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VOLUME XXIX. NUMBER 16.

# THE MENA WEEKLY STAR

ALWAYS STRIVING TO SERVE POLK COUNTY AND ITS PEOPLE AND DESERVE CONFIDENCE AND RESPECT

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

MENA, ARKANSAS, THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1912.

The Remarkable Increase in the Shipment of Poultry and Eggs from Polk County in the Past Month is a Notable Prosperity Sign

## REPUBLICANS HAVE A SPIRITED SESSION

Dr. C. C. Gunnels Re-elected as Chairman County Committee and R. D. Wood Secretary.

Nominations Made for Representative and County Weigher, and Others to Be Selected Later

## ANOTHER CONVENTION

Chairman Gunnels States That He Deems This Course Best Because of Disturbance by Minority of Delegates.

The Republican County Convention held Saturday morning was from all reports, a spirited affair, and was brought to a close early with the purpose in view of calling another at an early date.

In the contest for county chairmanship Dr. C. C. Gunnels was elected over R. B. Board by 43 to 15, both sides, it is said, voting proxies. R. D. Wood of Gap Springs township was elected as secretary without opposition.

For delegates to state convention Dr. C. C. Gunnels, Levi Wimberly, D. E. Myers, Homer Pigg and Ed Little were named. Alternates selected were William Shelton, R. F. Wear, Dr. Charles Sanford, Dr. W. W. Philpot and William Little.

A start was made to make nominations for county officers. D. E. Myers of Hatfield was named for representative.

Jesse Philpot was the choice for cotton weigher.

**Spirited Tilt Frequent.**

During the entire convention there were a good many spirited tilts between Chairman Gunnels and some of the delegates, these last being largely from Ozark township and the Second and Third wards in Mena. Because of what was contended to be the interest of the party, the convention decided to increase the size of the representation by the appointment of about thirty delegates-at-large, these to act with the twenty-one county committeemen in conducting the affairs of the party in Polk county.

**Will Call Another Convention.**

Chairman Gunnels states that because of the turmoil and disturbance created at the convention Saturday by the minority faction he has deemed it best to adjourn and call another convention at a later date to complete the county ticket, and this he will do.

**Grannis Republicans Elect Delegates**

Grannis, April 12.—The Republicans of Ozark township met here today to elect delegates to the Republican county convention to be held at Mena on the 13th inst. Thirty-four votes were cast, this being the greatest number of Republicans ever assembled in Ozark township for political reasons. The following were elected as delegates: H. B. Jacobs 23, F. L. Jackson 22, L. C. Wilson 22 and A. M. Pammenter 25. L. C. Wilson was chosen member of county central committee. D. D. Baker was chosen permanent chairman of township committee and A. M. Pammenter as secretary. George Hammond of Wickes and Will Linton of Grannis were nominated as candidates for justice of the peace and James Hill for constable. E. W. Hamby acted as temporary chairman and George Hammond as pro tem secretary.

**MENA'S EXPRESS INCREASE.**

Ranks Second in Arkansas for March—Big This Month.

C. G. Rice, agent for the Wells-Fargo Express Company, has received a bulletin from the superintendent of the company in Arkansas, which shows Mena up very well. The increase for March, 1912, over March, 1911, was \$437.45. The only other office in the state which had a larger increase was Pine Bluff, which increased \$1,213.66. The increase of the Mena office was due largely to the out shipments of eggs, poultry and produce, and the in-shipment of millinery and dry goods. The additional expense of the office was only \$8.55.

According to the way business is running this month, the increase over April of last year will probably be several hundred more than the March increase.

**ENLARGING CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Carpenters began this week on an addition to the St. Agnes Catholic church. For many months Father Gallagher has been planning to enlarge the church to make room for his fast increasing congregation. It finally was decided to extend the front of the present structure to the sidewalk. This will add room for about ten pews.

## LA FOLLETTE NOW HAS HOPE.

Says Roosevelt-Taft Deadlock Will Mean His Success.

Portland, Ore., April 14.—"Instruction of delegates for Col. Roosevelt in states like Pennsylvania and Illinois renders it certain that a deadlock between Roosevelt and President Taft will occur in the national Republican convention, and I am more certain than ever that I shall be nominated." This was the comment of Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin on the result of yesterday's presidential primaries in Pennsylvania.

