

# THE SANFORD EXPRESS

VOLUME 43, No. 60

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1930.

FIVE CENTS

## Lee G. McIver Takes His Own Life with Pistol Shot

**Commits the Rash Act in His Office at the Lee Furniture Company While Others Are Near—Sends a Ball Through His Body Near the Heart—Lives About an Hour—Funeral Held at Home Wednesday—Something of His Life**

The people of Sanford were shocked almost beyond expression when it was learned that Mr. Lee G. McIver had shot and killed himself in his office at the store of the Lee Furniture Company last Monday night between 11 and 12 o'clock. He lived about an hour after the fatal shot was fired. A meeting of the board of directors of the company was held early in the evening and all save Messrs Lee McIver, J. E. Brinn, J. H. Monger, Wilbur McIver and J. W. Tally, had left the store. Excusing himself he went to his office in the rear end of the building and soon those who were in the store were started by the report of a pistol shot. His son, Wilbur rushed to the office and found his father sitting in a chair and he realized at once that he had committed the fatal act. He picked him up and carrying him in the store, placed him on a settee, and asked some one to go for a doctor. The last words his father uttered were: "Don't get a doctor," after which he became unconscious. Drs. C. L. Scott, Lynn McIver and A. L. O'Brian arrived in a few minutes and upon making an examination found that they could do nothing to prolong life as the shot had penetrated a vital part. The ball from a .32 calibre Smith and Wesson pistol penetrated his body. He left a note thanking the members of the board of directors for the courtesies shown him. The meeting of the board that evening was harmonious and pleasant. The rash act is attributed to falling health and worry over business matters. Expressions of sincere regret were heard on all sides as Mr. McIver was held in high esteem as a churchman, and citizen by a large circle of friends.

The funeral was held at the home of the deceased on Chatham street, Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, conducted by his pastor, Rev. Frank C. Hawkins, assisted by Dr. R. C. Gilmore, pastor of the Presbyterian church. A large concourse of friends and neighbors were present to show a last tribute of respect to the departed who was highly esteemed by them in life. After Scripture reading, prayer and a song service by a quartette composed of Miss Eloise Bass, Mrs. Carroll, T. J. Brooks, and H. M. Jackson, the remains were borne to Buffalo cemetery, two miles away, where the interment was made near the last resting place of relatives who had gone before. The pall bearers were E. M. Underwood, W. H. White, E. D. Nall, D. B. Teague, R. W. Hartness and J. W. Gilliam. The honorary pall bearers were members of the board of deacons of the First Baptist church, and the Rotary Club, of which he was a member. The flowers were in charge of Mrs. P. H. St. Clair, Mrs. F. B. Van Sant and others. They were numerous and beautiful.

Lee Gunter McIver, who was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McIver, was born near Sanford in Moore (now Lee county) October 9, 1876, passing away at the age of 54 years. When a young man he married Miss Florence Rogers, who with three sons, Wilbur, Glenn and Orville, survive him. He is also survived by his mother, Mrs. Bettie McIver, one sister, Mrs. C. J. Williamson, of Sanford, and two brothers, Mr. Herbert R. McIver, of Greensboro, and Mr. J. Ralph McIver, of Oxford. His father has been dead quite a number of years.

At one time Mr. McIver was connected with what was known as the Huster Mercantile Company, of this place. He moved to Hope Mills in 1906, where for three years he was business manager of a big cotton mill store. Mr. Charles P. Rogers made his home at Hope Mills at that time. He came to Sanford in 1908, and Mr. McIver followed in 1909. They bought out the furniture business of Mr. Fred P. Morgan, and for several years conducted a furniture business under the firm name of the Sanford Furniture Company. Mr. Rogers finally retired from the business since which time he has devoted his entire time to the undertaking business. Mr. McIver organized the Lee Furniture Company in 1910 and opened business at the present stand on the corner of Steele and Carthage streets. He was made secretary-treasurer and business manager of the company. He was a good business man and by honest and square dealing enjoyed the confidence of

