

DANEWOOD ENDS LIFE WITH BULLET

John Danewood, a well known ranch hand, about forty years of age, was found dead in his room at the Commercial hotel at five o'clock last evening, with a bullet hole through his head and a 38 caliber Colts revolver gripped in his hand.

Coroner D.B. Rigdon was notified. As soon as the coroner arrived, a jury was empanelled and an inquest held. The jury returned with the following: We the jury having been duly empanelled and sworn, do find that the body of John Danewood lying here dead, came to death by shooting himself with a revolver, which said revolver was found in his hand when the body was found.

There is a question as to when the awful duty was done and as to the motive for doing it. No shot was heard by anyone in the hotel, nor had Mr. Danewood been seen about the hotel since late in the afternoon of the day before. The bed had not been slept in, and it is thought he shot himself about supper time Wednesday evening when all the hotel guests were downstairs. From the position of the body when found, it seems that after sitting on the edge of the bed and taking off his shoes, he shot himself and fell over backward on the bed. Death was almost instantaneous, there being no sign of the body having moved after falling. The bullet entered the right side of the head back of the ear and came out at the same place on the other side, struck a door and bounced back and was found under the bed.

A note had been written and left in a tablet addressed to his friend and brother Odd Fellow, Bert Johnson. The note was as follows: Dear friend and brother, please forgive me for doing this, for I couldn't help it. I have got to die. I have told you all.

He had been in the habit of sleeping late, and yesterday morning when the chamber maid went to his room and found it locked, thinking he was sleeping late, she cared for all the other rooms, and returning, found it still locked. She tried entering the room several times during the day, and at five o'clock, tried to unlock the door with a key she carries, but could not. She then went downstairs for some of the men to open it for her. The men found that the door was locked and the key was still in the lock on the inside of the room and on looking over the transom to see if he was still sleeping, saw his body lying prostrate on the bed with the head in a pool of blood.

John Danewood came here from Colorado about eight years ago and has since then worked on different ranches in the county. The past summer he worked for Alex McDougall at his ranch on Reeshaw creek. He is survived by three sisters, one living in Oklahoma, another at Pueblo, Colorado, and Mrs. Maggie Webb of Cheyenne.

Funeral services, in charge of the I.O.O.F lodge of which he was a member, conducted by Rev. J.K. Hicks will be held at the Methodist church Sunday afternoon at 1:30, and interment made in the Wheatland cemetery.