bit and had to come up town to

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get some whisky for my mother. She was sick. I did not tell my mother what had happened. My mother did not ask me where I had been. I came back up town and got the whisky and came back home again. It was about four o'clock then. I did not talk to anybody about Johnnie after I saw Anthony Forzell. Nobody asked me about Johnnie that night.

"When my father came home at four o'clock I knew Johnnie had been found. My father said **Leahy** came up and told him I had shot Johnnie, and I said I did not. I did not tell my father anything about Johnnie then. I told Mrs. Forzell first that I had shot him. I told her the same evening. I did not tell father as I was afraid he would whip me. Van Allen did not ask me not to play with his gun."

Freddie Grant, aged four years and seven months, a witness of the tragedy, said, in part, in a statement before the jury:

(Continued on Page Four.)

CHANNING KILLING

(Continued from Page One.)

"I had a ride on the horse that day. We played with the guns after we rode the horse. I saw this gun at the stump-pile [*sic – stump pile*]. I saw it before Darius picked it up. When Darius pulled the trigger the bullet came out the other end and then Johnnie fell down. As soon as I heard the noise he, Darius, said, "Did I hurt you?" and Johnnie would not answer. I remember the little gun of Van Allen's. He was playing with it. Johnnie was not. Darius did not have the little gun.

"After Johnnie fell down Darius dragged him over in the brush. Darius didn't say anything about telling. He toke [*sic – took*] some sand and put it over the blood with his hands. Van Allen helped Darius to lift Johnnie over a log. He did not help drag him. Johnnie's cap was right where he fell down. I did not say anything about the cap. Van Allen said, "Put it down in the swamp."

"When I got home my mother asked me if I saw Johnnie, and I said, "He is out in the woods." I told her he was shot. I said Darius shot him, and then I ran out of doors."

Van Allen Nolan, aged seven years, tells the following story of the shooting, after giving an account of the moments [*sic – movements*] of the lads up to the movement [*sic – moment*] of the tragedy:

"I saw Darius pick the gun up from the stump-pile [*sic – stump pile*]. Johnnie Murphy went over with Darius to the stump-pile [*sic – stump pile*]. Freddie Grant was over by the house. I was standing by Johnnie Murphy when Darius picked up the gun. He took it up just as if he was going to shoot and he said, "Now I am going to shoot you, Johnnie." Darius was about ten feet from Johnnie when he said that. I was standing right by Johnnie then. Johnnie did not say anything. He saw him (Darius) pull the trigger and turned his head. The gun went off. I saw Johnnie fall when he was shot. I was looking at him. Johnnie fell right as soon as the shot was fired. He did not move after that. Darius threw the gun away after he fired the shot. He threw it towards the stump-pile [*sic – stump pile*], and he said, "Johnnie, did I hurt you?" And then he said, "He is dead," and he started to drag him over to the brush pile. He asked me to help him drag him over one log. Freddie walked along behind. When Darius got Johnnie in the brush he put the brush over him so that you could not see him.

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“Darius, after he put Johnnie in the brush, said, “Now we will go back,” and he started to cover up the blood with dirt. He scratched it over with his hands. There was blood all the way from where he shot him and he tried to cover it up.

“Freddie said, “What will we do with his cap?” And I said, “Carry it to the pond.” I carried it down under my arm. Darius pulled up his sleeve and stuck it down in the mud so that it would not come up.

“Darius said, “Do not tell about this, as it would cost me a lot of money,” and he told Freddie Grant the same. He did not say he would do anything to us if we told.”

Later the Nolan boy led the party to the brush-pile [*sic – brush pile*], where the body of the Murphy boy was found.

The verdict of the jury summoned by **Coroner Cudlip** was to the effect “that said John Murphy came to his death by the accidental discharge of a shot-gun [*sic – shotgun*] held in the hands of one Darius Steele; said wound was in the back of the head.”

The jury was composed of **H.H. Boll, L.J. Kramer, Pat Tobin, James Ferzzill, Chas. H. Grant** and **John Brick**, and the inquest was held at **Channing** last Saturday.

Dr. Dockery[,] who examined the body of the Murphy boy, said that he found a hole in the back of the head between two and three inches square. At the upper end of the spine where was a fracture of the spine and also the lower back plexus of the skull and the brain was oozing out through the opening. The wound was all blackened around as if by powder. The whole charge seemed to have been driven into the head at close range. A wound of that kind would cause instantaneous death.