the people of Sanford and this section. For years he was a member of the Board of Deacons of the First Baptist church, was a member of the Rotary Club and the Merchants Association and was at one time president of the latter organization. He had much to do with the success of the Lee County Fair Association. He was also a Mason and a member of the Junior Order. He was a public-spirited citizen and was always ready to promote every movement calculated to advance the best interests of the town and community. He gave liberally of his means to the support of his church and all other good causes in the town and community. Since his death some one has said: "He was an unassuming, gentle, sympathetic man, and looked after the widows and orphans." Could a higher tribute be paid him than this? In his death Sanford has lost one of its best and most useful citizens. The sympathy of the community goes out to the bereaved ones in this sad hour, especially the devoted wife and aged mother.

### WATER SITUATION IMPROVING OPERATIONS OF PLANT SUSPENDED BY RAT.

Mr. Ed Wicker, superintendent of the Sanford water system, tells The Express that the local water situation has been greatly improved by the rains of the past few days. He was in town the first of the week and stated that at that time the water was within two feet and eleven inches of the opening of the spillway. There is 12 inches of fresh water in the lake and should it continue to rise it is expected that it will soon be running through the spillway. Mr. Wicker says that one night recently he was awakened about 2 o'clock A. M. to find the plant in darkness, and not a wheel turning. Everything was as still as death. He found that the lights could not be turned on in his home. He realized that something had gone wrong with the electrical connection. He at once got busy trying to locate the trouble. He called on the Carolina Power and Light people for help. While working about the plant in the dark he caught the odor of fresh meat cooking and soon discovered that a rat had been killed by coming in contact with the wiring back of the switchboard. While he was put out of business himself he caused the plant to shut down and it took about two hours to make the necessary repairs and get things going again. This was the second time this thing has happened in the past few years.

### SANFORD DEFEATS MT. OLIVE 48-0.

Although Sanford is not participating in the elimination series, the team is playing good ball and seems to be in better shape than when it was in the contest. The Mt. Olive team came up Friday afternoon and after a hard fought game returned home defeated by a score of 48 to 0. While it turned out to be a one-sided game, the visiting players proved themselves great scrappers and put up a good game. There are several good players on the Mt. Olive team, but they were unable to make much headway against the local team. Sanford has won several games since it was put out of the elimination contest. The boys promise to be heard from next fall.

### BUILDING COMMITTEE TO DECIDE FRIDAY KIND OF ELEVATOR FOR HOSPITAL.

The building committee, composed of J. R. Ingram, chairman; J. U. Gunter, George Chandler and E. G. Flannaghan, architect, went to Charlotte, Statesville and Morganton last Monday to inspect elevators with a view to selecting the kind that shall be used in the construction of the Lee County Hospital now being built. They will meet Friday to decide upon the kind of elevator that will be used. Work on the building is being pushed, the walls being up to the first floor and ready for the steel girders and terra cotta belting that will be constructed around the building. The workmen are also ready to pour the mortar for the beams.

Friends in Lee and Moore counties will regret to learn that Mrs. W. M. Wadsworth, of Lillington, who has been ill for several weeks, was recently taken by ambulance to Pittman's Hospital, Fayetteville, where she is undergoing treatment. Relatives and friends hope to hear of her early recovery.

### THREE MEN HURT IN WRECK

Car in Which Herbert Phillips, M. G. Brady and Lawrence Brady Were Traveling Wrecked by an Army Truck—All Three Men Hurt, Young Brady Seriously—Bones in His Neck Injured, But Not Broken, as Was First Thought—Partly Regained Consciousness and There is Hope for His Recovery

As this paper goes to press Dr. C. L. Scott tells The Express that Lawrence Brady, of the High Falls section, who was seriously, and maybe fatally injured in a car wreck at the intersection of Carthage and Endor streets about 9:30 o'clock Wednesday morning and carried to the Scott Hospital for treatment, has made some improvement and there is a possibility that he will recover. He has to some extent regained consciousness and seems to be slightly on the mend. It was at first thought that his neck was broken and that it was a question of a short time when death would relieve him of his suffering. Dr. Scott says his neck was not broken, but the bones were to some extent injured. Young Brady's father, M. G. Brady, and Herbert Phillips, of Bennett, who was driving the car, a Dodge sedan, owned by the latter, were also injured, but not seriously. Brady was bruised and cut in the side and on the arms, and Phillips' back was injured. They were also carried to the hospital for treatment.

