

J. M. HAIRSTON COMMITTS SUICIDE; ILL HEALTH BLAMED

Shoots Self in Indianola Service Station Rest Room; Dies

General J. M. Hairston, 57, deputy collector of the Federal Bureau of Internal Revenue and former adjutant general of the Mississippi National Guard, ended his own life this morning, officers said, by shooting himself through the head with a pistol in the rest room of the Gresham Service Station at Indianola.

General Hairston died in an ambulance at ~~Indianola~~ at 11 o'clock enroute to the King's Daughters Hospital in Greenville a half hour after he was found in a dying condition by station attendants on the floor of the rest room. A .45 pistol lay nearby. He had entered the service station a few minutes before and talked with several friends.

Friends said ill health probably prompted his act.

J. M. Hairston, known as "Sper" by his many friends, had made his home in Indianola for many years. He engaged in the practice of law at the Sunflower county town for several years.

From 1920 to 1928 he was district attorney for this circuit court district, embracing Washington, Leflore, Humphreys, Holmes and Sunflower counties. After retiring from the district attorney's office he was appointed adjutant general by Governor Theo. G. Bilbo and served in this capacity for four years, making his home in Jackson.

Returning to Indianola from Jackson eight years ago he has been connected with the Federal Bureau of Internal Revenue since that time. His territory was the Delta district. He was in Greenville Monday, March 13, assisting Washington county income taxpayers in filling their returns.

General Hairston was married to Rebecca Smith of Greenville who survives along with a daughter and son.

Funeral arrangements were not immediately complete.