Little John Clinton was the only son of **Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Murphy**. The father is employed in the St. Paul road repair shop at Channing. The remains were taken to

the former home at **Peshtigo** for burial and the funeral was held on Sunday.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 17, Number 6 [Thursday, June 27, 1912], page 1, column 1

VICTIM OF BULLET

ALBERT DEMMER DIED AT HOSPITAL LATE LAST NIGHT.

He Was the Victim of a Mysterious Shooting Affray in a Swamp In Merriman District.

A dense swamp in the vicinity of the farm of the **Peninsula Box company**, in the **Merriam** [*sic – Merriman*] district, [*sic*] was the scene of a mysterious shooting affair last Tuesday, shortly after the noon hour, which resulted in the death of **Albert Demmer** at **St. George’s Hospital** at eleven o’clock last last [*sic*] night.

The bullet entered Demmer’s back at the right side and passed directly through him, shattering a kidney in its passage and tearing a large hole on the left side. The shot must have been fired at close range from a hunting rifle as a portion of the steel jacket of the bullet was found in Demmer’s underclothing.

According to the best information at hand, Demmer was shot about one o’clock last Tuesday afternoon.

This fact is admitted by **Antoine Bianchetti**, who, it would appear, was with Demmer at the time of the shooting.

Bianchetti, however, affirms that he did not fire the shot and could give no

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information regarding the shooting. He declares that several shots were fired at the time and one of the bullets came near hitting him.

A circumstance that lead to the arrest of Bianchetti was that, having full knowledge of the shooting of Demmer, and that the man was in the swamp badly wounded, he took no steps to summon medical assistance, or the authorities, until about half past four o'clock. At that hour, a telephone message was received from **Twin Falls**.

City Marshal Lundgren and **Officer Mitchell** immediately left for the Bianchetti farm, and were later joined by others from the city.

With Bianchetti as a guide, a search of the swamp was commenced. Mitchell, after a hard tramp, heard Demmer moaning and soon located the man. Demmer had crawled on his hands and knees nearly a mile from the point where he had been shot, leaving a trail of blood in the swamp.

The wounded man was placed in a blanket and carried to the Bianchetti home and at about six o'clock was brought to St. George's Hospital, where he died last night.

Bianchetti was placed under arrest. He affirms and declares that he did [*sic – not*] shoot Demmer, but does not explain satisfactorily his negligence in notifying the authorities of the accident or crime.

Demmer was also disposed to be secretive [*sic – secretive*] about the affair. If he had knowledge of the person who shot him he declined to confide [*sic – confide*] in the authorities.

The impression is becoming general that the man was the victim of a hunter's gun – that he was mistaken for a deer or bear and shot.

Demmer had been employed at the **Brauns farm**. He is about thirty years of age and had a wife and two children. Bianchetti owns a small farm in the vicinity.

He is married and the father of a number of children.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 17, Number 7 [Thursday, July 4, 1912], page 1, column 1

HUNTING ACCIDENT

DEMMEER WAS THE VICTIM OF ANTONIO BIANCHETTI'S GUN.

Bianchetti Has Been Arrested for Manslaughter on Order of the Prosecuting Attorney.

As was intimated in The Press, **Albert Demmer**, [*sic*] was shot by **Antoine [*sic – Antonio*] Bianchetti** while the men were hunting deer in a swamp near their homes in the **Merriman district**. Demmer made a statement to this effect to **Prosecuting Attorney Henderson** just before he died. The statement was confirmed later by Bianchetti.

However, Bianchetti declares that he did not shoot Demmer in mistake for a deer, but that his rifle was accidentally discharged. This statement is confirmed, in part[,] by the fact that the bullet jacket was found in Demmer's underclothing. The men were good friends. Bianchetti had located a deer in the swamp and informed Demmer of the fact. The men decided to hunt the deer together. This had been their practice. They knew it was contrary to law, and when the accident happened it was agreed to keep all information possible from the public. Demmer, as well as Bianchetti, was fearful that public knowledge of the

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shooting would result in their arrest for illegal hunting.

In his dying statement Demmer held Bianchette *[sic – Bianchetti]* blameless for the shooting. His only request of Bianchetti was that the latter would administer to the needs of his wife and two little children. This Bianchetti has agreed to do.

The case was thoroughly sifted last Friday by a jury summoned by **Coroner Cudlip**. A number of witnesses were examined and all the evidence was confirmatory of accidental shooting. The verdict was as follows: "That Albert Demmer came to his death by a bullet discharged out of a gun in Tony Bianchetti's hands while hunting."

