

Louis Duhme Jr 1893-1914

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Unhappy

Melancholia is Suicide Cause

Takes Enough Poison to Kill a Hundred
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Young Man, Scion of Wealthy Cincinnati Family, Swallows Bichloride of Mercury - Parents
Dumbfounded When Told of Occurrence - Body Will Be Sent East

An hour after swallowing the contents of a large vial of bichloride of mercury, Louis Duhme, Jr., 19 years old and belonging to a prominent family of Cincinnati, died yesterday at the Receiving Hospital. The doctors who worked over him said the young fellow took enough of the poison to kill a hundred persons.

Mystery surrounds the circumstances of the suicide. Henry Meckstroth, with whom Duhme had been living, was apparently able to throw little light upon it. He said the boy appeared to have been suffering from a species of melancholia, due to ill health. It was to try to recover from this that he came here last March. His ailment did not respond to treatment, and his spirits gradually ebbed.

So far as is known to Meckstroth, who lived with Duhme at No. 1310 South Bonnie Brae Street, the young man had no other cause for despondency.

The two had lived at the South Bonnie Brae Street address for only a month and the neighbors knew practically nothing of them. Duhme seemed to have but few friends outside of Meckstroth. He had done much night study and had also worked in a realty office.

The drug used by Duhme was purchased at a near-by drug store a few days ago, which indicates that he had had self-destruction in mind. He was discovered by Meckstroth shortly after swallowing several dozen tablets.

Meckstroth made a report of the affair to the police and had the body taken to the Button undertaking establishment, from where it will be shipped to Cincinnati this evening, consigned to the boy's father. The latter, Louis Duhme Sr., is a wealthy saw manufacturer, with a factory at Lawrenceburg, Ind.

The parents were dumbfounded when told by a representative of The Times at Cincinnati last night that their son had committed suicide. They declared the act was undoubtedly inspired by melancholia. They received a letter from him some days ago in which he said that he was returning home to die.