

FALLS FROM ROPE TO DEATH IN OLD SHAFT

**Explorer in Water-Filled Mine Unable to Pull Weight of
Body to Top.**

GALENA, KAS., March 22. — His grasp becoming weaker and weaker as the vitiating air of an abandoned mine shaft affected his reeling brain, Mort Friendt, a miner, lost his life here today after a battle between endurance and determination.

With a companion Friendt was exploring a deserted shaft upon which they had a lease option. A pole, to which a rope was attached, was placed across the mouth of the shaft and the two slid down to the first shaft. They explored the workings and were about to drop further down the shaft when they discovered it was filled with water to within about eight feet of the level upon which they were standing.

Friendt's companion started to climb up the rope, lifting himself, hand over hand, until he reached the top.

He called down to Friendt to hurry and received an answering call. A moment later the pole bowed under the weight of Friendt's body. His companion could tell from the sudden dips of the pole just when his friend exerted his strength to lift his body. The dips became less and less frequent and the companion realized that something was wrong. He called down to Friendt, but the only answer he received was a moan of distress.

There were a few more feeble jerks upon the rope, then the pole suddenly straightened out, jerking the rope so that it curved over it.

Miners were summoned from the neighborhood and, with the aid of grappling hooks, Friendt's body was recovered from the water at the bottom of the shaft.

1911 Mar Fall of person in old mine shaft

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Sep 20, 2024