The three men were on their way to the Sanford market with a load of tobacco when the accident occurred. All three occupied the front seat, Young Brady sat between his father and Mr. Phillips, and strange to say he was injured most. An army truck, driven by Private Milton C. Higgins came along just as the car was in the act of crossing Carthage street. A soldier who was stationed at the crossing to guide traffic, signaled the car to stop, and thinking the driver would heed the warning, signaled the truck to proceed on its journey. Mr. Phillips says he did not see the soldier and that the way was clear did not stop. The truck, which together with the gun carriage, weighs 20 tons, and the car reached the same spot in the middle of the street at the same time, and the latter after being carried along some 30 or 40 feet was partly crushed like an egg shell. Fortunately the driver had the truck under control or the three men would have been killed. He stopped the truck in time to save their lives. Dr. J. F. Foster visited the scene of the accident and looked after the injured men. Army officers called at the hospital and made inquiry about the injuries of the three patients, and Capt. Hargraves, of the medical staff, made arrangements to have them given the best attention.

This big army truck was one of a convoy of 115 trucks composing the 69th Anti-Aircraft Regiment, which was on its way from the proving grounds at Aberdeen Maryland, to Fort McClellan, Alabama. B. Teague and Fisher Makepeace made reports of some of the things that had been planned. Mr. Teague acted County Welfare Officer, E. O. McMahan to furnish the names of those who needed clothing. He stated that Mrs. Gus Wamble informed him that the Business and Professional Women's Club would be prepared to turn over to the Kiwanis Club clothing and other things necessary for distribution. The club was informed that Dr. R. G. Sowers would be glad to furnish free of charge treatment of children who needed it provided the club would furnish the material. P. H. St. Clair gave a brief history of his life under the title of "Who's Who." J. A. Overton and P. H. St. Clair made short talks on their impressions of the annual convention of the Carolina District of Kiwanis International, recently held at the Sir Walter Hotel in Raleigh. The time of holding the meetings of the club at the Carolina Hotel has been changed from 6:30 to 6:15.

### RED CROSS ROLL CALL NOW BEING CONDUCTED.

The following ladies are now conducting the Red Cross Roll Call in Sanford: Mrs. R. E. Bobbitt, Mrs. Warren Williams, Mrs. O. P. Makepeace, Mrs. J. L. Neal, Mrs. Chas. G. Hatch, Mrs. Knox Hughes, Mrs. W. P. Dyer, Misses Virginia Gilmore, Katherine Monroe, Marion Barnhardt, Sarah Widdifield, Mrs. W. W. Robert, Mrs. C. M. Reeves, Mrs. Sam McElvan, Mrs. T. R. Moffitt, Mrs. Paul Barringer, Mrs. J. C. Pittman, Mrs. J. Albert Richardson, Mrs. E. H. Frasier, Mrs. Guy Jones and Mrs. George Joseph.

This drive will continue till Thanksgiving Day. These ladies have had good success so far and think they will collect as much money as they did in the last big drive which they put on. Some people wish to know what Red Cross funds are used for. If you will look at the Red Cross report published in The Express last week you can get the desired information. Fifty per cent of the funds collected will be used for "charity at home," while the other 50 per cent will be used for charity elsewhere. None of the roll call money goes to paid workers or for the overhead expense of the organization, as those things are provided by other means.

If you have been overlooked by these Red Cross workers call up Mrs. R. E. Bobbitt and she will be glad to take your subscription. All the money that can be raised is badly needed.

The Benhaven News is an attractive little journal that has come to our exchange table. It gives the news of the Benhave School. This school has a large number of pupils and is doing a good work.

