

McLeod Nominated Governor

Kills Four Children; Wounds Two Others

Staff Correspondent Yorkville Enquirer.

Clover, Sept. 6.—Remarking to Tom Perry, a neighbor, that "I might as well settle this now," William Farris, 60, shot and instantly killed Claude Johnson, 20, mortally wounded LeLia Taylor, 16 and Newton Taylor, 12, and seriously wounded three other children of James M. Taylor at their home in the Clover mill village about 2:30 this afternoon. The little girl, Lela, and the little boy, Newton, died in a Gastonia hospital tonight. Standing in the door of his own home forty feet across the street from the Taylor home and using a double barrel shot gun and a single barrel gun loaded with buckshot, Farris began his slaughter of the unarmed. Claude Johnson, a nephew of James Taylor, fell dead at the first fire with buck shot through his cheek, heart and arm. Gertie Taylor, 20, was shot in the neck and side; Newton, 12, was shot in the stomach; Dolly Taylor, 10, was shot in the right arm and Lela Taylor, 16, was shot in the arm and stomach.

Farris, according to the witness, Tom Perry, was not content to rest with the shooting of five, three of them girls. When the shooting first began, Fred Taylor, 22, ran toward the Clover mill for help. After shooting five, Farris rested his gun on a tree in his yard and proceeded to draw a bucket of water from the well. About that time he saw Fred Taylor coming back to the house about a hundred feet away. "Don't you come any further or I'll kill you," he is alleged to have told Taylor. The young man paid no heed and he fell with a load of buckshot in his stomach.

James Farris, son of Will Farris, happened to be near and he took the shotgun away from his father and kept him in charge until Chief of Police John Jackson arrived.

Spirited Away.
His lips closed tight, Farris was carried to the county jail in Yorkville, where he was locked up. A telephone message to Sheriff Quinn from Clover a little later on advised him to get the prisoner out of York county since feeling was strong against Farris. In custody of Sheriff Quinn and Chief of Police Steele Farris was carried to the state penitentiary tonight.

The tragedy occurred about 2:30 this afternoon. Ill feeling between the Farris children and the Taylor children is said to have been at the bottom of it all. Mrs. Farris has been in bad health for some time, it is said, and it is claimed that the Taylor children worried her. They have been having little spats for some time, it is said. Just before the killing one of these spats was in progress. The Taylor children, it is claimed, were railing at the Farris and there was a return from the Farris side. Tom Perry, friend of Farris, was nearby and heard it all.

Goes After Gun.
Remarking to Perry, "I might as well settle this now," Farris went after his gun and came out the door shooting. The Taylors and Johnson were in the porch of the Taylor home facing the Farris home. How long Farris continued the fusillade cannot be said positively. Buckshot rattled through the Taylor home. The screams of children were heard. Their bodies were on the porch floor, in the house and on the ground, outside, it is said.

Then there was a lull. Farris, as cool as you please, proceeded to draw a bucket of water from the well between his house and Perry's house. Then he saw Fred Taylor come back toward the house. Fred heeded not the warning to come no further. The sixth victim fell.

Dr. Waldo McGill chanced to be in the neighborhood and he came to relieve the wounded as soon as he could. Buckshot from Farris's gun struck his Ford coupe which was parked on the Clover-Gastonia road more than 200 feet away. The dents

made by the buckshot are on the side and the door of the car to show.

There was nothing to be done for the young man, Claude Johnson. Ghastly buckshot holes were in his body, his arm and his cheek. He evidently died instantly. One little girl, Lela, 16, ran about the yard crying, it is said. Blood was pouring from a wound in her arm. She was unaware that she was shot in the stomach also. She died later.

A comparatively short time after the shooting the five wounded persons were taken to Gastonia hospital. The condition of two of them is said to be very grave.

House Literally Riddled.

The Taylor cottage was literally riddled with buckshot. There were holes through the walls. A graphophone was stationed to the right of the front door just inside the living room. It had buckshot holes in it. There were blood stains on the floor in this living room and in the kitchen which is in the rear of the living room. The mother of the five Taylor children sat on a bed in the bedroom adjoining the living room. She went through it all unharmed. She held her head in her hands and moaned: "Oh, God, why do my babies have to go through this?"

