

Roy A. Lewis
Sept. 25, 1899 – June 1929

LAST RITES FOR ROY A. LEWIS, 29
HAD BEEN MISSING 10 DAYS; LIFELESS BODY FOUND IN WOOD LOT

Last rites for Roy A. Lewis, 29 years old, a resident of Monticello and Exeter township his entire life, whose lifeless body was discovered early Friday morning in a little wooded lot near Brooklyn following his disappearance 10 days previously, took place at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon in the Fred W. Voegeli undertaking rooms.

The services were conducted by the Rev. A. Muehlmeier, pastor of the Reformed church. The remains were interred in the family lot in Exeter cemetery, northeast of the village. Scores of mourners attended the services at the grave.

Discovery of Mr. Lewis' body was made early Friday morning by James Hansen, Jr., a Brooklyn youth, who noticed the lifeless form of a man as he was driving cows home through the woods for the morning milking. The woods adjoin the Brooklyn cemetery, not far from the home of Mr. Lewis father-in-law, Chris Christensen, where Mrs. Lewis and two sons had been visiting recently.

Young Hansen ran home immediately and notified his father, James Hansen, who communicated with Fred Bund, Brooklyn constable. Wm. Campbell, Dane county coroner, was notified and the body, which was quite badly decomposed, was identified as that of Mr. Lewis. He had taken his life with a 32 revolver, firing a shot through his head. The revolver, loaded save for the one discharged cartridge, was beside the body. In a notebook, which lay nearby, Mr. Lewis had written briefly to his wife and also to his mother, Mrs. Verena Lewis, giving family troubles and his poor health as reasons for the act, and also instructions regarding his burial. About \$166 were found in his pocketbook.

Mr. Lewis had been in poor health and a state of despondency for several months. During this time, he had taken treatments from a Madison specialist, and also had been a patient at the Normandale and Mendota sanitoriums. His condition, instead of improving, grew worse, however,

It was on June 10 that Mr. Lewis was to meet his mother in Brooklyn, from which place the two had planned to leave for Eau Claire for an indefinite stay with relatives. When Mrs. Lewis arrived in Brooklyn to join her son, however, he had disappeared and his whereabouts, despite persistent efforts to locate him, were unknown until the discovery by the Hensen youth.

Mr. Lewis was born Sept. 25, 1899, on the old Lewis homestead in Exeter township, a few miles northeast of Monticello, a son of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Lewis. He attended the neighborhood rural school and in 1915 was a student at the Evansville Seminary. The following year he attended Evansville high school.

Tuesday of this week marked the 10th anniversary of Mr. Lewis' marriage to Miss Wilna Christensen Brooklyn, the wedding taking place in Monticello on June 26, 1919. With the exception of six years during which he had resided in Monticello, Mr. Lewis had lived in Exeter. He had owned and conducted the local billiards parlor for the past three or four years, disposing of the business only a few weeks ago.

Surviving, besides his mother and widow, are two sons, Shelton, age 7, and Amza, aged 6. His father preceded him in death in April of last year.