According to the statements of Demmer and Bianchetti and the witnesses at the inquest, the only charge that can be made against Bianchetti would be one of involuntary manslaughter or violation of the game laws. He has been arrested on the first named charge. The law provides that, where one person kills another accidentally while engaged in an *[sic]* on *[sic – an]* unlawful act, he is subject to the charge of manslaughter. That section of the law making a person guilty of manslaughter for killing a hunting companion was repealed at the last session of the legislature. Bianchetti has admitted *[to]* the illegal hunting, but his arrest on such a charge would only be a hardship to all concerned. A fine would derive *[sic – deprive]* the families of money sorely needed to provide living expenses. Bianchetti has received the lesson of his life. He has killed a friend and neighbor while engaged in violating a law. He will never be able to rid himself of this thought. Surely this is punishment enough.

Bianchetti is deserving of sympathy, too. He is the father of a number of small children and is industriously engaged in

hewing out a home for them in the wilderness.

The Demmer family is left in poor circumstances, but generous people will provide for their wants. The father was a hard working *[sic – hard-working]* man engaged in farm labor. The funeral was held last Saturday morning from **St. Mary's church** and was attended by the members of the local lodge of the **Brotherhood of American Yoeman** *[sic – Yeomen]* of which the deceased was a member in good standing.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 17, Number 18 [Thursday, September 19, 1912], page 1, column 3

Shot Through a Lung.

Rheinhold Herzog, the thirteen-year-old son of **Mr. and Mrs. William Herzog**, of **Groveland**, was accidentally shot through the right lung last Sunday. Rheinhold *[sic – Reinhold]* and a companion were wrangling over the possession of a 22-calibre rifle *[sic – rifle]*, when the gun was discharged and the bullet entered the boy's breast. **Dr. Moll** was called from **Sagola** and dressed *[sic – dressed]* the wound. Unless blood poisoning or traumatic *[sic – traumatic]* pneumonia develops the boy will recover.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 17, Number 18 [Thursday, September 19, 1912], page 1, column 4

Shot in the Foot.

Casimir Adkalski, who was employed on the section for the St. Paul Railway company at **Channing**, was accidentally shot through the left foot last Friday.

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Adkalski and several others were shooting at a target with a 22-calibre rifle. While one of the party was using the gun, the others started to throw stones at the target. The party who had the gun turned to remonstrate with them when the gun was discharged, the bullet passing through Adkalski's foot.

SUICIDE

The Daily Tribune, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Third Year, Whole No. 629 [Thursday, July 21, 1898], page 3, column 4

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

Mrs. Carlson Tries to Drown Herself And Five Children.

It is reported that **Mrs. Carlson**, who lives in a small house **corner G street and Carpenter avenue**, attempted to drown herself and five children in a shallow lake near the dumping ground Sunday. She was seen by a neighbor to leave her home accompanied by her children about 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and she left a gold watch, keys to the house and a memorandum book with her neighbor with the request that she keep it until she returned. Mrs. Carlson said she was going down to the lake and would be back in a little while.

She returned about 3 o'clock, her clothes soaking wet and her children evidently terrified at something that happened. The neighbor's suspicions were aroused, and after sharply questioning her she got the following confession: Mrs. Carlson said she went down to the lake and

got on a raft pushing it out into the middle of the lake and got into the water herself. The water was up to her neck. She tried to drag her children into the water but they kept out of her reach, and their cries attracted the attention of two men who happened to be near by [*sic – nearby*]. This caused Mrs. Carlson to abandon her attempt, and yielding to the pleadings of her children she finally went home with them.

Mrs. Carlson is a widow, and owns the house she lives in, a house on D street, and 40 acres across the river. The house on D street is mortgaged, and the rent goes to the morgagee [*sic – mortgagee*]. Poor **Commissioner Sweet** gives her \$7.00 a month, and she is a strong, healthy woman, and earns considerable money washing, and with economy can support herself and children fairly well.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 3, Number 9 [Thursday, July 21, 1898], page 1, column 5

A POOR LITTLE WIDOW.

Would Drown Self and Children.

Mrs. Carlson, a widow, who resides in a small house near the **corner of Carpenter avenue and G street**, tried to **drown herself and four small children** in one of the little lakes near the south dumping grounds last Sunday, while in a demented condition caused by hardship. The attention of some men, who were passing near, was attracted by the cries of the little ones, and the crazed mother was compelled to desist from her purpose of ending her earthly troubles. At the time of the rescue, the woman was in the water up to her waist. A little babe, hardly a year old,

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[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

was in her arms, and the three other children, the eldest of which is about six years, were clinging to her dress, sobbing most pitifully. The scene was a heart-rending one, and one that the rescuers will remember as long as they live.

