

## A Mysterious Death.

The dead body of Franz Lichtscheidle was brought to town Tuesday morning and was taken charge of by Coroner Bergstrom. It appears that the deceased in company with Ed. Zimprick, Fred Drittenboss, Frank Ressler, Frank Pfeifer and some others, had a little picnic among themselves Sunday evening. Of course there was some beer drank and the deceased evidently got a little too much. According to evidence produced it appears that the deceased who is a Hungarian, said he was a better man than two of the other fellows and Drittenboss took it up and he and deceased engaged in a friendly wrestle Drittenboss coming out ahead. It is claimed that Lichtscheidle said he would shoot Drittenboss and the crowd took a gun from him on the way home. Later developments in the evidence brought out the fact that the deceased, according to Zimprick's testimony, set fire to his shanty to kill himself and then got out through the window and cut himself. He then came to Zimprick's house at 5 o'clock Monday morning and took a bottle of Strychnine from a shelf and eat it, went upstairs to bed and died about 10 o'clock that morning. The entire evidence of the witnesses was along this line. One of the party came to town Monday for a coffin and they were going to bury him when Coroner Bergstrom took the matter in hand and summoned a jury Tuesday afternoon when the inquest was held, the jury consisting of T. J. Cooper, F. J. Stone and Julius Retzlaff. After listening to the evidence it was decided to hold a post-mortem examination, which was done by Doctors Kerr, Brimi and Bergstrom, and the inquest adjourned until 10 a. m., Wednesday morning in order to get the stomach, lungs and brains analyzed. Inquest resumed Wednesday and Druggist Bateman testified to making analysis and finding strychnine in stomach. Doctors Kerr and Brimi gave expert testimony as to result of post-mortem and the balance of the day was taken up examining witnesses.

The verdict of the jury in the above case returned as follows: That we the jury find that deceased Frank Lichtscheidle was badly bruised about the head, caused by a fight as testified to by several witnesses. We do not find the bruises sufficient cause for his death. Upon analysis Strychnine was found in the stomach and we find the cause of his death to be from poison. From the evidence in the case we are unable to say from whose hand it was administered.

F. J. STONE,  
J. E. RETZLAFF,  
T. J. COOPER,  
Jurors.

Attest:

N. A. BERGSTROM,  
Coroner Griggs County.