

LEONARD WHITE KILLS HIMSELF WITH PISTOL SHOT THROUGH HEART

The Community Is Both Shocked and Saddened

HAD BEEN IN ILL HEALTH

For the Past Few Days He Had Been Confined to His Home On Courtland Street

A FORMER LEGION HEAD

He Was Actively Identified With the Business and Civic Life of the City—Funeral Arrangements Incomplete.

Rarely have Greensboro people been so shocked and saddened as at the tragic death of Leonard White yesterday afternoon just before 3 o'clock as a result of a pistol ball which he fired through his heart while sitting in a chair in a bedroom of his home at 312 Courtland street.

Death came instantly. His brother, W. A. White, was the first member of the family who reached his side to find him slumped forward, the automatic pistol lying on the floor. There is no disposition to explain the act, because no one has been found who can begin to understand why this splendid young citizen removed himself from a scene in which his career was just beginning to unfold. For several weeks Leonard White had been feeling badly and had been unable to continue the routine of his work as chief associate in the architect office of Harry Barton. For three or four days, this weakness had been acute enough to compel some time in bed. There had been no complaint, however, nor any word of despondency to his family. It is thought certain that the fatal act was done on a sudden inspiration and that it could not have been planned for any length of time.

The City is shocked.

The news of his death was received almost with incredulity by his associates. Of a calm, reserved and friendly disposition, he seemed the type which would be last to think of ending his own life. Widely known because of prominence in his work and in civic activities, he had drawn to him as many friends as had any other young man in Greensboro.

Arrangements for the funeral have not been completed and will be held here pending the arrival of the mother from Duke City, Fla., where she has been visiting her brother for some weeks. Henry K. Burtner, post of the American Legion is anxious to do all possible honor to the former commander of the post and it is likely that a salute will be fired over his grave.

Mr. White leaves his wife, who was Miss Madeline Stafford before marriage, a little four-year-old son, Leonard Jr., the mother, Mrs. Kate White, who made her home here with him, a brother, W. A. White Greensboro.

Served in A. E. F.

He was 22 years old. His birth occurred in Statesville on August 3, 1905. Education was secured in high school, at State college, Raleigh, and at the University of Pennsylvania. At the last named institution, he was a graduate in architecture in the spring of 1917 when the United States entered the world war. Entering the army as he left school, Mr. White was first in service with Mooreville Battery F, of the 11th field artillery. He was transferred to an officers' training camp in Texas and then, to another in Samur, France. From this last he was given his commission and was assigned to duty with the 12th regiment of field artillery. After several months of active service, until the close of the war, he returned to this country and shortly after leaving the army came to Greensboro to enter the practice of his chosen profession. Since coming here, he had been associated with Mr. Barton and had made an enviable reputation for himself. His co-operations to his work was the chief cause of the ill-health which had recently troubled him.

One of his most unusual achievements was in the design of the world war memorial stadium. His activity here was conducted closely with his very real and intense interest in all ex-service men and particularly in the work of the American Legion. He had taken an active part in Legion affairs since the post was organized in this city and had been a leader in the campaign to secure funds for the erection of the memorial. His service to the legion was recognized by his comrades in his election as post commander in September 1925 and his service in that position until last fall.

Prominent Church Worker.

Leonard White was an active member of the First Presbyterian church and Sunday school. He was a member of the Masonic order, took a regular part in the affairs of the Civitan club and was closely connected with various other phases of the community's life. Those who know him say, however, that what will be most missed are not these concrete contributions to the community's life but are the consideration, kindness and serene regard he had for his friends.