The case of Mrs. Carlson is one of the most heartrending that has ever come within the notice of the writer. Left a widow less than a year ago with four small children to support, her life has been one continual struggle to keep the wolf from the door. Her efforts were almost in vain and she was completely discouraged. Her husband, a hard-working man, died of typhoid fever and his sickness and funeral expenses consumed all the ready cash in hand. Mrs. Carlson is a frail, delicate little woman, unable to perform much labor, and her struggle to provide her little ones with clothing and the necessities to sustain life, [sic] has been an awful test. It has finally resulted in the weakening of her mind, and to-day [sic – today] the circumstances of the family are more pitiful than ever. To be sure the little woman has received some assistance from the county, but what is a miserly pittance of seven or eight dollars a month in a case of this kind? It is hardly sufficient to provide milk for the children, to say nothing of more substantial food and clothing. It is a case that ought to make every heart in Iron Mountain ache and cause us to hang our heads in shame, that in the midst of our plenty, we have been so neglectful as to the welfare of our immediate neighbors.

Prior to the attempt at self-destruction and the silencing of the cries of her babies for food, Mrs. Carlson had gone to the home of a **Mr. Larson**, a contractor residing on **Prospect avenue**, and left her few remaining valuables and a letter addressed to relatives in Sweden in which she recited her troubles, and told of her intention. The letter was not read until after the attempt

was known, and it was thought that she had only gone out for the day and left the articles for safe keeping.

The immediate wants of the family are now being provided for, and the good people of this city should, and we believe we will, see that the wolf is kept from the door hereafter, and that the poor little mother will not again be driven by grim want to such an extreme that she will be tempted to destroy herself and little ones. If troubles have destroyed her mind, she should be relieved of the care of the little ones and placed in some safe resort. But it is probable that, when others show a disposition and willingness to shoulder a portion of her burden, her mind will recover its balance and a little sunshine will again find its way into the poorly furnished home on Carpenter avenue. Let us hope so. And let us all contribute a little sunshine.

The Daily Tribune, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Third Year, Whole No. 632 [Monday, July 25, 1898], page 3, column 3

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE!

**Joe Wenzel Points the Muzzle of a
Winchester Rifle at His Breast.**

AND THEN PULLS THE TRIGGER!

**He Miraculously Escapes Death – Is a
Well Known German and Owns
Considerable Property – Story
of Domestic Unhappiness.**

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY – ACCIDENTAL DEATHS, DROWNINGS, SUICIDES

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

When **Charles Wenzel**, the fifteen year old son of **Joseph Wenzel**, living at **308 East B street**, returned home between five and six o'clock Saturday night he found his father sitting on the end of a sofa in the kitchen holding his head in his hands.

"Are you sick, papa?" asked the boy.

"No, I've shot myself," answered the father with a groan.

The boy did not lose his presence of mind, but asked him where the gun was. His father told him that it was in the front room and the boy got it and removed the remaining cartridges. The boy had arrived just after the shot had been fired, and the neighbors hearing it began to come in, the first being **John Eslick**. **Dr. Crowell** was at once summoned and he found that the ball had passed clear through the man's side, leaving a ragged and ugly wound.

In its course the ball had broken a rib. The wound, while dangerous is not necessarily fatal.

It was then learned that Wenzel had attempted suicide, and had used a Winchester repeating rifle of 45 caliber to kill himself with. He had placed the butt end of the weapon to the wall, leaving the muzzle pointing directly at his breast and had reached forward and fired. It was a long reach, however, and caused the weapon to move to one side, otherwise, it would have killed him instantly. The deed was committed in the front bed room [*sic – bedroom*] and he had walked to the kitchen when his boy had found him. His wife was absent from home but came in soon afterwards.

It is well known that Wenzel and his wife have not gotten along well together of late and have had frequent quarrels, especially when he was drinking. He has considerable property in the city and one time owned the Central house.

Mr. Wenzel stated this morning that Wenzel had threatened her life on several

occasions, once with a knife. She says that her mother had warned her to be careful as her husband would do something desperate some time. When asked this morning if her husband would recover she answered indifferently:

"I suppose so."

