

ACCIDENTAL DROWNING

Otto Syverson Loses Life while Bathing in Ball Hill Creek.

One of the saddest accidents that has ever occurred in this village happened last Sunday afternoon, when Otto Syverson lost his life by drowning in Ball Hill Creek.

About 3 o'clock in the afternoon Otto Syverson, Axel Strom, the Edland brothers, and a number of other boys, went down the creek about one mile south of Hannaford, to go in swimming. Mr. Syverson and Axel Strom went in first while the other boys went on several rods further down the creek. Neither Otto nor his companion could swim and as the creek is considerably swollen by the recent heavy rains the water was so deep in places that it went over their heads. Otto ventured a little beyond his depth and was soon helpless. His companion tried hard to reach him but was unable to do so. Axel immediately summoned the other boys who arrived on the scene only about five minutes after Otto went down for the last time. They swam around and dived in search of Otto near where he had disappeared but were unable to find him. Word was sent back to town and in a short while a large number of men armed with hooks, rods and ropes were at work dredging the creek bottom. About seven o'clock dynamite was exploded in the water with the hope that the body would rise to the surface, but without result. Finally about 8:15 o'clock, the body was caught on one of the hooks and dragged to shore after being under water nearly five hours. The body had drifted with the stream only a few feet.

Coroner Westley was present at the time the body was found and held the necessary examination after which it was turned over to Undertaker Olmsted. The remains were shipped on Monday's train to Gary, Minn., for interment.

Deceased was well known in Hannaford having been employed in the Edland Bros. factory as cement worker last summer and also this spring. He was married last March, and his wife was employed in Mrs. A. Wright's restaurant in this village, where Mr. Syverson also boarded. Oliver Syverson, a brother, was also staying in Hannaford, a married sister lives in Dazey and his parents reside at Gary, Minn.

Deceased was about 29 years of age, was an industrious man of exemplary habits, and the tragedy is doubly sad on account of the young wife who barely three months ago was a bride.