

Body of Cass County Pioneer in Cistern

Fargo, Nov. 1.—James Hill, a pioneer resident of Cass county, was found dead in the cistern at his home in Erie Monday morning, having supposedly committed suicide.

When the family arose in the morning they noticed that the trap-door of the cistern was open and thought it strange that anyone would leave it that way. Mr. Hill was called for breakfast at the usual hour and when he did not respond a search was immediately started. It was thought at first that he might have gone out to his farm, and a party was sent out in an auto to see if they could locate him, but to no avail.

It was then that one of the family remembered the open cistern, and an investigation was at once made. The body was found resting on the cement bottom and was fully clothed.

Mr. Hill was a highly respected citizen of this county and was noted for his honesty and integrity in all his business dealings. He has resided in the vicinity of Erie for the past 30 years, during which time he was carried on farming operations and been connected with the Erie State bank. He was a member of the lower house of the legislature several years ago.

The deceased is survived by a widow, two daughters and a son, and two brothers, John Hill and W. H. Hill, all residents of Erie.

--Valley City Times-Record, November 4, 1915

Commits Suicide

James Hill, ex-legislator from Cass county, aged 68 years, committed suicide at his home at Erie, N. D., by drowning himself in a cistern.