Wenzel has two sons living in this city and a married daughter in Green Bay. He is a well known [*sic – well-known*] German and his friends have noticed that he had refrained from an over indulgence in liquor for some time past. There was considerable excitement when the news of his attempt to take his life was known and there is much sympathy expressed for him. His intimate friends says [*sic – say*] that he is not very welcome at home. This morning he was resting comfortably with every indication of recovery. Since the shooting he has expressed a desire to die.

The Daily Tribune, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Third Year, Whole No. 633 [Tuesday, July 26, 1898], page 3, column 2

CITY NEWS ITEMS.

Joe Wenzel's condition today is about the same. He is not yet entirely out of danger.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 29 [Thursday, December 8, 1904], page 5, column 2

FAITHORN FACTS.

Miles Theisen, aged forty years, formerly of **Marinette**, committed suicide by hanging here last Monday. He had his jaw

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY – ACCIDENTAL DEATHS, DROWNINGS, SUICIDES

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

badly fractured recently in an accident, and had to be fed through a tube. Slow recovery caused despondency, which resulted in suicide.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 14, Number 48 [Thursday, April 21, 1910], page 1, column 5

KILLED HIMSELF ALL RIGHT.

Fred Langenberg Cuts His Throat in Horrible Manner at Florence.

Fred Langenberg, a camp cook, committed suicide at the **Brady House**, at **Florence**, last Monday by stabbing himself in the throat with a large pocket knife.

He was about forty-two years of age, and two years ago was employed as cheese-maker at the Florence creamery. Since that time he has worked as camp cook and had been engaged to cook on the drive for **Fred Holland**.

Last Monday, when he was wanted to go on the drive, he was found dead in his room with five knife cuts in his throat.

No reason can be assigned for his rash act. He was a drinking man, but is said to have not drunk to excess.

Nothing is known of his relatives or his past history previous to the time he came to Florence.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 14, Number 49 [Thursday, April 28, 1910], page 4, column 2

John Marteve Fires a Revolver Bullet Into His Head.

John Marteve committed suicide at **East Vulcan** about six o'clock last Tuesday evening. The instrument employed in committing the rash deed was a revolver. The bullet penetrated the brain and death was instantaneous. Marteve had been in ill-health for some time and was of a despondent disposition.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 17, Number 9 [Thursday, July 18, 1912], page 1, column 4

ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE.

John Nyklas, the Tailor, Tries the Strychnine Route.

At about ten o'clock this morning, **John Nyklas**, the merchant tailor, attempted to commit suicide by eating a dozen or more strychnine tablets, sufficient, as **Dr. Collins** expresses it, to kill a horse.

Dr. Collins was summoned and Nyklas was pumped out. At the noon hour Nyklas' chances of recovery were considered better than even.

Nyklas had been drinking heavily since the 4th of July and was on the verge of an attack of the d.t.'s [*delirium tremens*] at the time.

The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Year 3, Number 43 [Thursday, May 31, 1923], page 2, column 4

BODY OF SUICIDE FOUND IN RIVER

Girl Makes Discovery

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY – ACCIDENTAL DEATHS, DROWNINGS, SUICIDES

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

Yesterday Morning; Hold Funeral Today

The body of **Peter Lamprecht**, 40, who committed suicide more than three weeks ago by jumping into the Menominee river at **Twin Falls**, was found yesterday morning at 10 o'clock in the bay southwest of the bridge on the Wisconsin side. It was floating among a number of logs and was first seen by the little daughter of **Robert Lindberg**, 314 East Hughitt street, as they were driving by.

Mr. Lindberg immediately informed **Sheriff Cleveland** and the official went to the scene. As the body was found on the Wisconsin side, the Dickinson county official was without authority to remove it so he notified the sheriff of Florence county. When the latter arrived yesterday afternoon the body was removed from the river and taken to the **MacDonald funeral home** here.

The body was in bad condition, decomposition having set in. Relatives, however, identified it as that of Lamprecht, who was reported missing from home on the same day that a woman notified Sheriff Cleveland she had seen a man jump from the bridge. This was said to be Lamprecht's fourth attempt to commit suicide.

Lamprecht was born in Austria and came here 10 years ago, his family following in 1915. He was employed as a miner at the Chapin and resided at 308 Smith street. Six months ago his health failed and he was forced to quit work. In addition to his widow he is survived by six children, **Tressa, Freda, Mary, Gertrude, Louis and Peter, Jr.**

The funeral will be held this afternoon at 5 o'clock from the MacDonald funeral home. The Corinthian and Tyrol societies

will be in charge and interment will be made in Cemetery park.