James Taylor, the father, paced the floor, a baby in his arms. Tears were in his eyes—a look of anguish on his face. He said between sobs: "I told my children a long time ago to have nothing to do with the Farris children. They could not get along. I don't see why he shot them. They were unarmed. We had a rifle and a pistol in the house, but they were not loaded."

The father was at work in the cotton mill when the tragedy occurred. He came to Clover several months ago from Gastonia. He is said to be a quiet and industrious man, and is said to have a substantial bank account. There are eight children in the Taylor family. One daughter, is married and lives in Gastonia. One son, nearly grown, was visiting a neighbor when the tragedy occurred.

Farris Cool About It.

John A. Jackson, Clover chief of Police, said that Farris was calm and cool when he arrested him. He was already in custody of Jim Farris, a son, and the only statement the two had to make was that the elder Farris be given protection of the law. Two shotguns were found—one a single barrel and the other a double barrel, both of them of cheap manufacture. It is alleged by the state that Farris used both guns in his assault upon the Taylors and Johnson.

According to the officers, Farris bought the shells loaded with buckshot in Gastonia on Monday of last week. Tom Perry told the correspondent for the Yorkville Enquirer that Farris had remarked to him several days ago that "the Taylors have a blue steel pistol; but I reckon buckshot is as good as blue steel."

Perry also said that there had been trouble between the Taylors and the Farris for several weeks. There were often bitter word battles, he said. The Taylor children said hard things and the Farris said hard things.

It was learned that some weeks ago Farris made complaint to the chief of Police of Clover that the Taylor children were annoying members of his family and he sought a warrant. An investigation by the police developed that there was nothing to it save a neighboring jower and no attention was paid to it officially.

Call Him "Fighting Bill."

Farris is said to have been known locally as "Fighting Bill" Farris. It is said that he is a man of high temper and of fearless nature. According to Chief Jackson, he got into a fight several years ago with Former Chief of Police Mendenhall, of Clover. It is also alleged that he has been in numbers of other scrapes. According to witnesses he is bad to drink but was cool sober at the time

Courtesy of The News and Courier 5:30 a. m. Wednesday.

GOVERNOR.

Cole L. Blease 83,549
Thomas G. McLeod 98,431

In the governor's race, there is no possibility of the lead of McLeod being overcome. Only about 70 boxes were missing at 5 o'clock Wednesday morning, involving some six or eight thousand votes at most. The above tabulation shows a vote of 181,481.

Lee county complete gave Blease 1,323 and McLeod 1,259, giving Blease a small majority.

Newberry county practically complete gives Blease 2,508 and McLeod 2,581.

Richland county gave Blease 5,363, and McLeod 5,520, with only one box missing.

Charleston county with about 25 boxes missing gave Blease 5,046 and McLeod 4,830.

McLeod carried Spartanburg and Greenville counties. Blease carried Anderson.

Hope Defeats Swearingen By Overwhelming Majority

SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION.

J. H. Hope 100,307
J. E. Swearingen 73,349

CONGRESS, SIXTH DISTRICT.

Stoll 12,693
Gasque 13,139

Only a few boxes are missing, and the Associated Press says Stoll admits the election of Gasque.

Bamberg County Rallies Fine For McLeod

Bamberg county has spoken in no uncertain manner its choice for governor. Thomas G. McLeod, of Bishopville, received 1,188 votes, and Cole L. Blease received 574.

It is a notable fact that, although there were seventy-six more votes cast in the second primary than in the first, Blease gained only nine votes over that he received in the first primary.

In the race for state superintendent of education, J. H. Hope received 1,045, and J. E. Swearingen 695.

McCormack Nominated.

Much interest was manifested in the race for county commissioner for the lower district, in which G. W. Hunter and J. B. McCormack ran over in the second primary.

McCormack was nominated, the vote being: Hunter 788, McCormack 976.

Returns in Early.

Every box in Bamberg county was reported to the county chairman by a quarter to seven o'clock. This is probably a record. Not a box is missing in the tabulation given in this issue of The Herald.

Smith Favors Cottonless Year to Kill the Weevil

Hill Nominated Magistrate.

