

Found Hanging From Rafter

Clare Tragedy

A farmer named Michael Hehir (65) residing with his wife at Woodlawn, Caherkerwin, Corcua district, was found dead hanging from a rafter in a cow house near his home on Friday morning.

An an inquest conducted by Dr J H Coughlan, J. P., Coroner, evidence was given that formerly the deceased lived at Wottemant, Kerry, where he had a large farm and where he met with considerable trouble of an agrarian nature. About 22 years ago he had been fired at and maimed in the arm and since then he had never been mentally all right. Three or four years ago he had further trouble and was removed to the Clare Mental Hospital after making two unsuccessful attempts to commit suicide. On the morning of his death his wife, with whom he lived, noticed a cow in the yard of the cow house. Thinking it was right that the cow should not be in the yard she sent a lad to drive the animal to another place. On the discovery of her husband's body death was caused by asphyxiation by hanging.

The Coroner returned a verdict of suicide which temporarily in the case tendered his sympathy to the widow.