### PLANS FOR ORGANIZING RELIEF WORK IN SANFORD

Last Thursday night in the assembly room of the Wilrik Hotel a number of citizens, both men and women, gathered at the call of the Merchants' association for the purpose of discussing plans for organizing a relief association for the needy of the community. W. W. Roberts was made chairman and Miss Myrtle Douglas secretary. Brief talks were made by a number of those interested in the movement emphasizing the fact that such an organization was much needed. Following this, it was unanimously decided to form an organization at once.

A board of directors composed of representatives from the different churches and organizations of the city was chosen as follows: Messdames R. E. Bobbitt, R. W. Vick, W. W. Roberts, F. R. Snipes, M. A. McLeod, Broadway; T. J. McPherson, Doyle McFarland, Jonesboro; Gus Wamble, R. H. Weaver, Miss Ruth Gunter, Messrs. O. F. Patterson, E. C. Helm, Jr., H. F. Makepeace, R. L. Dums, Jr.

The board will be called together at once, and organized for work. It is expected that within a few days a canvass of the city will be made for funds so that the association can begin to function without delay.

At the close of the meeting Theo Barrow, manager of the Wilrik, served delicious refreshments.

### CHARITY PROGRAM PUT ON BY KIWANIS CLUB

As was stated in the last issue of The Express a program to raise money for charitable purposes has been put on by the Kiwanis Club. At its meeting at the Carolina Hotel last Friday night several songs were rendered by the club with Miss Futtrell at the piano. After luncheon was served reports were made by members of the committee that was appointed to put on the program and raise funds that will be used to help people who are in destitute circumstances. Miss Futtrell principal of the Melrose Grammar School, told of the condition among some of the pupils of the school and how funds could be raised to make it difficult to have that this is an amateur performance.

An added attraction will be singing numbers by Miss Katherine Carter, who will make her first appearance to the general public since coming here to take charge of Public School music. Assisting her will be a singing, dancing chorus of local beauties. The benefit is a worthy purpose, the play promises real entertainment; let's all come out and help make Christmas a happy one for the poor children of the county. Admission Thursday night, 25c and 50c; Friday night, 15c and 50c. On Friday night all children of school age will be admitted for 15c.

### EPISCOPAL CHURCH NOTICES.

Sunday school and Bible class, 9:45. Church, 11 o'clock. Choir girls, remember that Mrs. Shannonhouse travels 35 miles to give you one hour's instruction once a week. Think of this and don't cut choir rehearsal Saturday at 1:30 sharp.

### THANKSGIVING SERVICE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The regular Thanksgiving service will be held in the Presbyterian church at 10 A. M., on Thanksgiving Day, November 27th. A cordial invitation is given to attend this service. An offering for the Synod's orphanage will be made.

### PLANT EXCHANGE.

Under the auspices of the "Civic Department of the Women's Club," a Plant Exchange will be held on Friday afternoon, November 28th, on the vacant lot between Isaacson's and Stroud and Hubards. The public is cordially invited and we hope every one will bring some plants to exchange, as this is free to all. The exchange will begin at 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon, November 28th.

### CARD OF THANKS

We deeply appreciate every kindness shown us during our recent bereavement.

Mrs. Lee G. McIver and family, Mrs. Bettie McIver and family, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. P. Rogers and family.

It was stated in The Express last week that the H. Red Rows Heating and Plumbing Company, of High Point, had secured the contract for installing the plumbing and heating plants for the Lee County Hospital, which is now being constructed. This concern is installing the plumbing, but the heating plant will be installed by Mr. W. H. Gurley, of this place.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lemmons, of Norfolk, Va., spent last week with A. B. Lemond.

### "ALWAYS IN TROUBLE"

Moore Dramatic Club to Present Three-Act Farce at School Auditorium.

The Moore Dramatic Club will present a three-act farce, "Always in Trouble," at the high school auditorium November 20th and 21st, for the benefit of poor children's Christmas. This farce, written by Walter Ben Hare, one of the leaders in his field, merits the description "hilarious entertainment." A grouchy old millionaire offers to his grand daughter and to the son of an old friend a million dollars each if they agree to marry each other; if one refuses, the other receives a million—the one refusing being left unrequited. Tom, the boy, mistakes an old maid for the grand daughter, and persuades a morose simpleton to impersonate him, hoping for the grand daughter's refusal. The efforts of these two to bring about a refusal of marriage culminate in a sequence of rapid-fire events.