## ROOSEVELT WILL BE IN LITTLE ROCK SATURDAY.

Little Rock, April 16.—J. A. Comer, secretary of the Arkansas Roosevelt League, has received confirmation of the proposed visit of Roosevelt to Little Rock. The colonel will speak here Saturday night, April 20.

Elaborate plans are being laid to receive him and delegations are expected from most of the 75 Roosevelt clubs established throughout the state.

## MISSOURI TORNADO FATAL TO THREE

St. Francis County Suffers Great Loss of Property—Perish in Nebraska Blizzard—Snow in Black Hills.

Farmington, Mo., April 15.—This section of St. Francis County was upset last night by a disastrous tornado, leaving death and destruction in its wake. Before they could realize the situation, many were made homeless. Three were killed and 40 injured.

Knob Lick, eight miles below here, and Delassus, three miles, suffered the greatest. At the former place nearly all the houses were blown away. Clark Parmelee, 9 years old, was killed and about a dozen hurt.

At Delassus one death occurred, that of Mrs. John Toppins, 55 years old. She, her two children and husband, occupied a small two-story house which was completely wrecked. The body of Mrs. Toppins was found 50 yards in the rear of where the house was. C. D. Cole, proprietor of a store, was a heavy loser. The storehouse, which was also used as a dwelling, together with the stock of goods, are a loss of about \$4,500.

In one house were Richard Welch, aged 70 years; his son, James Welch; his wife and four children. The house was completely wrecked, the elder Welch sustaining fractured ribs and other injuries. He will probably die. All the others were injured, but none severely.

Two large barns of J. C. Alexander were blown down and his residence damaged. Four horses were killed. Thomas Stamm's barn was destroyed and two horses killed. At the fair grounds, the grandstand, floral hall, the large water tank, fences, etc., were destroyed. Loss about \$2,500.

The Butterfield Nursery was one of the heaviest losers, all the greenhouses, barn and a portion of the dwelling being blown away. Loss \$3,000. Miss Anna Butterfield was seriously cut by flying glass.

## PERISH IN APRIL BLIZZARD.

Wife of Hemingford, Neb., Home-steader and Possibly Sons Victims.

Hemingford, Neb., April 15.—The blizzard which raged in Northwestern Nebraska Saturday afternoon and throughout the night claimed at least one victim, and possibly two. Mrs. Richard Path, who, with her little son, started out at the beginning of the storm to bring stock to shelter, was lost in the blinding snow and her body was found this morning not far from home. The child has not been found, but it is feared it perished. Richard Path, the husband, was at Alliance proving up on a homestead. Neighbors searched all night for the woman and boy without result.

## HEAVY SNOW IN BLACK HILLS.

Railroads Blocked and Wires Down, but Farmers Are Pleased.

Deadwood, S. D., April 14.—Snow, varying from 15 inches here to three feet farther up in the mountains, has fallen in the past 36 hours, and is still falling. The storms is the worst of the year and extends into Montana and North-east Wyoming. All through railroad traffic in the Black Hills is at a standstill today, while telegraphic communication is badly hampered. No other damage is reported and the farmers are elated over the moisture.

## Gone to Meet Bridegroom.

Miss Mary Elzey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Elzey of Eger, came to Mena last Friday and left on the afternoon train for Artesia, N. Mex., where she is to meet and wed Mr. Oscar Savoy. They will make their home on Mr. Savoy's farm near Artesia.

## FLOOD IN 3 STATES WORST IN HISTORY

Thousands Are Now Homeless in Louisiana, Arkansas and Mississippi.

Breaks Are Now Threatening at Lake Providence, Morganza and Ben Lomond, Miss.

## IS AID OR STARVATION

Many Hundreds in Absolute Destitution—Must Have Help or Will Starve—Thousands of Head of Stock Washed Away.

