

# McHenry Man Suicides

## Tragic Death Results from Drinking Carbohc Acid

John Simpson, young farm hand, employed by Marcus Dolfs, south of McHenry, committed suicide last Saturday night, by drinking carbolic acid. No reason for the rash act could be determined.

The young man came to McHenry Friday afternoon, and went to the drug store and purchased a two-ounce bottle of the poison, claiming he was making the purchase for his employer. Under the circumstances no suspicion was aroused.

Saturday, he appeared in his usual good spirits, though he was seen perusing a letter three or four times, and it is believed the contents of this letter might have had something to do with deranging his mind. During the evening he attended the moving picture show in company with Selmer Benson and later remained in the pool room until twelve o'clock, and during that time he showed no evidence of despondency. After the pool room closed for the night he was seen going in the direction of the livery barn. Sunday morning at nine o'clock, when Mr. Benson went to the barn to do the chores, he discovered the man lying dead in one of the stalls, with the empty flask which had contained carbolic acid, at his side, and two unaddressed postcards, supposedly intended for relatives on which he stated that "this would be the last time they would hear from him and not to mourn for him."

The young man's parents are dead but it is understood he has other relatives living in Prairie du Chien, Wis., where the body was shipped.

On his cards he referred to a Sister Jessie. At the coroner's hearing it was said by those best knowing Simpson that he had no sister and that the Jessie he referred to was Jessie Vesser, formerly of the McHenry vicinity and now living in Montana. It was stated the Vessers had become divorced after moving west and that Simpson went to Montana to be with the woman.