

Drowned in Lake

(Continued from Page 1)

a rope and weight on the end which had dropped in the water when the boat overturned, preventing it from drifting ashore. The water at this point was only seven or eight feet deep and the boat was shoved towards the man sitting astride the enforced float, and as soon as it could be reached he was taken ashore. Every possible speed was exercised in rescuing Mr. Olson though the extremely rough water necessitated much care in preventing disaster to the rescue party and although it was only a few minutes before he was relieved from his dangerous position it must have seemed days to him before the rescuing party could reach him and this probably led Mr. Olson to believe that insufficient speed was used in the endeavor of getting him ashore.

Preparations were at once made to discover the body of the drowned man. Mr. Tucker's launch being disabled, a telephone call was sent to Henry LaBrash and he quickly responded by sending his son, Charlie, with their gasoline launch to assist in looking for the body. Sheriff Nels Romer and County Coroner Guest were also called for and they immediately left per auto for the scene of the accident, arriving shortly afterwards.

A party consisting of Nels Romer, Lem Hancock, Steen and another man at once anchored near the place where the drowning man was last seen but owing to the heavy wind and rough lake it was found impossible to keep the boat in the same position for any length of time and the search was abandoned at nightfall, no trace of the drowned man being found though a heavy object was touched several times which was thought to have been his body.

Early Tuesday morning the search was resumed, commencing at four o'clock. Chas. LaBrash, Mack Turner, Steve Hamilton and others used the LaBrash launch while Sheriff Romer and Lee Hoffman had a small row boat. At 6:20 a. m. the body was discovered by Mack Turner with an iron hook which caught in the coat of the drowned man and it was towed ashore and at once taken to Courtenay to the undertaking department of L. O. Larson where the body was embalmed by Mallough of Wimbledon. A large bruise across the forehead was found and it was thought that either the anchor of the boat hit him, or, in rising to the surface, the bouncing boat struck him.

Coroner Guest, who held an inquest over the body, stated that the man came to his death by accidental drowning, evidently hastened by an attack of cramps which drew him to the bottom of the lake, leaving him powerless to reach the boat and save his life.

Deceased has been a resident of this country for about ten years, coming here from Helgeland, Norway, where his parents reside. He was a young man 27 years of age, of good habits and his death will be keenly felt by all who know him. He leaves, besides his parents, a brother, Alfred, who lives here, two brothers in Minneapolis and a grandmother and uncle in Paynesville, Minn., to which place the body was taken for interment, his brother leaving with the body of the deceased on Tuesday evening's train.

The Olson brothers lived in this vicinity for the past five years and were well known for their efficient and willing work as carpenters and the death of the young man is deeply regretted by his many friends and acquaintances.