Vicksburg, Miss., April 16.—With breaks threatened at Lake Providence and Morganza, La., and Ben Lomond, Miss., and thousands homeless and not yet rescued in the Salem crevasse and Panther Forest territory, the flood situation today in Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas is the worst the three states have ever seen. In scope of actual and prospective damage to the lowlands, the present overflow surpasses even that of 1882. Every gasoline skiff from Greenville to Vicksburg is now pressed into rescue work, and telegrams have been sent to Baton Rouge and New Orleans, from the Louisiana representatives on the scene, urging that more launches be shipped here today.

## Battle to Save Levee.

A desperate battle to have the levee at Paloma, eight miles above Lake Providence, and at Hagermans, two miles below, drew from the Salem crevasse at least half of the rescue force late Monday, but enough remained to continue the task of bringing half famished and drenched negroes from the outlying districts.

The government steamboat Arthur Hider arrived at Vicksburg today with three hundred refugees. The steamer Alice Miller is coming with several hundred more and the steamer Falls City, which brought in a number yesterday, will return after completing a trip north.

All Monday night steamboats with barges worked at Alsatia Landing, above the breaks at Henderson's, below and at Omega Landing, removing refugees from the levee.

**Great Loss of Stock.**

Thousands of head of stock already are drowned in the crevasse district. Thousands more are starving or chilling to death on galleries or platforms, without food or the probability of rescue.

Meanwhile the scope of the flood gradually is widening. Barring further breaks, Lake Providence may be a point of refuge, being on comparatively high ground. But a break there would mean no spot of refuge left, save the tops of levees from the Arkansas line to below a point opposite Vicksburg.

In Vicksburg the United States authorities, aided by authorities of Mississippi and Louisiana, are caring for refugees.

Adjutant General Stafford of Louisiana will arrive today with tents and bedding.

The Louisiana authorities have been working from New Orleans, preparing for emergency elsewhere.

## Rains Aid to Suffering.

Tallahula, La., April 16.—Rains, almost of cloudburst proportions, which have fallen here during the past two days, have intensified the already terrible condition of the flood sufferers, many of whom have been without shelter and in some instances without food, since the waters from the Salem levee break invaded this territory. Freight cars, atties, upper stories, lodge rooms, courthouses, high school building and even the jail are occupied by the unfortunates who have been driven from their homes. The fight of the citizens of Tallulah to keep the floods from the southern part of the town has been lost. The temporary levee thrown up along the embankments of the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Pacific and Iron Mountain railroads were overlapped today, flooding that portion of the town that has heretofore remained dry. The water is three feet deep there and still rising rapidly.

## 2,000 Negroes Rescued.

The town was in total darkness last night owing to the flooding of the electric light plant. Over two thousand negroes who were on the levees for a distance of 20 miles south of the Salem crevasse, many of whom were without food for more than 24 hours, were rescued yesterday by boats sent out from Vicksburg.

Three hundred persons are still marooned at Soudheim. Boats are being assembled and today they will be taken to the levees and from there transferred to places of safety.

Mrs. George Keller of Quebec, La., seven miles west of here, is the only one who has escaped.

A car of FERTILIZER just received at TOWNSEND.

The Polk County Boys' Corn and Cotton Club will meet in the Court House in Mena on Saturday, April 20, at 1:30 p. m.

J. F. Dellinger, Demonstration Agent for Polk and Sevier counties, has promised to be present.

The success of the work, especially that of securing the premiums, depends largely on a good attendance Saturday. Come if you can.

W. A. Ragland, President.  
Roy H. Whittenberg, Secretary.

## FREIGHT BUSINESS GAINS 38 1/2 PER CT.

Increase in Mena for March Larger Than February Compared With Previous Year—Express Company's Remarkable Showing

Early last month figures were published showing an increase for February, 1912, over February, 1911, of 35 per cent in the business of the freight office of the Kansas City Southern Railway Company at Mena.

Similar figures for March this year and last, as given by Agent Ravenscraft, show a gain of 38 1/2 per cent. The figures are as follows:

	Feb 1911	Feb 1912
Freight	\$7054.31	\$9770.57
Passenger	3860.28	4297.04
Cars received	58	86
Tons received	256	266
Forward l. c. l.	128	162

These figures show readily the growth of Mena as a business center. When we consider that 1911 made a healthy increase over 1910, the showing is all the more satisfactory.

**Express Business Also.**

The growth of the business of the Wells-Fargo Express Company is equally pleasing.

