

the previous year there were 175 men idle for thirty-six days. The number of mining machines in use has been the same for the last three years—nine altogether. The machine-mined product in 1905 was 97,789 short tons, compared with 125,097 tons in 1904, and 115,222 tons in 1903.

These figures are taken from the forthcoming report of F. W. Parker, statistician of the United States geological survey, on the production of coal during 1905. —Valley City Times-Record.

JOHN MERRY SUICIDES

FOUND DEAD IN A HOTEL ROOM
AT MEDINA THURSDAY NIGHT
WITH HOLE THROUGH HEART
AND REVOLVER AT SIDE.

J. J. Merry, of Fargo, was found dead in the room of a hotel at Medina last Thursday night with a jagged hole through his heart and a revolver at his side, and all the indications point to suicide.

The hotel at Medina is closed but it is the custom of the owners to give keys to those who had been in the habit of staying there and one had been turned over to Mr. Merry several days before his terrible death and he had been around town apparently in his usual jovial mood. The telephone boys also roomed at the hotel and when they returned from work on Thursday evening they found the door of Mr.

Merry's room locked and, thinking that something might be the matter, broke open the door and he was found dead on the bed with a hole through his heart as above stated.

Mr. Merry leaves a wife and young daughter residing in Fargo, who are heart broken over the occurrence. He also has a mother and two brothers at Wimbledon.

Deceased was about 35 years of age and had lived in North Dakota for some 25 or 30 years, having been on the farm with his parents near Mapleton for some time and afterwards removed to Wimbledon, where he sold his farm some years ago and since then he has been agent for the Germania Life Insurance Company. He was one of the best insurance agents in the state and had a large circle of friends who will regret his rash action in taking his life, which is believed must have been done in a fit of mental aberration.

Mr. Merry was also well known in Courtenay, having been for some time proprietor of the Hub restaurant, but sold out over a year ago and removed to Fargo and resumed his agency for the Germania.

The funeral was held at Jamestown on Saturday and interment took place in the Catholic cemetery.

Skaug the jeweler. 30tf

For farm loans see J. A. Coffey.