A. G. W. Hill won out in the magistrate's contest in Fish Pond township. The vote in this contest was: Hill 140, Jolly 103.

GOVERNOR.

Ehrhardt	61	164
Lees	2	21
Govan	19	53
Denmark	94	213
Olar	60	152
Colston	13	49
Midway	9	9
Bamberg	159	306
Hightower's Mill	13	23
Springtown	18	13
Hunter's Chapel	9	49
Embree	25	33
Edisto	49	14
Little Swamp	30	36
Kearse	13	53
Total	574	1,188

SUPT. EDUCATION.

Ehrhardt	179	43
Lees	6	17
Govan	55	15
Denmark	165	140
Olar	92	114
Colston	43	18
Midway	12	6
Bamberg	268	193
Hightower's Mill	36	3
Springtown	28	3
Hunter's Chapel	41	16
Embree	29	29
Edisto	32	31
Little Swamp	25	40
Kearse	34	30
Total	1,045	695

CO. COMMISSIONER Lower District.

Ehrhardt	139	88
Lees	11	12
Govan	31	41
Denmark	124	183
Olar	81	129
Colston	42	20
Midway	6	12
Bamberg	197	270
Hightower's Mill	11	25
Springtown	11	20
Hunter's Chapel	30	29
Embree	25	33
Edisto	9	54
Little Swamp	35	30
Kearse	36	30
Total	788	976

The Reason.

Husband (after first time): "It's really a joy there are no marriages in heaven!"
Wife: "There c-c-couldn't be, 'cos no men are there."—London Mail.

Washington, Sept. 7.—The proposal for a one-year suspension of cotton planting in the United States as a means of eliminating the boll weevil was suggested in the senate Wednesday by Senator Smith, Democrat, South Carolina, who predicted wholesale abandonment of cotton farms throughout the south unless government action was taken to aid in destruction of the parasite.

The South Carolina senator announced he had written to the chief entomologist of the department of agriculture, asking that a study be made to determine whether a year's lay-off in cotton growing would eradicate the weevil. He said the entomologist had expressed in a telephonic conversation today the belief that such action would result in destroying the pest.

Senator Smith announced that as soon as he received the report of the entomologist he proposed to introduce a resolution calling for the co-operation as far as constitutionally possible of the federal government in the stopping of planting for one year "so that there may be a tomorrow for the cotton" industry.

Reduction in Supply.

"Unless the heroic remedy is applied," continued the speaker, "it will be only a question of a few years before the supply of cotton will be inadequate to meet the domestic needs, much less the world demand."

The present loss to the country from the ravages of the weevil amounts to a billion dollars a year, Senator Smith said. He suggested that the federal and state governments should join in paying the deficit occasioned by the growers in the one year's lay off, declaring that it would be cheaper for the country in the end even if it had to appropriate that amount to defray the expenses caused by the suspension of cotton growing for one year.

Senator Smith suggested that once the weevil was eliminated the federal government could and should resort to zoning the Rio Grande border for a distance of one hundred miles in which no cotton could be planted, expressing belief that this action would effectually stop the insect's migration.

Pointing out that production last year was only a little more than half of normal and estimating that this year's crop would not exceed nine million bales, Senator Smith asked how long the nation could expect to maintain the balance of trade in its favor if its export of cotton fell away. The export demand, he continued, is around 6,000,000 bales with the domestic demand exceeding that slightly. On the basis of this year's crop, he added, the country would be 2,500,000 short of the export requirements.

COUNTIES TO GET INSURANCE MONEY

John J. McMahan, insurance commissioner, last week announced that \$65,783.81 was due the county treasurers on account of the additional license fees on premiums collected by insurance companies for the semi-annual period ending June 30, 1922. The figures for counties in this section of the state follow:

Aiken	\$1,104.04
Allendale	231.40
Bamberg	660.71
Barnwell	694.22
Calhoun	436.89
Colleton	570.99
Dorchester	407.63
Hampton	365.68
Orangeburg	1,958.79

MAGISTRATE, Fish Pond.

Hill	140	Jolly	103
Hunter's Chapel	51		6
Embree	13		45
Edisto	41		22
Little Swamp	35		30
Total	140		103