Following is a comparative report of the tonnage for farm products, such as butter, chickens and eggs for a period of 40 days, March 1 to April 10, of the years 1910, 1911 and 1912:

	Pounds	Charges
1910	12,172	\$153.83
1911	21,400	288.63
1912	53,982	759.70

The total business for the period in 1910 was \$1,267, for 1911 \$1,351.53, an increase of \$84.25.

The figures for 1912 are \$1,788.98, an increase of \$437.45 over 1911.

An interesting and exceedingly healthy feature of this increase is the fact that \$344.21 of it was on outgoing shipments, demonstrating that the production of marketable produce is increasing rapidly.

These comparative statements were supplied by the local agent for the express company, Mr. C. G. Rice.

## WILL RETURN TO MENA.

G. Tanner Has Lived in Louisiana Long Enough.

Ezra Cunningham received a letter last week from G. Tanner, in which he states that he will return to Mena before long to make his home. He left Mena nearly two years ago and went to Alexandria, La. While living here he was in business with J. Arthur. He did not state just when he would come, but was to do so as soon as his business affairs would permit.

## State Prizes for Corn Club Boys.

\$100 in gold is offered to the Boys' Corn Clubs of Arkansas as follows: \$50 to the boy who makes the best record on one acre of corn; \$30 to the one making the second best record; \$20 to the one making the third best record.

This offer is made by H. G. Hastings & Company of Atlanta, Ga., and has been accepted and approved by T. H. Jeffords, state agent in the Boys' Demonstration Club work. There are no strings whatever to this offer. Any kind of seed, secured from any source whatever, may be used. Every one of the 2,000 members of the Boys' Corn Club should go after these valuable prizes.

Members of the Corn Club should not be discouraged by the cold, wet season. Corn planted as late as the middle of June will make a good yield if properly handled. Remember that the season is backward all over the state. Other boys will be just as late in getting in their crops. Observe these two things. Don't plow the ground too wet. Don't plant until the ground is warm.

## WRECK OF TITANIC LIES 2 MILES DOWN

The Carpathia Takes 866 From Life Boats After the Doomed Ship Had Sunk.

The Great Vessel Floated Less Than Four Hours After Struck Iceberg.

## WOMEN WERE SAVED

Few Men Among the Survivors Except Those Necessary to Man the Boats—Loss Estimated at \$20,000,000.

Monday morning, April 15, the word was flashed to Mena that the Titanic, the largest passenger ship in the world, had struck an iceberg and had gone to the bottom about 1,000 miles out from New York. This message stated that the passengers had been taken off by other vessels.

Later in the day messages arrived that 800 of the people aboard the Titanic were transferred to life boats, and that the great ship, thought to be unsinkable, was going toward New York under its own steam.

Tuesday the word came that the Titanic had gone down, carrying 1,500 passengers to watery graves, among them many of the notable people of the world. It stated that the wealth represented by the first-class passengers was fully 1/2 billion dollars. It was said then that 866 passengers, mostly women and children, had been taken aboard the Carpathia, the one vessel of those answering the wireless distress calls that had reached the spot at that time.

The more complete story of the awful disaster came Wednesday, being received from aboard the Carpathia, headed for New York, laden with the survivors. The confusion in the early reports is blamed upon amateur wireless operators, who interfered with the regular service.

The best report received in Mena Wednesday follows:

Creeping through the dark waters of the North Atlantic, peopled by 2,170 persons, of whom 1,310 were passengers and 860 members of the crew, the gigantic steamship Titanic, on her maiden voyage, "side-swiped" and crashed into an iceberg about 350 miles east by south-east of Cape Race, Newfoundland, and within less than four hours was a mass of crushed iron and steel in the bed of the ocean two miles or more beneath the surface.

Absolutely without warning, and with the greater number of passengers in their berths and state-rooms, there was little chance to save more than a comparatively few lives. Yet the women and children, or the larger part of them, were aboard other vessels only a few hours later, while the men—fathers and husbands and brothers of the women and children—gave up their lives as the Saxons do, that the weaker might survive.