The key character around whom the plot revolves, is "Misery," a mournful negro played with delightful interpretation by Paul Lucas. His efforts to coax nine dollars out of the parsimonious old millionaire provide a riot of laughs. "Misery," you certainly love money." "Yassir, absence sho do make de heart grow fonder."

The palsy-stricken old grouch is played by W. N. Tulluck, who treats the part with such fineness that he should be ranked above many legitimate who have done similar characters. The old maid is done by Miss Lillian Glass; the leads by Miss Grace Stout and Joe Cotton; the simpleton by Jimmie McIver, who is also directing the play. Included also in the cast are Miss Floy Rivers, Miss Nan-nie Stout and George Wilder.

A great deal of study has been given the preparation for this farce, and those who have been fortunate enough to witness rehearsals say that the performance far exceeds those in the stock companies that have been playing through this territory. Nearly every line in the play is funny and the technique of the players and fine quality of direction make it difficult to believe that this is an amateur performance.

An added attraction will be singing numbers by Miss Katherine Carter, who will make her first appearance to the general public since coming here to take charge of Public School music. Assisting her will be a singing, dancing chorus of local beauties. The benefit is a worthy purpose, the play promises real entertainment; let's all come out and help make Christmas a happy one for the poor children of the county. Admission Thursday night, 25c and 50c; Friday night, 15c and 50c. On Friday night all children of school age will be admitted for 15c.

### NEW CHEVROLET ON DISPLAY

Chevrolet's new car for 1931, priced substantially below current levels, goes on display by Wilrik Chevrolet Company. Heralded as "The Great American Value," the new car boasts a two-inch increase in wheelbase, larger and roomier bodies by Fisher with mohair or broadcloth as optional trimming, and scores of refinements in appearance and performance despite the new prices which bring the level for the 1931 car to a far lower figure than any Chevrolet, four or six, has ever sold.

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### SANFORD TOBACCO MARKET MAKING TOWARDS 4,000,000 MARK

More Than 3,000,000 Pounds Sold Up to Date—Now Believed That the 5,000,000 Mark Will Be Reached By the Close of the Season—Warehousemen Say Many Planters in This Section Have Sold Very Little of Their Crop—Women Squeezing Prices Out of the Buyers.

The Sanford tobacco market has by the time this paper goes to press reached probably more than 3,000,000 pounds this season. There were two or three good breaks this week and more than once the sales were not finished on some of the floors till late in the afternoon. One buyer who keeps up with the movement of tobacco in this section, tells The Express that there is still a big lit of tobacco in Lee and adjoining counties, some of the planters having sold very little of their crop. He expects to see good sales at this place during the next few weeks and would not be surprised to see as much as 5,000,000 pounds put on the market by the time the season closes. Should the sales reach these figures he thinks a drying plant should be built before the next season and feels that this would give the market a great boost.

There was a good break on the floors of the three warehouses last Friday, but much of the tobacco was of a low grade and caused a rather low average. The prices have been better this week, good tobacco selling at a good price. Up to and including Friday the sales for the week amounted to 350,114 pounds, which sold for \$56,203.02, an average of \$16.65. Since the opening, the local market, including the sales of last week, totaled 2,825,012 pounds for \$48,580.63, an average of \$15.87.

It seems that some of the women of this section are taking more interest in the local tobacco market than they did in the recent election. They are not only attending the daily sales, but they are literally squeezing high prices out of the buyers. One day this week two well dressed, attractive young women declared that they would test the squeezing process and see if it would have the desired effect. Upon making the test they found that it worked like a charm. They stationed themselves near a big pile of tobacco and when the buyers came along winking the bid, they stepped up and placing their arms around two buyers whom they thought would fall for their charms, alternately squeezing the prices higher and higher till the \$40.00 per hundred mark was reached. Perhaps hereafter the planters will be bringing their daughters to the market so that by their charms and smiles will help them to get higher prices.

