

WAUK. FREEMAN  
AUG. 4, 1927

OBIT. - MACKOLD, NELSON L.  
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Carrying two bullets in his head, one above the right eye and one at the base of his skull, for more than 30 years, Nelson L. Mackold, former Waukesha County farm hand, well-known by old-time residents, died at his home in Bird City, Kansas, after a brief illness. Funeral services were held at Eagle this week, with interment in Oak Ridge Cemetery in that village.

Mackold figured in a sensational murder which took place at the John Harris farm in the town of New Berlin many years ago. At the time Mackold was employed as a farm hand on the Harris farm. John Poutsch, formerly residing near Manitowoc, had been employed on the farm previously and was in love with Elizabeth Vesbac, who was employed as a domestic there and whose home was in Milwaukee.

According to the evidence, Poutsch was jilted by Miss Vesbac, and maddened by the girl's decision not to accept his love he became violently insane, appeared at the Harris farm and opened fire on the entire household. Harris, the owner of the farm, was killed. Mrs. Harris was wounded and Miss Vesbac was shot but recovered, as did also Mackold who carried the bullets in his head until his death 30 years later.

The murder caused a sensation in the county, as well as throughout the state, and Poutsch was sought for more than two weeks by authorities. His body was finally discovered in Hales' Mill pond nearby, he having walked out on a spring board, fired a bullet into his brain and fell into the water.