**Only 866 Accounted For.**

Of the 2,170 persons aboard the Titanic, only 866 have been accounted for up to a late hour Tuesday afternoon. These are all aboard the steamship Carpathia of the Cunard Line.

Other vessels which hastened to lend aid when they received the wireless "S. O. S." call of distress, among them the Virginian, the Olympic, sister ship of the Titanic, the Parisian of the Leyland Line, and others, arrived too late to pick up any of the passengers of the ill-fated vessel, although they spent many hours searching the seas for life boats and life rafts, as well as for wreckage or anything else which might uphold some of the survivors.

**Influential Men Among Lost.**

But enough is known to make it positive that some of the best known and most influential men in the United States are among the victims, unless they have been picked up by some vessel which has not yet made a report.

Capt. E. J. Smith, commander of the Titanic, and admiral of the fleet of the White Star Line, went to his grave with his vessel, thus living up to the traditions of the Britons that the commander shall be the last to leave the ship.

That Captain Smith and his crew rigidly enforced the unwritten law of the sea, that of saving the women and children first, is plainly indicated by the very few names of men received in the list of survivors sent to the mainland by the wireless operator of the Carpathia.

All those picked up by the Car-

pathia were not passengers, however, it having been necessary for a certain number of sailors, experienced in the handling of lifeboats, to be sent with the women and children, to handle the boats. This fact reduced the list of passengers saved. But it is known that even the sailors had difficulty in handling the rescued passengers and preventing the boats from overturning.

## "Arrived too Late."

The Leyland Line steamer Persian, one of the vessels upon which hopes of rescue had been pinned by relatives and friends of the Titanic's passengers, got into communication with wireless this forenoon, announcing that she had no survivors aboard.

The Virginian, which carried even higher hopes, merely wired to the effect that she "arrived on the scene of disaster too late to be of service" and that she is now proceeding on her way to Liverpool.

## Sank in 3 Hours 59 Minutes.

New York, April 16.—The news sent out of New York yesterday, and disseminated throughout the world, that the passengers from the Titanic had been saved and the vessel had not sunk, was erroneous, it having been definitely learned last night by wireless from the famous Carpathia, that the Titanic was struck at 11:45 Sunday night and had foundered exactly three hours and 59 minutes later.

## Some of Those Saved.

Among those whom it is known were rescued are Mrs. John Jacob Astor, who was Miss Madeline Force until her romantic marriage to the multi-millionaire some months ago. Bruce Ismay, managing director of the International Mercantile Marine, owners of the Titanic, and who, with J. Pierpont Morgan, formed the company which is the alleged steamship trust, was also saved.

## Save Wives and Children.

This morning the wireless brought the news that apparently all the wives and children of the famous men aboard the ship had been saved, but there was not a word to show that any notable man had escaped.

Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt, previously reported as one of the passengers was not on the vessel, having postponed his voyage.

The Carpathia, which arrived on the scene at daylight, was the first rescue boat to reach the survivors floating about on rafts and in life boats. Most of those rescued were scantily clad, having been hurriedly aroused from their sleep, and not having time to don more than hastily-grabbed wraps. The cold was intense, and many were suffering therefrom, in addition to the shock. The women all showed remarkable bravery, particularly in ministering to the frightened, panic-stricken children.

Reports by wireless stated that scores of boats navigating perilously near and through the vast ice field and containing principally women and children, were all that could be seen of the great Titanic, which itself had disappeared. Many of the passengers had just retired when the crash came.

The floating ice made it almost impossible to prevent the lifeboats from capsizing, and the ice caused the boats to be separated and scattered, thus giving rise to faint hopes that perhaps the Carpathia had not found all of them and that the other may have been picked up by some other vessels, perhaps by a boat not equipped with wireless. Spectators, however, among the survivors, assert that the Titanic carried down hundreds of men with her in her final plunge.

## The Estimated Loss.

Late this evening the loss is estimated at 1,304. Searching steamers, before they abandoned their labors, reported that the weather is so cold that even if the survivors had clung to wreckage in the open sea, they could not have survived.

The money loss is estimated at \$20,000,000, one-half being the value of the boat, the other half being the cost of cargo and effects of passengers. It is said diamonds valued at \$5,000,000 and owned by passengers were lost in the wreck.