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Chevrolet's new car for 1931, priced substantially below current levels, goes on display by Wilrik Chevrolet Company. Heralded as "The Great American Value," the new car boasts a two-inch increase in wheelbase, larger and roomier bodies by Fisher with mohair or broadcloth as optional trimming, and scores of refinements in appearance and performance despite the new prices which bring the level for the 1931 car to a far lower figure than any Chevrolet, four or six, has ever sold.

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### RECORDER'S COURT

Two Day's Session this Week; Cotton Stealing Cases Occupy One Day; Driving Car Intoxicated; Carrying Concealed Weapon

The better part of two days were necessary to dispose of Recorder's Court Docket this week. The principal cases heard were those of the State against John McNeill, charged with cotton stealing and with violation of the automobile law. Evidence was introduced against McNeill to the effect that he lifted three sheets of cotton from a field cultivated by a colored farmer below Jonesboro, and while no one saw him take the cotton, his shoes fitted perfectly into tracks leading from the field and the tread of automobile tracks found near the field correspond with tires found on his automobile. He requested time to furnish evidence of his innocence as to violation of the automobile law and his mother furnished a mortgage bond on 50 acres of land for his appearance next Tuesday.

John Buie, colored, also resisted a similar charge for the theft of 160 pounds of cotton from the farm of one of his own color. The State put on eight or ten witnesses to prove its case against John, and he put on a dozen or so to prove his innocence. Automobile tracks in this case formed the strongest evidence, coupled with other incriminating acts, and the case went over in order that some further evidence might be secured for the State. Buie proved an excellent character by both White and colored witness.

J. H. Thomas resisted a charge of carrying concealed weapons. Evidence was introduced by his attorney showing his irresponsibility, and the real owner of the weapon having intervened, it was turned over to him and the case against Thomas continued.

Ed Smith drew a severe sentence for having operated a car under the influence of strong drink. It developed that he had been warned by Deputy Watson on several occasions prior to his arrest.

A number of other cases were disposed of and several were continued.

### OFFICERS HOT AFTER BLOCKADERS IN OVERHILLS SECTION.

Federal Prohibition Officer, H. B. Wilson, with Deputy Sheriff D. A. Huffines, of Harnett, and a posse of men located a distillery early on Monday at which some three hundred gallons of slops were found to be ready for process known as "re-squaring." The location was in an isolated portion of the Overhills hunting preserve, three miles west of Spout Springs.

The officers decided to conceal themselves about the plant and await developments, were hardly hidden when a negro appeared bearing a turn of wood. He was seized by Agent Wilson and John Darroch, a former deputy sheriff, and offered considerable resistance to both officers, refusing to be subdued until covered with a pistol. He was then handcuffed and identified as Bud Wilson, negro, using a number of aliases, who was arrested with Tom Johnson, another Harnett county negro, a number of months ago by Sanford police and sentenced in recorder's court here for six months on the roads for selling whiskey from their car on the streets. Wilson was held in Cumberland county jail for March term of Federal court by U. S. Commissioner D. J. Brecco, of Fayetteville at a preliminary hearing there at noon Monday, in default of \$500 bond.

Returning from this hearing, Deputy Huffines and party were attracted by a peculiar throbbing and hissing sound in a swamp near the highway at a point opposite Overhills. Entering the woods to investigate, they were surprised when two men suddenly fled from the thicket, leaving what was found to be a distillery head ed by a large gas burner, fed from a tank imbedded in the earth. The escaping gas, together with the noise of the boiling still, made the sound which was distinguishable from a distance.

### SALVATION ARMY.

The Salvation Army Captain from Durham, will conduct a street meeting here Saturday afternoon and dispose of Christmas number of the "War Cry," a very fine production of their Atlanta headquarters War Cry department. A collection will be taken and the War Cry's given away. If you haven't a copy, be on hand to get one.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Rives attended the Thompson School reunion at Siler City last week. Mr. Rives attended Thompson's school when it was taught at Oak Dale before he came to Siler City. It was at first decided to hold the reunion every five years, but upon motion of Mr. Rives it was decided to hold it every two years.