UNKNOWN CAUSES

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Marinette County, Wisconsin, Volume I, Number 49 [Saturday, December 3, 1881], page 3, column 4

A VERY sudden death occurred on Monday afternoon at this place. **George Gordon**[.] who had charge of the **Kirby Carpenter Co.'s warehouse at the depot**[.] was subject to fits rom [*sic – from*] which he generally recovered after the lapse of a short time. At the time mentioned he was taken with one more severe than ever before and although all the assistance was rendered him that was possible, yet he died from the effects of it, [*sic - .*] Some few days before he had been thrown out of a wagon and had injured his head somewhat, whether [*sic – somewhat. Whether*] this had anything o [*sic – to*] do with his sudden death, [*sic*] will probably never be known.

We learn that he has been a resident of **Menominee**, [*sic*] for the past 14 or 15 years, and has been an industrious exemplary citizen. Although never married, yet he had accumulated some property among which was a house at the place afore mentioned [*sic – aforementioned*]. His long time neighbors, [*sic*] thought very highly of him and feel much shocked at his sudden decease. A committee [*sic – committee*] appointed by the Masonic lodge of which he was a member, [*sic*] arrived here on Tuesday, [*sic*] to take charge of his remains. The following were the names; [*sic*] **Hon. Robert Stephenson, David Barclay, G.A. Woodford and James Kirk, of Menominee, and Hugh McLaughlin and Robt. Barclay**[.] of **Quinnesec**. The

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY – ACCIDENTAL DEATHS, DROWNINGS, SUICIDES

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remains were taken on the train the same day to be interred at Menominee.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 12, Number 24 [Thursday, October 31, 1907], page 1, column 6

LITTLE BOY FOUND DEAD

Little Son of Gustav Rahm Has His Neck Broken Mysteriously.

Master **Seth**, the five-year-old son of **Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Rahm**, was found dead in the roadway near the family home on **East A street** at about half past three o'clock last Friday afternoon. The boy was discovered by playmates, who gave the alarm, and the remains were taken to the home.

An examination proved that the little fellow's neck had been broken. Blood was oozing from the nose and there was a bruise on the left side. It is not known how the accident happened. It is surmised, however, that the little fellow had fallen from a wagon. Several loads of hay had passed the house a short time before the body was discovered and it is thought that, in attempting to climb to the top of the load by the binding chair, he had fallen to the rock roadway, striking on his head and breaking his neck.

The funeral was held from the family home last Sunday and was largely attended by the sympathizing friends of the family.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 17, Number 9 [Thursday, July 18, 1912], page 1, column 1

A SUDDEN SUMMONS

Nelson A. Boyer Found Dead in His Room at O'Connell Home.

Nelson A. Boyer, a young man who has been in the employ of the **Aetna Powder Co.**, in the city, as bookkeeper and traveling auditor, was found dead in bed in his room at the home of **Mrs. M. O'Connell** on West Flesheim [*sic – Fleshiem*] street last Saturday morning.

Mr. Boyer went to bed in his usual health on Friday night, at about 10:30 o'clock, but had complained of a little headache. The family heard nothing of him during the night and noticed that he had not come downstairs. Little **Doris O'Connell** went to his room to awaken him at about 8:45 a.m. and found him dead.

Dr. S.E. Cruse was called and after an examination announced that he had been dead several hours.

A jury was impanelled [*sic – impaneled*] by **Coroner Cudlip** and after viewing the remains adjourned until Monday. The body was then removed to the **Burbank undertaking parlors**, and as it was known that he had relatives in **Altoona, Pa.**, the body was prepared for shipment.

J.H. Karkeet, agent of the Aetna Powder Co., immediately notified his two sisters who live in Altoona, an aunt in **Zion City, Ill.**, another aunt in **Harwarden, Iowa**. A cousin of the deceased, **Clyde Naden**, of Zion City, reached the city on Monday morning and took charge of the body and accompanied the remains to that place, where, in all probability, interment took place yesterday morning.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 25,

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY – ACCIDENTAL DEATHS, DROWNINGS, SUICIDES

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

Number 24 [Thursday, October 28,
1920], page 1, column 4

A Sad Death.

The sixteen-months'-old son of **Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Oliver** was found dead in the bed by the mother last Saturday afternoon. The little one had been placed in bed by the mother for its usual nap a few hours before and was apparently in the best of health. There was no evidence of pain in the little face. The child had gone to sleep and while slumbering peacefully had been called to the home of the angels. The discovery of the death of the loved one was a great mental shock to the parents, who are assured of a community wide sympathy in their deep bereavement.