## Brief Description of Lost Ship.

The Titanic was a triple-screw, and was propelled by a combination of turbine and reciprocating machinery. It was built to steam not less than 21 knots per hour. The rudder alone weighed 100 tons, and the weight of the casting comprising the stern frame, rudder and brackets amounts to 280 tons, or 60 tons more than those of any other steamer. It was manufactured at Belfast. The largest beam used weighed over four tons and measured 92 feet. The longest steel plates are 36 feet; and there are 2,500 rivets in the ship. Each engine crank shaft weighed 118 tons, bedplate 195 tons; each column 21 tons, and the heaviest cylinder with liner 50 tons; wing propeller 38 tons. The weight of the casting for the turbine cylinder was 163 tons, and of the propeller, which was of solid bronze, 22 tons. The anchors were 19 feet in length and over 15 tons in weight, and each link of their chain weighed several hundred pounds.

## Arms to American Citizens.

Washington, April 15.—In response to an appeal from the American consul at Guadalajara, Mex., President Taft has authorized the exportation of 150 rifles and 50,000 rounds of ammunition for arming the citizens of the United States in that district.

This is the second step by this government to permit Americans in Mexico to receive munitions of war for self-protection. Americans in Mexico City already having been similarly armed. The president also gave his consent to the exportation of 400 rifles, 120,000 cartridges and a large mass of miscellaneous gun parts for the Mexican government.

## UNITED STATES WARNS MEXICO

Sends Forceful Note to Rebels and Federalists That Maltreatment of U. S. Citizens Must Stop.

Action Follows Insurgents' Refusal to Spare Thomas Fountain Caught in Battle.

## OBEY RULES OF WAR

Full Accounting Will Be Enforced if Demand Is Not Heeded—Intervention Is Not Contemplated, Says Acting Secretary.

Washington, April 15.—Warning has been issued by the United States to the Mexican government, as well as to Pascual Orozco, chief of the revolutionary forces, that it "expects and must demand that the American life and property within the Republic of Mexico be justly and adequately protected, and that this government must hold Mexico and the Mexican people responsible for all wanton or illegal acts sacrificing or endangering American life or damaging American property interests."

The attitude of the United States as expressed to both the federal and rebel authorities is that any maltreatment of American citizens "will be deeply resented by the American government and people, and must be fully answered for by the Mexican people."

Ambassador Wilson was ordered to communicate at once the views of the United States to the Mexican minister of foreign affairs and a copy of his instructions was likewise sent to Letcher at Chihuahua, with special representations addressed to General Orozco.

Orozco recently refused to recognize Letcher as the American consul representative, because the United States withheld recognition of the rebel cause. The representations to Orozco accuse him of the "practical murder" of Thomas Fountain, an American gunner, enlisted with the federalists, but summarily shot last week when taken prisoner by the insurgents.

## Must Observe Rules of War.

Though declining to justify participation of Americans on either side, the United States expressly stipulates that American combatants when taken prisoner must be given humane treatment in accordance with the international rules of war.

Relations between the two countries, it is believed, have been brought to a critical point by the state department's forceful note to the contending factions in the southern republic, warning them against any mistreatment of Americans.

Just such a warning as this new one to Mexico preceded the Spanish-American war, culminating in McKinley's famous message referring to "intolerable conditions existing at our doorway."

Conditions in Mexico seem to be growing worse hourly. It is still hoped by administration officials, however, that Saturday's notes will have a sobering effect upon the passions of the struggling factions.

The next step must be taken by Mexicans, either through the rebel leader, Orozco, or by President Madero, from whom some kind of an answer to the state department's representatives surely will be forthcoming.

"Actions speak louder than words," was a state department comment today in reference to Orozco. Conditions throughout Mexico have undoubtedly become much worse within the past week. The state department's advice from its various agencies show that turbulence and violence have grown to formidable proportions. Conditions in the states of Michoacan, Puebla and Morelos, forming a semi-circle closely adjoining the state of Mexico, are daily becoming worse.

Similar reports come from the vast states of Sonora and Sinaloa, comprising most of the western boundary of Mexico, while the disturbance in the state of Vera Cruz threatens Atlantic communication with the Mexican capital.

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