

(Handwritten date: Monday, March 18, 1940)

FARMER TAKES HIS OWN LIFE

Chester McAfee Commits Suicide at Hartford Township Home

The lifeless body of Chester L. McAfee, 57, well-known Hartford township farmer, was found in the haymow of the McAfee barn early this morning, the top of his head shattered by a shotgun discharge.

Coroner J. Jerome Yager, who was summoned, said death was caused by suicide. He said financial reverses suffered by McAfee afforded the motive.

The body was found by Mrs. Artie McAfee, his wife, at 8 a.m. Coroner Yager stated that he had probably been dead 15 or 20 minutes before that time.

A shot from a .410 gauge shotgun had been fired into the center of his forehead by McAfee after he had crawled up into the haymow.

The deceased was born in Rockcreek township, Wells county, March 4, 1883, the son of Peter and Mary Conklin-McAfee. He was married in February, 1908.

He moved with his family to Hartford township about eight months ago. Surviving besides the widow, are a daughter, Mrs. Henry Harmon of Roanoke and a son, Daniel, at home; the following brothers and sisters, Cal of Bluffton, Burt of Roanoke, Mrs. Jennie High, Mrs. Edna Houtz, both of near Bluffton, and Mrs. Homer Harshman of Uniondale. One sister is deceased.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the home, and burial will be in the St. Paul cemetery, 10 miles west of Bluffton.

Adams County Historical Museum

1940 Feb-Dec Scrapbook - image 096

Transcribed by Karin King